Lake Erie and Aquatic Research Network Annual Meeting, November 12, 2026

Kent State University's Student Center, 1075 Risman Dr, Kent, OH 44242

8:00-9:00 AM	Breakfast Buffet and Networking
9:00-9:30 AM	Welcome and Business Meeting Updates
	Division of Research and Economic Development, Kent State University
	Dr. Justin Chaffin, Research Coordinator, Ohio Sea Grant and Stone Laboratory, The Ohio State University
	Dr. Lauren Kinsman-Costello, Department of Biological Sciences, Environmental Science and Design Research Institute, Kent State University
	Dr. Chris Winslow, Director, Ohio Sea Grant and Stone Laboratory, The Ohio State University
9:30-10:00 AM	Facts in Five: Emerging Issues and Research Gaps
	Zak Slagle, Fisheries Biologist, Ohio Department of Natural Resource's Division of Wildlife
	Dr. Joe Conroy, Wildlife Program Manager, Ohio Department of Natural Resource's Division of Wildlife
	Dr. Chris Winslow, Director of NOAA's Ohio Sea Grant Program
	Bodin Fisher, Water Quality Specialist, Ohio Department of Agriculture
	Hannah Boesinger, Area of Concern Coordinator, Ohio Lake Erie Commission
10:00-10:15 AM	Break

10:15-10:45 AM	Lightning Talks: Science Informing Action *Dr. Ryan Winston, Associate Professor, Department of Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering and Civil, Environmental, and Geodetic Engineering, The Ohio State University* *Dr. Sarah Emery, Director of Center for Great Lakes and Watershed Studies and Ryan Endowed Professor in Biology, Bowling Green State University* *Kylee Wilson, Aquatic Ecology PhD Student, Department of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology at The Ohio State University* *Dr. Christine (Chris) Mayer, Professor of Ecology, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Toledo* *Dr. Tom Bridgeman, Professor of Ecology, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Toledo* *Grace Watson, Aquatic Ecology PhD Student, Department of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology, The Ohio State University*
10:45-12:15 PM	Science Communication Workshop *Dr. Geoffrey Dabelko, Professor, George V. Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service, Ohio University*
12:15-1:30 PM	Lunch, Networking, and Posters
1:30-1:45 PM	Closing Remarks and Q and A - LEARN Meeting Adjourns
2:00-4:00 PM	Join us for a free **Special Presentation on Environmental Science, Policy, and Careers by Dr. Jane Lubchenco** in the Kiva Auditorium at Kent State University's Student Center. The Honorable Dr. Jane Lubchenco is a former NOAA Administrator and Deputy Director for Climate and the Environment in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Catered Reception to follow the Special Presentation. *The special presentation is sponsored by Kent State University's Environmental Science and Design Research Institute.*

Thank you to this year's
Platinum Sponsor

Thank you to this year's meeting sponsors

Gold Sponsors

BGSU Center for Great Lakes and Watershed Studies
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

CLEVELAND WATER ALLIANCE

Sea Grant MICHIGAN

OHIO UNIVERSITY
Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service

Silver Sponsors

FONDRIEST ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

MIAMI UNIVERSITY

MUSKINGUM WATERSHED CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Bronze Sponsors

The Center for Ohio River Research & Education at Thomas More University

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

LEARN Trivia Night kindly sponsored by UToledo's Lake Erie Center.