

**Kirby Date, AICP**, is the Program Manager of the Community Planning Program, formerly the Countryside Program, helping to conserve resources and open space in northern Ohio through the encouragement of sensitive planning and development. The program was established in 1996 and is housed at Cleveland State University, Levin College of Urban Affairs. A landscape architect and planner with over 25 years' experience, Ms. Date's areas of expertise include development design and planning, and planning for parks, open space and environmental areas. Her current work includes implementation of Best Local Land Use Practices with the Ohio Lake Erie Commission, promoting Balanced Growth practices to local governments across the Lake Erie watershed, which will soon be expanded to serve the entire state. She is also leading a program to assist small communities with citizen-driven, comprehensive land use planning. Ms. Date holds a degree in landscape architecture from Cornell University and is an Ohio registered landscape architect. She is a member of the Ohio Planning Conference and the American Institute of Certified Planners. She is the author/editor of the *Conservation Development Resource Manual*, winner of a 1999 Ohio Planning Conference Award; co-author and editor of *Best Practices for Local Governments*, prepared as part of the Ohio Lake Erie Commission's Balanced Growth Initiative, published in 2004; and is co-author of *Case Studies in Family Land Conservation*, published in 2005.

**Chris Riddle, MPA**, is an Environmental Specialist with the Ohio Lake Erie Commission. He is involved in the Balanced Growth Program, manages the Lake Erie Protection Fund, and was the lead author of the 2008 Lake Erie Protection and Restoration Plan. Chris has been with the Commission since 2006. Prior to coming to the Commission he served three years as the Watershed Coordinator for the Sandusky River Watershed Coalition. He has a BS in Environmental Science and a Masters of Public Administration, both from Bowling Green State University.