

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine Week in Review

For the week ending June 9, 2023



Saturday, June 3, 2023

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Director Mary Mertz, and Division of Wildlife Chief Kendra Wecker celebrated Ohio's fantastic inland fishing hot spots at the fourth annual Inland Fish Ohio Day at Acton Lake in Hueston Woods State Park.

"There is excellent fishing in every corner of Ohio," said Governor DeWine. "I encourage Ohioans to get outside and discover one of Ohio's fishing hotspots."



Monday, June 5, 2023

Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted joined Ohio Business Roundtable President and CEO Pat Tiberi to discuss the importance of continued investment in education and scholarships to build the skilled workforce Ohio needs.

"Students who attend Ohio colleges and universities tend to find jobs here after graduation and continue contributing to our economy," said Governor DeWine. "This is why our executive budget includes incentives to make Ohio colleges and universities the most attractive options for Ohio students."

More than 10 years after receiving a bachelor's degree from an Ohio public university, more than 64% of graduates are still living and working in Ohio. Retention is very important to growing our workforce and currently nearly 14,000 high school grads a year go out of state for college.

"We are winning deals and creating jobs faster than we can find people to fill them," said

Lt. Governor Husted. "It is crucial we support efforts that encourage our best and brightest to stay right here in Ohio, so we can continue the economic momentum happening in our state."

Tuesday, June 6, 2023



Lt. Governor Husted spoke with members from the University of Dayton's Statehouse Civic Scholars program. The program offers 12 prospective students the opportunity to intern in highly competitive government jobs. Lt. Governor Husted sat down with these students to speak about his time at the University of Dayton and how that led to his current role as Lt. Governor.

Governor DeWine and First Lady Fran DeWine hosted teens from the After-School All-Stars program at the Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden for a tour and cooking experience with La Soupe.

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

JobsOhio, Ohio's private nonprofit economic development corporation, announced that Area Development honored Ohio with its prestigious Gold Shovel award and two "Project of the Year" awards in recognition of the state's achievements in attracting high-value-added investment projects in 2022.

Area Development's annual Gold and Silver Shovel Awards recognize states for their successes in attracting new businesses and investment projects, creating jobs, and boosting local economies. All 50 states were invited to submit information about their top 10 job creation and investment projects in 2022. JobsOhio submitted projects representing more than \$28.3 billion in investment across six industries.

Ohio took top honors - the Gold Shovel - in the category of states with a population of 10+ million.

"The Gold Shovel award symbolizes Ohio's growing global reputation as a premier hub for innovation," said Governor DeWine. "The extraordinary successes achieved last year are a testament to the spirit of partnership and collaboration between the State of Ohio, JobsOhio, and its six regional network partners. We've welcomed major investments across a variety of industrial sectors that have created new job

opportunities for Ohioans and have reinforced the strength and versatility of our economy."

"Ohio has been able to compete and win huge economic development deals because of our ability to break down barriers for business and establish developable sites for new-build or revitalization projects," said Lt. Governor Husted. "Companies from all over the nation and world are choosing Ohio as a place to grow, which in turn provides high-paying jobs and a brighter future for Ohioans."

Lt. Governor Husted visited Plastilene's new research and development center in Washington Court House to celebrate the opening of their first U.S. operation, bringing 58 jobs to Fayette County.



The project, which is part of Governor



Mike DeWine's H2Ohio initiative, transformed a farm field into 80 acres of wetland. The wetland will filter out the nutrients that cause algal blooms before they flow into the Black River in Medina County.

"Ensuring Ohio's waters are clean and safe is among our top priorities, and the creation of these wetlands plays a huge role in achieving that goal," Gov. DeWine said. "A healthier Black River means a healthier Lake Erie."

Thursday, June 8, 2023

Ohio's annual free fishing days on Saturday and Sunday, June 17-18 will provide all Ohio residents the chance to cast a line at hundreds of public fishing locations without the need for a license, according to the ODNR Division of Wildlife.

"Fishing is a pastime that's meant to be



shared with friends and family," Governor DeWine said. "We encourage everyone to come out and experience the abundant fishing opportunities Ohio has to offer."

For more information, visit ohiodnr.gov.

