Dear environmental professional,

Well, environmental professionals, our world is changing. We at OSU remain committed to the importance of science and facts to design projects, programs, and policies. Still, feelings and beliefs increasingly seem to matter, sometimes more than the science. We hope that the Environmental Professionals Network by “Connecting our community” helps bridge divides, and helps inform and inspire. Participating in networks like EPN broadens people’s perspectives and understanding – all helping bring people together for the common, sustainable good. Perhaps you’ve noticed that almost all EPN programs have a strong social component, as well as a science component. And we are more anxious than ever to connect our students and researchers with all sectors of society in Ohio and beyond, and discovering new ways to collaborate.

As we all try to productively navigate these trying times, please let us know if you have ideas for topics, forums, and presenters, or outside-the-box ideas. Our School of Environment and Natural Resources and OSU broadly recognize that business–as–usual will not work. The new approach to managing OSU’s energy systems, allowing for better and quicker efficiency and sustainability gains, may be a relevant example.

Leadership at all levels will be critical in this new world. NYT’s columnist Tom Friedman had some useful advice on this recently. “But the upside of today’s political-technology platform is that leaders can come out of anywhere — fast. Look at the new president of France. In the long run, the only thing that will save us is if more people — no matter what age, color, gender or faith — build moral authority in their respective realms and then use it to do big, meaningful things. Use it to run for office, start a company, operate a school, lead a movement or build a community organization. And in so doing you can help put the “We” back in “We the people.”

Please join us at OSU as we do all we can to help all people and families – socially, economically, and environmentally.

Jeff Sharp
Director, School of Environment and Natural Resources

Consider supporting the Environmental Professionals Network

The OSU School of Environment and Natural Resources continues to invest significantly in EPN. But EPN could grow even stronger with additional outside support. Please contact the EPN Coordinator or SENR Director Jeff Sharp about various opportunities for you or your organization.

OSU does have an EPN support fund, #315260. Checks, small and large, are accepted, payable to The Ohio State University. EPN would appreciate help with room rental, recording costs, and sometimes travel costs for presenters. EPN tries to raise $1000 each month to cover such costs — so please consider sponsoring one of the monthly programs.

Also, EPN appreciates help in spreading the word about its programs. If you are tied into other list serves please forward the program announcements to such networks.

…and support EPN streaming live

The media production company that records every EPN program is now able to also stream the programs live, at a cost of approximately $1000 per year. Please consider being the “EPN Streaming Live” sponsor and helping EPN reach an even larger audience.

Annual Report
2016 – 2017

Vikram Sahney talks with EEDS student, Patrick Cullinan, following Sahney’s presentation From Summits to Sustainability — Reaching for High Places, Personally and Professionally.

Environmental Professionals Network Coordinator, David Hanselmann
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The OSU School of Environment and Natural Resources

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EPN's Fifth Year of Breakfast Clubs and Signature Events

September 2016 — Eco-Labels, Certifications, Green Advertising – How Trustworthy Are Green Claims?
Laura Koss, JD, Assistant Director, Division of Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission and Timothy Bartley, PhD, Associate Professor, OSU Dept. of Sociology

October 2016 Signature Event — An Evening with Greater Yellowstone’s Grizzly 399
Thomas Mangelsen, renowned photographer and wildlife conservationist and Todd Wilkinson, author and investigative environmental journalist

October 2016 — Last Stand – Ted Turner’s Quest to Save a Troubled Planet
Todd Wilkinson, author and investigative environmental journalist

Gene Kelly, PhD, Visiting Head Scientist, National Ecological Observatory Network

(preceded by capstone teams from ENR 4900.01 and ENR/AEDE 4567)
Mike Baker, Chief, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Ohio EPA

