CLERMONT EST 1943
SOIL & WATER
Conservation from the Ground Up

(513) 732-7075
CLERMONTSWCD.ORG
1000 Locust Street | Owensville, OH 45160

Request for Qualifications:
Criteria Engineering Services

The Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to update a prequalification list as authorized by Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 153.65-153.73 for as-needed engineering services focused on stream and wetland restoration. Criteria Engineering (CE) services are needed in 2026 for a dam removal project on a tributary that drains directly to the East Fork Little Miami River (EFLMR) in Fayetteville, Ohio. The Fayetteville project summary is below. Additional projects may take place in 2026 and 2027. All interested firms may email their **Statements of Qualifications** (SOQ) to jmcmanus@clermontcountyohio.gov, or they may submit one (1) hard bound copy of their (SOQ) to John McManus, District Administrator, Clermont SWCD, P.O. Box 549, 1000 Locust Street, Owensville, Ohio 45160, no later than **4:00 PM EST on Friday, July 31, 2026.** This notice will be posted on Clermont County's DemandStar account and Clermont SWCD's website. Responding firms must specify interest in the Fayetteville project to be evaluated for CE services. Per ORC 153.694, a firm providing CE services is precluded from additional design-build services related to the project. All SOQs will be kept on file and evaluated for additional projects that may occur in 2026 and 2027. Clermont SWCD's website: https://www.clermontswcd.org/fayetteville-dam-removal.

Submitted Statements of Qualifications shall include:

1. Information about the firm's history;
2. Education, technical training, and experience of owners and key personnel who would be assigned to perform the required professional design services;
3. Ability of the firm in terms of its workload and the availability of qualified personnel, equipment, and facilities to perform the required professional design services competently and expeditiously;
4. Past performance of the firm on projects related to stream and wetland restoration, including ecological assessments, design services, permitting and agency coordination, in addition to information on no fewer than three projects completed by the firm in this field in the last five years. This information shall include the project name, cost, location, project deadline, date completed, and project reference contact;
5. The firm's experience with SWCD projects, if any.

The format of the SOQ must be as outlined above. Narrative pages are to be 8-1/2 inches by 11 inches. All information provided shall be bound into a single volume. A clear and concise presentation of information is encouraged with a maximum page limit of 20 single-sided pages, excluding resumes and curricula vitae. Advertising or sales-based literature, information, or data is **NOT ACCEPTABLE** as a representation of statements of qualifications. All submitted electronic copies shall be submitted as a PDF and all submitted hard copies shall

be accompanied by an electronic copy in PDF format on a flash drive. Any submitted SOQs that do not comply with these requirements will be rejected.

Public Disclosure

All material submitted to Clermont SWCD will be treated as public information with no expectations of confidentiality.

Cost of RFQ Submittal

Clermont SWCD is not liable for any cost incurred by any respondents in preparation or presentation of any qualifications.

Questions pertaining to this RFQ must be submitted in writing or via email to: Mr. John McManus: jmcmanus@clermontcountyohio.gov. All questions and answers are public information.

Electronic submissions in response to this RFQ must be addressed and sent to: Mr. John McManus: jmcmanus@clermontcountyohio.gov

John McManus

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John McManus, Administrator

Fayetteville Dam Removal and Stream Restoration

Project Partners: Brown SWCD, Clermont SWCD, Fayetteville-Perry School District (FSD), Ohio EPA

Project Summary: Brown SWCD received an Ohio EPA 319 grant on behalf of the Fayetteville-Perry Local School District (FPSD) to remove a low-head dam on a tributary to the East Fork Little Miami River (EFLMR) located in the Solomon Run sub-watershed (HUC-12: 050902021101). The dam is located on the Fayetteville-Perry school campus (601 S. Apple Street Fayetteville, OH). Clermont SWCD is assisting with project management and will facilitate the selection of a Criteria Engineer and a Design-Build team. The dam was built in the 1950s for agricultural use and the FSPD inherited the dam when the property was acquired in 2013. The dam and lake are not utilized for any public or private purpose and the area is currently fenced for student safety. The Fayetteville project is identified as a priority project within Critical Area 2 as described in the Solomon Run 9-Element NPS-IS Plan.

