



ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES NEWSLETTER

FOR AND BY ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES STUDENTS AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY



NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

The weather is beginning to change, midterms are shortly ahead, and now that we're all settled into the fall semester it's time for the first issue of the new school year! This issue includes an internship spotlight from Joseph Bartholomew in the Superior National Forest, a faculty spotlight with the Director of Exhibitions & Collections (who is also an organic dairy farmer!), information on October's Campus Sustainability Month, and when and where to see peak fall colors.

Andrew and I are excited for our new roles as editors and for what we can do in the newsletter this year! You can find the newsletter, including all past issues, on the geography department's website:

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

-Miles Powell, Co-Editor-in-Chief



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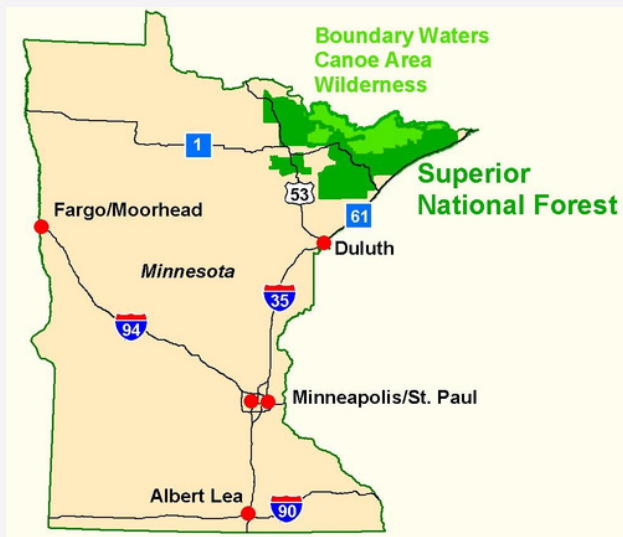
"IN THEIR OWN WORDS..."

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT: JOSEPH BARTHOLOMEW



by: Joseph Bartholomew

Hello! My name is Joseph Bartholomew and I am a second year Environmental Studies student. This past summer I interned with the **U.S. Forest Service** up in Grand Marais, Minnesota. I was stationed in the Gunflint Ranger District for the Superior National Forest. Minnesota is known as the land of 10,000 lakes and it is no joke. The Superior National Forest is home to the protected wilderness area known as the Boundary Water Canoe Area Wilderness where people can canoe between thousands of pristine lakes. My job up there was to issue permits for the BWCAW and ensure that visitors knew the rules and regulations. I was also given the opportunity to get out of the office frequently on day trips with other departments including botany, forestry, and recreation. During the summer I also led a tour every Tuesday of a local lumber mill. I had an amazing experience and can confidently say it was the best summer of my life.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: ANDERSON TURNER

by: Sav Herald

Anderson Turner is the Director of Exhibitions and Collections for the School of Art at Kent State. He now lives in Akron with his partner, son, and their “extremely large and stressed-out” German Shepherd. He also started an organic dairy farm here in Portage county.

Turner grew up fully immersed in the arts and knew from an early age that he wanted to be involved in the art world. His mother’s professional career in art education exposed him to the thriving art scenes in New York City and Chicago and allowed him to explore the potential of having a career in the arts. Being artistically inclined, Turner pursued a bachelor’s degree in fine arts, specializing in sculpture. Based on interactions he had while working with artists in the past (namely Harmony Hammond), he realized early on that art is inherently entrepreneurial.

During his undergraduate studies, Turner lived an intensely creative entrepreneurial life that included jobs like sculpting, construction, lighting and prop making for theatrical sets as well as making master molds for a ceramist, all the while creating and showing his original works of art. Around this same time, he started to have thoughts about owning a farm one day. Shortly after graduating, Turner became the assistant editor of one of the largest art magazines at the time, *Ceramics Monthly*. **This is where the story of an artist converges with the story of an organic dairy farmer.**

Turner eventually pursued a masters in fine arts at Kent State University, graduated, accepted a position as assistant director for the School of Art, taught a plethora of courses, and ultimately became the first full-time director of Exhibitions & Collections for the Kent State University School of Art.



