CFAES

NORTHEAST OHIO AGRI-CULTURE NEWSLETTER

Your Weekly Agriculture Update for Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties April 25, 2023



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Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

We are back to normal seasonal weather conditions this week. With cooler soil temps and rain in the forecast its looking like it will be May before much progress is made in the fields. You can read more about the upcoming forecast and current conditions in the first article!

Have a great week!

Lee Beers Trumbull County Extension Educator Andrew Holden
Ashtabula County
Extension Educator

Spring Weather & Soil Conditions: Update 3

By: Aaron Wilson

Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2023-11/spring-weather-

soil-conditions-update-3

Soil Temperatures and Moisture

CFAES Near-surface Air and Soil Temperatures

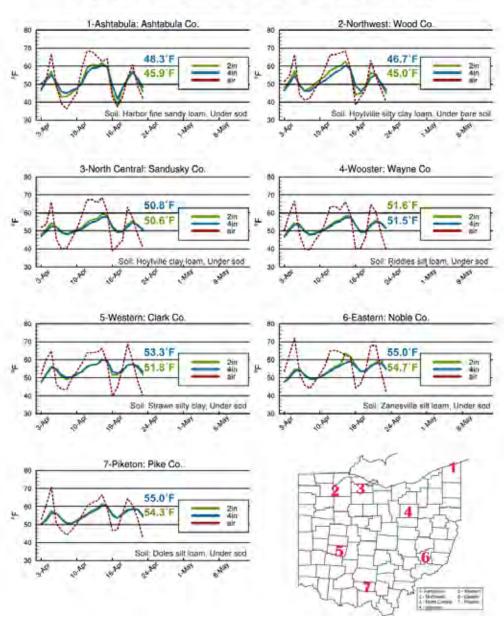


Figure 1: Daily average air temperature (dashed red), two-inch (green) and four-inch (blue) soil temperatures for spring 2023. Soil type and location of measurements (under Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties

sod or bare soil) are provided in the lower right corner of each panel. A map of all locations is in the bottom right. Data provided by the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) Agricultural Research Stations located throughout the state.

The weather took a turn this past week toward cooler temperatures, running 1-3°F below average across much of the state. This has dropped daily average soil temperatures about ten degrees off their high points last week (Figure 1). Northern locations are now running in the mid to upper 40s, with low to mid 50s across central and southern Ohio.

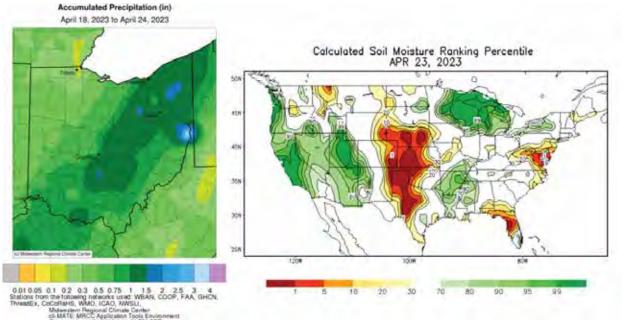


Figure 2: (Left) Total precipitation over the 7-day period of 7am April 18 – 7am April 24, 2023. Figure provided by the Midwestern Regional Climate Center. (Right) Calculated soil moisture percentiles as of 4/23/2023 according to the Climate Prediction Center.

Precipitation varied across Ohio last week, from less than 0.2" in northwestern counties to isolated amounts greater than 2" (Figure 2-left), with the heaviest falling along and to the east of I-71. CoCoRaHS observations show 2.31" fell in Licking County with a report of 2.26" out of Lorain County. Soils continue to dry out across portions of western and southeast Ohio, with soil moisture starting to drop below the 30th percentile compared to historical conditions (Figure 2-right). For more complete weather records for CFAES research stations, including temperature, precipitation, growing degree days, and other useful weather observations, please visit https://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/weather1/.

Weather Forecast

High pressure will slowly take control through mid-week this week, though a few isolated showers (possibly mixed with grapel/snow pellets) are possible on Tuesday.

