ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

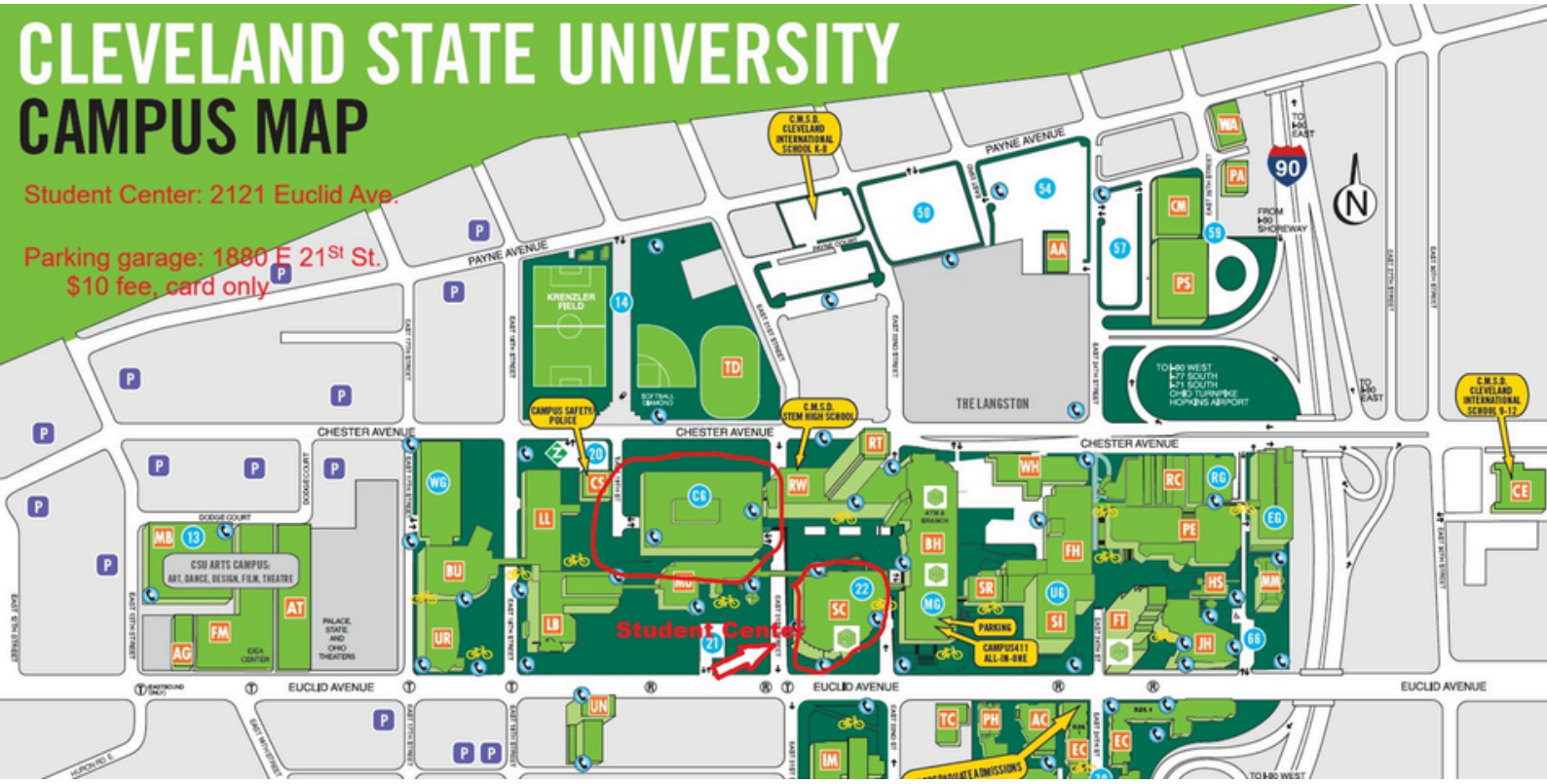
Great Lakes Ecology: Where Everything Meets