After establishing financial security, Turner decided it was time to pursue his endeavors regarding organic farming. He bought a small 14-acre farm in Hiram Township that had not been used since the 1950s and dedicated himself to running it organically. In fact, he was the only small organic farmer in the area and was surrounded by corporate farms. 10-acres of this land was dedicated to pasture for feeding his animals while the rest of the land was dedicated to housing the animals and growing food for his family. Anderson owned and operated the farm for 20 years with a particular focus on animal husbandry and making dairy products from goats. Beyond goats, he also had hogs, cows and an alpaca. A large portion of the organic aspect of his work was “letting the animals live as animals” while balancing production from the animals.





In order to work in the organic dairy business, Turner had to get in contact with the EPA and the Ohio Department of Agriculture to obtain 11 different certifications. These certifications ranged from transportation to growing crops, and even to cheese making.

When asked what the biggest advantage associated with farming organically was, Turner said that it was peace of mind in knowing that his animals were being taken care of properly, his products were of high quality and that his practices better aligned with a more sustainable existence on Earth. He took immense pleasure in being able to walk around his farm and eat anything right off the plant. Eventually the demand for products increased and Turner was able to scale up production, leading to the distribution of his products to over 100 restaurants in Ohio, various farmer's markets and even grocery stores regionally.



Turner reminisced on some of the more challenging aspects of farming and animal husbandry; including the unpredictability of taking care of living organisms, strains on relationships and finances, working long hours, and keeping the passion alive. He described working with the animals as, “sort of traumatizing” because just like humans, animals get sick and can be dependent on others to nurse them back to good health. He described most of the responsibilities on the farm as very dirty work, and often unpredictable on a day-to-day basis.



For 20 years, Anderson Turner lived, breathed, and embodied what it meant to be a farmer and an artist. He lived on his farm, maintained his land, raised and took care of his animals, all the while balancing his work life of an art director at a university. He describes the similarities in farming and making art in terms of the act of creating itself, "This act of making, not knowing if people are going to like it, keeping the passion alive, and then putting it out into the world are both things you do in organic farming and art making." There is a similarly low level of predictability when making art as well as making dairy products.

As someone who has experienced great success with his entrepreneurial endeavors, Turner asserts that, "Most successful people don't do one thing. Most successful people do five or six things, working more than 40 hours a week.. and that can be traumatizing." But in the end, Turner highlights the importance of passion, and how the passion to make drives most aspects of his life and the level of success he has been able to achieve for himself. He's a great example of what drive, passion and hard work can do for a person, and how far it can take you in the face of uncertainty and the random nature of existing as a human on this planet we call home.

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OCTOBER IS CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY MONTH

Every October, Kent State takes part in Campus Sustainability Month, an annual event hosted by **the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)**. During the month of October, institutions around the world work with students and other campus stakeholders to improve sustainability on campus. Here are some of the events put on for Campus Sustainability Month this year at Kent State and around the world.

October 2-27: 11th Annual Bra Recycling Drive

Kent State's Office of Sustainability, Women's Center, and Human Resources Employee Wellness and Health Promotion are collecting reusable or worn-out bras to help reduce the number of textiles in landfills. Donations that are in good condition will be sent to the Phyllis Zumkehr County Clothing Center and all others will be recycled. Donations can be dropped off in several locations around campus, listed here: <https://www.kent.edu/sustainability/bra-recycling-drive>

October 6-8: Kent State Virtual Solar Tour

Kent State will be a part of the American Solar Energy Society's National Solar Tour and part of the ASES local "Kent State University Virtual Solar Tour" and the "Ohio Wish You Were Here" tour. Kent State has several solar panel arrays both in Kent and at regional campuses, and you can read more about them and the National Solar Tour at <https://www.kent.edu/sustainability/national-solar-tour>



OCTOBER IS CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY MONTH

October 17: Farmers' Market at the Student Recreation and Wellness Center

In partnership with the Haymaker Farmers' Market, the Kent State Farmers' Market Continues returns in October. The farmers' market will be located in the parking lot of the SRWC instead of its usual location on the student green or in the DI Hub.