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Overnight temperatures will flirt with freezing across the state Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, so Frost and Freeze Warnings/Advisories will likely be in place. Daytime highs will only reach the 50s through Thursday. Temperatures will moderate into the 60s on Friday through the weekend, but a complex system will bring ample moisture to the state over the weekend through Monday. The Weather Prediction Center is currently forecasting 0.75-2.00" of precipitation this week, heaviest across eastern Ohio (Figure

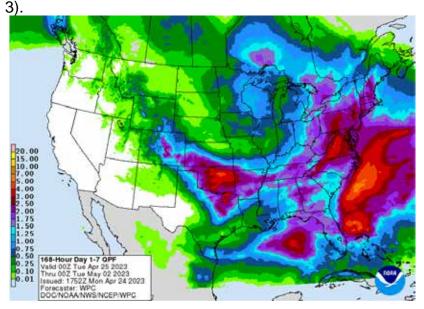


Figure 3). Precipitation forecast from the Weather Prediction Center for 8pm Monday April 24 – 8pm Monday May 1, 2023.

The 6-10 day outlook from the Climate Prediction
Center and the 16-Day
Rainfall Outlook from
NOAA/NWS/Ohio River
Forecast Center show below average temperatures are likely with near normal precipitation (Figure 4). Climate

averages include a high-temperature range of 66-71°F, a low-temperature range of 45-48°F, and weekly total precipitation of about 0.85-1.15".

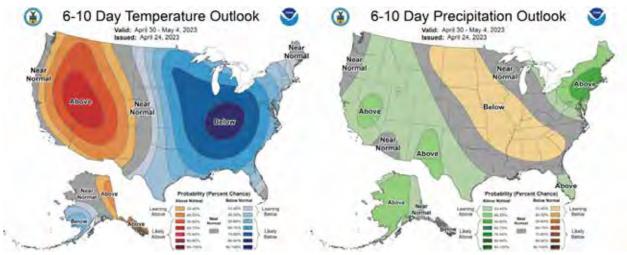


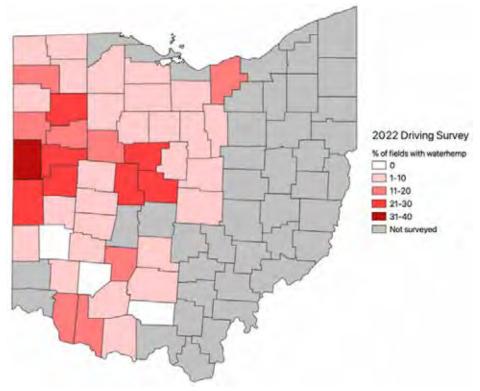
Figure 4) Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day Outlook valid for April 30 - May 4, 2023, for left) temperatures and right) precipitation. Colors represent the probability of below, normal, or above normal conditions.

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Waterhemp on The Rise

By: Alyssa Essman

Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2023-11/waterhemp-rise



County weed survey results 2022

Each fall the OSU weed science program conducts a preharvest survey evaluating the frequency and distribution of problematic weed species across the state. Transects are driven through the top 45-50 soybean producing counties and visual ratings are given for ten weed species in each soybean field encountered. The

weeds evaluated during this survey were: marestail, giant ragweed, common ragweed, waterhemp, Palmer amaranth, redroot pigweed, volunteer corn, common lambsquarter, grasses/foxtail spp., and velvetleaf. Over 4200 fields were surveyed this past fall, approximately 57% of which were "clean", or free of the ten weeds evaluated. The most encountered weed in 2022 was giant ragweed, present in 12% of fields when combined across rating levels. Information about this was covered in a previous C.O.R.N. article. Waterhemp was the second most frequently encountered weed, in 11% of fields. We have seen this number steadily rise in recent years. Waterhemp was identified in 6.5% of the fields evaluated in 2021. In 2020, pigweed species (waterhemp, Palmer amaranth and redroot pigweed combined) were found in 8% of fields.

