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For Immediate Release

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Ohio Lake Erie Commission to Hold Quarterly Meeting on Thursday, May 31 in Delaware

TOLEDO, OH – The Ohio Lake Erie Commission (OLEC) will hold its quarterly meeting at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 31, at the Horace Collins Laboratory at Alum Creek State Park 3307 South Old State Road in Delaware.

Commission members are expected to act on the latest round of small grants. OLEC Executive Director Edwin Hammett will also report on ongoing projects of the commission, including the Balanced Growth Program and other outreach efforts.

Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, director of the Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc. will present a report on *Implementing Balanced Growth in the Chagrin River Watershed*, which is one of the commission's pilot projects under the Lake Erie Balanced Growth Program.

Advisory committees will report on the Ohio Coastal Resource Management Project, Ohio Sea Grant College Program, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency and the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments.

All meetings of the Ohio Lake Erie Commission 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 is comprised of the directors of the ODNR and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, as well as the state departments of Transportation, Development, Health and Agriculture. It 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 commission also oversees the Ohio Lake Erie Protection Fund, which is the source of grant money for projects that benefit the Lake Erie watershed economically and environmentally. This fund is supported by Ohioans who purchase a Lake Erie license plate displaying the Marblehead Lighthouse designed by Ohio artist Ben Richmond.

The Lake Erie Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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During the last 14 years, the commission has raised more than \$8.5 million through the sale of Lake Erie license plates. The money has gone to a wide range of efforts to preserve and enhance life along Lake Erie.

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