Hello, Northeast Ohio Counties!

It’s beautiful weather today, and we hope you are able to get outside and enjoy it while it lasts. It looks like we will return to normal temperatures next week, and normal rainfall too.

I guess we can’t complain too bad when compared to southern Ohio. They really got hit with the rain, and the Ohio River crested yesterday. All long term forecasts indicate this will be a VERY wet spring for all of Ohio. If the forecast holds true, planting season will be a challenge in 2018.
COLUMBUS, Ohio — The U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated Ashtabula and Geauga counties in Ohio as primary natural disaster areas due to losses and damages caused by a tornado, excessive rain, flooding, high winds and lightning that occurred on Nov. 5, 2017. Farmers and producers in the contiguous Cuyahoga, Lake, Portage and Trumbull counties in Ohio also qualify for natural disaster assistance. Farmers and producers in the contiguous Crawford and Erie counties in Pennsylvania also qualify for natural disaster assistance.

Qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for FSA’s emergency loans, provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration of Feb. 16 to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the EM loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from the impacts of this disaster.

Other FSA programs that can provide assistance, but do not require a disaster declaration, include: Operating and Farm Ownership Loans; the Emergency Conservation Program; Livestock Forage Disaster Program; Livestock Indemnity Program; Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program; and the Tree Assistance Program. Interested farmers may contact their local USDA service centers for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov.

Ashtabula County CAUV Renewal Forms

Many of our farmers had expected the decreases for their CAUV values that are on this year’s tax bills. What most of you didn’t know was that the State Tax Commissioner also changed the renewal form. Now that the form is in everyone’s hands there are a number of questions about the very fine details it asks for. It now requires a detailed breakdown of how the land is being used. While most other counties appear to be requiring the fine detail, Ashtabula County is not. “If you have conservation land, you should be discussing it with us so we can account for it,” says Auditor Roger Corlett (those acres are entitled to the very lowest value in the Tax Commissioner’s tables). Otherwise, all that we need is your signature asking to continue to receive CAUV. “Many of our farmers can provide exacting acreage used for crops and so on, but this is too burdensome and we are not going to require it.”

“I want everyone that can qualify for CAUV to have the benefit. Whether it is a question of staying qualified, being sure we have the correct soil value, or just a question about the renewal form, my staff and I are always here to help,” says Corlett. “Anytime someone has a question about their property, especially the valuation, please don’t hesitate to call or stop in.”

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**Generation Rx: Safe Medication Practices for Life - Drug Abuse Prevention Training to be held on March 7 in Jefferson**

To help bring awareness to dangers of misusing prescription medications, OSU Extension is sponsoring two “Generation Rx: Safe Medication Practices for Life - Drug Abuse Prevention” trainings on Wednesday, March 7, 2018. The first session will be held from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. at the Ashtabula County Health Department located at 12 West Jefferson St. Jefferson, Ohio 44047. A second session will be held that evening from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Ashtabula County OSU Extension located at 39 Wall Street Jefferson, OH 44047.

The mission of Generation Rx is to educate people of all ages about the potential dangers of misusing prescription medications. In doing so, we strive to enhance medication safety among our youth, college students, other adults in our communities, and seniors. Prescription medications can help us live longer and healthier lives, but any medication has the potential to do harm – especially when misused.

During this training you will learn how to utilize the FREE educational tools on the Generation RX website to help you teach about safe medication practices. The tool kit offers materials community partners, teachers, volunteers, and professionals who are interested in learning how to use the Generation Rx Curriculum can use with children, teens, college students, adults, seniors, patients, and the workplace. This program is funded through a mini-grant provided by Ohio State University College of Pharmacy and Cardinal Health.

Pre-registration is required for this training and can be made by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008. Seats are limited, so register today! This program is sponsored by OSU Extension, the Ashtabula County Health Department, Cardinal Health and the OSU College of Pharmacy.

