

# H<sub>2</sub>O<sup>h</sup>io



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# What is Driving the Discussion?

## H2Ohio announced November 2019

### To address water issues

- harmful algal blooms
- failing drinking water systems
- wastewater, and home sewage treatment systems
- lead contamination

### ODA's focus is Phosphorus and Nitrogen load reductions to Lake Erie from the Western Lake Erie Basin

- The Domestic Action Plan (DAP) was signed in 2015, and establishes a goal of a **40% reduction** in Phosphorus loads from 2008 Levels

November 2019 – Jan 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 – First SWCD Training

## The Washington Post



# What is H2Ohio?

- Water quality improvement program funded by the state of Ohio. Program is managed by Ohio EPA, ODNR, and ODA
- Maumee Watershed Project (**Green**) initiated in 2020
- WLEB Expansion Project (**Orange**) initiated in 2021
- Approximately **1.5 million acres** of cropland currently enrolled across the 24-county project area
- Over **\$120 million dollars** have been encumbered to the project area to date



# Program Delivery

- **Communication**

- To the Districts, to leadership, to stakeholders
- Relationships with partners, commodity groups, ag retailers

- **Training**

- 30+ new Technicians – Constant Need
- Nutrient Management

- **Technology**

- Cannot do what we have always done (Paper contracts)
- Must think outside of the box
- Look at custom cloud-based software
- Contract Management, GIS Software

**Don't have a Global Pandemic a month after rolling out new program**

# Questions

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