More comfortable home. Help is available. Don’t procrastinate.
Lonnie Thompson, PhD, Distinguished University Professor, Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center, and Dept. of Earth Sciences; Megan Melby, New Buildings Program Manager, Demand Side Management, Columbia Gas of Ohio; Neocles Leontis, PhD, Bowling Green Community Leader and BGSU Professor of Chemistry; Eric Romic, Assistant Professor and Extension Field Specialist, Energy Education

February 2017 — Ohio’s Forests – Celebrating a Rich History; Planning for Emerging Threats
John Dorks, Master Logger Coordinator/ Government Relations and past Executive director, Ohio Forestry Association; and Mark Ervin, Owner, Ervin Woodland Management Services and past chair, Ohio Society of American Foresters
Ohio’s Forests — Planning for Threats: Climate Change, Invasives, and More
Stephen Matthews, PhD, Assistant Professor, OSU School of Environment and Natural Resources and Landscape Change Working Group, USDA Forest Service

Plus Building Ohio State – From Forest to the Renovation of Thompson Library tour

March 2017 — We All Need Healthy Rivers (Joint 1/2 day EPN/Water Management Association of Ohio Spring Meeting)
Protecting Wild Rivers, Restoring Damaged Rivers. Conserving Clean Water
Bob Irvin, JD, President and CEO, American Rivers

Merging Monitoring and Water Quality Standards to Improve Management and Protection of Aquatic Resources
Chris Yoder, Research Director, Midwest Biodiversity Institute

Status of Big Darby Creek – an Ohio Biodiversity Treasure
Andrew Phillips, Environmental Specialist, Division of Surface Water, Ohio EPA

April 2017 Signature Event — From Summits to Sustainability, Reaching for High Places, Personally and Professionally
Vik Sahney, VP of Sustainability, Recreational Equipment Incorporated

April 2017 — Columbus, One Smart and Sustainable City – Using Innovative Technology to Improve People’s Access to Opportunity
(preceded by capstone teams from ENR/AEDE 4567 and ENR 4900.01)
Aparna Dial, Deputy Director, Columbus Dept. of Public Service; Maryn Weiner, Senior Assoc. Director, OSU Center for Automotive Research; Andrew Wolpert, PE, Project Manager, ITS 7 Technology Program; Bud Braughton, PE, Engineer IV, Downtown & Special Projects Columbus Department of Public Service; Jordan Davis, Director of Smart Cities, Columbus Partnership

May 2017 — Technologies and Strategies for Energy Efficiencies – Satisfied Homeowners, Sustainable Planet
Erik Daugherty, Founder/Owner, E3 INNOVATE, Nashville
Plus OSU Green Hom Workshop — Envelope, Appliances, Lighting, Home Controls

June 2017 — Valuing Urban Landscapes — The Ravines of Clintonville
Michael Graziano, PhD, OSU School of Environment and Natural Resources, Columbus State University; John Krygier, PhD, Professor of Geology and Geography, Director of Environmental Studies, Ohio Wesleyan University; Laura Fay, Grants Manager, ms consultants, Past President, Friends of the Lower Olentangy
Walking tour guides: John Finn, Michael Graziano, Peter Kovarik, Maureen Lorenz, Alice Waldhauer

July 2017 — Community Development in Energy Host Communities
Sean Logan, JD, President, Sean Logan & Associates, Paul Lapachelle, PhD, Associate Professor and Extension Community Development Specialist, Montana State University
Dale Messersmith, Extension Educator, Marcellus Shale Education Team, Pennsylvania State University, Myra Moss, Associate Professor and Extension Educator, Community Development, OSU, Paul Thares, Community Development Field Specialist, South Dakota State University Extension

August 2017 — Conservation on Farms – Tackling Issues, Seizing Opportunities
4R Nutrient Stewardship and Other Outreach by SWCDs to Ohio’s Ag Community
Mindy Bankey, CEO, Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Sponsors and Supporters of EPN’s Breakfast Club
Office of Energy and Environment
Office of Student Life, Energy Management and Sustainability
Office of Outreach and Engagement
Office of Research
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