GREAT LAKES 2026



CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

CLEVELAND, OHIO



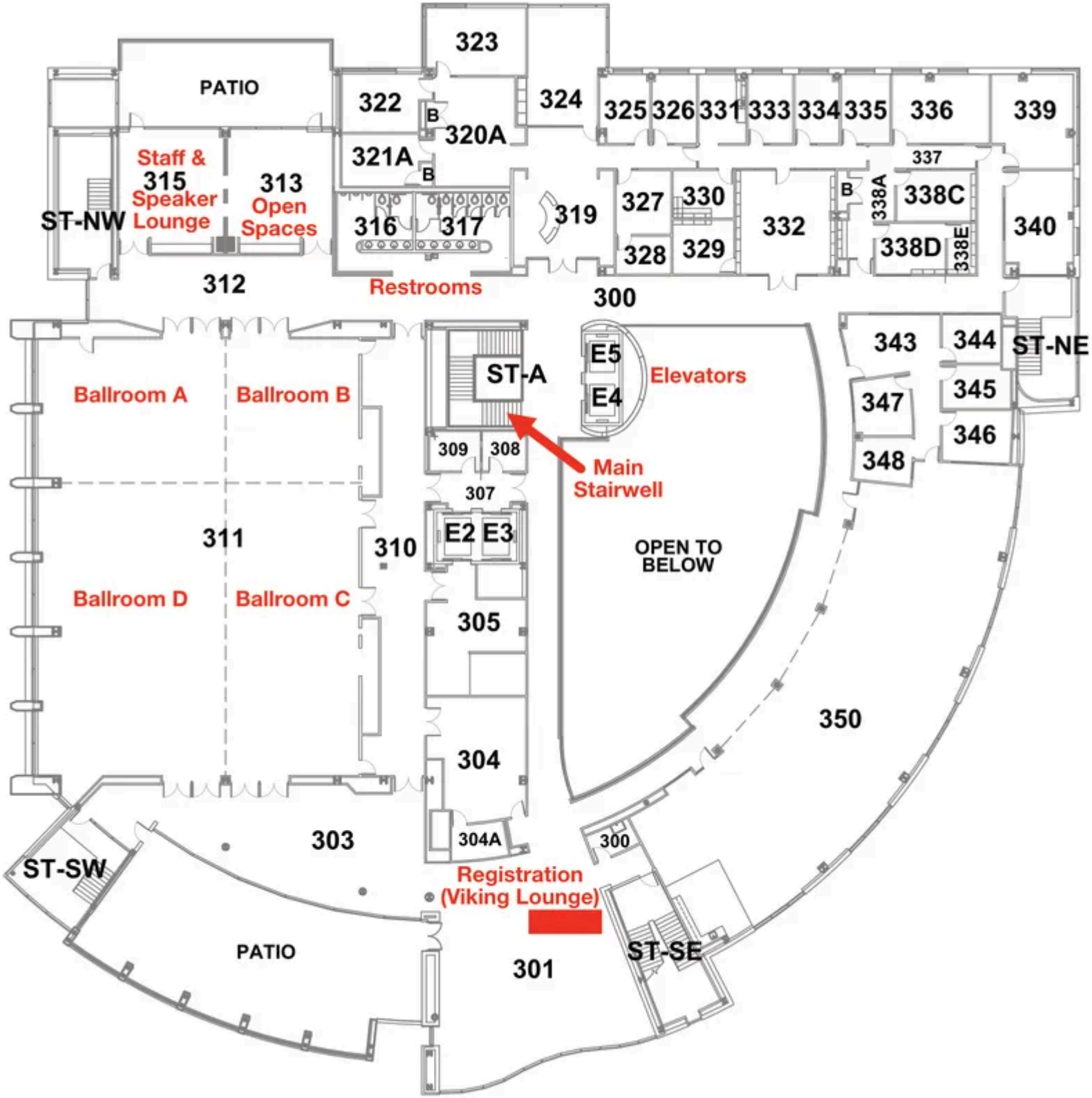
Arrival & Parking

Please park in the garage located at 1880 E 21st St. The cost is $10, credit card only.

There is a walkway from the top level of the garage to the plaza at the rear of the student center, so that is the shortest route to enter. Using the main entrance at the front on Euclid Ave is also perfectly fine

The event will be held at the CSU Student Center at 2121 Euclid Ave. Take the elevators to the 3rd floor and look for signs directing you to the ballroom.

