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OHIO LAKE ERIE COMMISSION TO HOLD QUARTERLY MEETING

TOLEDO, OH - The Ohio Lake Erie Commission (OLEC) will hold its quarterly meeting on June 3 at 10 a.m. at the Leonard Krieger Canalway Center in Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio.

During the meeting, the Rocky River Watershed Balanced Growth Plan will be presented by representatives from the Medina County Soil & Water Conservation District for endorsement by the Commission. This will be the second Balanced Growth Pilot Project to be brought before the Commission that demonstrates how Balanced Growth practices and planning approaches can improve watersheds and water quality throughout the Lake Erie basin. The Balanced Growth Program is a voluntary, community-based effort for promoting balanced growth and conservation development. Funding for the pilot projects has been provided by the Ohio Water Development Authority and administered by the OLEC.

Jim White, executive director of the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization and a member of the Cuyahoga RAP, is scheduled to give a presentation about the Cuyahoga River and its 40 years of recovery. White will announce the kick-off anniversary celebration at this meeting entitled, "2009 Year of the River."

Commission members are expected to approve the latest round of small grants and the applications and guidelines for the 2010 grants.

All meetings of the OLEC are open to the public and include a public comment period. Organizations and citizens are encouraged to attend this meeting and provide input on issues of concern.

The Ohio Lake Erie Commission was established for the purpose of preserving Lake Erie's natural resources, protecting the quality of its waters and ecosystem, and promoting economic development in the region. The director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources serves as the commission's chairman. Additional members include the directors of the state departments of Transportation, Health, Development, Agriculture and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

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