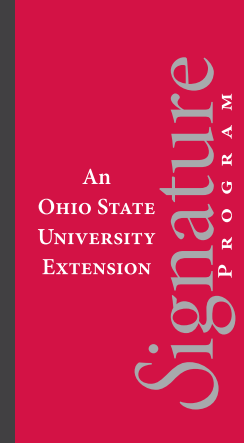




## Impacting Ohio Communities

“The research, expertise, and resources available through OSU Extension have been very advantageous to us, especially in a sector so new as wind energy. Nancy [Bowen-Ellzey] also came with me to the statehouse to testify on behalf of SB 232, whose approval allowed us to create an alternative energy zone in the county; without it, I don’t think we could have enticed these energy folks.”

—Clair Dudgeon, Van Wert County Commissioner



# Energize Ohio

## Building Ohio’s Energy Future

### Our Mission

Engage communities to enhance sustainability through educational programming addressing the social, economic, and environmental impacts of energy development.

### Our Objective

Through non-biased education and research, Energize Ohio will develop community capacity to improve the knowledge and awareness needed to make informed decisions about energy development and sustainability.

### Please contact us for more information:

(740) 725-6317 or [energizeohio.osu.edu](http://energizeohio.osu.edu)

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Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration; Associate Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences; Director, Ohio State University Extension; and Gist Chair in Extension Education and Leadership.

For Deaf and Hard of Hearing, please contact Ohio State University Extension using your preferred communication (e-mail, relay services, or video relay services). Phone 1-800-750-0750 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST Monday through Friday. Inform the operator to dial 614-292-6181.



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## Energy: A Critical Issue in Ohio

Due to their abundance of natural resources and extensive open spaces, rural Ohio communities are positioned to play a central role in future energy development. However, energy development presents both opportunities and challenges to the impacted communities. Energize Ohio, an Ohio State University Extension signature program, provides non-biased, research-based information to address critical energy issues impacting Ohioans.

## Energize Ohio

Energize Ohio is a multidisciplinary program that addresses a wide range of energy education needs including youth education, energy policy, landowner leasing, and sustainable community planning. The curriculum consists of worksheets, presentation materials, workshop materials, bulletins, fact sheets, marketing templates, and evaluation tools.

Energize Ohio focuses primarily on these initiatives:

### Youth Energy Education

This initiative provides STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education to 4-H members. Youth are provided a real-life case study centered on locating, producing, and using oil and gas to power a fictional town. Learners use the engineering design model to test ideas and solve problems at each step along the way.

### Large-Scale Renewable Energy Development

This initiative is designed to progressively expand participants' understanding of community-scale renewable energy development. Starting with a comprehensive introduction to energy policy and renewable energy technologies, the curriculum advances participants' knowledge of the balance between the social, economic, and environmental impacts of renewable energy development.

### Shale Energy Development

With a specific focus on shale development, leasing, taxation, pipelines, and community issues, the OSU Extension Shale Education Program serves to educate landowners and communities about the development of Ohio's shale resources.

## Program Impacts and Outcomes

The ultimate goal of Energize Ohio is to enhance community leaders' and local residents' knowledge of energy drivers and development in order to promote informed decision-making and best practices.

Here are some additional anticipated program outcomes:

### Short-Term

- Increased knowledge and understanding of energy development options and their benefits and challenges
- Increased knowledge and confidence in decision-making and planning abilities

### Intermediate

- More informed and effective decision-making by local leaders
- Development and implementation of sustainable community energy plans
- Increased resources that are leveraged

### Long-Term

- Creation of sustainable renewable energy opportunities
- Increased wealth and income for local communities and residents
- Development of a local culture that supports sustainable energy development