FLOOR PLAN


323
PATIO
322
B
320A
324
325 326 331 333 334 335 336 339
321A
B
337
Staff &
315
Speaker
Lounge
313
Open
Spaces
ST-NW
316
317
319
327
330
332
B
338A
338C
340
328
329
338D
338E
312
Restrooms
300
343
344
ST-NE
ST-A
E5
E4
Elevators
Ballroom A
Ballroom B
347
345
346
348
309
308
Main
Stairwell
307
311
310
E2 E3
OPEN TO
BELOW
Ballroom D
Ballroom C
305
350
304
303
304A
300
ST-SW
Registration
(Viking Lounge)
PATIO
301
ST-SE

2026 Ecological Society of America Great Lakes Meeting Schedule

Friday

Time	Event type	Location
5:30-9:30pm	No host social	Masthead Brewing Co. 1261 Superior Ave., Cleveland

Saturday

Time	Event type	Viking Lounge (301)	Ballroom A		Ballroom B		SC313		SC315		Ballroom C	Ballroom D
			Speaker	Topic	Speaker	Topic	Speaker	Topic	Speaker	Topic	Speaker Topic	Speaker Topic
8:00-9:30am	Breakfast	Continental Breakfast					Chapter meeting					
9:30-10:30am	Keynote speech											Dr. Albert E. Fulton II
10:30-10:45am	Break	Break	*OS1*		*OS2*		*OS3*		*OS4*			
10:45am-12:00pm	Oral session I		Bol Anyomi Emel Tripathi	Conservation Science	Relyea Byer Medina-Báez Ryan Sylvain	Behavioral Ecology	Jaros Ameh Liebrecht Muller Urban	EcoEco & Physiology	Durden Gargasz Cramer Hansel Carrino-Kyker	Community Ecology		
12:00-2:00pm	Lunch	Lunch Box										
12:30-1:45pm	Workshops				Workshop I: Intro to GIS		Workshop II: Data science by design: How to put data science into your undergraduate science courses		Workshop III: Teaching Ecology Effectively with the 4DEE framework			Workshop IV: Thriving in Today's Science: Dynamic Careers in Ecology
1:45-2:00pm	Break	Break	*OS5*		*OS6*		*OS7*		*OS8*			
2:00-3:30pm	Oral session II		Herbruck Yoder Gschwentner Vuksanaj Williams	Aquatic Ecology	Brooks Tran Ahmad Lin Stamp Eysenbach	Environmental Impacts and Disturbance	Garris Cousins Cahill Lanterman Novotny Hausman Hoven	Invasion Ecology	Pourabedini Rivera Joniak Rush Mohl Bashian-Victoroff	Ecosystems		
3:30-3:45pm	Break	Break										
3:45-4:30pm	Poster session I										Poster session I	
4:30-5:15pm	Poster Session II										Poster Session II	
5:30-8:30pm	No Host Social & Awards	Viking Public House, 2300 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH										

Sunday

Time	Event type	Location
9:30am-12pm	Field trip A	The Holden Arboretum Research Tour, 9550 Sperry Road, Kirtland, OH
9:30am-12pm	Field trip B	Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve Birding Hike, 8365 Harbor Dr, Mentor, OH

List of speakers and presenters

ORAL SESSION 1: CONSERVATION SCIENCE		
Annaliese	Bol	Effect of Heat Wave and Geographic Origin on Ovary Development in *Osmia lignaria*
Kenneth	Anyomi	From Uprooting to Renewal: How Tip-Up Mounds Create Contrasting Regeneration Niches in a Deer-Browsed Carolinian Forest
Sarah	Emel	Application of genetic tools to study lagomorph ecology and conservation in Pennsylvania
Ravindra	Tripathi	Algorithms above the grasslands: AI-Assisted monitoring with low-cost UAV systems
ORAL SESSION 2: BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY		
Isabelle	Relyea	Orthocladiinae Midges Colonize and Settle on Introduced Cladophorales Mats in Lake Mývatn, Iceland
Osmary	Medina-Báez	Experimental increases in temperature mean and variance alter reproductive behaviors and offspring fitness in two native dung beetles
Zachary	Sylvain	Habitat use and other insights from an urban population of the eastern box turtle (*Terrapene carolina carolina*)
Nathan	Byer	Seasonal and methodological variation in weasel diel patterns across an urban park system
Sidney	Ryan	Social decisions under pathogen risk: How stickleback respond to immune-activated neighbors
ORAL SESSION 3: EcoEvo & PHYSIOLOGY		
Joey	Jaros	Changes to Soil Microbial Communities Reduce Invasive Plant Success with Increased Time Since Invasion
Gideon	Ameh	Spillover Dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 at the Human-Wildlife Interface: Evidence from White-tailed Deer in the DMV Region
Paige	Liebrecht	Photosynthetic capacity of bur oak under elevated CO2 and warming
Clare	Muller	Nitrogen metabolism is more sensitive to cyanotoxins than carbon metabolism in lettuce
Lindsey	Urban	Morphoanatomical traits driving the drought and heat tolerance of *Quercus ilex* at throughfall exclusion sites
ORAL SESSION 4: COMMUNITY ECOLOGY		
Lekeah	Durden	Morning glory fungal endosymbiosis reduces belowground enemy to damage to neighbor
John	Gargasz	Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Community Assembly Within Recently Created Interdunal Wetlands
Michael	Cramer	The effect of warm winters on species diversity and community structure for small mammal communities in the Upper Great Lakes region
Jacob	Hansel	Ecological interactions in relict populations of near threatened *Tsuga canadensis* in southwest Wisconsin, U.S.A.
Sarah	Carrino-Kyker	Forest quality influences the community composition of the bark microbiome in *Liriodendron tulipifera*

