Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

We have another full issue for today. There are a couple things to highlight in this issue. With the Farm Bill decision deadline fast approaching make sure your selections are made by March 16th.

Check out our 4-H positions posted in Ashtabula and Portage Counties. Please pass the word along if you know of someone who may be interested in these positions.

Stay dry out there.
Farm Bill Decision Deadline Fast Approaching
By: Chris Zoller, Mary Griffith, Ben Brown
Source: [https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-04/farm-bill-decision-deadline-fast-approaching](https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-04/farm-bill-decision-deadline-fast-approaching)

Enrollment in the 2018 Farm Bill programs (PLC, ARC-CO, and ARC-IC) ends on March 16th. If you do not enroll by this date you will default to the election you made in the previous Farm Bill and receive NO PAYMENTS for the 2019 program year. This same election holds true for 2020.

As a reminder, PLC is a price protection/income loss option that covers declines in crop prices and the ARC-CO program is an income support option based on county-level benchmark revenues and guarantees compared to actual revenues. For those with prevent planted acres, the ARC-IC program may be worth consideration. ARC-IC issues payments when individual crop revenue is less than the guarantee and uses individual yields, rather than the county yields. Once an election is made, the choice carries through for 2019 and 2020. Annual changes can be made in 2021, 2022, and 2023 program years. If you have already made a program election and decide you want to make a change, you may do so until March 16th.

Information about the Farm Bill program options and the OSU Farm Bill Decision Tool are available at [https://aede.osu.edu/research/osu-farm-management/2018-farm-bill/arcplc-decision-aid-tools](https://aede.osu.edu/research/osu-farm-management/2018-farm-bill/arcplc-decision-aid-tools). You may also consult your local FSA office or OSU Extension Educator for answers to your specific questions.

The Secretary of Agriculture has said there will not be an extension to the enrollment deadline. FSA offices are very busy processing enrollments and have a great deal of work to complete in less than one month. If you have not met with your FSA office staff to enroll in the Farm Bill program, please do so ASAP. Remember, the deadline is March 16th.

Ohio tackles “TMDL” for Lake Erie’s Western Basin
By: Ellen Essman, Senior Research Associate
Source: [https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/wed-02192020-409pm/ohio-tackles-%E2%80%9Ctmdl%E2%80%9D-lake-erie%E2%80%99s-western-basin](https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/wed-02192020-409pm/ohio-tackles-%E2%80%9Ctmdl%E2%80%9D-lake-erie%E2%80%99s-western-basin)

For the last several years, the state of Ohio and the U.S. EPA have been plagued with objections and lawsuits—from states, local governments, and environmental groups—concerning Ohio’s list of impaired waters and development of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for the Western Basin of Lake Erie. (Some of our past blog posts on the subject are available here, here, and here.) Under the Clean Water Act (CWA), states are required to submit a list of impaired, or polluted,
waters every two years. Typically, designating a water body as impaired triggers a review of pollution sources, determinations of TMDLs for different pollutants, and an action plan for meeting those TMDLs. Ohio repeatedly failed to include the Western Basin in its list of impaired waters, even though the area has been subject to pollution-caused algal blooms in recent years. When the state finally listed the Western Basin waters as impaired in 2018, it still did not develop the accompanying TMDL for the area. However, Ohio’s TMDL drought ended last week.

Ohio EPA announced on February 13, 2020, that it would develop TMDLs for the Western Basin “over the next two to three years.” This decision will ultimately affect farmers in the watershed, as it is likely that the Ohio EPA would create TMDLs for phosphorus, nitrogen, and other fertilizers in the Western Basin. Consequently, farmers may have to reduce the amounts they put on their fields, and/or implement additional measures to keep such inputs from running off into the water.

So, Ohio listed the Western Basin as impaired and is working on TMDLs for the area—the controversy is over, right? Not so fast. Lucas County, Ohio and the Environmental Law & Policy Center filed a lawsuit against the U.S. EPA that is still ongoing. (We last discussed this lawsuit here.) Basically, the plaintiffs in the suit are arguing that the U.S. EPA violated the CWA when it allowed the Ohio EPA to designate the Western Basin as impaired in 2018, but did not make the state develop TMDLs. Even though Ohio has since promised to implement TMDLs for the area, the outcome of the case will still weigh in on the crucial question of whether the U.S. EPA can make states create TMDLs for impaired waters under the CWA. In addition, the U.S. District Court case applies to Ohio’s 2018 impaired waters list, whereas Ohio EPA’s recent announcement concerns the 2020 list. Finally, it’s doubtful that environmental groups and others will stop their efforts just because Ohio has now promised to create TMDLs—it’s almost a certainty that the debate over pollution in the Western Basin and the best ways to remedy the problem will persist.