**Rain, Rain, Will It Ever Go Away?**

By Alayna DeMartini  
Source: [https://cfaes.osu.edu/news/articles/rain-rain-will-it-ever-go-away](https://cfaes.osu.edu/news/articles/rain-rain-will-it-ever-go-away)

If it seems that you’re reaching for your umbrella more often — or wishing you had — here’s the reason.

Ohio is getting a lot more rain than it used to and more intense downpours. That may seem like just an inconvenience when you want to work outside or an expense if your roof springs a leak. However, the consequences are far more significant for farmers who plant and tend crops in soggy fields and for the water quality of Lake Erie that’s affected by pollution sources including rain running off fields carrying fertilizer with it.
Ohio receives 10 percent more rain per year, on average, than we did in the 20th century. “You can think of it as the ‘new normal,’” said Aaron Wilson, climate specialist for Ohio State University Extension, the outreach arm of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) at The Ohio State University.

Ohio’s current annual average is 42 inches, up 3 inches from the 39-inch average in the 20th century, Wilson said.

Three inches may sound like just a drop in the, well, bucket, but “the problem is the intensity at which the rain is falling,” Wilson said.

The additional 3 inches aren’t spread across the entire year. Instead the bulk of Ohio’s rain is falling in intense rain events, followed by an increase in consecutive dry days, Wilson said. In July 2017, a rainfall dumped 5½ inches of rain in two hours within Darke County, in the west central part of the state.

Extreme rain events in which more than 2 inches fall during a rainstorm have increased by 30 percent in Ohio since the late 1990s, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

That means a lot more water soaking farmland, filling ditches, forming ponds on fields or dribbling off.

So, there’s greater potential for soil and fertilizer washing away from a field and into Lake Erie, which many municipalities rely on for their drinking water. In the summer of 2017, Lake Erie’s algal bloom level was classified as severe.

“I think that’s why farmers are working really hard on correct timing,” Wilson said regarding farmers applying fertilizer on their fields.

Wilson will address climate change and the impact of more rainfall on farmers and the water quality of Lake Erie during a talk at the Conservation Tillage and Technology Conference, March 6-7. Wilson’s talk on March 6 at 3:35 p.m. will be among numerous presentations at the conference at Ohio Northern University in Ada.

Last spring, multiple rainstorms led Ohio farmers to replant the seeds they had sown, some multiple times, because of flooded fields. In the fall, rainfall delayed some harvests. The increased amount of rain and number of intense rainstorms shows how the climate in Ohio and beyond is changing, Wilson said.
Given that, farmers might want to carefully consider how they apply fertilizer, and adopt techniques to prevent erosion so their soil’s nutrients — and the investment they made in them — don’t get flushed away, Wilson said.

“Weather patterns have changed so we can’t just take it for granted that what we did in the past will work well now and into the future,” Wilson said. “The more we understand how our weather is changing, the better we can be about adapting to these changes and making decisions now and into the future in agriculture.”

In planning to apply fertilizer to fields, it’s critical to know the forecast for 24 hours and use that to guide when and whether to make the application, Wilson pointed out. The first step in becoming resilient to climate changes, Wilson said, is to being aware of what shifts are happening, then figure out ways to adapt to them.

For more information about the upcoming tillage conference, visit: fabe.osu.edu/CTCon

### 2018 NE Ohio Living Your Small Farm Dream Conference

The 2018 NE Ohio Living Your Small Farm Dream conference will be held on Saturday, April 7 at the RG Drage Career Center, located at 2800 Richville Drive SW in Massillon Ohio. The conference provides education and topics of interest for small farm and rural landowners. Participants will walk away from the conference with knowledge and ideas of how to improve existing enterprises or marketing opportunities. For those who have some acreage but don’t yet know what to do with it, the conference is an opportunity to consider possibilities, gather information and make contacts.

