I-75 & US ROUTE 36
SIGNAGE AND LANDSCAPE ENHANCEMENT
Piqua, Miami County

Date Completed: Spring 2011

Description: The City of Piqua utilized Ohio native plant species in combination with signage to create a dramatic gateway in and out of the city at the Intersection of Interstate 75 and US Route 36.

Project Size: 3 acres

Below: I-75 Showing in the Distance & New Native Plant Landscaping (photo: City of Piqua)
It was the idea of the City of Piqua to enhance the landscape of the vehicular entrance as visitors and residents enter and exit via Interstate 75. The landscape interchange served as the focus to aesthetically improve 'where vision becomes reality.' The project was a coordination effort with a state funded overpass redevelopment project. With direction from Piqua staff and the planning commission, Envision-Works developed the schematic concept above to react to all the program requested. The major element of the project is an 8’ high semi-circular retaining wall with 36” ‘PIQUA’ letters aimed toward I-75 traffic and those who exit onto US Route 36. The wall sign was the centerpiece with a monotone color of wildflowers, appealing shrubs, and formed trees set in the background. The result of this project boldly put the city of Piqua and the landscape intersection on the map while gaining some daily national attention from the travelers along Interstate 75. The project was completed in the fall of 2011.
**Developer/Client/Owner:**
City of Piqua
201 W Water St.
Piqua, Ohio 45356
http://www.piquaoh.org/default.htm

**Designer/Consultant:**
Envision-Works, Inc.
510 East Fifth Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402
http://envision-works.com/

**Key Features:**
A gateway to the City of Piqua was created using the following elements:

- large landscape retaining wall
- signage
- masses of perennial grasses
- drainage infiltration natural watering trench

**Project Cost:** $250,000

**Maintenance Cost:** $850 per year for landscaping maintenance materials. Man hours and equipment are already part of the city’s overall budget and therefore not included in this amount.

**Funding Sources / Incentives:** The Ohio Department of Transportation secured a Transportation Enhancement (TE) grant in conjunction with the bridge deck replacement project they were performing on the US 36 bridges that cross over I-75. The grant was an 80/20 grant meaning that it covered 80% of the cost of the project with the City of Piqua paying the remaining 20%.

**Applicable Zoning Regulations:** ODOT

Below: Piqua Gateway Sign
(photo: City of Piqua)