



Community Development e-Newsletter

May 2006

Edited by: Don Lacy, State CD Specialist



From The Desk of Ken Martin, Assistant Director, Community Development

I had the opportunity to participate on a panel at the county director workshop earlier this week. The panelists included Jim Chatfield, Barb Ludwig, Jeff King, Linda Kutilek, and Lou Fourman and the topic was New Directions/Patterns in the County. Our first question was to reflect on the changes we have noticed over the past two years. I want to share the responses to that question because they reflect the reality of our work today as well as the ability of our organization to adjust to change. There is an increasing awareness and understanding of the importance of cost recovery and accountability both of which are important for our future financial viability. We are becoming more adept at using electronic technology for program delivery, meetings, and communication in efforts to be more efficient with our time and stretch our resources further. Our workload is getting more complex with fewer people and resources. Our commitment to four program areas is being enhanced by a focus on themes and initiatives, areas of specialization, and interdisciplinary and multi-program teams that bring innovation and creativity to our program development and implementation efforts. As an organization, it is evident that we can adapt and respond to new challenges as we continue to address the many issues and opportunities facing Ohioans today.

Last month, Steve Baertsche and I attended the 2006 Priester Health Conference. OSUE was well represented with 11 participants, 5 presentations in concurrent sessions, and 2 poster presentations. The theme of translating research into policy and practice for healthier communities related to two of our themes: Strengthening and Enhancing Communities, Neighborhoods, and Families, and Enhancing Food and Health. There were sessions on childhood obesity, nutrition, and physical activity as well which relate to our childhood obesity initiative. It was clear to me that there are many opportunities to connect our community development work to the goal of creating healthier people and communities.

Be sure to mark you calendar for June 29 and come to Monroe County for the CD meeting. The morning will include a presentation by Katherine Eckstrand of the Ohio Arts Council on the “art” in community development and a session by the OSUE Watershed Team on watershed resources for CD programming. There will also be time for program updates and discussion on CD program issues and opportunities. The afternoon will include educator updates on their CD work in SE Ohio. This is the first of a series of regional CD meetings that will be scheduled over the summer. Jack Kerrigan and Paul Golden are planning a meeting for NE Ohio, Glenn Welling and Rose Fisher Merkwowitz are working on a meeting for SW Ohio, and Nancy Stehulak and Barb Brahm are working on a meeting for NW Ohio. Feel free to attend any or all of these meetings which will provide opportunities for program updates and discussion on CD issues, challenges, and opportunities. I am looking forward to these meetings and your ideas and suggestions for our CD programs.

The Community Development Foundations of Practice will be offered again this Fall through the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development. I encourage you to register for this professional development opportunity to refresh or build your core CD competencies. I just completed the program this Spring and found the sessions and discussions with other CD professionals to be stimulating and useful. Registration and additional information can be found under the heading: **Meetings, Conferences, Programs/Coming Attractions** in this newsletter.

There will be an RFP to fund program initiatives in the “Creating Community and Educational Excellence” educational program area. No proposals were funded last year in this area so the RFP is being re-issued. The RFP is available through the following link: http://comdev.osu.edu/pub/rfp_cd_excell.pdf

Due to his responsibilities as Interim Director of the Agri-Business Enhancement Center at Lima, Jerry Thomas will step down as Co-leader of the Sustainable Development Center. Myra Moss has agreed to serve as Co-leader of the Center along with Co-leader Bill Grunkemeyer.

Director Keith Smith is interested in visiting some of our Community Development programs in July and August. If you have a program scheduled that you think would be of interest for him to see, send me information on the program including date, time, and location. Keith would also be interested in visiting clients who could share the benefits and positive impacts of Community Development programs in the community. If my schedule permits, I will travel with Keith on these visits.

*From the Desk of the Guest Editor
Don Lacy*

Community Planning is one of the program emphasis areas for OSUE Community Development. All communities plan. Everyone has an annual budget; and some have additional plans such as an economic development plan, public safety plan, transportation plan, land use plan or a host of other plans. Successful communities expend a great amount of energy and resources to improve the local situation through planning. Those communities that fail to plan are either the lucky beneficiaries of the future (lottery winners) or the unlucky victims of the future. Wise community leaders know that to plan is better than not planning.

