The Ohio State University's Urban Mission

The Ohio State University

Land-Grant University

As a land-grant university, The Ohio State University (OSU) has campus research centers throughout the state and Extension offices in all 88 counties.

Urban Serving University

Urban Serving University (USU) members are public urban research universities that are located in metropolitan areas with populations of 450,000 or greater. They demonstrate a commitment to their urban areas.

Carnegie Engaged University

Ohio State was recognized for its extensive engagement programming and how its mission, culture, curriculum, and resources support high-impact community engagement.

OSU College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences is a large, diverse college supporting 10 academic units, the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Ohio State University Extension, and two-year degree programs offered by the Agricultural Technical Institute. The college has campuses in Columbus and Wooster, and has a presence in all 88 Ohio counties. It serves as the home for 330 faculty members, 1,230 staff members and more than 3,700 undergraduate and graduate students.

OSU Extension
In The City

cityextension.osu.edu

OSU Extension

OSU Extension brings the resources of The Ohio State University to every county. See extension.osu.edu for locations and contact information.

OSU Extension in the City

OSU Extension addresses Ohio's urban influence and the unique aspects of Extension in and around Ohio's largest cities. Essential elements include:

- Positioning: How Extension engages in relevant communications and locations for Extension at the neighborhood, city, county, and regional levels
- Programs: How Extension leads, collaborates, and innovates to address the multitude of issues and priorities in the city
- Personnel: How Extension attracts, develops, retains, and structures competent talent that reflects the diversity of audiences and issues in the city
- Partnerships: How Extension collaborates to leverage resources for collective impact

OSU Extension Administration

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The Ohio State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution. For more information: go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity.

OSU Extension serves in a leadership position with the National Urban Extension Leaders.

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

OSU Extension in the City
2015 Highlights

Relevant Locally
Responsive Statewide
Recognized Nationally

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Innovation Through Co-Discovery

With 11.5 million residents and 14 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), Ohio is the seventh most populous state in the nation and presents unique urban-suburban-rural interdependencies throughout state. OSU Extension in the City addresses Ohio's urban influence by linking research-based education with local knowledge and collaborators to improve lives and communities in and around Ohio's largest cities.

Urban-Suburban-Rural Connections

In northwest Ohio, more than 300 people from urban, suburban, and rural areas attended Breakfast on the Farm, a special event hosted less than 30 minutes from Toledo. This collaborative effort involved OSU Extension educators from both Fulton and Lucas counties, as well as multiple other agencies. Attendees learned about modern food production practices and met the farm families who work hard to produce a wholesome, safe food supply for Ohio communities and the world.

Partnerships for Youth Success

Youth in Cuyahoga County benefit from numerous OSU Extension partnerships, including the Youth Advocacy and Leadership Coalition; Cleveland Metroparks; Cleveland State University; the Community Awareness and Prevention Association; schools via Farm to School and Agri-science in the City; and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, Juvenile Detention Center, Department of Children and Family Services.

Food Security

The Vacant to Vibrant project increased food security in Dayton's identified food deserts. Combined with other Extension programs, more than 7,300 youth and adults in Montgomery County increased knowledge and improved healthy behaviors through education on food production practices, participation in a food safety research study, and learning through nutritional programs.

Urban Agriculture

In 2015, OSU Extension in Franklin County developed the Columbus Local Foods Guide and led education such as a full-day urban ag conference, the Master Urban Farmer workshop series, and urban farm tours. Urban agriculture serves as an economic engine, fosters community development, and improves food access.

Tri-State Urban Influence

OSU Extension in Lawrence County partners with county commissioners, the city of Ironton, numerous organizations, and 125 adult volunteers to engage youth in innovative programs and families to improve health outcomes. Lawrence County, Ohio is part of the Huntington-Ashland-Ironton Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

Ohio's Urban Influence

More than half of Ohio residents live in 10 of the state's 88 counties, and many others travel to cities for work and recreation. Ohio's largest cities and counties bring complex opportunities and challenges due to population density and the diversity of residents, labor force, community partners, and visitors.