The 2018 Living Your Small Farm Dream conference offers 26 different breakout sessions divided between five different track topics; Horticulture, Livestock, Marketing, Farm Management and Specialty Crop. Presenters include OSU Extension specialists, Extension Educators, Business owners, and small farm producers/entrepreneurs. Conference participants will have the opportunity to attend four different sessions over the course of the four breakout sessions. The Small Farm conference trade show offers another opportunity to learn and gather information. The trade show vendors/exhibitors feature goods and services used in small farm operations. The conference schedule includes time between each breakout session and over an extended noon hour to visit the trade show.

The specialty crop track features sessions on malting barley and hop production to tap into the growing microbrewery businesses. One session involves a panel discussion with several local microbreweries who will share their stories and use of locally sourced ingredients in their products. The horticulture track offers sessions on growing grapes, brambles, vegetables, flowers, beekeeping, use of soil amendments, and managing soil health. The livestock track includes sessions on raising and marketing pasture produced beef and poultry, as well as hay production and Ohio livestock care standards. The farm management track includes Ag law,

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business planning, tax issues, farmland renting, health care issues, and creating profitable small farm enterprises. The marketing track includes a two-hour super session focused on developing on-farm agritourism and agriculture entertainment businesses as well as sessions on how to scale up your small farm business to take advantage of marketing opportunities and a session on developing a distribution system for locally grown foods.

Conference registration/sign-in and the trade show opens at 8:00 am on April 7. Following some brief conference opening comments at 9:00 am, the first breakout session begins at 9:30 am. The conference concludes by 4:00 pm. Conference registration is $60/person or, if attending the Women in Agriculture Conference at the same location on April 6, plus the Small Farm Conference on April 7; $100 for a combined registration. Student discounts are $30 for attending the small farm conference alone or $50 if attending both the Women in Agriculture and the Small Farm conference. Pre-registration for both the Small Farm conference and the Women in Agriculture conference is due March 23. On-line registration is available at go.osu.edu/NESmallFarmReg. A Living the Small Farm Dream conference brochure that lists session topics and presentation times along with a mail-in registration form, and a document with descriptions of all the presentation topics is available at go.osu.edu/NEOHSmallFarms.

For more information about the Living Your Small Farm Dream conference contact Rory Lewandowski in the Wayne County Extension office at 330-264-8722, email: lewandowski.11@osu.edu; or Emily Adams in the Coshocton County Extension office at 740-622-2265, email: adams.661@osu.edu.

**Rose Bill Introduced to Exempt Agriculture from CERCLA Air Emissions Reporting**

A bipartisan group of eight U.S. senators have introduced a bill to exempt agricultural producers from reporting requirements under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). We’ve reported previously on the new mandate that would require livestock operations to report air emissions, the result of a U.S. Court of Appeals decision last year that struck down the EPA’s rule that exempted agriculture from the reporting requirements. The U.S. EPA has repeatedly requested the court for a delay of the new reporting mandate, now delayed until after May 1, 2018. The proposed legislation would establish a new exemption that would protect farmers from the upcoming reporting mandate.

Senator Deb Fischer (R-Neb.), a primary sponsor of the legislation, stated that “[t]hese reporting requirements were designed to apply to industrial pollution and toxic chemicals, not animal waste on a farm or ranch.” Co-sponsor Joe Donnelly (D-Ind.) assured farmers that requiring them to “spend their time and money on reports that will go unused by EPA would be burdensome and needless.”

The proposal includes:

- A statement that CERCLA reporting does not apply to air emissions from animal waste, including decomposing animal waste, at a farm.
- A definition for "animal waste," which means feces, urine, or other excrement, digestive emission, urea, or similar substances emitted by animals (including any form of livestock, poultry or fish), and including animal waste that is mixed or commingled with bedding, compost, feed, soil, or any other material typically found with such waste.
- A definition of “farm,” which means a site or area (including associated structures) that is used for the production of a crop or the raising or selling of animals (including any form of livestock, poultry, or fish) and under normal conditions, produces during a farm year any agricultural products with a total value equal to not less than $1,000.
- A statement that maintains the current exemption from CERCLA reporting for applications, storage and handling of registered pesticide products.

