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**Ohio EPA Awards \$46,585 Environmental Education Grant to
Butler County Organization**

Ohio EPA awarded a \$46,585 environmental education grant to The Ohio State University Extension Office, Butler County, for a “Youth Scientists; Creating Environmental Stewards” project for students statewide. Ten grants were awarded statewide for almost \$340,000.

The grant will provide eight workshops, and include curriculum kits and a website to introduce 200 high school teachers to new curriculum on the emerald ash borer, an invasive insect attacking five different species of trees in Ohio and threatening the habitat of 44 arthropods that rely on these trees for survival. At least 3,000 students will learn about the health of Ohio forests and urban trees using hands-on scientific research methods. Project Learning Tree-Ohio and the U.S. Forest Service are collaborating.

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund is administered by Ohio EPA. Grants up to \$50,000 are funded from one-half of the civil penalties collected by the Agency for air and water pollution control violations. Eligible grant recipients include environmental groups, public and private schools, colleges and universities, trade or professional organizations, businesses and state and local governments. Approximately \$1 million is given each year.

The next OEEF application deadline is Jan. 17, 2012. An electronic letter of intent to apply is due on Jan. 10. For additional information, contact the Ohio Environmental Education Fund at (614) 644-2873 or visit www.epa.ohio.gov/oeef/.

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