



Presenter

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Regional Collaboration for Resiliency Planning, Sustaining Scioto Phase 2

This presentation will provide the approach being used as part of on-going efforts for regional water resource resiliency planning in Central Ohio. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), and their partners completed the Sustaining Scioto Study in 2015. Sustaining Scioto evaluated risks to the region's water resources associated with climate change and with projected development. Adaptive management strategies were defined to improve regional resiliency. In 2017, a subcommittee was formed to address the short-term strategies identified in that study. One of the core strategies was to engage the municipalities and utilities throughout the region to establish a collaborative forum. This presentation will discuss both the importance and the challenges associated with regional resiliency planning. The large-scale issues associated with climate change, including both increases in temperature and in the volatility in rainfall, are best addressed on a regional basis. The vulnerabilities addressed in the study included degradation of water quality, increased potential for algal blooms as well as potential increased incidence of both extended droughts and extreme storms and flooding. Strategies used to engage the region will be shared along with the regional strategies being considered for implementation to reduce our risks and improve regional resiliency. Regional planning of this nature is a key part of resiliency and can also facilitate HUD and other grant funding for projects required to protect and maintain our water resources and infrastructure. By working together as a region, we can plan for and develop strategies to maintain both reliable water quantity and water quality as needed for the growth and healthy development of Central Ohio.