Senator Fischer introduced S.2421 on February 13 and the Senate has referred the bill to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**68th Annual Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet to be held on Saturday, March 24**

OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Dairy Service Unit are pleased to announce the 68th Annual Dairy banquet will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the Jefferson Community Center located at 111 East Jefferson, Street in Jefferson, Ohio beginning promptly at 7 p.m.

The banquet program will consist of the crowning of the 2018 Dairy Princess; the presentation of production and 4-H awards; and the election of two members to the Dairy Service Unit Board. Tickets are $15 per person and can be purchased from Dairy Service Unit Board members, Tom Coltman of Wayne, Joel Baldwin of Sheffield; Jason Brinker of Rock Creek; Lindsey Gray of New Lyme, Lisa Kalas of Jefferson; and from David Marrison at the Ashtabula County Extension office at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson. Pre-sale tickets are required by March 18, 2018. For more information about this program contact the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

**Colostrum is the Key**

By John F. Grimes, OSU Extension Beef Coordinator

Source: [http://u.osu.edu/beef/2018/02/21/colostrum-is-the-key/](http://u.osu.edu/beef/2018/02/21/colostrum-is-the-key/)

The winter of 2017-18 has certainly been challenging for beef producers across Ohio and the Midwest. The bitter cold that we experienced through the holiday season into mid-January has given way to milder temperatures and plenty of moisture over the past month. This has resulted in extremely muddy conditions that have made basic feeding and care of cattle difficult at best.
The weather conditions thus far this winter have been tough for producers choosing to start their calving season earlier in the calendar year. Environmental extremes can add to the stress of a newborn calf entering into the world.

Fortunately, Mother Nature has equipped the mother of the calf with a gift that helps the newborn to get off to a positive start. This gift is free of charge and commonly known as colostrum. Colostrum is often described as the “first milk” of the beef female. This is actually a misnomer as colostrum is physiologically much more similar to blood than milk. Colostrum contains very high levels of immunoglobulins (IgG) that helps to prevent infections as well as high levels of fat, energy, vitamins A and D, and white blood cells. It has very profound effect on the health and future performance of any calf. Under ideal circumstances, a calf will be born unassisted, get to its feet relatively quickly, and it is able to nurse its dam in two hours or less. Unfortunately, this is not always the case due to a variety of factors. Calving difficulties, a weak calf, the cow will not let the calf nurse, a poor udder structure that makes it difficult to for the calf to nurse for the first time, etc. can delay the consumption of colostrum by the calf.

It is very important that newborn calves receive adequate levels of colostrum as quickly as possible. Research has shown that the first 6 – 12 hours is a critical timeframe to make sure the calf receives enough colostrum. The calf should receive 2 quarts of colostrum by six hours of age and an additional two quarts by twelve hours of age. The absorption of antibodies becomes very inefficient by the time the calf is 24 hours old.

If the calf cannot nurse its dam for whatever reason, the producer should supply colostrum directly to the calf. While nursing the dam is the preferred option, the next best option is to attempt to get the calf to nurse a bottle. If the bottle option does not work, then the producer must utilize the tube feeding option.

Consideration should be given to the source of the colostrum. The best option by far is to provide colostrum from the calf’s own mother. If the mother has produced little or no colostrum, the producer should have alternative plans in place to provide a substitute source of colostrum. Fresh colostrum from another cow in your herd is the next best option but finding a cow with extra colostrum that has calved within a few hours of the calf in need will be difficult.
Frozen colostrum from another cow in the herd is another potential source. Colostrum can be frozen and stored up to one year. It must be warmed up slowly to avoid the excessive loss of antibodies. Some producers have secured colostrum from outside herd but use caution with this approach as infectious diseases can be introduced to the calves through unpasteurized product.