Project Background: The tributary that drains directly to the EFLMR is ~1.2 mi. in total length with an approximate .25mi^2 drainage area. The project is located within the Solomon Run sub-watershed in Brown County. The 43 mi^2 drainage area includes seven tributaries and a 12.3 mile stretch of the EFLMR. The EFLMR's Aquatic Life Use (ALU) designation is Exceptional Warm Water Habitat (EWH) and the tributaries are designated as Warm Water Habitat (WWH). Ohio EPA monitors seven sites within the watershed, including three on the EFLMR main stem and four on major tributaries. The nearest monitoring station downstream of the Fayetteville High School tributary is located on the EFLMR at river mile 54.42 (Station ID: M04S12). This site is listed in partial attainment and impairments attributed to low D.O., historical channelization and agricultural runoff. The EFLMR flows into William H. Harsha Lake at river mile 29, a reservoir managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Harsha Lake is a source of drinking water for 100,000+ Clermont County residents and also serves as a recreational hub for the region, the lake widely known as a premier venue for paddle and rowing sports.

The Solomon Run 9-Element NPS-IS Plan identifies the restoration of impaired streams and the removal of defunct dams as priority actions. There are 10 earthen dams located on tributaries in the Solomon Run sub-watershed, four of which are regulated by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), including two Class II dams that support the reservoirs at Lake Lorelei (private community), one Class IV dam that is privately owned and the Fayetteville Dam listed as Class I. The Fayetteville Dam is an earthen structure measuring ~219 ft. in length and 14.5 ft. in height with a four-acre pool area.

Low-head dams are a significant public safety hazard. The East Fork watershed has an unfortunate history with low-head dams, as two young brothers drowned in 1974 in the turbulent water at the former Williamsburg low-head dam. This defunct dam was removed in 2018 (Ohio EPA-WRRSP) and many communities have subsequently opted to remove non-operating dams to improve public safety. Removal of the Fayetteville dam will be the fifth dam removed in the East Fork watershed.

Fayetteville Dam - ODNR Class I

Dam Classification			
Dam classification is based on height, storage volume and potential downstream hazard and the criteria outlined below.			
Dam Height		Storage Volume	
Class I	>60 feet	Class I	>5,000 acre-feet
Class II	>40 feet	Class II	>500 acre-feet
Class III	>25 feet	Class III	>50 acre-feet
Class IV	≤25 feet	Class IV	≤50 acre-feet
Potential Downstream Hazard			
Class I	probable loss of life		
Class II	health hazard, flood damage to structures, roads, utilities (no loss of life envisioned)		
Class III	damage to low value structures or roads		
Class IV	losses restricted mainly to the dam		
A dam is exempt from jurisdiction if it is less than 6 feet in height; less than 10 feet in height with storage ≤ 50 acre-feet, or a dam with ≤ 15 acre-feet of total storage volume regardless of height.			

Prior to the dam's construction, historic aerials show the stream was channelized to drain surrounding farm fields. Post-construction, the dam created an unnatural lake-like condition, impeding the natural flow of water and migration of aquatic species. These extreme conditions have reduced the overall assimilative capacity of the stream leading to poor water quality and harm to aquatic species. The Fayetteville dam impounds ~800 linear feet of this East Fork tributary and the pool experiences extreme fluctuations in water level and algae growth. These fluctuations exacerbate the significant habitat degradation caused by the impoundment. The drainage area above the dam includes Clermont soils (hydric) and the immediate area surrounding the impoundment includes Westboro-Schaffer, both silt-loams with minimal slope and categorized as "poorly to somewhat poorly drained."

In the absence of the dam, the stream would likely be characterized as a Class II Primary Headwater Stream. Class II primary streams include perennial and intermittent flows with warm-water conditions that can support aquatic communities. Under normal conditions, these streams benefit larger receiving streams by dissipating energy, connecting habitat corridors, controlling nutrients and sediments, and absorbing excess water during flood events. Removing the Class I dam to reestablish natural, unimpeded flow will restore these important stream functions. Site conditions and soil characteristics provide opportunities to incorporate wetland features along the stream corridor to benefit habitat and water quality.

The Criteria Engineering scope of services and schedule will be finalized during contract negotiations. Those general services may include, but are not limited to the following:

Criteria Engineering Scope of Services:

- Field Investigation
    - Infrastructure inventory and assessment
    - Topographic & bathymetric Survey
- Development of Dam Removal Criteria
    - Preliminary Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) Modeling
    - Plan Development
        - Existing Conditions
        - Access Plan
        - Demolition and Restoration Plan
- Identification of Permitting Needs
- Opinion of Probable Cost
- Draft Request for Proposals
    - Support Service for D-B Team selection