County Spotlight

Coshocton County is on the Move. This month the Community Development planning spotlight is on Coshocton County. Community leaders in Coshocton have shown a strong commitment to creating a better future through planning. During the past several months the County Extension Office, under the leadership of Paul Golden, has completed three projects that will position the county for quality growth and development in the future—a Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Strategic Economic Development Plan, and the development of a Joint Economic Development District.

Land Use Plan

In the spring of 2002, the Coshocton County Board of Coshocton County Commissioners enlisted the aid of Ohio State University Extension (OSUE), Coshocton County, to *shape* an educational process in an effort to enhance the local citizens understanding of land use planning and to *prepare* the community to *respond* to future land use decisions in an efficient and informed manner. Paul Golden, golden.1@osu.edu, Extension Educator, Agriculture / Natural Resources / Community Development and County Extension Director, with assistance from Don Lacy, Ohio State University Community and Economic Development State Specialist, served as the major facilitators to assist in framing the community planning process. The Board of Commissioners legitimized the process and charged OSUE to insure that the community be engaged and informed during all phases of the process. Over 120 individuals attended an initial meeting to ascertain desires, views, and commitment to the land use planning process. A post meeting survey solicited and measured their input and subsequently established goals and objectives. Many of those in attendance volunteered their time to serve during the proposed 18 to 24 month endeavor. Subsequently, over 150 citizens became part of the effort to build and reflect the consensus of the community. The intent was to create a broad base of "stakeholders" for the plan.

The Coshocton County Commissioners legitimized the process and appointed a 24-member Steering Committee to oversee the development of the plan. The membership of this committee represented a diverse background of both private and public interests in Coshocton County. Commissioners used selection criteria based on demographics, bipartisanship, and leadership and declined to appoint elected or public office holders in an attempt to create a neutral and unbiased environment. The final draft of the Coshocton County Plan was delivered to the Board of Commissioners in March 2006.

Economic Development Plan

The purpose of this county wide strategic economic development plan is to set forth a community process to establish the strategic objectives (*ends*), concepts (*ways*) and resources (*means*) required to shape the future of Coshocton County's economic well being. Strategic planning is simply a process for positioning a community to achieve the kind of future its member's desire. Anticipating the future and developing a vision for the desired future are essential components of the planning methodology. The Schooler Family

Foundation recognized the importance of education and made a \$30,000 gift to facilitate the community process in the spring of 2005.

Initially, an Extension Economic Development Advisory Committee, comprised of five local citizens, organized in November 2004 to formulate the educational process and develop a strategy to enlist other volunteers to develop a strategic plan for economic development. The Advisory Committee helped to create an Economic Development Task Force. Paul Golden and Don Lacy, served as the major facilitators to assist in framing the community process. The Advisory Committee was asked to consider three main tasks: 1) a public information campaign to help residents understand the economic situation, current trends, and future directions for Coshocton, 2) a public education and meeting plan to inform and engage residents in discussions about the economic future for Coshocton County, and 3) the appointment of a Strategic Planning Committee to guide the economic development processes and planning for the community.

The Strategic Planning Committee was charged with developing recommendations for future actions based on identifiable objectives and measurable goals in support of the strategic plan based on the following parameters.

- Answer Strategic Questions using interviews and other investigative techniques.
- Develop Strategic Goals based upon investigations and explorations.
- Develop Strategic Actions to move toward goal fulfillment.
- Develop Action Steps to implement Strategic Actions.

Joint Economic Development Districts (JEDDs)

In the summer of 2005, the Coshocton City County PORT Authority enlisted the aid of Ohio State University Extension (OSUE), Coshocton County, to *shape* an educational process in an effort to inform the citizens of Coshocton and the residents of Franklin and Tuscarawas townships about Joint Economic Development Districts (JEDDs). The basic understanding of what a JEDD can and cannot accomplish as an economic development tool was critical to the expansion of the city infrastructure to the north and south corridors outside the existing municipality boundaries. Extension played a non-biased educational role to explain the mechanism by which municipalities and townships can cooperate to foster development activities without modifications to jurisdiction boundaries. The educational role for extension was accomplished through two public forums where interested residents could learn more about a JEDDs and the potential impacts upon the community and upon individuals.

