

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER

A PERIODICAL E-NEWSLETTER FOR AND BY ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES STUDENTS AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY



NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

College newsletters give students, faculty, and alumni a peek into what's going on at the university and within a given program. With this newsletter, we seek to advertise internships and professional development opportunities, recognize graduates, promote involvement in student organizations, notify students of changes to the program, and engage current students, alumni, and others outside of the program.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 18th-25th: Global Climate Change Week

October 20th-21st: Sustainable Cleveland Virtual Summit

October 23rd: Kent State Environmental Society Trash Pickup Event

October 24th: Kent State Environmental Society Tree Planting Event

October 26th: Future Environmental Professionals Club Meeting

November 4th: Kent State Environmental Society Meeting

WELCOME TO ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

by: Dr. David Kaplan

I am excited to welcome you to the Environmental Studies program with this first Newsletter. We began planning for a new major in Environmental Studies in the summer of 2014, and our first ENVS students registered in Fall 2017. Since then, we have grown a lot. There are now more than 175 ENVS majors on both the Kent and Stark campuses. We also have nearly 20 students now minoring in ENVS. Every year, more departments offer classes for this major; we are happy to say that the major will reflect these new opportunities in the Fall of 2022. Look for more options in the coming years as we expand opportunities to you and future students. Many of you already know that the hallmark of the Environmental Studies program is interdisciplinarity. We do not make students take most of their courses in a single department. Instead, everyone discovers environmental content in many different places, from Biology and Geology to English and Philosophy. But don't let the flexibility of ENVS fool you, students receive a robust educational experience that prepares them to become professionals in the field. Environmental Studies begins with a natural scientific base and adds the human dimensions of environmental problem-solving. In this way, Environmental Studies differ from Environmental Science or Conservation. It is a social science degree that looks at how humans influence and vice versa. Environmental Studies appeals to students who want to make a difference in the environment by taking on environmental challenges that face every business, agency, and institution; and seek to become stewards of the earth's natural resources. I hope you enjoy reading about the experiences of Environmental Studies students and the opportunities this major has to offer in our new Newsletter series.



KENT STATE
UNIVERSITY

Department of Geography
College of Arts and Sciences

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by: Justin Thompson



**NAACP ENVIRONMENTAL
CLIMATE JUSTICE CHAIR.**



This summer, I worked as the NAACP Environmental Climate Justice Chair for the Ashtabula and Trumbull units. This meant that I worked educational events in both Trumbull and Ashtabula counties as well as coordinated and invited speakers to present to the community. I also participated in several meetings with leaders, experts, and politicians on the local, state, and national levels, as well as, helped with the formation and adoption of a National Resolution to ban fracking. I was accepted into and flown out to Baltimore to participate in the NAACP's National Energy Justice Cohort. I worked with political and environmental leaders and organizations from across the state and country to draft legislation for the State of Ohio regarding hydraulic fracturing and its waste products to improve the process and make it safer for Ohioans. Right now, I am working to identify potential sponsors and cosponsors for the bill within the Ohio Statehouse and meet with them. Next, I will be working to organize a statewide initiative to pass the bill (once introduced) into law.

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by: Anna Berry

This past summer, I interned with the Let's Grow Together Coalition in Kent. I worked at their community garden at Walls Elementary, but I was also able to run their social media accounts and website. This internship can be really flexible for anyone because the work you do at the garden can be done whenever you're available, and they work with you to ensure you're getting the experience you want. My experience included watering and maintaining the garden, running a few volunteer workdays, as well as researching gardening tips for their social media and event promoting.



**LET'S GROW TOGETHER
COALITION IN KENT.**

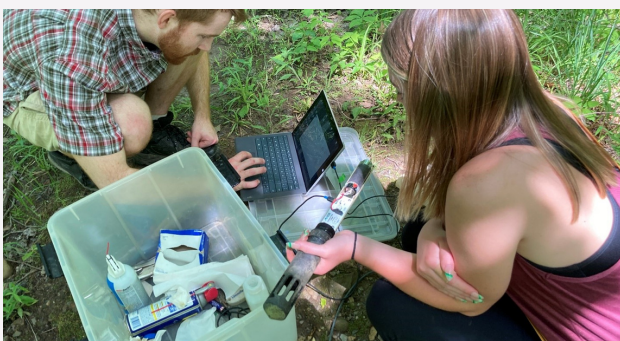


INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by: Courtney Hrubik



**RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN DR.
DAVID COLSTELLO'S LAB**



During my internship under Dr. David Costello, I worked closely with the STORMS project. I helped measure conductivity, temperature, turbidity, and oxygen levels in Mill Creek, West Creek, and Chippewa Creek. We did these measurements because these particular streams run into the Cuyahoga and Lake Erie. People are getting concerned about the water quality in these two places, so we were taking measurements from the source, the streams. Taking these measurements can tell us about the storms and drainage that has happened in the past month(s) and how they have affected these certain aspects of the streams. The data we took is also logged and put into historical data for stream health which can, in the future, aid to the big picture of how humans are negatively affecting hydrology.

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by: Luke Devoll

Spending the summer with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) was an absolutely amazing experience. ODNR offers a wide array of opportunities, but I applied and was selected for the law enforcement position. Although the days were long, they were exceptional. I would spend the summer evenings assisting wildlife officers in boat patrols across the many lakes in North Eastern Ohio. I helped with cadaver searches, DUIs, educational programs, drownings, injuries, and disputes. I got to explore the Ohio wilderness and learn more about how our state is helping preserve our natural resources.

Applications for the 2022 Ohio Department of Natural Resources Summer Internship Program are currently being accepted until December 12th. There are various positions statewide available for students of various science disciplines.

For more information, consult the following link:

[ODNR Intership](#)



ODNR DISTRICT 3



CLUB SPOTLIGHT

by: Justin Thompson

The Future Environmental Professionals Club (FEPC) started as a club for Environmental Studies majors and has grown to include students in other majors as well. This club is for students with a passion for the environment and an interest in networking and developing their professional skills. The FEPC invites environmental professionals to speak about their experiences, career paths, and provide any advice that they may have for our members as students plan for their futures. In addition to the speaker series, each week students learn about professional conferences, events, and opportunities that are relevant to the major. Some members have attended local cleanup events and have gained experience teaching youth about environmental justice, activism, and environmental education more broadly. Meetings are held every other Tuesday at 7:00pm over Zoom. Students interested in joining or attending meetings can join the GroupMe at the following link:

https://web.groupme.com/join_group/64380065/S6zEr4dt



**FEPC MEMBERS AT
2021 HOMECOMING
PARADE**

For more information, please contact:



Dr. David Kaplan

Director of
Environmental Studies
dkaplan@kent.edu



Thomas James Moore

Head Editor
tmoore80@kent.edu



Isabel Jalamov

Head Editor
ijalamov@kent.edu



**You may also visit the official program
website for additional information:**

<https://www.kent.edu/geography/environmental-studies>