This increase in the presence of waterhemp is concerning, as it is a very prolific weed and can take over fields in just a couple of growing seasons. It is less competitive on a plant for plant basis compared to some other summer annual species, but what it lacks in competitive ability it makes up for in seed production. Waterhemp can produce anywhere from 100,000 to 1 million seeds per plant depending on environmental conditions and nearby competition. It can also grow very quickly, upwards of an inch per day, and emerge longer throughout the season than many other summer annual

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species. Waterhemp male and female flowers are on separate plants. This means that waterhemp populations are very genetically diverse, which increases the risk of developing herbicide resistance (Nordby et al. 2007).

Across the US, waterhemp has developed resistance to seven site of action groups (SOA #2, 4, 5, 9, 14, 15, and 27; Tranel 2020). Refer to the herbicide classification chart for site of action group descriptions. We have been conducting preliminary screenings of Ohio waterhemp and Palmer amaranth populations for potential resistance to relevant herbicides for several years. Results of the screen of populations collected in 2022 are summarized below.

| Herbicide and rate | Sensitive >80% dead | Intermediate resistance 50 to 80% dead | Likely resistant <50% dead |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--|----------------------------|
| | % of populations | | |
| Atrazine (2 lb ai) | 50 | 36 | 14 |
| Atrazine (8 lb ai) | 79 | 21 | 0 |
| Mesotrione (0.09 lb ai) | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Mesotrione (0.37 lb ai) | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| 2,4-D (0.95 lb ai) | 43 | 57 | 0 |
| 2,4-D (3.8 lb ai) | 93 | 7 | 0 |
| Glufosinate (0.5 lb ai) | 64 | 14 | 22 |
| Glufosinate (2 lb ai) | 100 | 0 | 0 |

Overall, populations varied in their sensitivity to the herbicides included in this screen. Several populations were well controlled by all of the herbicides. A few populations were not at all controlled by the 1x rates of atrazine or glufosinate. It is likely that some magnitude of resistance to these herbicides exists within the populations screened. Based on these results, we will be doing further screenings of these populations in order to better define the magnitude and potentially confirm resistance.

Information on the results of prior herbicide screenings can be found in the articles from <u>2021</u> and <u>2022</u>, as well as a <u>video</u> and <u>PDF</u>. In recent years we have also submitted populations to a regional project that screens waterhemp populations for resistance to glufosinate, 2,4-D and dicamba. Samples submitted for 2022 did not show any of the populations as having a reduced response to these herbicides.

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The good news is that although waterhemp plants produce many seeds, the seeds are relatively short lived. Three to five years of diligent control measures can help eradicate this weed. This includes preventing further introductions from contaminated equipment or seed sources, comprehensive herbicide programs, and late-season monitoring and removal of escapes. Cultural and mechanical practices such as narrow-row spacing, fall-seeded cover crops, and deep tillage as needed can also help reduce population densities. Herbicide programs that utilize more than two effective sites of action, and a management plan that is diverse and includes multiple control tactics, are generally most effective for waterhemp management (Yadav et al. 2023).

Tons of resources exist that cover the ID and management of waterhemp:

- Pigweed Identification Guide
- Amaranthaceae (Pigweed) Identification
- Palmer amaranth and waterhemp management it's all about the seed
- Herbicide Resistance in Waterhemp
- Why Care About Metabolic Herbicide Resistance? Take Action "Inside Weed Management" Webinar Series
- Waterhemp Management in Soybeans
- Which Residual Herbicide Should I Use for Waterhemp Control in Soybeans?
- Multi-SOA Pre-emergence Herbicides for Palmer Amaranth and Waterhemp Control

Waiting on 2026

By: Robert Moore

Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/tue-04112023-838pm/waiting-2026

Estate tax laws have seen favorable changes over the last 20 years. In 2000, the federal estate tax exemption was \$675,000 and Ohio estate taxes were due for estates exceeding \$338,000. Today, the federal estate tax exemption is \$12.92 million and Ohio no longer has estate taxes as they were repealed in 2013. Therefore, no estate taxes are owed if an individual's net worth is less than \$12.92 million or a married couple's net worth is less than \$25.84 million. According to data from the USDA, only 0.2% of farm estates, or about 71 estates, were required to pay estate taxes in 2021. As this data shows, very few farm estate have had to pay estate taxes in the last few years.

