

NEWS RELEASE

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LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIM MARCH 21-27, 2022 “NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL WEEK” IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO

PAINESVILLE, OH, March 24, 2022 – Lake County Farm Bureau volunteers recently visited with the Lake County Commissioners to promote agriculture in celebration of National Agriculture Day and National Agriculture Week where the Lake County Commissioners issued a proclamation in honor of National Agriculture Week. The proclamation states “American agriculture is the foundation of our country. It’s the backbone of a healthy and prosperous nation, made possible by the hard work of America’s farms and farm families.

“As a grassroots organization that is committed to supporting our farm and food community, it is critical that we [Farm Bureau] build awareness and understanding of American agriculture. The Commissioner’s proclamation recognizing the importance of agriculture in the county is very much appreciated,” says Mandy Orahood, organization director. “Agriculture plays a vital role in each and every person's daily lives, and Farm Bureau is proud to be a part of engaging and educating others about where their food, fiber, and fuel comes from.”

The USDA conducts a census of agriculture every five years in order to determine the status of agriculture on a national, statewide, and county wide level. The last census of agriculture was completed in 2017, and provides the most recent insights available about the status of agriculture in our county. Some of the highlights from the 2017 census include:

- There are 214 farms in Lake County, which together comprise 13,098 acres
- 50 is the average age of a Lake County farmer
- 61 acres is the average size of a farm in Lake County
- Lake County is ranked second in the State of Ohio and 40th in the Country for nursery, greenhouse, floriculture and sod items sold
- Per farm average, the market value of products sold by farms in Lake County is \$344,364 per year
- 20% of farms in Lake County sell directly to consumers
- 93% of farms in Lake County are family-owned farms. The State of Ohio ranked 15th of all States in agriculture receipts

The National Agriculture Day program encourages every American to understand how food and fiber products are produced, appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products, value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy, and to consider career opportunities in the agriculture, food and fiber industry.

"As this week marks National Agriculture Week across the nation," said Commission President John Hamercheck, "the Commissioners join the Lake County Farm Bureau in celebrating the County's second rank position in the State of Ohio in nursery, greenhouse, and floriculture production."

"Today is an important day, not only to farmers, but to all Lake Countians," said Commissioner Ron Young. "Agriculture remains a direct part of daily life for many of our citizens, but it also plays an essential role in all our lives. The people in our agriculture community work to feed and provide for the world, and I am proud to proclaim today as Agriculture Day in Lake County."

"Agriculture plays a key role in Ohio and Lake County's strong economy and economic development and I am proud to do my part in ensuring agriculture thrives for the next generation," said Commissioner John Plecnik.

To learn more and register for events please visit agday.org.

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