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Nominations Being Accepted to Honor Lake Erie Advocates

OLEC accepting nominations through July 16

TOLEDO, OH – The Ohio Lake Erie Commission is accepting nominations for the 2009 Ohio Lake Erie Award, which will recognize individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to enhance Ohio's Great Lake.

OLEC annually honors one person and one organization that have worked to protect and restore Lake Erie and its watershed. Nominating a person or organization for the award shows special appreciation for those who work to improve the lake's watershed and support the goals of the Lake Erie Protection & Restoration Plan.

Nomination forms for this year's awards are available by calling 419-245-2514. They are also available online at <http://lakeerie.ohio.gov>

All nominees must comply with established awards criteria. Elected officials and state employees are not eligible. A nomination should represent efforts in Ohio performed by Ohioans.

Nomination forms must be completed and returned to the Ohio Lake Erie Commission offices by 5 p.m. on July 16. Winners will be announced at the Commission's annual meeting on September 23 at the University of Toledo's Lake Erie Center.

The Ohio Lake Erie Commission was established for the purpose of preserving Lake Erie's natural resources, protecting the quality of its waters and ecosystem, and promoting economic development in the region. The director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources serves as the commission's chairman. Additional members include the directors of the state departments of Transportation, Health, Development, Agriculture and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

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