

2015 Conservation Educator of the Year



Michelle Bogue
Environmental Science
Teacher

**Sylvania Northview
High School**

Michelle Bogue was born in Toledo, and then traveled with her family to several locations across America before coming “home” to Northwest Ohio to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from the University of Toledo. She went on to complete the Ohio Teacher Licensure Program with graduate work at the Ohio State University.

Michelle has been teaching for 21 years. She started her education career at the Toledo Public Schools in the Floriculture /Greenhouse Management Program of the now Natural Science Technology Center. Currently Michelle is the Environmental Science teacher at Sylvania Northview High School. While at Northview, Michelle has been working with students on:

- running the school’s recycling program at Northview – started with paper then added bottles with the help of Keep Toledo Lucas County Beautiful (KTLCB).
- collection of data from the Tenmile Creek and being a part of the Toledo Metropolitan Council of Government’s (TMACOG) NW Ohio Student Watershed Watch Program for 18 years.
- mentoring teams of students to participate in the OFSWCD’s Area 1 Envirothon each year.
- helping students prepare research projects and attend the District and State Science Fair competitions .for the past 8 years.

Additionally, Michelle has been working with the Green Ribbon Initiative giving input for lesson plans about the Oak Openings Region. For the past 7 years, Michelle has been working with The University of Toledo & National Science Foundation in a Land Lake Ecology collaboration, bringing Graduate Fellows into the class room to work with high school students on research and ecology issues of the area.

Michelle has often invited the Lucas SWCD to her classroom for presentations about Groundwater, Shades of Green, Enviroscape and Trees Are Terrific. It is very evident Michelle cares that her students not only understand environmental issues, but that they also have the skills to apply these principles to decision making in their daily lives. The Lucas SWCD is grateful for Michelle Bogue’s dedication to conservation.

~ *Congratulations on a job well done!* ~

2015 Guest Speaker:

Patrice Powers-Barker
Lucas County OSU Extension Educator
Family & Consumer Sciences

In 1917, the first Agricultural Agent in Lucas County, Ray Donnan, described his work: “The first problem presented to me was to rouse the county for an increased production of food”. Who knew Donnan’s work would top our current food trends? Last year, the *Midwestern Food Movement* made the National Restaurant Association list and this year *composting* and “*hyper-local*” were listed as trends to watch. Patrice Powers-Barker, MA, CFLE, will talk about some of the challenges with our current food system and highlight some work being done in NW Ohio to promote & strengthen our local food system.



Patrice enjoys working as an Extension Educator in Family and Consumer Sciences in Lucas County to help others grow and enjoy fresh produce. The topic of Local Foods lends itself well to empowering families to learn about food and resources in their community as well as to make family goals to prepare and eat more meals together. As the granddaughter of farmers and daughter of teachers, her experience includes working at a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) on a family-owned organic farm, volunteering with her two oldest daughters at urban community gardens and growing a backyard square-foot garden with her husband and son.