ORAL SESSION 5: AQUATIC ECOLOGY

Megan	Herbruck	Intra-annual spatiotemporal dynamics of species and community dynamics
Hailey	Yoder	Effects of coral restoration on fish abundance and diversity at Isabela Island, Galapagos Islands
Daniel	Gschwentner	Light limitation and nutrient recycling shape emergent ecosystem nutrient supply and phytoplankton stoichiometry
Demetra	Williams	Evaluating Changes in Walleye Spawner Movement Following Dam Removal in a Lake Erie Tributary

ORAL SESSION 6: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS & DISTURBANCE

Colin	Brooks	Remote sensing of Great Lakes systems: Invasive aquatic plants and wastewater treatment lagoons
Tram	Tran	Beneath Southeast Asia: An Integrated Analytical Framework of Climate and Management Drivers of Soil Organic Carbon
Saliha	Ahmad	Context-dependent outcomes of soil microbial associations under drought and flooding in Rhododendrons
Yu-Cheng (Marvin)	Lin	Strain-level defense plasticity in Microcystis aeruginosa mediates non-linear grazing responses across nutrient gradients
Trevor	Stamp	The Influence of Dietary Factors on the Sublethal Disease Dynamics of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*
Sarah	Eysenbach	When Ash Falls: Canopy Disturbance and Regeneration in Cleveland Metroparks

ORAL SESSION 7: INVASION ECOLOGY

Heath	Garris	New Zealand mud snail invasion in the Boardman River watershed: implications for interpreting aquatic bioassessment metrics
Stella	Cousins	Foot in the door: ecological attributes of beech leaf disease proliferation
Abigail	Cahill	Population sizes of introduced milkweed aphids (*Aphis nerii*) and their effect on plant traits
Henry	Joniak	Does plant invasion impact native salamanders?
Constance	Hausman	Soil Applied Phosphite for Management of Beech Leaf Disease
Brian	Hoven	Documenting plant community responses in Ohio and New York to emerald ash borer-caused tree mortality across varying degrees of soil wetness and other stressors

ORAL SESSION 8: ECOSYSTEMS

Parisa	Pourabedini	Interactions Between Hydrological Regime and Carbon Budget in Old Woman Creek Wetland
Jacob	Rivera Lanterman	Bridging Ecology and Sociology: Coming Together to Advocate for Climate Justice in Cayey, Puerto Rico
Jessie	Novotny	Beech Masting in an Ohio Old-Growth Forest Infected with Beech Leaf Disease
Harlee	Rush	Leaf litter chemistry and invertebrate communities drive variation in oak leaf decomposition
Emily	Mohl	Evidence for Local Adaptation to Latitude in Common Milkweed
Claudia	Bashian-Victoroff	Out of Sight, Top of Mind: Investigating the role of soil fungi during urban canopy restoration in Cleveland, Ohio

POSTER SESSION I (ODD NUMBERS)

