

# Healthy Water Ohio



OTCO Procrastinator Workshop  
December 12, 2014

*Curtis L. Truss Jr., OTCO*

HwO is a statewide coalition committed to developing a long-range plan to sustainably meet current and future water needs while enhancing the economy and quality of life for all Ohioans. Stakeholders include individuals and organizations connected to conservation, business and industry, universities, water suppliers, agriculture and others

## **Business and Industry**

Scott Corbitt, **Anheuser-Busch – Columbus Brewery**

Chris Henney, **Ohio AgriBusiness Association**

## **Conservation and Environmental Advocacy**

Mindy Bankey, **Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts**

Don Hollister, **Ohio League of Conservation Voters**

John Stark, **The Nature Conservancy**

## **Finance**

Wendy Osborn, **Farm Credit Mid-America**

## **Food and Farming**

Frank Phelps, **Ohio Cattlemen's Association**

John Linder, **Ohio Corn Marketing Program**

Matt Andreas, **Ohio Dairy Producers Association**

Steve Hirsch, **Ohio Farm Bureau Federation**

Terry McClure, **Ohio Soybean Council**

## **Municipal Water Systems**

Jack Williams, **Village of Ottawa**

## **Public Health**

Timothy Angel, **Association of Ohio Health Commissioners**

## **Recreation and Tourism**

Larry Fletcher, **Lake Erie Shores & Islands**

## **Research, Education and Outreach**

Bruce McPheron, **The Ohio State University**

## **Project facilitator**

Annie Gallagher, **Gallagher Consulting Group, Inc.** [614-854-9658](tel:614-854-9658) | [ann@gallagherinc.com](mailto:ann@gallagherinc.com)

## **Technical adviser**

Larry Antosch, **Ohio Farm Bureau Federation** [614-246-8264](tel:614-246-8264) | [lantosch@ofbf.org](mailto:lantosch@ofbf.org)

The survey of 1,000 Ohio voters aimed to identify the issues citizens care about relative to the quality, quantity and health of the state's water resources.

When asked to rate the importance of several water issues, 88 percent of respondents said safe drinking water was very important, ranking it higher than protecting fish and wildlife habitat, repairing aging water systems, providing adequate water for commerce and industry, dealing with natural disasters and preserving water for recreation and tourism.

Half of the voters said Ohio's water resources are in good condition, 33 percent rated them fair, 7 percent poor and 6 percent excellent. Sixty percent say the quality is holding steady while 17 percent said it is getting worse and 16 percent said it's getting better.

Regarding their tap water,

48 percent rated it good

28 percent excellent

17 percent fair

6 percent poor.