Under the Ohio Revised Code 715.70 (B) (1) one or more municipal corporations and one or more townships may enter into a contract approved by the legislative authority of each to create a joint economic development district for the purpose of facilitating economic development to create or preserve jobs and to improve the economic welfare of the people in the state and in the area of the contracting parties. A JEDDs allows three basic assets, infrastructure, land, and fiscal resources to be deployed to support economic development.

Because of Extension's involvement and unbiased reputation, the city council and township trustees unanimously approved the formation of the two JEDDs without public objection. This paved the way for commercial development to the north of Coshocton and future industrial growth to include an Ethanol plant on the south side of the city.

Land Use Planning Initiatives in the Counties

Athens County—Penne Smith, smith57@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu

In Athens County, OSU Extension, the County Commissioners and the County Planning Director are about to undertake the process of updating the Athens County Comprehensive Plan. The plan will serve as a guide for the future and answer such questions as how and where growth should take place and what the priorities should be for economic development, transportation, housing, the environment, land use, and infrastructure.

A countywide kickoff meeting was held March 28 at the community center with more than 100 interested citizens in attendance. Since the meeting a group of individuals have been identified to serve on a steering committee. The steering committee will select and oversee volunteer taskforces to research and write the Comprehensive Plan. Members have been informed that the process will require an 18 month commitment involving monthly meetings, email correspondence, and the review of all developed material. Don Lacy, OSU Extension Specialist, Government and Community Services, will serve as the facilitator and will detail the role of the steering committee members.

Columbiana—Ernie Oelker, oelker@ag.osu.edu

The last Comprehensive Land Use Plan for Columbiana County was completed in 1996, by the Center for Urban Studies, Youngstown State University. Due to a variety of factors, the plan was never adopted by County Commissioners. In 2002 the county commissioners and the county planning commission recognized the need for thoughtful land use planning and asked OSU Extension to organize and facilitate the process. In March 2005 a public meeting was held to inform citizens of the possibility that a new land use plan would be written. The commissioners have been reluctant to appoint a land use task force, but have voted to use \$10,000 of Community Development Block Grant funds from the county's revolving loan fund to pay a part-time consultant and cover some other expenses. Thirteen individuals serve as the steering committee for the plan. Don Lacy provided training to the committee and other interested people in April 2006 about the process of developing a Comprehensive Land Use Plan. A preliminary survey was conducted by the County Extension Educator, based on the Ohio Land Use Team survey used in Carroll County. Approximately 100 respondents were overwhelmingly in favor of land use planning.

The steering committee has met about 20 times to date. Ten public meetings have been held to discuss the land use plan with average attendance of about 30 people. Paul Golden spoke at one of these meetings in October to explain the process underway in Coshocton County. The Steering Committee has developed a mission statement and vision statement as well as a 20 month timeline to complete the process. They are currently working on deciding what kind of information they need to gather from the community and the method to collect such info. The individual sub-committees have been recruiting residents to serve on their respective groups. Each task force is expected to produce a draft report by March 2007 and a completed report by June 2007.

Committee members are currently working on a county-wide survey to collect information on citizens' level of satisfaction with current land use in the county. The steering committee has a web site where the committee structure, sponsoring organizations, calendar, meeting minutes and preliminary survey are posted. The consultant and the Task Force chairperson are scheduling visits with township trustees to get suggested changes and revisions to the 1996 plan and to answer questions about the scope, function, and purpose of the comprehensive land use plan.

Fayette County—Pat Brinkman, pbrinkman@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu

The Fayette County Commissioners were interested in updating the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Ohio State University Extension Fayette County had been holding some educational meetings on different aspects of land use, and the Commissioners asked if we could help with updating the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. We invited Don Lacy to come and speak at a meeting with city and county elected officials and other interested citizens. From this meeting the Commissioners asked OSU Extension Fayette County to help facilitate a new Comprehensive Land Use Plan. At monthly meetings I facilitated the Land Use Commission through the process of examining surveys on wants and needs of the county and collaborating to develop a Vision statement. Through the facilitation process nine subcommittees were selected to examine different aspects for the Plan. These included Agriculture/Rural, Natural Resources, Health & Safety, Infrastructure, Education/Schools, Economic/Industrial, Social/Recreation, Housing, and Historical & Cultural Preservation. Members of the Comprehensive Land Use Commission served as co-chairs on the subcommittees and reported back monthly to the Commission. Each subcommittee recruited interested and knowledgeable people from the County to serve on their subcommittees. I continued to facilitate the Commission and helped some subcommittees get organized, recruit people, and oversee their process. (Some subcommittees required high maintenance while others completed their process swiftly and