On January 1, 2026, the federal estate tax exemption is scheduled to be reduced by 50%. This tax sunset is a result of the 2018 tax legislation passed by Congress that doubled the federal estate tax exemption for seven years. The exemption is indexed for inflation each year so there is no way to know exactly what the exemption will be in 2026 but best guesses are that it will be at least \$7 million per person. While a \$7 million estate tax exemption will still protect the vast majority of farm estates from having estate tax liability, the number of farm estates subject to estate taxes will

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increase significantly beginning in 2026. This increased threat of estate taxes is the result of the 2026 sunset and the significant increase in farmland values in the last few years. There is no doubt that if things hold as expected, the percentage of farm estates having estate tax liability will be considerably more than 0.2%.

Congress can act and pass legislation to extend the current exemption beyond 2026 or make the current exemption permanent (with inflation adjustments). If Congress will address the estate tax exemption is anyone's guess. Congress will be lobbied by farm groups and small business groups to extend or make permanent the current exemption amounts, but the effect of such efforts is purely speculative at this point. Perhaps we will have a better idea of Congress' intentions after the 2024 elections.

In the next post, we will discuss strategies to help reduce the risk of estate taxes for farms should the federal estate tax exemption sunset in 2026.

ROI; Is it time for a fresh look?

By: Stan Smith

Source: https://u.osu.edu/beef/2023/04/19/roi-is-it-time-for-a-fresh-look/



This old project book prompted a fresh look at ROI

Each year as I work through the pile on my farm desk at tax time, I come across the first SOE project book I completed when I began Freshman ag. Considering what we've sold cattle for this past year, it really caught my eye when I recently glanced at it again.

That old Livestock Production Enterprise record book showed that I purchased two Hereford crossed steers in November of 1965 for less than a quarter a pound, totaling just over \$100 each. I sold them 8 months later for about \$260 each. As I think about some fed cattle in Ohio

auction barns recently selling for \$3000 each, and quality feeder calves commonly bringing \$1000 plus, I wonder if perhaps it's time to take a fresh look at return on investment in the beef cattle industry and the value it represents during this time in the cattle price cycle.

Return on investment, or what we might commonly know as ROI, has always been at the forefront of any purchase decision made by profitable and forward-thinking businesses. Agriculture is no different. If the investment isn't going to return more than its cost, why do it?

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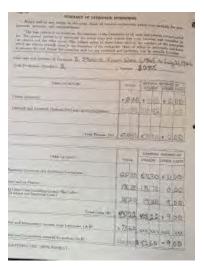
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties

The consideration that might make those ROI decisions unique for agriculture is it takes additional labor to turn many new investments into profit, and finding underutilized labor standing around the farm might not be realistic. That said, in this time when fed cattle are at or approaching historically high values, perhaps it's time to look again at ROI and the value the investment in some of the labor-intensive management practices that quickly come to mind can return to the operation.

With breeding season upon us, the first one I think of is a breeding soundness exam (BSE) for the herd bull. When the virtues of a BSE are mentioned, countless times over the years the response has been, "he got them bred last year." Hearing that, I must ask . . . last year did your bull stand through windchills that were minus double digits the end of December or drag through mud much of the Winter?

Depending on when, where and how many you have performed, a BSE might cost \$50 to \$150 dollars per bull. But as we look at ROI today, consider that for every cow the bull might not get settled on the first service we'll have a calf that's 21 days younger at weaning time. It's likely gained ~40 pounds less than contemporaries born from the first service, at a value of \$2+ dollars for each of those pounds. ROI on a BSE might be at an all-time high today!

While we're on the topic of getting calves born in a timely fashion and optimizing total weaning weight, let's talk about the cost of estrus management or synchronization. Any time estrus synchronization is mentioned, thoughts immediately turn to artificial insemination. While the opportunities afforded by individually creating matings to the best bulls in the world through an artificial insemination program are undeniable, it is not something all cattlemen choose to do. Regardless, perhaps the greatest benefit to estrus synchronization is the ability to maintain a tighter calving season regardless of using artificial insemination or the natural service of a bull. The financial benefits of maintaining a tighter calving season come in multiple forms.



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Each management decision alone could return what these steers did in 1966!