**Cover Crop Recipes for New Users**
By: Sarah Noggle, Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, Paulding County, OSU Extension
Source: [https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-04/cover-crop-recipes-new-users](https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-04/cover-crop-recipes-new-users)
Wondering how to do cover crops? OSU Extension, in collaboration with the Midwest Cover Crops Council (MCCC), has produced cover crop “recipes” for two scenarios: Post corn, going to soybean and Post soybean, going to corn.

The recipes are intended to provide step-by-step guidance to some of the lowest-risk starting points for cover crops. They don’t cover the whole spectrum of possibilities, but they can help beginners get most pieces in place to incorporate cover crops into a farm operation. The two recipes were developed to address Ohio’s most common crop cropping system, the corn/soybean rotation.

The “Post corn, going to soybean” recipe suggests cereal rye, which provides an overwintering ground cover. Soybeans often thrive when planted into standing dead or living cereal rye residue. The “Post soybean, going to corn” recipe suggests an oats/radish mix, which will winterkill and leave a smaller amount of residue in the corn seedbed the following year.

In addition to protecting soil from erosion and building soil organic matter, cover crops can take up excess nitrate left after a cash crop, reducing nitrogen loads in surface or groundwater.

Talking with Ohio State University Extension, NRCS, or Soil and Water Conservation District employees about what’s working locally can also help set new cover crop users up for success.

The recipes can be found on the MCCC website, which also includes detailed information about many common cover crop species and links to other resources. Ohio is one of 13 states and provinces represented on the MCCC, a collaborative group with the goal of supporting broad adoption of cover crops across the Midwest. Funding for the recipe project was provided by the McKnight Foundation.

Extension Educator Sarah Noggle led the recipe development along with Jim Hoorman, Hoorman Soil Health Services. Additional reviewers and contributors on the project include Jason Hartschuh, Ohio State University Extension; Eileen Kladivko, Purdue University; Anna Morrow, Midwest Cover Crops Council; Eric Richer, Ohio State University Extension; and Alan Sundermeier, Ohio State University Extension.
**Muddy Issues; Mastitis and Scours**

By: Christine Gelley, Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, Noble County, OSU Extension

Source: [https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/02/19/muddy-issues-mastitis-and-scours/#more-8291](https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/02/19/muddy-issues-mastitis-and-scours/#more-8291)

Lactating animals are at greater risk of mastitis infections when it is muddy! We finally got some snow and freezing temperatures! At our house, we didn’t get snow a single day that our Christmas decorations were up, but snow on Valentine’s Day was appreciated. Fresh snow provides a refreshing look to the landscape when it covers up all the muck and brown underneath it. However, those cold temperatures are still not lasting long enough to firm up the ground and as soon as we track through that snow, our break from reality is over.

Mud creates challenges with mobility both for our animals and equipment. Aside from complicating the logistics of caring for the farm, mud increases our risks for herd health complications too. Many producers have babies on the farm right now. It is important to watch out for signs of mastitis with the mothers and scours with the young.

As soon as possible after birth and if you are able, check that each teat produces colostrum (the first and most crucial milk). Getting colostrum into a newborn within the first few hours is critical for the long-term health of the animal. The best source of colostrum is from the newborn’s mother. If this is not possible, the next best choice is another mother of the same species from your farm. After that, the next best choice is a colostrum replacer. The nutrient composition of milk is different from species to species.
and there are diseases that can be passed through milk from farm to farm. Therefore, do not substitute across species or with milk from another farm.

In addition, do not pasteurize colostrum. It will denature the components that make it so special. If you have a mother that produces extra colostrum or in the unfortunate event that a mother dies giving birth or shortly after, milks as much colostrum from her as you can and freeze it. Thaw frozen colostrum/milk in a warm water bath, never in the microwave. For more tips consult https://u.osu.edu/beef or https://u.osu.edu/sheep by typing "colostrum" into the search bar. There are many helpful articles available on the OSU Extension Team websites that you can access 24/7.

