

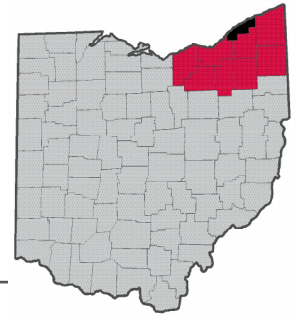
# 2015 County Highlights

## Lake County

### Western Reserve Extension Education and Research Area

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#### STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- Peaceful Parenting, a class offered as a series, is designed to help parents learn to deal with the day-to-day situations that challenge parenthood. This class was offered to the community monthly at either the Extension office or another county office, and it was also offered monthly to residents who were parenting at the local drug rehabilitation facility. The Parent Project parenting class addressed parenting skills for parents dealing with out-of-control and unruly adolescents. The class is 10 weeks long and teaches a variety of skills as well as how to work with resources in the community. Referrals are mostly made up of families involved with the juvenile justice court, but referrals are made through other entities as well.
- Lake Health Hospital contracts with Lake County Extension to provide the Be Strong Program, which targets children who are considered to be obese or overweight. The program assists with behavior change, exercise and nutrition to address the obesity/overweight issue. The OSU Extension Family and Consumer Sciences educator provides the education, behavioral and parenting piece.
- Bookmarks advertising special collection dates were distributed throughout the county. Activities at seven community events promoted recycling.
- Four countywide special collection events were held. Over 50 tons of tires, 24 tons of computers and related equipment, and 55 tons of potentially hazardous material were collected for disposal from residents in 2015.
- Three winners of the annual Clean and Green Lake County Logo Contest were selected among 347 entries, and they were recognized by the county commissioners.
- Lake County completed the second annual volunteer training. Volunteer trainings were offered both locally and regionally on the new volunteer policy for volunteers, with a focus on preventing child abuse and neglect.

- A large 4-H marketing campaign was launched in schools across Lake County. As a result of this campaign, 4-H enrollment increased by 13 percent.
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) provides information on nutrition, and it promotes healthy behavior changes. The results of the SNAP-Ed nutrition classes were 173 direct contacts with 96 adult participants. In addition, 79 youth nutrition programs were conducted with 1,962 participants. A total of 252 adult and youth programs and 1,968 participants were recorded in the Ohio SNAP-Ed data system for Lake County.

#### PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- Three hundred forty-eight school and library programs focused on reduce, reuse and recycle concepts, as well as on litter prevention with over 8,000 total contacts.
- Ohio Sea Grant strives to educate a diverse group of people about the importance of a healthy Lake Erie. This summer, Ohio Sea Grant conducted two "Decision-Makers" days at its island field station, Stone Laboratory. These days invite community decision-makers to attend a day full of knowledge transfer about current Lake Erie research, pressing issues and the state of our lake. Ohio Sea Grant also hosted a beach cleanup with 248 fifth graders in Ottawa County as part of their fifth grade tour. Seventy-four high school students from Stow-Munroe High School joined Ohio Sea Grant and ODNR staff at Fairport Harbor Beach to learn about water quality, fish, aquatic invasive species and marine debris. Many of these students were very excited about their experience and wanted to know how they can achieve a career in the field of natural resources.
- Lake County 4-H Advisory Committee provided assistance for seven campers with partial camperships and also assisted with camp counselor training. Lake County 4-H also partnered with the Lake County Family Children First Council to be able to provide full camperships for low-income families who might not otherwise have this experience.



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## ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Twelve integrated pest management sessions were taught in 2015. These sessions recertified 14 applicators in 2015. These growers have been introduced to two new pests, and we are developing new methods to monitor and apply products to reduce the impact of these pests.
- The new Ohio Sea Grant College Program Extension educator for Lake and Ashtabula counties works with communities to conduct outreach and education about Lake Erie; identify community needs; develop partnerships to foster a collaborative approach to management of natural resource issues; and bring science into the decision-making process at the individual and community level. Her areas of expertise include outdoor environmental education, marine debris, wildlife ecology, climate change impacts on coastal communities and interdisciplinary science in the decision-making process.
- Partnering with USDA-ARS, researchers on ambrosia beetles, which can kill four of the major species of trees grown in the USA, are working to find a dependable trap to determine when to apply pesticides. We have looked at several pesticides to see if the pest can be controlled after it enters the tree.
- The Master Gardener Volunteer Help Line answered 683 phone calls and identified 65 samples that came into the office.
- Budgeting classes were provided to individuals experiencing transition. The classes were offered at the homeless shelter, assisted living sites, drug rehabilitation facilities, the Lake County Extension office and local libraries. On average, classes were offered monthly.
- The Lake County Master Gardener Volunteers contributed 4,873 volunteer hours for 2015. The Independent Sector Foundation's rate for volunteer service is \$21.79 per hour. This represents \$106,183 worth of service to OSU Extension and the Lake County community.
- A research project was conducted looking at a new disease complex that will destroy the cut holly market in this area. It is estimated that this crop provides an estimated \$2 million in sales in Ohio annually. Samples were taken weekly and examined by an OSU Extension researcher to help identify the pathogen. In addition, Extension is working with five states regarding this problem to identify the pathogens and to evaluate the pesticides that can control it.

**Lake County receives \$51,789 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension's local-state-federal partnership.**

## ADVANCING EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME OPPORTUNITIES

- Twenty-three communities were surveyed about yard waste disposal practices. One hundred thirteen auto dealerships and repair facilities were surveyed about the number of scrap tires generated and the methods of their disposal in 2015. Thirty-two facilities returned surveys, reporting more than 63,000 scrap tires generated for the year. This data is included in the Solid Waste District's 2015 report to the EPA.
- The SNAP-Ed program in conjunction with the Lake County Achieve program once again provided nutrition classes to individuals at the Lake County Department of Job and Family Services. The classes provide participants with farmers' market vouchers for attending.