#	Name	Last name	Title
1	~~Zoha~~	~~Ahmed~~	~~Characterization of the External Microbiomes of Central IL Passerines and Woodpeckers Using Culture Techniques~~
3	Fernanda	Anzures Desquens	Will you encounter more ticks on trails or habitat centers in the Denison Biological Reserve?
5	Betsy	Baah	Patterns of Painted Turtle Movement and Habitat Use in a Restored Prairie/Wetland Complex
7	Huyen	Bach	Effects of Surface Vegetation and Tadpole Density on Green Frog (*Lithobates clamitans*) Tadpoles
9	Sierra	Bleier	Behavioral Assays to Assess Personality in the Ant-Mimicking Spider, Myrmarachne formicaria
11	Ava	Borione	Climate Change and Leaf Morphology
13	Ellie	Burkholder	Seedling variation across garlic mustard's American range
15	Emily	Clutter	Impacts of invasive hybrid cattails (*Typha x glauca*) on native Green Frog tadpoles (*Lithobates clamitans*)
17	Mia	Crites	Effects of PAH Adaptation on Thermal Biology: Evidence for Energetic Costs but Preserved Thermal Plasticity in Atlantic Killifish
19	Zachary	Danevicz	Seed Bank Assay to Inform Restoration of a Lake Superior Coastal Estuary
21	Anita	Davelos	An academic and community partnership for research, education, and outreach
23	Emma	Dawson-Glass	Predator presence and nectar sodium enrichment independently shape plant-pollinator interactions
25	Jacob	DiBiase	Linking the effects of cover crops on soil nutrients and carbon to tile drain losses from agricultural fields
27	Sara	Dulz	Effects of climate change on plant phenology in the Saginaw, MI area
29	Andrew	Hamilton	Interactive effects of stratification, light, and gibberellin on *Tsuga canadensis* (Eastern Hemlock) seed germination
~~31~~	~~Samuel~~	~~Harbol~~	~~Press drought and competition result in species specific responses in four native herbaceous plants.~~
33	Joshua	Hivner	Biofilm on cocaine
35	Rachel	Hoose	Exploring stable isotope ecology to understand ecological connections in riparian ecosystems
37	Abigail	Huchro	Nuclear Genetic Variation and Endosymbiont Variation in the Introduced Ant-Mimicking Spider, *Myrmarachne formicaria*
39	Reese	Jackson	The Effect of Climatic and Landscape Changes on Urban Bees
41	David	Jenkins	Warmer springs induce earlier phenological shifts in both the forest canopy and spring ephemerals
43	Kaitlyn	Karrenbauer	Eastern Redback Salamanders (*Plethodon cinereus*) avoid leachates of non-native Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) and native Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)
45	Daiyanera	Kelsey	A Wetland in Time: Comparing nutrients over different phases of construction
47	Daniel	Kershner	Signatures of historical land use change affect present day mammal and reptile communities in Cleveland Metroparks

POSTER SESSION II (EVEN NUMBERS)

#	Name	Last name	Title
2	Abigail	Koman	Pollinator Body Size and Community Structure Shape Reproductive Outcomes in Rosa multiflora
4	Donovan	Koman	Chemical landscapes: The effectiveness of plant chemical defenses across habitats
6	Avery	Leigh	The Effect of Ecotone Proximity on Ecosystem Resilience
8	Jude	Lofton	Question Framing in Ecology Tests: Student Preferences and Perceptions
10	Sheila	Lyons-Sobaski	Videos for teaching: The ESA's 4DEE-aligned database for enhancing ecology education
12	Lilian	Martin	Abiotic Niche Differentiation and Reproductive Interference Between Closely Related Spring Ephemerals *Dicentra cucullaria* and *Dicentra canadensis*
14	Kali	Mattingly	Cross-Species Susceptibility to Harmful Algal Bloom Toxins Microcystin-LR, Anatoxin-a, and Saxitoxin
16	Nolan	Miller	Plant-Insect Interactions Include Novel Partners in Invaded Forest Communities
18	Alexandra	Ochs	How Reflooding Turtle Creek Bay Wetland Influences Nitrogen and Phosphorus Flux
20	~~Eric~~	~~Oswald~~	~~Climate Change and Flowering Phenology Shifts in Deciduous Trees from Central Illinois~~
22	Stephanie	Petrycki	The Effects of Elevated Temperature on Ant-Aphid Populations on Common Milkweed in Northeast Ohio
24	Biana	Qiu	The Effects of Habitat Variables on Site Occupancy of the Common Gartersnake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) on a Restored Prairie/Wetland Complex
26	Tanvi	Rajagopal	Quantifying White-Tailed Deer Interactions with Invasive Garlic Mustard Using Trail Cameras
28	Imogen E	Sharif	Parks and Peck-reation: Impacts of Forest Composition and Ambient Sound on Urban Avian Communities
30	Erika	Smyth	Spatial and trophic positions influence Hg variation across riverine systems
32	Sophia	Stang	Cavity-Nesting Bees and Wasps: Patterns in Phenology and Habitat Use
34	Abigail	Stasko	Macrophyte community change and Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) invasion in the Turtle-Flambeau Flowage
36	Alex	Sullivan	Morphological and physiological effects of microplastics on green onions with a comparison to salinity treatments
38	Sarah	Supp	A multi-year assessment of the eastern redcedar (Juniperus virginiana) avian seed-dispersal network
40	Jeneva	Tomaszewski	Effects of light availability on success of the invasive shrub European buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) in a temperate mixed forest
42	Maya	Tucci	Long-term monitoring reveals stream water quality differences between neighboring watersheds
44	Anjali	Vuksanaj	Assessing the Capacity of Iron-Amended Biochar to Remove Phosphorus from Wastewater
46	Bailey	Warner	Using species distribution modeling to predict where *Lipaphis alliariae* (garlic mustard aphid) will spread
48	Tiarra	Williams	How do environmental conditions shape garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) populations and management?