First and foremost, as alluded to earlier a tighter calving season that gets more calves on the ground earlier results in additional total pounds at weaning. Each calf born a 21-day cycle earlier likely results in an additional 30 to 50 pounds of marketable calf weight . . . at a value these days of \$2+ per pound.

The second opportunity a tighter calving season affords is greater numbers of similar weight calves to market in groups. Data shared by University of Kentucky economist

Kenny Burdine has showed an \$11 per hundred weight advantage when calves could be marketed in groups of at least 5 as opposed to singles. When that group of calves grows to 10 head, the advantage becomes \$15/hundred weight. As Burdine goes on to point out, combining the advantages of the extra weight realized by calving a cycle earlier with the additional value gained when selling in a larger group can easily exceed \$100 per calf. All things considered, ROI on a \$12 CIDR and a couple trips through the chute might be at an all-time high today!

Considering the value of cull cows, the cost of feed, the opportunity to pregnancy check cows and the potential cost savings of timely culling the opens present another ROI benefit that shouldn't go unnoticed. The costs of keeping each open cow can easily range from \$400 to perhaps \$800 per cow held in the herd, and not culled. At the same time culls are commonly bringing 90+/- cents a pound. Depending on the method of confirming pregnancy that's employed, pregnancy checking comes at a cost ranging from only \$4 to \$35 per head. ROI on confirming a pregnancy might also be at an all-time high today!

I've only touched on a few of the potential practices that could likely show a positive ROI. We could also talk about the ROI on a good mineral program, proper nutrition, quality genetics, more intense pasture management, castrating bull calves or incorporating a vaccination program into the calf marketing plan.

Considering the value of cattle now, and the values projected for the foreseeable future, it might be a good time to take fresh new look at ROI on some of those practices that in the past we didn't recognize as a valuable investment.

Enhanced Soil Carbon Farming as a Climate Solution: Pastures and Hayfields in Ohio

Bv: April White

Source: https://dairy.osu.edu/newsletter/buckeye-dairy-news/volume-25-issue-2/milk-prices-costs-nutrients-margins-and-comparison

The Sustainable Agroecosystems Lab at The Ohio State University, Departments of Horticulture & Crop Science and Animals Sciences is seeking farmers to participate in an on-farm soil assessment to evaluate soil carbon sequestration under perennial pasture fields and annual crops fields.

Project description: This is a multi-state and multi-institution \$15 million <u>project</u> led by researchers at the Carbon Management and Sequestration Center (<u>CMASC</u>) at The Ohio State University. Different soil management practices and uses are being assessed in 17 states for their impact on soil carbon stocks. This research will provide

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on-farm data to farmers, stakeholders and policymakers on the importance of soil carbon farming practices to mitigate climate change.

As part of the project, our lab is focusing on how perennial forages, for grazing or hay, and annual crops, such as corn and soybean, affect soil carbon stocks and sequestration. We are looking to compare fields under long-term use as perennial forage or to a nearby long-term field under annual crops (corn-soybean rotations), in different regions across Ohio.

Farmer participation in the project is to provide historical information about field management (tillage, fertilization rates, manure application, crop rotation) and allow the research team to perform soil sampling collection during Fall 2023 and Fall 2025.

If your farm specializes in only one crop type (i.e. only perennial forages), we can work with a neighbor for the annual crop field used for the comparison. If you are interested in collaborating with us, please reach out to our team.

Marilia Chiavegato, chiavegato.1@osu.edu, (614) 625-7512 Ricardo Ribeiro, ribeiro.30@osu.edu, (614) 736-9321

Recycling lake sediments for crop production: A sustainable solution for closing the phosphorus cycle

Source: University of Helsinki

Journal Reference:

Mina Kiani, Jure Zrim, Asko Simojoki, Olga Tammeorg, Petri Penttinen, Tuuli Markkanen, Priit Tammeorg. Recycling eutrophic lake sediments into grass production: A four-year field experiment on agronomical and environmental implications. Science of The Total Environment, 2023; 870: 161881 DOI: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.161881

A four-year field experiment conducted on the shores of restored Lake Mustijärv in Viljandi, Estonia, has revealed that recycling phosphorus-rich lake sediments back to agriculture could have positive impacts on crop production.

