

Press release

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Lake Erie Foundation issues response to forecasted HAB



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In response to the official Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB) forecast issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Lake Erie Foundation is committed to working with leaders from the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Ohio Farm Bureau, key scientists and other stakeholders to formulate and implement practices to reduce the amount of phosphorus runoff in Lake Erie 40% by 2025. Phosphorus is a key cause of algal blooms, which can make water harmful to human consumption and effects tourism and other industry segments.

“We are not surprised by the HAB forecast for the remainder of the summer, and we continue to be concerned with the impact that this HAB forecast combined with the high-water levels will have on the businesses and individuals around Lake Erie,” said **Jim Stouffer, Lake Erie Foundation President**.

With the commitment from both the agriculture community and key stakeholders to make significant changes, and our continued focus and aggressive ideas, Lake Erie Foundation is dedicated to advocating for implementation of practices to improve the water quality.

The leadership that Ohio Governor Mike DeWine has demonstrated in prioritizing meaningful improvements of Ohio waterways and Lake Erie with the H2Ohio initiative is encouraging, and Lake Erie Foundation continues to believe that there can be clean water and profitable farming.

“We are hopeful that the Ohio General Assembly will pass Gov. DeWine’s H2Ohio Initiative, so resources can be allocated to not only resolve the HAB issue but to sustain and protect Lake Erie,” added **Matt Fisher, Lake Erie Foundation Vice President**.

About Lake Erie Foundation

The Lake Erie Foundation (LEF) is a 501(c)(3) organization established in 2016 to sustain and protect the waters of Lake Erie now and in the future. LEF is Lake Erie’s advocate for economic sustainability, legal defense, education, outreach and innovative sustainable technology.

For more information about our organization, please visit lakeeriefoundation.org.