WHC CERTIFICATION VICKERY ENVIRONMENTAL

For more than 30 years, WM has partnered with WHC (Wildlife Habitat Council) to enhance and protect thousands of acres to support sustainability programs, biodiversity initiatives and environmental education. By transforming land into certified wildlife habitats, WM is helping communities thrive. At Vickery Environmental in Vickery, Ohio, employees actively manage conservation projects focused on birds, forests and wetlands and water bodies. **The conservation program at Vickery Environmental has been WHC-certified since 2009.**

PRACTICES AND IMPACTS

- The team maintains a 40-acre pond by reducing the areas mowed surrounding the pond, minimizing shoreline erosion and controlling fish populations through the use of sustainable fishing practices. Species occupying the pond include large mouth bass, yellow perch, crappies and bluegills. WM has reduced disturbance to the area by installing riprap around the water's border, thus minimizing erosion and sediment deposition.
- The team has constructed nest boxes for bluebirds and installed raptor perches on-site, which are monitored and maintained as needed. Birds observed include tree swallows, red-tailed hawks, eagles and waterfowl.
- Through selective tree cutting, WM removes dead standing trees and promotes understory restoration in the 20-acre forest area. Selective cutting also creates movement corridors to support deer populations around the facility.

