

For Immediate Release  
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## **Ashtabula Resident Wins “Life on Lake Erie” Photo Contest**

**Cuyahoga Heights, OH** - Ashtabula resident Dee Riley won the judges compliments and her photo “Summer Fun” was declared as the overall judges’ favorite for 2013 Life on Lake Erie photo contest. Riley was recognized as well as nine other winning photos by the members of the Ohio Lake Erie Commission at their Sept. 25th meeting at the CanalWay Center in Cuyahoga Heights.

The Ohio Lake Erie Commission (OLEC) sponsors the contest annually and encourages camera aficionados to submit photos that convey the “Life on Lake Erie” message as they enjoy Ohio’s Great Lake year-round.

This year’s photo contest winners are from all along the Lake Erie shoreline from Toledo to Conneaut. The winning photos can be found on OLEC’s website, [www.lakeerie.ohio.gov](http://www.lakeerie.ohio.gov) as well as on the Facebook page.

The photo contest is aimed at capturing the day-to-day lives of people, plants and animals that live and thrive in the Lake Erie watershed. Winning photos are featured in OLEC’s traveling Lake Erie Photo Gallery that will be exhibited at destinations along the shoreline in the coming months.

OLEC is pleased to honor the other photo winners, including:

- Nancy Scott of Perrysburg, Ohio for her picture entitled “After the Rain” taken at WW Knight Nature Preserve.
- Lou McLove of Toledo, Ohio for his picture entitled “Early Morning” taken at Swan Creek Metro Park.
- Bruce Bennett of Chardon, Ohio for his picture entitled “Storm Day” taken at Mentor Headlands State Park, Mentor, Ohio.
- Amy Edixon of Ashtabula, Ohio for her picture entitled “Blue Butterfly” taken at Put-in-Bay, Ohio.
- Richard McBride of Conneaut, Ohio for his picture entitled “Playing at the Beach” taken at Conneaut Township Park.
- Valerie Giovannucci of Maumee, Ohio for her picture entitled “Walleye Run, Side Cut Park” taken at the Maumee River.
- Dee Riley of Ashtabula, Ohio for her picture entitled “Summer Fun” taken at Lakeshore Park, Ashtabula, Ohio.
- Nancy Scott of Perrysburg, Ohio for her picture entitled “Taking Care of Her” taken at Wildwood Metro Park.

- Lou McLove of Toledo, Ohio for his picture entitled “Male Cardinal” taken at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge.
- Richard McBride of Conneaut, Ohio for his picture entitled “Waves at Sunset” taken at Conneaut Township Park.

OLEC also oversees the Ohio Lake Erie Protection Fund, which is the source of grant money for projects that benefit the lake’s watershed economically and environmentally. The fund is supported by Ohioans who purchase a Lake Erie license plate displaying the Marblehead Lighthouse or Toledo Harbor Lighthouse designed by Ohio artist Ben Richmond.

OLEC was created to preserve Lake Erie's natural resources, enhance its water quality and promote economic development in the region. The director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) 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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**Editor’s Note:** Digital images of the winning photographs from the 2013 “Life on Lake Erie” photo contest are available on OLEC’s Facebook page and at <http://lakeerie.ohio.gov/>.

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