Another very helpful article was featured in Farm and Dairy recently by my colleague in Belmont County – Dan Lima – about scours. It can be viewed online at https://go.osu.edu/scoursbydan. In his article, Dan reminds us that muddy conditions put calves (and other young) at a higher risk of developing scours, which is most obviously noticeable as diarrhea. Scours can be caused by a variety of organisms present in mud. The most common being E. coli. Often the young will pick up the bacteria (or other pathogens) from mother’s udder tissue while nursing. Scours can be very detrimental to young animals because it causes dehydration and weight loss. Young that receive adequate amounts of colostrum at birth receive helpful antibodies from their mothers that provide the immune system responses needed to combat the pathogens that cause scours. Vaccines can be administered to mothers in the weeks before calving that can also increase immunity in their young to scours.

In both mastitis and scours cases, the best way to keep issues at bay is through prevention. Do everything in your power to provide a relatively clean birthing environment and promote healthy immune systems.

Cull mothers that do not adequately care for their young or that have poor udder structure. If the udders are not conformed to aid the young nursing, they will struggle. If the udder bag is abnormally saggy, there is a greater chance of contamination of manure on the teats. Make notes at birth and after regarding mothering capabilities and resist the urge to give too many chances to mothers that create problems for you. A mother that does not do her job is a liability rather than an asset and will likely pass those traits on to her young. For lasting success, only keep the assets on your farm.

Good luck as we traipse through the rest of this muddy winter together!
Beef Cattle Market Update
By: Dr. Kenny Burdine, Livestock Marketing Specialist, University of Kentucky
Source: [https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/02/19/beef-cattle-market-update/](https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/02/19/beef-cattle-market-update/) - more-8309

After a very frustrating fall, the calf market is showing some signs of life. To start the new year, 550 lb steers calves traded $12 per cwt higher in January than they did in November (see figure 1). This is by no means a great market, but enough to create some optimism for spring. Excessive rains continue to create challenges across the board and the market seems to consistently discount green calves that are likely perceived as high risk placements in this type of weather. Heavy feeder cattle prices have pulled back some from fall, but that is a typical seasonal pattern and I expect their prices to improve through the year.

Figure 1. 550 lb Medium / Large Farm #1-2 Steers
KY Auction Prices ($ per cwt)

Late January brought USDA’s annual cattle inventory estimates, which confirmed that the size of the beef cow herd was smaller to start 2020. The size of the decrease actually exceeded trade expectations, with beef cow numbers down a little over 1%. I think the primary driver of the decrease was high beef cow slaughter in 2019, which was up 5% for the year and over 14%f or the 4th quarter. Also not surprisingly, heifer retention was also down (-2%), which is consistent with low margins at the cow-calf level. The key takeaway from the report is that the cowherd is finally decreasing in size.
and calf crops should continue to get smaller, which is exactly what our calf market needs. US beef cow inventory from 1950 to 2020 is shown in figure 2.

Figure 2. US Beef Cow Inventory (1950 to 2020)

Source: USDA-NASS and Livestock Marketing Information Center

Frankly, I was surprised by USDA’s estimate of Kentucky beef cow numbers as they were estimated to be up very slightly from 2019. Given the number of cows that moved through auction markets in fall of 2019, I fully expected Kentucky beef cow numbers to be lower. There are eight states in the US with more than one million beef cows. Beef cow numbers were estimated to be lower in six of those states: Texas, Oklahoma, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Kansas. Only Kentucky and Missouri were estimated to have more cows to start 2020 than they did in 2019.

A smaller cowherd at the national level, combined with considerable optimism with respect to export markets, paints a much more optimistic picture for prices in 2020. As is always the case, I expect calf markets to improve considerably between now and spring. An additional price improvement of $15-$20 per cwt would not surprise me at all. As we start thinking about spring born calves, I do expect a better fall market than was seen last year. My initial guess would be that calves will sell for $10-$15 more per cwt than they did in fall of 2019.
The full USDA report can be accessed at: https://downloads.usda.library.cornell.edu/usda-esmis/files/h702q636h/rb68xv24k/76537h73d/catl0120.pdf

**Conservation Technology Conference**

By: Ed Lentz, CCA, Mark Badertscher

Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-04/conservation-technology-conference

The Conservation Tillage Conference (CTC) is the largest agriculture meeting in northwestern Ohio. Historically over 800 individuals will attend each day of this two-day conference. This year’s event will be March 3 and 4 on the campus of Ohio Northern University in Ada.

The meeting and program have been developed by The Ohio State University Extension Specialists along with Agriculture and Natural Resources Educators in local counties with assistance from local Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Farmers, consultants, industry representatives, government officials will meet each day to listen to university specialists, industry representatives, and producers discuss new products and ideas for agriculture.

Lee Briese, recipient of the International Certified Crop Advisor of the Year Award and an agronomic consultant for Centrol Inc. of Twin Valley in Edgeley, ND, will be the keynote speaker. The title of his presentation is *Details Matter: Equipment, Soils, and Cover Crops.* In addition, Briese will present two other talks during the conference. The rest of the conference will include over 60 speakers and a trade show that will have product displays and representatives from over 30 vendors. Four concurrent program sessions will occur each hour of the day from approximately 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The focus on the program is conservation including no-till, cover crops, and soil health. However, the latest management practices for each major crop and new developments in precision agriculture are included in the program.

The popular “Corn University” and “Soybean School” have been replaced with the Crop Management and Precision Technology as a result of retirements of Extension Corn Specialists from the eastern Corn Belt. However, ten researchers from seven Land
Grant Universities will be presenting during the Crop Management and Precision Technology program.

Crop Management and Precision Technology topics on March 3 will focus on management practices to improve soil conditioning after last year’s adverse weather and the use of precision agriculture for application of nutrients and making agronomic decisions with sensors.

Topics for March 4 Crop Management and Precision Technology include repairing damaged soils, new Tri-State Fertilizer recommendations, nitrogen management research, latest production research for soybean and raising profitable wheat.

Other topics at the conference will be associated with manure such as nutrient management, regulations, and government programs. There will also be topics on hemp production and forage cover crops.

Water quality topics including phosphorus management, 2019 agriculture impact on Lake Erie, and a discussion on H2Ohio programs will be on the agenda in addition to those that focus on the success of no-till agriculture from the past 50 years.

Traditional soil conservation topics will include cover crops, no-till, and soil health and cover crop management practices.

The Conservation Tillage Conference fee is $95 for both days ($70 for one day) if paid online before February 21; registration afterwards and day of is $85 for one day or $115 for both days.

Registration information and a detailed program schedule may be found at the following web address: http://ctc.osu.edu. Certified Crop Advisers (CCA) will be able to receive seven hours of continuing education credits each day in all categories.

**Ohio Legislation on the Move**

By: Ellen Essman, Senior Research Associate, Senior Research Associate

Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/fri-02212020-432pm/ohio-legislation-move

The year is still fairly new, and 2020 has brought with it some newly-introduced legislation in the Ohio General Assembly. That being said, in 2020 the General Assembly also continues to consider legislation first introduced in 2019. From tax exemptions to CAUV changes, to watershed programs and local referendums on wind turbines, here is some notable ag-related legislation making its way through the state house.
New legislation

- House Bill 400 “To authorize a nonrefundable income tax credit for the retail sale of high-ethanol blend motor fuel”

HB 400 was introduced after our last legislative update in November, so while it was first introduced in 2019, it still technically qualifies as “new” to us. Since its introduction, the bill has been discussed in two hearings in the House Ways & Means Committee. The bill would give owners and operators of gas stations a tax rebate of five cents per gallon for sales of ethanol. To apply, the fuel would have to be between 15% and 85% ethanol (E15). If passed, the tax credit would be available for four years. The bill is meant to encourage gas station owners in Ohio to sell E15, which is much more readily available in other states. The bill is available here.

- House Bill 485 “To remove a requirement that owners of farmland enrolled in the CAUV program must file a renewal application each year in order to remain in the program”

Introduced on January 29, 2020, HB 485 would make it easier for farmers to stay enrolled in the Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV) program. CAUV allows agricultural land to be taxed at a much lower rate than other types of land. If HB 485 were to pass, the initial application for CAUV on land more than 10 acres would automatically renew each year but the landowner must notify the auditor if the land ceases to be devoted exclusively for agricultural use. Owners of agricultural land less than 10 acres in size, who can qualify for CAUV if gross income from the land exceeds $2,500, would have to submit documentation on the annual gross income of the land to the county auditor each year rather than filing the renewal application. The CAUV bill can be found here.

