

A RESTORATION PLAN FOR THE OHIO RIVER BASIN



OHIO RIVER BASIN
ALLIANCE

The Ohio River Basin Alliance has created a visionary plan to restore and protect rivers, streams and wetlands in the 14 states of the Ohio River Basin.

More than 30 million people depend on the interconnected waters of the Ohio River Basin for their drinking water, health, jobs, and quality of life. Yet these waters face serious threats, including toxic pollution, sewage contamination, mine waste, runoff, and flooding.

The Ohio River Basin Restoration Plan supports manageable solutions for cleaning up pollution, reducing runoff, restoring wildlife habitat, modernizing water infrastructure, and preventing unwanted, non-native species from entering our waters. Each of these components is essential for restoring our environment and supporting strong local economies.

The science-based plan was written by stakeholders from state and federal agencies, educational institutions, utilities, businesses, and non-governmental organizations, with input from more than 500 residents who participated in 31 community listening sessions around the region.

Locally driven clean water priorities anchor the plan and will help communities most impacted by pollution and environmental harm. The plan also calls for investments in local workforce development, including job training for restoration actions.

The Ohio River Basin Restoration Plan will benefit the environment, the economy and our quality of life.

ANNUAL INVESTMENTS IN ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION



Data Source:
Department of the Interior,
Environment and Related Agencies
Appropriations Bill
2023

RESTORATION PLAN ACTIONS

- Clean up toxic pollution and mine waste to protect the health of communities.
- Update infrastructure to provide safe and affordable drinking water and to safeguard public health.
- Restore habitat, such as wetlands, to provide a home for fish and wildlife, filter pollutants, absorb rainwater, prevent flooding, and support outdoor recreation.

- Build nature-based infrastructure to mitigate flooding and pollution.
- Remove old, unsafe dams to increase fish habitat and support safe recreational opportunities.
- Prevent and manage invasive species to support flourishing local fish and wildlife.
- Support farm conservation to improve soil and water health and reduce toxic algal blooms.



The Ohio River Basin Restoration Plan will benefit communities in 14 states, including, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

