

# 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.*

## IMPORTANT DATES

### **December 1st:**

Explore Mexico  
Application Deadline

### **December 12th:**

ODNR Internship  
Application Deadline

### **February 1st:**

Florence Summer  
2022 Program  
Application Deadline

## CLUB SPOTLIGHT

by: Kathryn Burns

Chloe Zebrak, a member of the Kent State Environmental Society, came into this semester looking to make an impact that was environmentally friendly and fostered connection within the local community. The Environmental Society partnered with the Haymaker Farmers' Market and Kent State management facilities to organize a fundraising event to plant trees on campus. Zebrak gathered up friends and club members to create eco-gifts to hand out at the farmers' market in exchange for donations. Eco-gifts, as the team refers to them, are small crafts that are environmentally conscious. Some of the crafts included tote bags made of t-shirts, painted beer bottles, and wine cork art. These eco-gifts were displayed at the Haymaker Farmers' Market, and by the end of the day, the club had raised \$232. Three *Corylus* trees were planted in Kent State's Climate Grove. Located behind the Student Recreation and Wellness Center, the Climate Grove is a place for research and highlights Kent State's commitment to a more suitable future. As for plans for the future, Zebrak mentioned that another project like this would be a lot of fun, and she hopes to do a project on glass recycling. Kent State Environmental Society meets monthly via Zoom, but hosts projects and other events in-person. Next semester, the club is looking to raise awareness about the environment and do more fun projects, such as taking a visit to a local animal sanctuary.

If you are interested in joining the Kent State Environmental Society, check out their engage page! <https://kent.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/kses>





# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by: Molly Thomas

This summer and fall, I have taken on the role of being a Program Coordinator at Camp Christopher. Along with helping run the resident camp program as well as outside groups, I am in charge of the Environmental Education program we offer. Most of my work this summer involved clearing out and cleaning up our Environmental Ed Closet, and revamping the curriculum we have offered in the past. As pictured, the closet itself needed some TLC and it's a very good representation of what the program needed too. Since these updates, I now help run the program.



# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by: Erin Bowman



**LET'S GROW TOGETHER  
COALITION**



While interning for the Let's Grow Together Coalition, I worked with a small group of interns on various projects revolving around the Walls Community Garden at Walls Elementary School. The best thing about this experience was the opportunity to create various signs for the garden, my favorite of which is the StoryBoard sign which is meant to inspire anyone and everyone to stop by the garden to learn about its purpose. I also worked alongside the other interns to maintain the garden which meant lots of weeding, watering, mulching, and harvesting--which was a lot of work but it was so rewarding.



# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by: Isabel Jalamov

In May, I got hired at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife headquarters in Columbus as a Wildlife Education Intern. Since then, I have been fortunate enough to work around the state, learning about Ohio's diverse wildlife hands-on, as well as help instill a sense of fascination and care for wildlife into others while helping lead programs and workshops in schools and other facilities. I was also fortunate enough to have my summer internship extended through my graduation in December, so I will be working out of the division's office in Akron until then.

For more information on ODNR internships and how to apply, consult the following link:  
<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/support-odnr/odnr-intern>



# HAYMAKER FARMERS' MARKET AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

by: Kathryn Burns



On September 21st and October 12th, the Kent State Wellness Program partnered with Haymaker Farmers' Market to bring the market to campus. Despite the rain on both days, vendors and students alike created a lively environment to learn about growing and purchasing food locally. Farmers' markets are a great way to create a stronger connection within communities. Students now have the option to buy food locally, which was not previously accessible for many. Additionally, the Haymaker Farmers' Market accepts Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, making it even more accessible. The initiative to bring the farmers' market to campus is an effort to encourage Kent State Dining to buy locally as well. Andrew Rome, the manager of Haymaker Farmers' Market, said that creating a long-lasting partnership with the university and Haymaker Farmers' Market would be beneficial to students and the local community.

One of the benefits that Andrew had talked about is the reliability of a local food system during times of hardship. The global food system is a long chain that requires transportation, distribution, packaging, processing, and growing. Each step of the food process on a large scale has more chances to fail when there are stressors placed on the system. Shopping locally at a farmers' market can decrease the chances of this happening because a smaller quantity of local goods is easier to manage. "During the COVID-19 pandemic, there were meat shortages, and there are other instances of disease spreading throughout crops causing the food system to suffer," said Rome, "Since we know the farmers here and they are grown on separate fields on a smaller scale, local farmers' markets do not run into this issue." This would also be true in the future when climate change affects the farming and food industry to an extreme extent. Shopping locally also cuts down on carbon pollution with the decreased amount of food miles. When large systems like the global food system decline in efficiency, we can turn to local food producers.

There are two more campus farmers' markets scheduled for the spring semester (March 22nd and April 26th) at the Design Innovation Hub. Aside from on-campus, the Haymaker Farmers' Market is held on Saturdays 9am-1pm on Franklin Avenue under the bridge through November. There is also an indoor season for the farmers market on Saturdays from 10am-1pm at the *United Methodist Church of Kent*. The market happens rain or shine. On a rainy day, there were still be at least 22 vendors and 450 patrons. This tight-knit community truly showed up for each other at the Haymaker Farmers' Market. More information on vendors and other similar events can be found on their website:

<http://www.haymakermarket.com>



# CLASS SPOTLIGHT

by: Dr. Christopher Post

Explore Mexico over Spring Break 2022! This class curriculum entails sustainable gardening for poverty reduction, culture preservation, and economic inclusion. The application deadline is December 1st. The pre-trip class sessions will run in March and the first two weeks or so of April, then another post-trip session will occur after the trip.



**GLOBAL INITIATIVES**  
**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY** | STARK

## Explore MEXICO

  
**THE COURSE**  
Learn how displaced communities use Urban Gardening as a source of economic, inclusion, cultural preservation, and Indigenous farming.

  
**CLASS & TRIP**  
3 Credit hours

  
**TOTAL COST**  
\$1,700 +  
Guaranteed scholarship

  
**Sustainable Gardening for poverty reduction, Culture preservation, Economic Inclusion**

**Interested?**  
Please contact Sarah Schmidt  
([sschmi16@kent.edu](mailto:sschmi16@kent.edu))  
for more information

**Application deadline:**  
December 1ST

# CLASS SPOTLIGHT

by: Dr. Scott Sheridan

## Climate Change and Life

The interaction between humans and their environment is central to geography, especially in an era of urbanization, demographic changes, and climate change. Attention to this interaction has become widespread. Both extreme weather events and background climate shifts can have substantial roles in human systems, including health, the economy, and the built environment. In this course, students will explore these connections on a global level, as well as within Italy and the Florence Region. The application deadline for the Summer 2022 Florence Program is February 1st.

Sound interesting? Contact Dr. Scott Sheridan at [ssheridl@kent.edu](mailto:ssheridl@kent.edu) for more information.





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

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