Legislation from 2019 still being considered

- House Bill 24 “Revise Humane Society law”

In November, we reported that HB 24 passed the House unanimously and was subsequently referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources. Since that time, the committee has held two hearings on the bill. The hearings included testimony from the bill’s House sponsors, who touted how the bill would improve humane societies’ public accountability. The bill would revise procedures for humane society operations, require humane society agents to successfully complete training in order to serve, and would establish procedures for seizing and impounding animals. It would also remove humane societies’ current jurisdiction over child abuse cases and make agents subject to bribery laws. Importantly, HB 24 would allow law enforcement officers to seize and impound any animal the officer has probable cause to believe is
the subject of an animal cruelty offense. Currently, the ability to seize and impound only applies to companion animals such as dogs and cats. You can read HB 24 here.

- **House Bill 109 “To authorize a property tax exemption for land used for commercial maple sap extraction”**

HB 109 was first introduced in February of 2019, but has recently seen some action in the House Ways & Means Committee, where it was discussed in a hearing on January 28, 2020. The bill would give owners of “maple forest land” a property tax exemption if they: (1) Drill an average of 30 taps during the tax year into at least 15 maple trees per acre; (2) use sap in commercially sold maple products; and (3) manage the land under a plan that complies with the standards of reasonable care in the protection and maintenance of forest land. In addition, the land must be 10 contiguous acres. Maple forest land that does not meet that acreage threshold can still receive a tax exemption if the sap produces an average yearly gross income of $2,500 or more in the three preceding years, or if evidence shows that the gross income during the current tax year will be at least $2,500. You can find the text of the proposed bill here.

- **House Bill 160 “Revise alcoholic ice cream law”**

Have you ever thought, “Gee, this ice cream is great, but what could make it even better?” Well this is the bill for you! At present, those wishing to sell ice cream containing alcohol in Ohio must obtain an A-5 liquor permit and can only sell the ice cream at the site of manufacture, and that site must be in an election precinct that allows for on- and off-premises consumption of alcohol. This bill would allow the ice cream maker to sell to consumers for off-premises enjoyment and to retailers who are authorized to sell alcohol. HB 160 passed the House last year and is currently in Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee in the Senate. Since our last legislative update, the committee has had three hearings on the bill. In the hearings, proponents testified in support of the bill, arguing that it would allow their businesses to grow and compete with out of state businesses. Senators asked questions about how the ice cream would be kept away from children, how the bill would help business, and about other states with similar laws. To read the bill, click here.

- **Senate Bill 2 “Create watershed planning structure”**

In 2019, SB 2 passed the Senate and moved on to the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee. If passed, this bill would do four main things. First, it would create the Statewide Watershed Planning and Management Program, which would be tasked with improving and protecting the watersheds in the state, and would be administered by the ODA director. Under this program, the director of ODA would have to categorize watersheds in Ohio and appoint watershed planning and management coordinators in each watershed region. The coordinators would work with soil and
water conservation districts to identify water quality impairment, and to gather information on conservation practices. Second, the bill states the General Assembly’s intent to work with agricultural, conservation, and environmental organizations and universities to create a certification program for farmers, where the farmers would use practices meant to minimize negative water quality impacts. Third, SB 2 charges ODA, with help from the Lake Erie Commission and the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission, to start a watershed pilot program that would help farmers, agricultural retailers, and soil and water conservation districts in reducing phosphorus. Finally, the bill would allow regional water and sewer districts to make loans and grants and to enter into cooperative agreements with any person or corporation, and would allow districts to offer discounted rentals or charges to people with low or moderate incomes, as well as to people who qualify for the homestead exemption.

Since SB 2 moved on to the lower chamber, the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee has held multiple hearings on the bill, and has consented to two amendments. The first amendment would keep information about individual nutrient management plans out of the public record. Similarly, the second amendment would keep information about farmers’ agricultural operations and conservation practices out of the public record. The text of SB 2 is available here.

- Senate Bill 234 “Regards regulation of wind farms and wind turbine setbacks”

SB 234 was introduced on November 6, 2019. Since that time, the bill was assigned to the Senate Energy & Public Utilities Committee, and three hearings have been held. The bill would give voters in the unincorporated areas of townships the power to have a referendum vote on certificates or amendments to economically significant and large wind farms issued by the Ohio Power and Siting Board. The voters could approve or reject the certificate for a new wind farm or an amendment to an existing certificate by majority vote. The bill would also change how minimum setback distances for wind farms might be measured. The committee hearings have included testimony from numerous proponents of the bill. SB 234 is available here. A companion bill was also introduced in the House. HB 401 can be found here.

