

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine Week in Review

For the week ending August 9, 2024

Monday, August 5, 2024



Ohio Lt. Governor Jon Husted traveled to Trotwood to speak at Westrafo America's ground-breaking ceremony. The Italy-based manufacturer of power and distribution transformers has chosen to open its first plant in North America in Trotwood's new industrial park, creating 250 new jobs and generating \$12 million in payroll.



Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Brian Baldrige announced an additional 500,000 acres of cropland are now enrolled into H2Ohio, bringing the total enrollment to 2.2 million acres statewide.

"Since the very beginning of H2Ohio, farmers have shown that they are dedicated to our mission and that they want to be part of the solution for better water quality," said Governor DeWine. "H2Ohio has been firmly established in northwest Ohio, and so it was important to expand on this progress and offer the program to farmers in the rest of the state."

Tuesday, August 6, 2024



Lt. Governor Husted provided remarks at the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the new \$100 million Rumpke Recycling & Resource Center in Columbus.

The new facility will have the ability to process up to 250,000 tons of recycling materials per year from more than 50 Ohio counties. This \$100 million facility also boasts an education center with interactive exhibits; career and development spaces; offices; and a research center.



Governor DeWine and Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Director Stephen D. Dackin announced the award of \$332,960 in Grow Ohio Grants to support local programs providing agricultural education opportunities for children in 14 communities across the state.

"The programs supported by our Grow Ohio Grants will enrich the lives of children across Ohio," said Governor DeWine. "My wife, Fran, is passionate about teaching young people where their food comes from and how it gets to their plates, and these programs do just that - offering first-hand experience at the rewarding process of growing, harvesting, and preparing fresh food. In many cases, food from these programs is even brought onto the school lunch menu for all students to enjoy."

Grant recipients will offer activities for children that support farm-to-school projects such as outdoor or indoor school gardening, hydroponics, collaboration with local food producers, and food

literacy activities. Many of the awardees plan to incorporate food produced through their programs into school meals.

Additionally, the Grow Ohio Grants aim to create opportunities for students to gain knowledge of potential careers in agriculture and to increase relationships between Ohio food producers and child nutrition program sponsors.

"For some students, these programs will inspire them to take an interest in the agriculture industry and become part of the next generation of Ohioans who will feed our communities," Governor DeWine added. "But all who take part will certainly become more connected to our state's rich agricultural heritage, while learning valuable life skills they can carry with them forever."

Wednesday, August 7, 2024



Lt. Governor Husted provided remarks at the ground-breaking for the installation of the new Continuous Bloom Reheat Furnace at the Metalus Faircrest Steel Plant.

The furnace allows for higher capacity production of special bar-based products used in the production of artillery shells for the Department of Defense. The furnace will help to fulfill increased global demand for artillery shells.



Governor DeWine announced that the Ohio Department of Transportation is now distributing 1.4 million copies of Ohio's new state map highlighting the "Ohio, The Heart of it All" tourism brand.

"Our state map is a gateway to all things Ohio," said Governor DeWine. "Our new map is about more than just our roads; it's a tool we can use to showcase all we have to offer in Ohio the Heart of it All!"

Ohio's new state map, which debuted at the 2024 Ohio State Fair, features the latest road changes, updated routes, and points of interest to help travelers navigate Ohio with ease. Designed for both local residents and tourists, the map provides essential information on highways, byways, and notable destinations.



Governor DeWine, Lt. Governor Husted, and Ohio Department of Development Director Lydia Mihalik announced that more than 1,000 vacant, dilapidated buildings will be demolished to make room for new economic development in nine Ohio counties.

The Ohio Department of Development is awarding \$67.3 million in funding from the Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program to tear down 1,277 blighted structures in Butler, Clinton, Cuyahoga, Hamilton, Logan, Lucas, Muskingum, Preble, and Richland counties.

"These buildings are standing in the way of progress, so it's time to knock them down," said Governor DeWine. "Once these structures are gone, we expect to see new economic development opportunities coming into these neighborhoods."

"These funds will enable our communities to turn forgotten properties into valuable assets that contribute to the modern economy," said Lt. Governor Husted. "This is an investment in the future of Ohio."



Lt. Governor Husted visited the Walsh University Fast Track Learning Lab, which partners with local businesses to train heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) professionals using TechCred.

Thursday, August 8, 2024



As part of Governor DeWine's H2Ohio initiative, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources celebrated the O'Donnell Wetland Restoration and Treatment Train project with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Two wetlands were restored, and five others were enhanced as part of the project. The wetlands will create a treatment train, filtering the water while capturing sediment, phosphorous, and nitrogen from nearby farmland drainage.

"H2Ohio is all about partnership and collaboration to improve our water quality, and this new wetland project is the perfect example of that," said Governor DeWine. "We want people to enjoy the recreational aspects of Delaware Lake, and we are working hand in hand with our agriculture partners who farm nearby and want the same thing."



Lt. Governor Husted visited two communities in Northeast Ohio -- Brook Park and Parma -- that were impacted by severe weather earlier this week. He met with local officials, first responders, and community members to survey the damage in the area.

Friday, August 9, 2024

To supplement the state of Ohio's and Ohio Emergency Management Agency's (Ohio EMA) efforts to assist with the severe storms that impacted Northeast Ohio starting on Tuesday, Governor DeWine issued a proclamation formally di-

recting state agencies to be ready to offer further assistance to local communities should further needs arise.

In the proclamation, Governor DeWine ordered and authorized "all State departments and agencies to be at the ready and to utilize their personnel and resources as necessary to protect the lives, safety, health, and property of the citizens of Ohio, and to assist with recovery efforts in communities impacted by this severe weather event if needed and requested by local authorities."



Governor DeWine announced that Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Director Jack Marchbanks will step down as director on September 30, 2024, and that Pamela Vest Boratyn will be nominated to serve as ODOT director beginning October 1, 2024. Boratyn will need to be confirmed by the Ohio Senate.

"I want to thank Director Marchbanks for his leadership of ODOT since the beginning of my first term as governor," said Governor DeWine. "Jack has shared my vision for increasing safety on Ohio's roads and making sure that our transportation system works efficiently to serve our residents, businesses, and visitors. I am also pleased that Pam Boratyn has agreed to serve as ODOT's new director. Pam has a passion for public service and a wealth of experience in the transportation sector."

Governor DeWine, Lt. Governor Husted, and Ohio Department of Development Director Mihalik announced \$106.9 million in state support to help clean up and redevelop 61 hazardous brown-field sites in 22 counties.

The Ohio Department of Development is awarding the funding through the Ohio Brown-field Remediation Program, which was created by the DeWine-Husted Administration in 2021. This announcement includes approximately \$102.4 million for 35 cleanup/remediation projects and roughly \$4.5 million for 26 assessment projects.

"There is no easy way to clean up the contamination at these sites; they all need expert remediation that's too costly for communities to take on alone," said Governor DeWine. "Through this program, we're helping local communities reclaim hazardous properties so that they can be reimaged and redeveloped."

"These grants will take hazardous properties and turn them into valuable economic assets for residential and commercial development," said Lt. Governor Husted. "I am hopeful these sites will serve to provide new businesses, new jobs, and new homes for the next generation of Ohioans."

