

Community Development Newsletter



October 15, 2008

NOTE FROM TOM BLAINE, EDITOR

CD Colleagues: Welcome to the October 2008 Newsletter! After a brief respite in Spetember, we are back in publication. I know that everyone had an exceptionally busy month due to Galaxy III Conference, Farm Science Review, fairs, and a host of other activities. We have a lot of great topics in this month's issue - especially about activities on local economic development that feature Farmers' Markets, Tourism and BR&E. But we start off with an announcement about the Land Use Conference 2008 after a note from our Interim AD - here goes:

NOTES FROM THE INTERIM AD, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, JOHN CONGLOSE

Greetings:

As we are in the mist of the fall season we are reminded that the holiday season will soon be here and the end of 2008 will soon follow. This is a perfect time to revisit Plans of Work for 2008. It's also a great time to start planning for what you want to accomplish during 2009. Keeping that in mind, I hope all Community Development Educators and Specialists are planning to attend the Annual CD Winter Retreat scheduled for January 28-29, 2009. The event will be held at the University Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, 3110 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. An agenda will be available soon. This venue is intended to help participants learn more about community development programming opportunities and to help in developing individual plans of work. An agenda will be available soon. This venue is intended to help participants learn more about community development programming opportunities and to help in developing individual plans of work.

Continuing with this theme of planning for the upcoming year, there are two opportunities for including community development programming in your 2009 Plan of Work. Two signature programs, the *Business Retention and Expansion Program* and the *Why Trees Matter Program*, are Community Development oriented. And, as you may recall, all county based educators are being asked to get involved in delivering a signature program during 2009. Presentations will be given at the Extension Annual Conference on the six signature programs. We will also be discussing them at the Annual CD Winter Retreat, so be sure to hold the dates, January 28-29, 2009. More information will follow as soon as it is available.

LAND USE CONFERENCE 2008 - NOVEMBER 17, 2008

The Land Use Conference 2008 has been scheduled for November 17, 2008 in the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center. Please go to <http://comdev.osu.edu> and click on "Upcoming Events" to get more information and to register.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ON ZONING

Based on the 2006 Census, more people live in townships across Ohio than live in the eight largest

cities. This fact, coupled with current residents wanting to protect a rural lifestyle, makes zoning a hot topic in many townships. Due to an overwhelming response, Community Development has partnered with the Ohio Township Association (OTA) to offer specialized zoning sessions this fall. These sessions are designed for zoning administrators, zoning boards and zoning boards of appeal. All sessions are open to OTA members and non-members. Space limitations and the desire to keep class sizes small will limit the capacity for each session to 40 registrants. For more information about these zoning sessions, please contact David Civittolo or Greg Davis.

WORKSHOP ON FARMERS' MARKETS

An upcoming workshop called "*Feasibility Studies and Business Planning for Farmers' Markets*" will provide information on how to start or grow a farmers' market. This workshop will be offered twice this month: Oct. 22 at the OSU South Centers in Piketon, and Oct. 23 at the OSU Extension Muskingum County office in Zanesville. Both events will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and include a networking lunch.

The workshop is open to food producers, volunteers, community leaders, and educators who are interested in resources and strategies to assist their local food system by incorporating a farmers' market. The workshop will focus on the feasibility of starting a new market in your community and business plan development for existing markets. Participants will learn best practices and receive valuable resources to explore or enhance farmers' markets.

The OSU South Centers is offering this workshop through the *Growing! Ohio Farmers' Markets* program. Participants can attend free of charge thanks to support from USDA Rural Development.

Growing! Ohio Farmers' Markets will be offering a series of workshops for farmers' market managers, board of directors, and vendors/producers throughout the next 6 months. For more information about the workshops and resources available visit;

<http://ag.osu.edu/Redirect/www.ohiofarmersmarkets.osu.edu/>.

To register for the Feasibility Study and Business Planning workshop, please contact Melissa Hurtt via e-mail to hurtt.8@osu.edu or by calling 800-297-2072 (Ohio only) ext. 222.

Workshop Locations and Dates:

Oct. 22, 2008
The OSU South Centers
1864 Shyville Rd.
Piketon, OH 45661

Oct. 23, 2008
OSU Extension Muskingum County
225 Underwood St.
Zanesville, Ohio 43701

For More on Farmers' Market Initiatives:

NETWORKING ASSOCIATION FOR FARM DIRECT MARKETING AND AGRITOURISM (NAFDMA)

If you are interested in Direct Marketing, NAFDMA is holding an Advanced Learning Retreat right here in Ohio at White House Fruit Farm on November 10 - 13, 2008 - <http://ag.osu.edu/Redirect/www.nafdma.com/>

Involved in Direct Marketing &/or Tourism? An invitation and update from Julie Fox

Join the October team conference calls "listen, participate - whatever fits your interests. Both teams involve members from numerous organizations" with various levels of involvement.

Tuesday, Oct. 21st 9:30 a.m.- Direct Marketing Team Conference Call (includes ag & nature-based tourism working group discussion)

Tuesday, Oct. 28th 9:30 a.m. - Tourism Team Conference Call (includes culinary tourism working group discussion)

Call 866-704-7500 (access number - 846113#)

If you are interested in tourism, the Ohio Conference on Tourism is scheduled from Oct. 22-24 in Canton, OH - <http://ag.osu.edu/Redirect/www.ohiotravel.org/>

Julie is working with OTA and the Division of Tourism to record podcast interviews with various conference presenters.

Julie will be attending the national MarketMaker network meeting in late October. If you have ideas on ways to improve and promote the program, please pass along your ideas to Julie at fox.264@osu.edu and check out <http://ag.osu.edu/Redirect/www.ohiomarketmaker.com/>

TIME TO GEAR UP FOR BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION

The Ohio BR&E program has aimed to strengthen the capacity of local leaders and residents to affect economic conditions in more than 140 communities since 1986. After being reconfigured to an annual membership-type delivery format in 2001, many of the program's resources are now available to participating communities via the web, providing a great deal of flexibility to the participants at an affordable membership price. The local task force coordinator, a key function played by countyExtension staff since 1986, continues to play an important role in program delivery. Current and recent participating communities include: FultonCounty, GalliaCounty, HighlandCounty, LoganCounty, WyandotCounty, Village of Centerburg, City of Fostoria, City of Gahanna, and City of Strongsville. Folks interested in learning more about the program can go to <http://ag.osu.edu/Redirect/localecon.osu.edu/brne> or contact Greg Davis at 614-292-6356 or davis.1081@osu.edu