**Trumbull County Farmer Lunch Series Returns for 2020**

OSU Extension, Trumbull SWCD, and USDA-NRCS have teamed up again to offer a series of educational luncheons in 2020. We will be taking a break in March and hope you attend our NE Ohio Agronomy School on March 11th, but we’ll be back on April 15th with a farmer discussion on cover crops and what works in our region, and what does not. Each of these events is $5/person and this includes lunch. Lunch is again sponsored by the Trumbull County Holstein Club to keep costs down. The programs
start at 11:30A.M. and will conclude by 1:00P.M. If you would like to register or have further questions, please call 330-638-6783 or email beers.66@osu.edu

Ashtabula County Needs Assessment Announced
By: Andrew Holden, ANR Educator, Ashtabula County Extension Office

Hello, Ashtabula County! I am announcing the release of my 2020 Ashtabula County Agriculture Needs Assessment. Please read the description below and consider filling out the survey at: http://go.osu.edu/AshtabulaAg2020

During my first year as the Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator here in Ashtabula County I have had the privilege to meet with many producers and agriculture industry professionals. Going forward I will continue to meet with and work with our great ag community to offer the highest quality, researched-based information to help create more opportunities for improvement.

To help improve the agricultural programs and information offered by the Ashtabula County office of Ohio State University Extension, I am now asking for your assistance by completing this short survey. Whether you come to every extension event, or have never attended one, please use this opportunity to let us know what you would like to see in the future. The results of this survey along with other information sources will help guide the focus of agricultural education in the county. The survey isn’t restricted to any aspect of agriculture, if you have any interest or involvement in agriculture, please fill out the survey today!

To access the survey, you can go to the web address: http://go.osu.edu/AshtabulaAg2020 You can also scan the QR code in this article to reach the survey. If you would like a paper copy sent to you, please contact the OSU Extension office at 440-576-9008 or stop in at 39 Wall St. Jefferson, OH 44047. We respect your privacy; all survey responses will remain anonymous and all data will be reported in aggregate. If you have any questions or issues with the survey please contact me, Andrew Holden. Thank you!

Ashtabula Co. Dairy Banquet Update for 2020
By: Andrew Holden

On behalf of the Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit, I would like to share an update with you regarding the 2020 Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet;
It is no secret that the dairy industry in this county has been declining over the past years. Across the region, and as a whole, the dairy sector has been hit hard. It is because of these circumstances that we view the Dairy Banquet as more important than
ever. The Dairy Service Unit wants to continue to offer an event to properly recognize our local dairies hard work and achievements and offer a time where we can join as a farming community and celebrate.

Over the past few years the committee has been exploring ways to enhance the annual Dairy Banquet. This year, for the 70th anniversary of the banquet, the committee has decided to hold the banquet in conjunction with the Ashtabula County Farm Bureau Ice Cream Social. This decision was made to allow for a larger audience to see the achievements of our great dairies and to make the banquet a larger community event to promote the dairy industry. The awards will remain the same as previous years and we will continue to hold the Dairy Princess role for the following year. If you know of anyone who is interested in running for Dairy Princess please have them contact Lindsey Zaebst at 440-313-6793.

The Banquet/Ice Cream Social is scheduled as Sunday, **June 14th, 2020**, located at Bossy’s Way Dairy Farm. The banquet will lead into the ice cream social with awards being announced as the social begins, farm tours and ice cream will follow. We will be mailing out and publishing more details about this event as they become available.

**Ashtabula OSU Extension seeking 4-H Summer Student Assistant**

OSU Extension in Ashtabula County is looking for a Summer College Student Assistant to assist with the summer 4-H Youth Development program. The purpose of this county-based extension internship program is to provide an opportunity for a college student to gain workforce preparation skills to prepare them for success as they enter the first position of their professional careers. This summer position provides valuable pre-professional experience for educational and community-based careers.

Applicants must have completed one year of college and have evidence of successful leadership experience in 4-H, school and/or community organizations. Candidates should be self-motivated, possess strong organizational skills and must be available to work a flexible schedule including occasional nights and weekends.

The Student Assistant will be provided with a variety of county-based Extension workforce experiences. Job responsibilities include but are not limited to: assisting the County Staff with Summer Youth Camps, Summer School Enrichment programs, and Junior Fair activities.

Click [here](#) to read the full Job Description and for more information. Interested individuals should submit a cover letter and resume with three references to the OSU Extension Office at 39 Wall Street Jefferson, Ohio 44047 by **March 6, 2020**.
Portage OSU Extension seeking 4-H Program Assistant

Ohio State University Extension seeks a part time, 10 hours per week Program Assistant to work with county staff and volunteers in Portage County. This position will assist with specific educational programs, including the 4-H Carteens program and other 4-H related programs as needed.