Additionally, October 4th is energy efficiency day, October 8th-16th is the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Earth Science Week, October 16th is World Food Day, and October 16th-20th is Global Climate Change Week. Finally, AASHE has their annual conference October 29th-31st in Boston, Massachusetts.

You can find out more about these events and more at the Office of Sustainability's website:

<https://www.kent.edu/sustainability/campus-sustainability-month>



The Association for the Advancement
of Sustainability in Higher Education



PEAK FALL COLORS IN NORTHEAST OHIO

by: Miles Powell

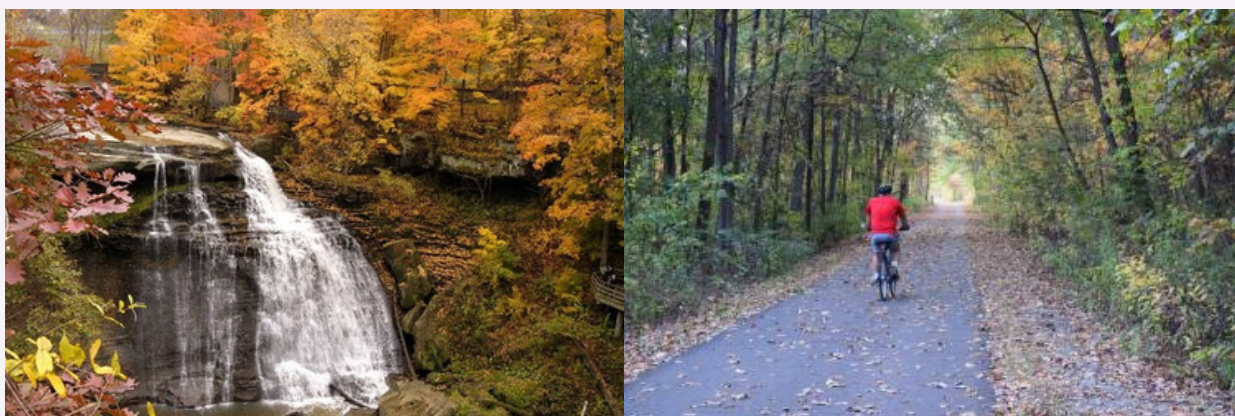
Fall began at the end of September and as the weather starts to cool down, I'm thinking about one thing: the fall colors. I love the bright reds, oranges and yellows of the fall foliage. According to Cleveland.com, fall colors are expected to peak in Northern Ohio during the week of October 16 (though recent weather may move the peak earlier), and there are plenty of places to enjoy the colors near Kent. Here are just a few ideas for fall outings to see the seasons change.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

You can't write about natural spaces in Northeast Ohio without mentioning the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The only national park in Ohio, Cuyahoga Valley National Park was established in 2000 and lies just north of Akron. About a 30 minute drive from Kent (depending on where in the 51 square mile park you go) it's perfect for a day or even just afternoon trip. There are so many places worth checking out in the park, but one I constantly see recommended online is Brandywine Falls. I've been there myself, though in the summer, so I'm looking forward to seeing it in more color soon.

Portage Park District

We have our own park system right here in Portage County. The Portage Park District has several parks, but perhaps the closest is Towner's Woods. You'll find the park just a 7 minute drive up primarily Lake Street, and it includes trails through the woods and along Lake Pippen. With how close this one is to campus, it's very easy to make a visit, even during the week.



Cleveland Metro Parks

The Cleveland Metro Parks are another great place to visit. There are once again many options here (which you can find details about online) but one that always catches my eye is Tinker's Creek Gorge. There's a few overlooks there that have absolutely stunning views and are great year round, not to mention when the forest below is shaded in reds and oranges.

Hocking Hills State Park

If you're willing to drive a bit, Hocking Hills is worth the trip. I had always heard about this one given where I'm from in Columbus, and it's a stunning park. I see friends taking trips there every summer. What stands out about it compared to other parks are the caves and overhangs. It ends up being about 3 hours away from Kent, and lies in southern Ohio, meaning if you're trying to see peak fall colors you should go later in October. Distance aside, Hocking Hills is known nationally and worth a trip from just about anyone in Ohio, especially if you have friends or family living closer to the park that you can visit.



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

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