Keep in mind that not all colostrum is created equal. Research has shown that colostrum from beef cows is a lot more concentrated with higher levels of antibodies per liter, which typically results in the beef calf needing a lower volume of colostrum than dairy calves. Dairy cows typically give such a high volume of colostrum that the antibodies are more diluted compared to colostrum from beef cows.

Colostrum replacers are good to have on hand in case of emergencies. These powdered mixes typically have 100 -125 grams of IgG per dose. Replacers are typically more expensive than colostrum supplements that have lower levels of antibodies. Supplements should be used in cases when it is questionable whether a calf has consumed a full dose of colostrum.

In times of stress at calving, it is imperative that the new calf gets an appropriate level of colostrum in a timely fashion. A little extra time and effort from the producer can help insure that the calf gets off to a healthy start.

Ashtabula County Master Gardeners’ Spring Gardening Program at Local Libraries in March

Even though it is still winter, it is not too early to think about spring. The Ashtabula County Master Gardeners would like to invite you to join them at libraries across Ashtabula County during March. During their gardening talks, the Master Gardeners will be sharing information on Fertilizers, Climate Change & Your Ohio Garden, and New Plants of Interest. Plenty of time will also be given for you to ask your gardening questions. The program locations and times are:

**Saturday, March 3, 2018**  
Andover Public Library  
10:00 to 12:00 noon  
142 West Main Street  
Andover, Ohio 44003  
440-293-6792

**Saturday, March 17, 2018**  
Rock Creek Public Library  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
2988 High Street  
Rock Creek, Ohio 44084  
440-563-3340

**Thursday, March 15, 2018**  
Henderson Memorial Library  
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.  
54 East Jefferson Street  
Jefferson, Ohio 44047  
440-576-3761

**Geneva Public Library**  
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.  
860 Sherman Street  
Geneva, Ohio 44041  
440-466-4521

Northeast Ohio Agriculture
These programs are free however space is limited. Please call your local library to reserve your spot! A program flyer can be accessed at: http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/master-gardener-volunteers/upcoming-educational-programs. This flyer includes the phone numbers for the libraries. More information can also be received by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at: 440-576-9008 for more details.

2018 4-H Carnival to be held March 1st
The annual 4-H Carnival will be held on Thursday, March 1st prior to Ashtabula County 4-H Week at the Expo Building at the County Fairgrounds in Jefferson from 6-8 p.m. This event is open to all to encourage families who are interested in 4-H to come and learn about the programs 4-H has to offer.

The 4-H Carnival will be filled with activities and games for youth to participate in with their family and friends. Fun carnival food, like hot dogs, popcorn, and snow cones will be available by donation for children of all ages. Exciting and interactive activities and games will be offered representing each 4-H program area at the event where questions on projects can be answered by an advisor or species chair that has knowledge in the project area.

If you can’t make it to the 4-H Carnival, stop by a local 4-H Community Encounter. Learn more about 4-H, pet an animal and talk to a 4-H member at one of the local events.

Saturday, March 3 · 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Ashtabula Tractor Supply
Monday, March 5 · 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Ashtabula Library
Tuesday, March 6 · 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Andover Library and 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Henderson
Library (Jefferson)  
Wednesday, March 7 · 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Conneaut Library and 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Geneva Library  
Thursday, March 8 · 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.at Rome Fire Hall

Ohio 4-H and Ashtabula County 4-H Club information will be available at all events.

For more information on 4-H programs in Ashtabula County, please contact Jenna Hoyt at 440-576-9008 or via email at hoyt.88@osu.edu or visit our website at www.ashtabula.osu.edu and visit the 4-H Youth Development page.

2018-2019 Ashtabula County Beef Scholarships Applications Available

OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association are pleased to announce they will be awarding two youth beef scholarships for the 2018-2019 school year. One $1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a deserving 2018 High School Senior who will be attending an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute in 2018-2019. In addition, one $500 scholarship will be awarded to a current College Student who is currently attending an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute.