Applicants are required to have bachelor’s degree or an equivalent combination of education and experience; teaching experience and demonstrated leadership experience in the workplace or as a volunteer; ability to work flexible hours with minimal supervision.

This is a 2-year term position and is grant/program funded. This position is located in Ravenna, Ohio. For complete position description and online application instructions, please visit here. The application deadline is March 8, 2020.

Upcoming Events

March 3, 2020 6:30 – 8:30PM
Northeast Ohio Winter Cattle Clinic – Ashtabula Fair Grounds

March 4, 2020 1:00 – 5:30PM
Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertification - Ashtabula Co.

March 3, 2020 6:30 – 8:30PM
Northeast Ohio Winter Grape School – Stonegait Winery

March 7, 2020 9 – 11A.M.
Prune into March Hartford Orchards

March 11, 2020 9AM – 3PM
Northeast Ohio Agronomy School – Bristolville, OH

March 26, 2020 12PM – 4PM
Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertification - Portage Co.

April 15, 2020 11:30AM
Trumbull Farmer Lunch Series – Cover Crops – A Farmer Discussion

June 14th, 2020
Dairy Banquet/ Ice Cream Social
The Ashtabula County office of OSU Extension, the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association, and the Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit would like to invite Northeast Ohio beef & dairy producers to the “Northeast Ohio Winter Cattle Clinic” on Tuesday March 3rd, 2020 at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds Expo Building.

Cattle are most vulnerable just after birth, so maintaining proper care during this time makes the difference when working to raising a healthy heard. Join us March 3rd to hear Dr. Bryan Elliott share best practices for neonatal calf care. The clinic will also feature a presentation on drug residue prevention form Ohio Department of Agriculture Veterinarian, Dr. Ellen Yoakam. 4-H and FFA youth will also gain valuable experience from this workshop. There is no cost for this educational evening so RSVP today!

**Location:** Expo Building at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds
127 N Elm St, Jefferson, Ohio 44047

**Cost:** Free to attend but please RSVP by March 2nd

**Registration:** Please RSVP for this program by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008 or emailing Andrew Holden at Holden.155@osu.edu

This event is co-sponsored by The Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association & The Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit

ashtabula.osu.edu
2020 Northeast Ohio Winter Grape School

Thursday, March 5th, 2020
2:00-6:00PM followed by
Tri-County Grape Growers meeting 6:00PM

Stonegait Winery
4275 Bates Rd. Madison, OH 44057

Registration starts at 1:30PM

Registration will begin at 1:30pm and the workshop will run from 2-5. Dinner at 5. Tri-County Grape Growers meeting will follow at 6 PM (Optional). See complete registration form on the back of this sheet. This workshop is being sponsored by OSU Lake and Ashtabula County Extension, the Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station, and OARDC. “A Chilly day for Chili”

Topics:
2:00pm: Dr. Imed Dami, Presentation on mulching as hilling up alternative
2:45pm: Dr. Melanie Lewis Ivey, Pesticide Resistance in Grapes
3:30pm: Eric Barrett, Mahoning County Extension, Agri-Tourism Safety
4:15pm: Tom Dehaas (Lake County Extension), Miguel Preza (Local Nursery Manager), Pesticide Mixing and Handling
5:00pm: Dinner
6:00pm: Tri-County Grape Growers Meeting

Refreshments:
Chili, chips and drinks will be provided as part of the registration fee.

Pesticide Applicator Credit Offered:
1 hour of Core, 1/2 hour of Category 3, and 1/2 hour of Category 2b

4275 Bates Rd, Madison, OH 44057

Travel South from Interstate 90 on Route 528-S, turn left onto Route 307, turn left at Bates Rd, the winery will be on the right side of road.

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity.
2019 Winter Grape School Registration Form

Pre-registration is required by Monday, March 2nd, 2020. Registration fee is $15.00. Registration includes refreshments, speaker travel expenses, Pesticide education credit and program handouts.

Registration:

Make checks payable to OSU Lake County Extension, and mail to Lake County Extension office, 99 East Erie Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077. If you have any questions, please call 440-350-2269.

