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**Ohio EPA Awards \$50,000 Environmental Education Grant to
Butler County Organization**

Cincinnati-area residents will have the opportunity to learn more about the environment when they watch local TV news, thanks to a \$50,000 grant the Butler County Storm Water District received from the Ohio Environmental Education Fund. Eleven grants were awarded statewide for a total of \$421,371.

Using the grant, the Regional Storm Water Collaborative members will develop a regular segment on the environment to be aired as part of the daily television news, modeled on a successful program in Toledo and other cities around the country. StormCenter Communications will train television professionals, and maintain a website to provide viewers with additional information from local content providers. Collaborators include the Butler County and Deerfield Storm Water Districts; soil and water conservation districts in Clermont, Hamilton and Warren counties; the cities of Florence, Lebanon and Mason; the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati, and Sanitation District 1 in northern Kentucky.

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund is administered by Ohio EPA. Grants up to \$50,000 are funded from one-half of the civil penalties collected by the Agency for air and water pollution control violations. Eligible grant recipients include environmental groups, public and private schools, colleges and universities, trade or professional organizations, businesses and state and local governments. Approximately \$1 million is given each year.

The next OEEF application deadline is on July 15, 2010. An electronic letter of intent to apply is due on July 8. For additional information, contact the Ohio Environmental Education Fund at (614) 644-2873 or visit its Web site at www.epa.ohio.gov/oeef/.

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