Intro to GIS Workshop (QGIS)
Workshop I, Ballroom B

Miranda Shetzer, PhD candidate, Case Western Reserve University, Holden Forests & Gardens
Catalina Valderrama MSc., Research intern, Holden Forests & Gardens

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools have been increasingly used in research, industry, and agriculture worldwide. We recognize the importance of spatial analysis and data management skills for answering key ecological questions and supporting decision-making. This introductory GIS course will provide participants with a range of QGIS tools applicable to different datasets. The workshop will focus on vector and raster data types and the management of various types of spatial data, particularly for undergraduate students. Additionally, we will discuss different applications and the importance of GIS tools across diverse fields.

In summary, we aim to: (1) Identify key tools for spatial analysis in QGIS, including clip, mask, attribute editing, and the management of vector and raster data. (2) Create heatmaps based on the occurrence data of Cardinalis cardinalis. (3) Calculate NDVI across Cuyahoga County using Landsat 8 reflectance data. (4) Extract NDVI values for the 2014 occurrence data of Cardinalis cardinalis. (5) Identify potential conservation areas for Cardinalis cardinalis in Cuyahoga County.

Download GIS materials and follow these protocols: https://esa.org/greatlakes/wp-content/uploads/sites/85/2026/04/gis-workshop-downloads-protocol.pdf

Data Science by Design: How to Put Data Science Into Your Undergraduate Science Courses
Workshop II, SC 313
Sarah R. Supp, Associate Professor of Data Analytics, Denison University, Biological and Environmental Data Education (BEDE) Network

Data literacy has emerged as an essential skill for undergraduate students and workforce readiness. This Biological and Environmental Data Education (BEDE) Network workshop is designed to help instructors at any level of experience scaffold data science skills into undergraduate biology, ecology, or environmental science courses. We view data science broadly, encompassing basic quantitative literacy to computational programming and analysis. This workshop is attuned to instructors who use spreadsheet programs (e.g., Excel, Google Sheets), R, or Python. Participants will learn about open education resources and a new curriculum map tool that will help them (1) identify and make explicit data science skills already present in their courses, (2) better scaffold data science skills across the curriculum, and/or (3) identify opportunities to expand the data science skills being taught. Time will be provided for participants to explore the curriculum map and apply it to their own lesson, course, or major curriculum, or to begin developing a new activity that integrates data science skills. Please bring a lesson or any teaching materials you'd like to enhance by adding a data-science learning or assessment component.

Download Data Science materials for workshop participants:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1acJG3RoMojsTCTTJRwpurPPCNLbaaPEG?usp=drive_link.

Teaching Ecology Effectively With the 4DEE Framework
Workshop III, SC 315
Emily Rauschert, PhD, Associate Professor, Biological, Geological and Environmental Sciences, Cleveland State University

Wondering what to emphasize when teaching ecology to undergraduates? Come learn more about ESA's 4-dimensional ecology education (4DEE) framework and how to engage students more effectively in ecology. 4DEE emphasizes core concepts, ecology practices (things students should be able to do), human-environmental interactions, and cross-cutting concepts like system thinking and evolution. Participants will examine an ecology course they teach, taught, or recently took, to determine how well it aligns with 4DEE learning outcomes and discover new ways to include 4DEE in their teaching.

Thriving in Today's Science: Dynamic Careers in Ecology
Workshop IV, Ballroom D
Join our panel of professionals as they share their career paths and practical advice for leveraging your degree in today's world. Discover dynamic careers in ecology, gain insights, and get inspired to navigate your science journey with confidence. This panel features professionals from a variety of occupations and employers, including various higher education institutions, industry, and government agencies.

Panelists:

- Kali Mattingly, PhD, Statistician, SpecPro Sustainment & Environmental, contractor to USEPA
- Heath Garris, PhD, Director of College Programs, Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies
- Constance Hausman, PhD, Senior Conservation Science Manager, Cleveland Metroparks
- Kenneth Anyomi, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Redeemer University

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