Friday, June 9, 2023



Governor DeWine and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Director Jack Marchbanks announced funding for dozens of transportation safety projects aimed at preventing two specific types of deadly traffic crashes in Ohio.

A total of \$54 million from ODOT's Highway Safety Improvement Program will go toward traffic safety projects in 30 counties. The projects will specifically reduce the risk of pedestrian-involved crashes and roadway departure accidents, both of which are responsible for increased fatalities in recent years.

"With Ohio's new distracted driving law, we're beginning to see drivers' focus return to the roads, but we must also ensure that the roads themselves are structurally safe as well," said Governor DeWine. "The infrastructure projects we're funding today will be designed to help prevent deadly crashes."



Lt. Governor Husted traveled to Bryan to celebrate the opening of Spangler Candy Company's new Bit-O-Honey production facility at their Grand Opening and "Wrapper-Cutting" event.

East Palestine Update - 06/12/23

(COLUMBUS, Ohio)—The following are updates from the State of Ohio regarding remediation work at the site of the Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio.

NEW: East Palestine Emergency Support Program

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, Lt. Governor Jon Husted, Senator Michael Rulli (R-Salem), and Representative Monica Blasdel (R-Columbiana County) today announced a new emergency support program to assist East Palestine businesses impacted by the February train derailment.

The East Palestine Emergency Support Program will provide 0% interest, forgivable loans to businesses to assist with ongoing expenses and recovery efforts associated with the train derailment. For-profit and nonprofit Ohio businesses located within a two-mile radius of East Palestine that were operational on or prior to Dec. 1, 2022, are eligible to apply for loans ranging from \$10,000 to \$1 million.

"We are building on the commitment we made more than four months ago to support the families of East Palestine," said Governor DeWine. "This program is essential for long-term recovery, giving the businesses impacted by this tragedy more support to recover and thrive."

"Businesses play an important role in our communities, creating jobs and boosting the economy," said Lt. Governor Husted. "This program aims to provide necessary assistance to help East Palestine businesses recover and rebuild so this community can come back stronger."

The East Palestine Emergency Support Program was created in partnership with the Ohio General Assembly with funds from the Controlling Board Emergency Purposes/Contingencies Fund. The Ohio Controlling Board approved the availability of the funding today.

"The announcement of this program is an example of how we have continued to work with the administration to hold Norfolk Southern accountable while providing necessary resources for the East Palestine community," said Representative Blasdel. "The ability to access flexible, zero-interest assistance will help rebuild the village and show that East Palestine is back in business."

"The recovery efforts and ongoing support we have seen in East Palestine are truly remarkable," said Senator Rulli. "I am grateful for the Controlling Board's approval of these critical relief dollars that will help small businesses in my community continue to recover. It is crucial we continue to do all we can to ensure our small businesses have what they need to thrive once a-

gain."

In total, \$5 million will loans will be available. Funds will be eligible for forgiveness if used for payroll, employee benefits, rent or mortgage payments, utility expenses, worker protection gear related to the train derailment, and inventory replacement expenses associated with the train derailment.

The program will be administered by the Ohio Department of Development. Additional details on the program will be available at development.ohio.gov/eastpalestine. For program status updates, subscribe for email updates.

Track Clean Up Progress

The cleanup of the track area including the north ditch is expected to be completed this week, and Norfolk Southern is in the process of rebuilding the second rail line. The Pleasant Drive crossing is being excavated and rebuilt. The road remains closed throughout the week to allow the work to be safely completed. With the completion of the track area, Norfolk Southern is preparing to move into the areas adjacent to

the rail where derailment materials were staged.

Hazardous Waste Removal

According to Ohio EPA, approximately 20.2 million gallons of liquid wastewater have been hauled out of East Palestine in total. There is currently a pile of approximately 11,400 tons of excavated soil waiting for removal from East Palestine, versus 66,300 tons that have been removed.

East Palestine Municipal Drinking Water

Drinking water sampling results from the East Palestine Municipal Water System continue to show no indication of contaminants associated with the derailment. The public water system continues to meet all state and federal standards for safe drinking water. Sentinel and monitoring well sampling also show no indication that chemicals associated with the derailment are moving toward the East Palestine well field.

State of Ohio Updates

For more information and previous updates from the State of Ohio, visit ema.ohio.gov/east-palestine.

EAST PALESTINE - UPDATE



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO