

For Immediate Release  
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## **Ohio Lake Erie Commission to Hold December Quarterly Meeting in Columbus**

**SANDUSKY, OH** - The Ohio Lake Erie Commission (OLEC) will hold its quarterly meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 10 a.m. at the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), located at 50 West Town Street in Columbus.

During the OLEC meeting, the progress and status of recent commission of activities will be discussed, including a review of the funded Lake Erie Protection Fund grants.

OLEC members are expected to determine whether the second edition of the document: "Linking Land Use and Ohio's Waters: Best Local Land Use Practices" will be adopted. This report identifies land use practices that support ecological health and economic competitiveness. The updated edition of the document incorporates new findings and research about current best practices and includes examples of where these practices have been adopted by local governments.

The commission will also receive a report on the "Toledo Harbor Sediment Management and Use Plan." This is a joint project for OLEC and the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority to evaluate sustainable practices to manage dredged material from the Toledo Harbor in an economically sound and environmentally acceptable manner.

OLEC oversees Ohio's Lake Erie Protection Fund, which is a 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 or Toledo Harbor Lighthouse designed by Ohio artist Ben Richmond.

All OLEC meetings are open to the public and include reports from the member state agencies and advisory committees followed by a public comment period. Organizations and citizens are encouraged to attend.

OLEC 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 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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