



Nine residential properties near the confluence of the Little Miami River and Massies Creek have suffered from repeated flooding. These structures, which are all located within the 100-year floodplain, were identified by the City of Xenia as a strong candidate for Hazard Mitigation Assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through their Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program. Funding from the grant will be utilized to purchase the properties from their current owners, demolish the structures, and restore the area along the river to a natural floodplain with open space.

Coldwater assisted the City of Xenia with preparation of the grant application to FEMA, which included data collection and analysis, working with each property owner on their flood damage history and determining the proposed project budget and schedule. The data collection included an analysis of historical flood data, interpretation of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps and Flood Insurance Study, identification of specific flooding hazards, preparation of a benefit/cost analysis, and documentation of potential environmental restrictions. Coldwater investigated the flood elevations from both the Little Miami River and Massies Creek and determined that the Massies Creek flood stages actually flooded the properties more frequently than flooding from the Little Miami River. This analysis was critical to the development of the benefit/cost analysis and produced a value that put the project within funding range.

Each property owner's home and land were photographed and a complete flooding history was prepared for each property to determine the specific damages to include in the grant application. In addition, Coldwater developed the project scope, budget and schedule for the grant application and submitted the application electronically via the on-line federal e-grants system. The application was successful and the City was selected to receive \$553,975 in federal PDM funding.