



Plant Operations & Maintenance (POM)
Schuttera Service Center
1760 University Drive
Mansfield, OH 44906



Date: December 2013

To: AASHE STARS

From: Brian White, Superintendent Plant Operations & Maintenance
The Ohio State University at Mansfield and North Central State College

Re: Mansfield Campus Terrestrial Campus

The Ohio State University at Mansfield (Ohio State Mansfield) is centered on 640 acres of forested landscape in north-central Ohio. Uniquely recognized as one of the largest of un-fragmented forests remaining in the state, Ohio State Mansfield has aggressively pursued its responsibility as a land grant Institution and environmental stewards for the citizens of Ohio. The co-located institutions The Ohio State University at Mansfield and North Central State College comprise the Mansfield Campus.

The diverse natural surroundings of the Mansfield Campus have provided opportunity to conduct extensive woodland and aquatic delineations through Capstone students of the OSU College of Food, Agriculture & Environmental Sciences School of Environmental and Natural Resources. The Capstone curriculum served to establish an annual program providing a remote on-campus living and learning opportunity for students. The development of a Campus Forest Management Plan is a direct practical result of this effort. The Mansfield Campus worked closely over the past year with the Ohio State University Extension Service to bring the Ohio Woodland Stewards Program and the Extension Services broad woodlands education and outreach programming to the campus. The central location of the Mansfield Campus provides easy access to the 88 county Extension Offices and the public, and is uniquely capable of providing classroom and meeting space just steps away from the surrounding woodlands. Offerings this first year include extensive woodlands and wildlife specific identification and management programs.

The Ohio Woodland Stewards Program introduced its Tree School program in May 2013. Tree School featured 20 different educational sessions on a variety of tree-related topics - tree planting, the top landscape trees, woodland fungi, attracting wildlife to your woodland and backyard, tree ID, invasive species management, and more. Six new research projects have begun, with particular interest in managing woodlands and Ohio non-native invasive species management.

The unique nature of the woodlands environment and significant engagement in just the first year has advanced the notion of the Mansfield Campus Terrestrial Campus for study and research. Modeled after The Ohio State University's Lake Erie Stone Lab aquatic study and research center, the Mansfield

Campus is moving forward with plans for developing a Terrestrial Lab for woodlands and natural resources study and research.

The locale of the Mansfield Campus Terrestrial Campus provides a unique opportunity to blend environmental, academic, economic and community activities, and promote a sustainable mindset to the Mansfield community.

Sincerely,

The Ohio State University at Mansfield