thoroughly.) At least 120 people actively participated in subcommittees examining the issues dealing with that subject area. Each subcommittee examined the current situation, developed a vision statement, goals and objectives, and an action plan for the future with maps of the current situation and of their action plan. Each subcommittee turned in reports to the Commission which studied these reports and using the maps developed a consensus which became the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. I coordinated the process of getting maps completed for many of the subcommittees and maps for the final report. I also coordinated the process of copying and making corrections to the final reports. With the completion of the reports the Commissioners hired a firm to compile our reports and maps into a Comprehensive Land Use Plan. I have worked with the consulting firm through the draft copies. The Commission has approved the draft and will have a final copy soon.

Morrow County—Steve Ruhl, ruhl1@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu

Morrow County has completed its Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The land use plan can be viewed at: <http://morrow.osu.edu/cd/landuseplan05.pdf> The steering committee, which included 16 volunteer members appointed by the County Commissioners, took two years to develop and publish the plan. All the work was completed by the teams of volunteers, including 86 citizens that served on the eight task forces. While some communities pay \$100,000.00 - \$200,000.00 to engineer-architect firms to complete similar plans, this plan was completed and published for less than \$2,500.00 dollars. The plan can be viewed at all the county public libraries or purchased as text or on a CD at the County Planning Office. All the OSU Extension educators at the Morrow County Office were involved with the plan. Steve Ruhl (ANR/CD Educator) served as the steering committee chairman. Cindy Torppa (FCS/CD Educator) served on the steering committee. Becky Barker (4-H and Youth Educator) worked on the agriculture task force.

Muskingum—Mark Mechling, mechling1@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu

The last Comprehensive Land Use Plan for Muskingum County was completed in 1974. Recently the county commissioners recognized the need for thoughtful land use planning and asked OSU Extension to organize and facilitate the process. In early 2006, the commissioners selected individuals to chair ten different task forces. These individuals serve as the steering committee for the plan. Don Lacy spoke to the committee in March about the process of developing a comprehensive land use plan. The steering committee has met four times to date. They have developed a mission statement and vision statement as well as a 20 month timeline to complete the process. They are currently working on deciding what kind of information they need to gather from the community and the method to collect such information. The individual task forces will soon be recruiting residents to serve on their respective groups. Each task force is expected to produce an outline of their goals by this fall and a completed report by September 1, 2007. The goal of the committee is to have the entire plan completed by the end of 2007.

Local Government Leadership Programs

The Local Government Leadership Academy was developed through OSUE Community Development with the active involvement of the Executive Directors and key staff from the County Commissioners Association of Ohio, the Ohio Municipal League, and the Ohio Township Association. The eleven curriculum modules represent the topics that those on the committee felt were most appropriate for Ohio public officials based upon their knowledge of their respective constituent groups. Two versions of the Academy have been developed. One is a state version for the Associations to use with their individual members. However, many public officials do not attend the two annual meetings of the respective associations and do not participate. Thus, a local version has been developed to allow Extension Offices and their local partners to offer a Local Version of The Ohio Local Government Leadership Academy. Successful local Academies have been held in Allen County, Curtis Young, youngce@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu; Ashtabula, Cheryl Jones Syracuse, syracuse1@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu; Green County, Jerry Mahan, jmahan@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu and Beth Bridgeman, bridgeman7@ag.osu.edu; and Greater Toledo Area Joe Lucente, ilucente@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu.

The Toledo Local Government Leadership Academy

A partnership was developed through Ohio State University Extension and Ohio State University Sea Grant College Program with the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce. The educator and Chamber of Commerce representatives talked about local programming, outreach efforts and the needs of the community. Sea Grant Extension offered the idea of a ten-week leadership development programming/outreach effort for local elected and appointed officials, as well as those serving on boards and commissions by appointment or volunteer basis. The proposal from the extension educator was accepted to partner with the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce and the Leadership Fund to develop a “Local Government Leadership Academy” with a focus to encourage, support and promote good government through a curriculum geared towards leadership and decision making skills as it relates to interaction in the public sector. To date there are ninety-two graduates and we have some really good data from the surveys. Class number six begins in January 2007.



Community Development / Sea Grant Extension Educator Joe Lucente offers instruction to a class on local government leadership development.

Toledo Local Government Leadership Academy Curriculum:

- Public Officials and Public Service
- Conducting Effective Meetings
- Communicating and Working with the Media
- Communicating and Working with Citizens
- Building Sustainable Communities
- Team Building
- Leadership Skills and Styles and Effective Decision Making
- Conflict Management and Dispute Resolution
- Intergovernmental Relations
- Technology in Local Government

Toledo Local Government Leadership Academy- Program Evaluation

In five years, retrospective pre/post test surveys from 2002-2006 indicated a combined **85% overall increase in knowledge gained** from ninety-two participants of the ten-week Toledo Local Government Leadership Academy. All participants received two professional certificates of completion in Local Government Training for their efforts from Sea Grant Extension and the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce. The program itself is totally self sustaining and is conducted utilizing a mix of state extension faculty and staff, State of Ohio organizations and local level officials. For more information or to get this program started in your area, contact Joe Lucente, jlucente@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu OSU Sea Grant Extension, Lucas County.

Ohio Township Leadership Academy

The Ohio Township Association (OTA), in conjunction with the Ohio State University Extension Services and Miami University Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs developed and implemented a Leadership Academy for township officials. The purpose is to provide useful programs that will enhance the leadership and decision-making skills of the township leadership team. Classes are available during the OTA’s summer and winter conferences. More than 55 classes have already been offered.

The program was first introduced to township officials in 2003 and to date over 500 township officials have signed up for the Academy. Many more conference participants attend individual sessions without formally enrolling in the Academy. More than 2500 individuals have participated in individual sessions. As of February 2006, over 115 officials have graduated from the program. Leadership Academy graduates receive a diploma and a picture and press release to distribute to their local newspapers.

****IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CD EDUCATORS****

Submitted by: Brian Raison, raison.1@osu.edu 1st VP, CD, OEAA Board

At our next OEAA meeting, Monday, May 15, 2006, the Community Development section will propose an amendment to change our national affiliation from the Community Development Society to the National Association of Community Development Practitioners (NACDEP) organization. NACDEP is designed by and for Extension Professionals and is presently working on gaining status with our national Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) group, thus filling out the long running gap within that organization's program area concentrations. Community Development is coming to the table! Please join us or comment via email if you have a moment. Thank you.

Meetings, Conferences, Programs / Coming Attractions—Important Dates

Regional Sustainability Forum—Joe Konen, konen.2@osu.edu

A Forum on *Regional Sustainability* will be held on May 25, 2006 at the Fisher Auditorium, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, 1680 Madison Ave, Wooster, OH 44691.

The keynote presentation will be Mike Robinette, Executive Director of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. He will speak on "*The Imperative of Regionalism for Ohio's Survival; A View from Southwestern Ohio.*" Responses from the Northeast Ohio Region will include: "*An Economic Perspective*" from Robert Layton, Principal Economic Planner, Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) and "*A Watershed Perspective*" from Dana Oleskiewicz, Extension Educator, Watershed Management, OSU Extension Center at Wooster

As Ohio's population growth is relatively flat and the costs of services continue to rise, we are faced with important decisions for the future development and sustainability of Ohio. This is one in a series of forums addressing the issues of Regional Sustainability.

The forum is sponsored by the OSU Extension Center at Wooster. Reservations are required by May 18, 2006. For detailed information and a registration form, contact Joe Konen at konen.2@osu.edu or call 330-263-3799

Bowling Green State University Hosts 5th Annual State of the Region Conference - *Responding to a Changing World* - Greg Davis davis.1081@osu.edu

BGSU's Center for Regional Development will host leading experts on regional economic development on Monday, May 22, 2006, 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Depot Conference Center, Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg, Ohio. Keynote speaker, Michael Gallis, is perhaps the world's leading authority on large scale regional development strategy. Kip Bergstrom, Executive Director of Rhode Island Economic Policy Council, will show how Rhode Island has created their networks of capability. Russell Gwatney, President of Gwatney Companies and Chairman, St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, Memphis Branch, will discuss the dynamic turnaround of the Memphis region.

For more information and registration details, go to www.centerforregionaldevelopment.com

The program is free, but space is limited. Please register early.

Connecting Rural Communities Conference is sponsored by the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development at Penn State University. The conference will be held at Sheraton Society Hill, One Dock St., Philadelphia, PA on June 6-7, 2006. For additional information:

http://nercrd.psu.edu/ConnectingCommunities/Connecting_Communities.html

Foundations of Practice fall series Component I will start on September 19-October 31, 2006. The program *“Understanding Communities and their Dynamics”* is a seven-week (1 day per week) distance education course. The course is offered two days a week, so you may register for either a Tuesday or Wednesday for the seven weeks. If your schedule is not available on Tuesday, you may get on-line on Wednesday. The course is offered by Janet Ayres through NCRCRD. For registration or more information go to: <http://www.ncrcrd.iastate.edu>, click on **Key Programs** (<http://comdev.osu.edu/pub/registrationform-fall2006.pdf>) and then click on **Core Competencies** (<http://comdev.osu.edu/pub/corecomphandout2006.pdf>) .

Veterinary Preventive Medicine Conference will be held on June 16, 2006 in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital Auditorium. All program areas are encouraged to attend as we all have a responsibility to assist with early recognition of emerging disease issues such as Avian Influenza and Chronic Wasting Disease. We encourage our County Educators to invite and travel to the conference with their local Public Health and EMA Officials to provide communication and planning discussions. The online registration form is available at: <http://www.vet.ohio-state.edu/1218.htm>

Program Resources and Current Research

Celebrating Preservation, Tourism, and Authenticity - Deanna Tribe, tribe.1@osu.edu

Like politics, preservation is local. Celebrate Preservation, a month-long spotlight in May was initiated by the National Trust to highlight grassroots preservation efforts around the country. "Preservation at Home" is this week's theme which signifies the vital role that individual homeowners play in protecting our nation's heritage. Are you doing your share?

See America Week, formerly national tourism week, will be recognized May 13-21. What a wonderful time to be a tourist and take in sites and events "in your own backyard." To learn more about Ohio Appalachia's heritage tourism, contact Deanna Tribe at tribe.1@osu.edu for a copy of "Ohio's Appalachia Activity Book."

Authenticity in tourism is at the forefront of tourism development and marketing. A brief article on Authenticity, useful for Extension programming, can be accessed at the Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area website at www.ohiohillcountry.org.

The Extension Tourism Team has prepared a display celebrating May as tourism month and highlighting Extension programming. It will be placed in the Community Development exhibit space in the Agricultural Administration Building. Be sure to check it out.

Small Business Programming—Greg Davis, davis.1081@osu.edu

Folks interested in developing, conducting and/or evaluating programming targeted to small business owners and/or managers are encouraged to join others with similar interests on May 16, from 10:00-noon in Ag Admin Room 111.

Objectives of this discussion are to:

- Identify and better understand existing Extension programming in this area
- Explore opportunities for collaboration
- Discuss possibilities for team formation
- Brainstorm possible team structures

For more information, contact Ken Martin (martin.1540@osu.edu, or 614-292-6232) To RSVP, contact Shirley Cook (cook.22@osu.edu, or 614-292-6232)

Township Trustees Research Report Published—Greg Davis, davis.1081@osu.edu

What do township trustees in Ohio know about zoning, comp planning, and subdivision regulations? To what extent are these tools being used in Ohio's townships? Are township trustees participating in educational programming related to these land use planning tools? Recent research has uncovered some pretty interesting results. For more information, take a look at the summary report posted at <http://localecon.osu.edu/trustees.pdf>

New Directory of Ohio Watershed Groups Map - Anne Baird, abaird@postoffice.ag.ohio-state.edu

The Directory of Watershed Groups in Ohio on the Ohio Watershed Network web-site has added a new feature: We have added a clickable map of Ohio with the 8-digit Hydrologic Units Codes (HUCs - just another word for watershed) outlined so you can find out which watershed groups are covering a given HUC. Thanks to Anne Groves (our former Web-developer) and Brad Ashburn (our graduate research associate) for doing the "leg-work" necessary to match every watershed group with their corresponding HUC. To view the new directory map, go to: <http://ohiowatersheds.osu.edu/groups-huc/>