

OSU Extension – Lake County  
Quarterly Update: February 2023, Fall Recap

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## Agriculture and Natural Resources

Lake County Extension and USDA-ARS cosponsored the Next Generation Nursery and Greenhouse Research Workshop which brought together 46 nursery growers from Lake County and across the region with 19 scientists and staff from the USDA-ARS Application Technology Research Unit for a daylong program. The event included nine presentations highlighting the ongoing research in the areas of smart sprayer technology, greenhouse environmental improvement, substrate and water management and the biology and control of nursery pests. Participants left with new information and resources to help address emerging problems. Other efforts to support the green industry included presentations at the Ohio Green Industry Association, and the OSU Short Course at the Ohio Turfgrass Conference focusing on native oaks and maples for the landscape.



## Family and Consumer Sciences

**Partnerships and Reach:** Family and Consumer Science (FCS) educators are pleased to have expanded their partnerships to provide parenting classes, parenting cafés and life skills classes to our community partners.

FCS educator Lisa Manning has enjoyed working with Lake Geauga Recover Centers through her 15-year partnership with the woman's recovery centers, Oak house and Niveah Ridge, where she has provided parenting classes and parenting cafés. This partnership has now been expanded to provide these same programs at the men's recovery houses, Lake House and Concord Pines.

Sandi Allison, who heads up the Children's Trust Fund grant which funds the parent cafés, has expanded Parent Cafés to include Crossroads Community Church and Madison Schools Parent Café events. She is also partnering with Project Hope to provide life skills classes.

FCS programs are delivered to dozens of community partners and schools every year providing, programming such as, Real Money Real World, budgeting, life skills, trauma informed care, staff development, and parenting programs including resilient families/safe kids cafés. These programs serve and support hundreds of adults and children, bringing protective factors and increased skills that increase individual and family success in our community.



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

## 4-H Youth Development

Lake County 4-H had a very busy fall. In November, the Lake County 4-H Flyers Exchange program traveled to Puerto Rico for a cultural immersion program. The youth fundraised for the entire experience. Lake County 4-H youth partnered with 2<sup>nd</sup> Union Church in Old San Juan to complete one of their two service projects. They painted, moved furniture and prepared and delivered meals to a less fortunate neighborhood. The second service project was with Puerto Rico 4-H youth at a local outreach center where they organized the food pantry (moving can goods up two flights of stairs due to a broken elevator) and handed out food and hygiene bags to those in need. Youth also experienced the rainforest, bioluminescent bay and the culture in Old San Juan. All this packed into five fun days.



Our leadership club STARS sponsored a Santa's workshop for families in Painesville. Kids could make a gift for mom and dad, see Santa, and have a snack. STARS and members of Saddle Horse also partnered with Asa's Angels and the Salvation Army to shop and provide holiday gifts for families in need.



## Sea Grant/Community Development

With funding from Meijer Inc., the Council of the Great Lakes Region, as part of their Great Lakes Plastic Cleanup program in partnership with Canadian-based Pollution Probe, has loaned two remote-controlled trash removal robots to Ohio Sea Grant and The Ohio State University – the BeBot and Pixie Drone.

As the first project of its kind in the Great Lakes region, we are very excited to be part of this new endeavor. Ohio project partners include Argonaut, Cleveland Metroparks, Lake Metroparks, Ohio Clean Marinas, Partners for Clean Streams, Port of Cleveland, and Youth Technology Academy at Cuyahoga Community College.

Project partners with the BeBot at our November training day. Photo credit: Sarah Orlando, Ohio Clean Marinas



## Success Story

The Ohio State University (OSU), Lake County Extension office had the opportunity to partner with Project Hope for the Homeless. Lake County OSU Extension staff participated in a community service project together with Dr. Jackie Kirby Wilkins, associate dean and director of OSU Extension. They prepared and decorated cookies for children at Project Hope's Families Moving Forward homeless shelter. The cookies were delivered on time for a holiday celebration. Fun was had by all!