Applicants must be resident of Ashtabula County. The first preference by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association is the scholarships be awarded to deserving students who have been involved in the beef industry as a youth. Examples of this could include: working on a family beef operation; involved with a beef project through 4-H or FFA; or works on a local beef farm. The second preference for the scholarship recipients would be awarded to students who are currently or will be studying a beef related field in accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute. Previous winners of the $1,000 High School Senior Scholarship are eligible to apply for the $500 College Scholarship. However, the $500 college scholarship can only be received once by a student during their college career.

Applications must be received by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association by Monday, April 16, 2018 by 4:30 p.m. for consideration for the scholarship. No late applications will be considered. The application can be obtained at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events Additional information can be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

Getting Started in Community Gardening Workshop Slated for March 24, 2018

The Master Gardeners will be hosting a “Getting Started in Community Gardening” workshop on Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Ashtabula County Extension office. Join the Ashtabula County Master Gardeners to learn how to get started in community gardening. This two hour introductory class is designed to give you the information you will need to design, plan and organize a sustainable community garden.

Northeast Ohio Agriculture OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties
During this workshop, the Master Gardeners will discuss what community gardening is, how to develop a leadership team, how to define a vision for the garden and how to find a suitable garden location. They will also discuss how to develop the procedural practices for the shared garden space. Pre-registration is required by March 19, 2018. Registration fee is $10.00/per person. Registration includes refreshments and program handouts. If you have any questions please call 440-576-9008.

**Hydrangea School to be Held on April 26, 2018**
The Ashtabula County Extension office is pleased to be offering a Hydrangea School on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at the Ashtabula County Extension Office located at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Join OSU Extension Educator Eric Barrett to discover the world of hydrangeas. Learn about types, care, pruning and bloom times. You'll receive a quick reference chart to take to the garden center and a hydrangea plant to take home. The registration fee for this workshop is $30 per person. Please make checks payable to OSU Extension. Registration includes handouts, light refreshments and a hydrangea plant to take home for your landscape. Please mail completed registration form to OSU Extension, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, Ohio 44047. Due to space limitations, this program will be limited to the first 50 registrants. First come, first served basis. For questions, please call 440-576-9008. A registration flyer can also be obtained at: http://go.osu.edu/ne-events.

**David’s Weekly News Column**
For Publication in the Jefferson Gazette on February 21 & Ashtabula County Star Beacon on February 25

Hello Ashtabula County! I am glad to see the month of February come to a close. It always seems to be such a dreary month. I love March as it is a time of re-birth and I am always grateful to see our landscapes come alive after winter. Today, I would like to share three programs which our Master Gardeners are offering to help you become a better gardener!

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Even though it is still technically winter, it is not too early to think about spring. The Ashtabula County Master Gardeners would like to invite you to join them at libraries across Ashtabula County during March. During their gardening talks at each library, the Master Gardeners will be sharing information on Fertilizers, Climate Change & Your Ohio Garden, and New Plants of Interest. Plenty of time will also be given for you to ask your gardening questions.

On Saturday, March 3 the program will be offered at the Andover Public Library from 10:00 to 12:00 noon. On Thursday, March 15, the program will be offered at Henderson Memorial Library in Jefferson from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. On Saturday, March 17, the program will be offered at the Rock Creek Public Library from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It will also be held at the Geneva Public Library from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and at the Ashtabula Public Library from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

On Saturday, March 24, the program will be offered from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at both the Grand Valley Library in Orwell, Ohio and at the Conneaut Public Library. The program will also
be offered at the Harbor-Topky Memorial Library in Ashtabula from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. And finally, the program will be offered on Wednesday, March 28 at the Kingsville Public Library from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

These programs are free however space is limited. Please call your local library to reserve your spot! A program flyer can be accessed at: [http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/master-gardener-volunteers/upcoming-educational-programs](http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/master-gardener-volunteers/upcoming-educational-programs). This flyer includes the phone numbers for the libraries. More information can also be received by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at: 440-576-9008 for more details.