The study was conducted by doctoral researcher Mina Kiani and the AgriChar research group, and it is globally the first of its kind to cover the environmental aspects of recycling lake sediments to agriculture over several years. Kiani defends her thesis on 21 April at the University of Helsinki Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry.

The study aimed to find a sustainable solution for closing the leaking agricultural phosphorus (P) cycle by recycling P-rich lake sediments back to agriculture and helping the restoration of the eutrophic lake by sediment removal. The experiment involved excavating all 7500 m3 of sediment from the 1-hectare shallow eutrophic Lake

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Mustijärv, which was then used as a growing medium for grass production. The sediment was also analysed for various essential nutrients, including P, sulphur (S), calcium (Ca), magnesium (Mg), boron (B), zinc (Zn), and copper (Cu).

The results showed that sediment-based growing media sustained the grass biomass yield in the field condition, with the sediment being rich in organic matter and a good source of several essential nutrients. Additionally, the sediment continuously provided a moderate supply of N to the plants over the four-year field experiment.

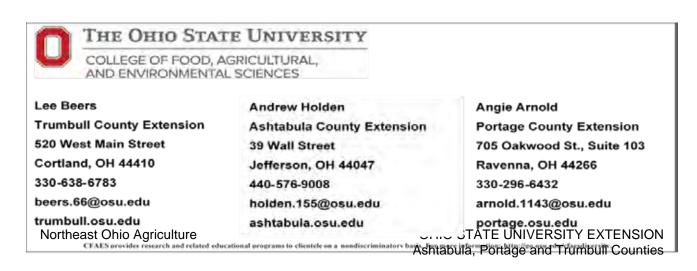
The study also investigated the environmental impacts of various sediment application methods, including greenhouse gas emissions, N and P leaching, aggregate stability, and soil biota. Sediment-based growing media had different bacterial and fungal community compositions compared with soil, and it increased the risk of P and mineral N leaching. Biochar application increased the amount of N taken up by the plants but did not significantly reduce emissions or leaching.

The sediment application rate should be adjusted to match crop requirements, similar to how fertilizers are applied. This can help minimize nutrient leaching back into the lake and further help mitigate eutrophication of the lake.

Furthermore, in this project, the changes in P dynamics at the sediment-water interface in the restored lake were examined during a two-year follow-up period. Theoretically, no markable sediment P release could appear after complete sediment removal. Nevertheless, a large pool of releasable P was rebuilt soon after sediment removal due to an exceptionally high nutrient flow from the catchment. Particularly large quantities of sediment, most likely originating from the stream bed cleaning upstream of the lake, concentrated into the sediment accumulation basins, i.e. deeper parts of the lake created as a part of the lake restoration project. Regularly emptying such sediment accumulation basins may help to efficiently entrap point source nutrient inputs and facilitate future lake restoration efforts.

Mental Health Resources:

- Ashtabula County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board is committed to bringing Ashtabula County residents high quality, evidence-based mental health and substance abuse treatment and prevention services. More information can be found at https://www.ashtabulamhrsboard.org or by calling 440-992-3121.
- Community Counseling Center is a non-profit behavioral health provider focused on engaging the community in recovery. Services include Case Management, Children's Day Treatment Program, Counseling, Medication-Assisted Treatment, Prevention Services, Psychiatry, Supported Employment, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment. More information can be found at https://cccohio.com/ or by calling 440-998-4210.
- Signature Health primarily serve Medicaid and Medicare patients, with a sliding fee scale available to eligible individuals without insurance. Their services range from counseling to alcohol and drug recovery programs, to primary care, to infectious disease services. More information can be found at https://www.signaturehealthinc.org/locations/ashtabula/ or by calling 440-992-8552.
- NAMI plays an active role in providing support, education, and advocacy throughout Ashtabula County. NAMI utilizes volunteers to teach classes, facilitate support groups, provide referral services to local resources, and create awareness and understanding of mental illness. More information can be found at https://namiashtabula.org or by calling 1-800-950-NAMI (6264).
- Ohio Mental Health Resource Guides by County can be reached by visiting https://go.osu.edu/countyresourceguide
- If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts, call, or text the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline by dialing 988. You can also chat at 988lifeline.org.









PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE SAFETY DAY®

Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. This years event will be at the:

Ashtabula County Antique Engine Club

This **FREE** event is for children ages 4 and up. Families are welcome to stay! Registration will be in person only and begin at 9:00 AM

A packed lunch is required for all participants





Water/Pond Safety Chemical Safety **PTO Safety Animal Safety Equipment Safety Grain Safety**

> For additional information contact Rachel Kalas: 440-789-9131 or asht.co.pafsd@gmail.com



Sign up for shirt sizes here























Ohio Department of Agriculture - Pesticide Exams

To get a new pesticide license, or to add a category to an existing license, producers need to pass one or more exams. Exams are offered at no cost, but registration is encouraged. Call your local office for more information.

♦ Northeast Ohio Test Dates ♦

Ashtabula County

Exams start at 9 AM

- February 2, 2023
- March 8, 2023
- April 4, 2023
- June 1, 2023

Geauga County

Exams start at 10 AM

- February 15, 2023
- March 22, 2023
- April 26, 2023
- May 24, 2023
- June 28, 2023

Trumbull County

Exams start at 10 AM

- February 13, 2023
- March 13, 2023
- April 10, 2023
- May 8, 2023
- June 12, 2023
- July 10, 2023
- August 14, 2023
- Sept. 11, 2023
- Nov. 13, 2023

Portage County

Exams start at 10 AM

- February 21, 2023
- March 21, 2023
- April 18, 2023
- July 18, 2023
- August 28, 2023
- Sept. 19, 2023
- October 24, 2023
- Nov. 28, 2023

To register for an upcoming exam call 614-728-6987 or visit https://go.osu.edu/neoexams



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Women in Agriculture

Ashtabula County Farm Tours Beef, a Backyard Garden, & Berries

Join us for one or all of this 3-part series featuring women owned farms!

Mardy Townsend Marshy Meadows Alexa Sandella **Backyard Garden** **Lois Wright Morton Outwash Terrace**

Save the date! Rain or shine!

Please wear boots, bring water, and be prepared for walking Windsor, OH Sunday, May 7th from 2-4 p.m.

Kingsville, OH Sunday, July 30th from 2-4 p.m.

Pierpont, OH Sunday, Sept. 10th from 2-4 p.m.

To RSVP, call or email Julie Wayman 440-576-9008 or wayman.31@osu.edu



ashtabula.osu.edu



Kanect Recycling is excited to be supporting the Ashtabula County 4-H Foundation

Kanect Foundation - Built around Kanectivityl

Kanect Recycling was founded in 2018. Locally owned, the company has grown to an over 50 million per year company thanks to our local communities. We want to show our appreciation and give something back to the community!

Ashtabula County 4-H Foundation-helping to make the Best Better!

The Ashtabula County 4-H Foundation was formed in 1997 as a non profit organization with the mission of promoting advanced education for youth involved in the Ashtabula County 4-H program. Money is invested long term into an endowment fund to help youth for generations to come. Youth are supported with scholarships to assist with college, as well as assisting in camper-ships for 4-H Camp Whitewood.

Having started the Kanect Foundation, we would like to leverage our recycling capacity to partner with local businesses to raise money for the 4-H Foundation. Kanect recycling will be offering free pickup, towing, bins, and/or rolloffs for every recycled load.

10% of the load will be donated to the to the 4-H Foundation through the Kanect Foundation This is a huge and exciting opportunity for everyone involved at Kanect Recycling and the 4-H Foundation! Kanect is committed to paying top competitive market pricing for all your scrap commodities. This will help offset the donation, and in some cases make it not even noticeable.

We hope you will consider joining us supporting our local youth while getting rid of unwanted items at your business or property!

For more information, or to schedule your pickup, contact -

Sara Winter at Kanect Recycling (440) 855-2239

Giving is not just about making a donation. Giving is about making a difference!

Rebel Mead Kanect Recycling



Ashtabula Co 4-H Foundation