Name____________________________________  Phone_____________________
Address__________________________________  City__________________ Zip code________
Email____________________________________  County_____________________
# of Reservations_______________$15 per RSVP

Contact the Lake County Extension office at 440-350-2269 for more information.

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Small Farm Social

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH, 6-8 PM

Please join us for this fun, informal, networking opportunity before the growing season gets into full swing! Farms of all size welcome including ambitious backyard gardeners and aspiring farmers. We will have food, drinks, a raffle, music, and more! Come, learn about the work of the Ashtabula Local Food Council and get an update from the Local Food Coordinator!

Location: Moores Heritage Farm Market, 1012 Bridge St., Ashtabula, OH 44004

Cost: FREE! Donations to benefit the Ashtabula Local Food Council gratefully accepted!

Contact information: Julie Wayman, Local Foods Coordinator
wayman.31@osu.edu
440-576-9008

RSVPs appreciated but not required
Portage Fert/Pest Recertification Class

Thursday, March 26
12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Location:
Portage County Soil and Water Conservation District Office
6970 OH-88, Ravenna, OH 44266

Cost:
- $35 for Pesticide Recertification
- $10 for Fertilizer Recertification

Pesticide Recertification training will begin at 12 p.m., and Fertilizer Recertification will follow at 3 p.m.

If you are only in need of fertilizer recertification credits, you are welcome to attend this training. If this time does not work for you, feel free to call the office at 330-296-6432 for more class options.

Ohio Department of Agriculture Pesticide Licensing

- A separate $30 ODA license fee should be sent directly to ODA and can be done before this event. PLEASE NOTE: The $35 fee to OSU Extension for credits is different and separate from the $30 ODA license fee.
- If you are unable to attend, other credit opportunities can be found at http://pested.osu.edu

To REGISTER: Call 330-296-6432 for questions, or Complete, Detach, Return with $10 for Fertilizer, $35 for Pesticide, or $45 for both classes to:
705 Oakwood St., Suite 103, OH 44266.

Make checks payable to OSU Extension

Name ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________
Address ____________________________ ____________________________  City ____________________________
State ____________________________  Zip__________________________ Day Phone: ____________________________

# Attending (x $10 or $35) ____________________________  E-mail ____________________________

Please select the categories you need renewed on your license to help finalize the program:

1 - Grain and Cereal Crops  2 - Forage Crops and Livestock  3 – Fruit and Vegetable Crops  4 - Nursery and Forest Crops  5 - Greenhouse Crops  6 - Fumigation
TRUMBULL COUNTY FARMER LUNCH SERIES

JANUARY 15, 2020 11:30A.M. – HEMP: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
FEBRUARY 19, 2020 11:30A.M. – GRASS WATERWAYS FOR EROSION CONTROL
APRIL 15, 2020 11:30A.M. – COVER CROPS: A FARMER DISCUSSION

The Trumbull County Farmer Lunch Series returns for 2020! This series of education events is brought to you by OSU Extension Trumbull County, Trumbull County SWCD, and the USDA NRCS. Sponsoring lunch again this year is the Trumbull County Holstein club. We request reservations one week in advance for an accurate count for lunch. To register call OSU Extension at 330-638-6783.

Location: Trumbull County Ag and Family Education Center, 520 West Main St, Cortland, OH 44410
Cost: $5/person
Contact information: 330-638-6783 or beers.66@osu.edu
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2020
6:00 – 8:00 PM
Games, food, and 4-H fun!

Ashtabula County Fairgrounds 4-H Expo Building
127 North Elm Street Jefferson, OH 44047
Learn more about 4-H at this FREE event!
Open to kids of all ages!
Questions? Contact
440-576-9008 or hoyt.88@osu.edu
www.ashtabula.osu.edu
Have you ever thought about managing your woodlands but don’t know where to start? Come learn the foundations of forest management from State Service Foresters! We will discuss how trees grow, the benefits of different species, and how to improve the overall health of your woodlot. This interactive program will help you identify and define your long-term forestry and wildlife management goals and objectives. Join us to take this first and most important step in your forest management journey.

**Date/Location**
Wednesday, March 18, 6:00 - 7:30 PM  
Garden Meeting Room  
Portage Soil and Water Conservation District Office  
6970 State Route 88  
Ravenna, OH 44266  
440.426.2195  
woodlandwednesdaysmarch.eventbrite.com

This workshop is FREE and all are welcome to attend, but registration is required. To register visit woodlandwednesdaysmarch.eventbrite.com or call 440.426.2195

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.