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In honor of Billy Graham who recently passed away, I would like to share a the following quote from him, “The greatest legacy one can pass on to one’s children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith.” Have a good and safe day.

**Upcoming Extension Program Dates**

Northeast Ohio Agriculture

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties
The following programs have been scheduled for Northeast Ohio farmers. Complete registration flyers can be found at: [http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/upcoming-educational-programs-deadlines](http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/upcoming-educational-programs-deadlines)

**Women in Agriculture Programs**  
March 17, 2018

**Private Pesticide Applicator & Fertilizer Re-certification Sessions**  
March 9, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Trumbull County

**Winter Grape School**  
March 1, 2018 at St Joseph’s Vineyard

**New Pesticide Applicator Training**  
Trumbull County Extension Office 1-4:30pm  
Tuesday March 13, 2018

**Backyard Chickens**  
Trumbull County Extension Office 6-8pm  
Wednesday, March 14, 2018

**Shiitake Mushroom Program (SOLD OUT)**  
Ashtabula County Extension Office 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, March 15, 2018

**2018 Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet**  
Saturday, March 24, 2018

**21st Annual Joe Bodnar Memorial Northern Classic Steer & Heifer Show**  
Saturday, April 21, 2018

**Hydrangea Workshop**  
Thursday, April 26, 2018
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<td><a href="mailto:marrison.2@osu.edu">marrison.2@osu.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:beers.66@osu.edu">beers.66@osu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ashtabula.osu.edu</td>
<td>trumbull.osu.edu</td>
</tr>
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</table>

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: [http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity](http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity).
Join OSU Extension on March 14, 2018 for an evening to learn about how to get started with chickens in your backyard. OSU Extension Educators Tim McDermott DVM, and Lee Beers will discuss breed selection, safe egg handling, chicken health, zoning requirements, housing, nutrition and other topics that will help you successfully raise chickens. Cost for this program is $15/person and includes many handouts and light refreshments. To register for this event, please complete the registration form on the back and mail with payment to OSU Extension, Trumbull County, 520 West Main St., Cortland, OH 44410. Please make checks payable to OSU Extension. Pre-registration is requested by March 7, 2018. Questions? Call OSU Extension at 330-638-6783.
Backyard Chicken Basics
March 14, 2018

Name ______________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________
City __________________ State_____ Zip_________________
Phone ____________________Email ____________________

Number of People Attending: _________ X $15/person __________

____________________________________________________________________________________

Please mail this completed form with payment to the below address before March 7, 2018. Make checks payable to OSU Extension.

OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main Street, Cortland, OH 44410

For questions, contact Lee Beers at 330-638-6783 or by email at beers.66@osu.edu
Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training

Do you apply fertilizer to 50 acres or more for crops that are primarily for sale? If so, you are required by Ohio law to attend a training session or take a test to become certified. OSU Extension offices in Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties are offering training sessions (no test) that will meet all certification requirements. **Pre-Registration is required a week in advance.** Cost for this training session is $35/person and includes training materials, and handouts. To register, complete the back portion of this flyer and mail with check to the location you plan to attend. Please make checks payable to OSU Extension.

**Wednesday, February 14, 2018**
6 – 9 p.m.
*Pre-register by February 7*

Trumbull County Ag Center
520 West Main St
Cortland, OH 44410

**Monday, March 12, 2018**
6– 9 p.m.
*Pre-register by March 5*

OSU Extension Ashtabula County
39 Wall Street
Jefferson, OH 44047

$35/Person
2018 Fertilizer Applicator Training
Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties

Name ______________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________
City __________________  State_____  Zip_________________
Phone ____________________Email  ____________________

Number of People Attending: _________ X $35/person _________

Please make checks payable to: OSU Extension

Please mail to the location you plan to attend.

OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main Street, Cortland, OH 44410

OSU Extension Ashtabula County, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047

For questions, contact Lee Beers at 330-638-6783 or by email at beers.66@osu.edu