Largest Counties (Largest Cities)	County Population	Net Commuter Flow	Ohio House Members	Ohio Senate Members
Cuyahoga (Cleveland)	1,259,828	135,812	11	4
Franklin (Columbus)	1,231,393	114,615	10	3
Hamilton (Cincinnati)	806,631	121,118	7	3
Summit (Akron)	541,943	14,153	5	2
Montgomery (Dayton)	533,116	24,498	5	2
Lucas (Toledo)	435,286	18,472	4	2
Stark (Canton)	375,738	-6,235	3	1
Butler (Hamilton)	374,158	-21,995	3	1
Lorain (Lorain)	304,216	30,438	3	1
Mahoning (Youngstown)	233,204	153	2	1
Top Ten County Total	6,048,552 (52%)		53 (53.5%)	20 (60.6%)
State Total	11,594,163		99	33

• U.S. Census Bureau, State & County Quickfacts: Ohio 2014 population estimates. Retrieved February 2016, from http://quickfacts.census.gov
• State representative information – www.ohiohouse.gov and www.ohiosentate.gov
• Net Commuter flow information – Ohio Labor Market Information (2010) *Net Flow of Commuters by Ohio County,* retrieved February 2016, from http://ohiolmi.com/census/CommutingPatterns2010.pdf
• Ohio Statistical Areas, https://development.ohio.gov/reports/reports_ohio_statistical_areas.htm

Collective Impact Through Collaboration

OSU Extension in the City partnerships include a mix of public and private organizations at the neighborhood, city, county, state and national levels. The traditional model of county, state and federal funding is frequently expanded in urban areas, with city, philanthropic, education, faith-based, and other community contributions playing an essential part of community capacity building through a diverse Extension portfolio. Primary and emerging areas of focus are identified through various stakeholder groups, supported through campus and national networks, and approached through multi-disciplinary teams and resources.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

• More than 800 people from Ohio's 10 largest counties participated in OSU Extension's *Live Healthy Live Well* workplace wellness program that encourages healthful habits to improve participants' well-being, reduce the need for healthcare services, lower absenteeism rates at work, and help control costs for employers. Surveys indicate that 90% of all respondents are using the new information that they learned and more than 83% have adopted one or more of the recommended practices.

• 30,136 adults in 22 of Ohio's most populated counties participated in the *Expanded Food Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).* Improved nutrition practices were reported by 91% of the participants. In addition, 64,596 youth in grades 6–12 in the highest populated counties participated in the EFNEP education, and 85% reported improvement in diet quality.

• In 5 of Ohio's most populated counties, the *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)* is offered to participants aged pre-school to senior citizen. Statewide Ohio SNAP-Ed reached over 200,000 participants using the Ohio NOURISH curriculum for adults, and Balance My Day for youth and over ⅔ of SNAP-Ed participants reported increasing the use of MyPlate to make healthier food choices.

PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

• In Ohio's 10 most populated counties, OSU Extension worked with more than 1,683 adult volunteers to serve more than 33,700 youth through 4-H clubs, camps, school enrichment and other innovative programs that are reaching diverse audiences through community partnerships.

• OSU Extension professionals developed a Real Money Real World curriculum that simulates real-life experiences to help youth achieve financial literacy. In six of Ohio's most populated counties, 5,760 youth learned how to pay monthly expenses on a fixed income.

• In a survey of parents of 2015 first year 4-H members in Ohio's ten most populated counties, 87.1% stated that they planned to re-enroll their child in 4-H in 2016.

• Agri-science in the City reached 1,100 students from March 2014 – May 2015 in Cleveland and Cincinnati.

ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

• Through OSU Extension education and leadership, 1,045 Master Gardener Volunteers in nine of Ohio's most populated counties provided 63,549 hours of service to address local needs.

• The Master Urban Farmer program, initially launched in Franklin County, has expanded to other urban areas, demonstrating how OSU Extension is relevant locally and responsive statewide.

• Extension Community Development is engaged in providing assistance to the city of Columbus in updating their Watershed Management Plan for the Upper Scioto and Big Walnut watershed which cover 1,200 square miles of land north of Columbus.

ADVANCING EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME OPPORTUNITIES

• More than 235 Franklin County residents learned about the potential for urban agriculture to serve as an economic engine in the city of Columbus at a series of four urban farm tours conducted in Columbus. In addition, 43 Franklin County residents completed an 11-week Master Urban Farmer course where they gained the knowledge and skills to produce food in an urban environment and became certified Master Urban Farmers. Two participants started new food businesses in Franklin County; 46% of participants planned to start new food-based businesses; 68% planned to produce more food from existing operations.

• In Franklin County's University District, OSU Extension provided financial literacy and HUD-certified home-buyer education for 164 prospective homebuyers, nearly 40% of whom are now homeowners.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Three indications of increased interest in urban Extension include:

• The Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) identified urban Extension as one of its top priorities. ECOP is the representative leadership and governing body of national Cooperative Extension.

• The Ohio State University engaged representatives from all 15 colleges and regional campuses to engage in dialogue on OSU's urban mission.

• Central State University has been designated an 1890 land-grant university, which brings additional resources to Ohio for research and Extension. Cooperative Extension is the nationwide transformational education system operating through land-grant universities in partnership with federal, state, and local governments.