



City of Lima, Ohio

50 Town Square Lima, Ohio 45801-4900
419/228-5462 Fax 419/221-5199 www.cityhall.lima.oh.us

David J. Berger, Mayor

**For Immediate Release
May 12, 2019**

The City of Lima is excited to introduce its New Green Initiative BMP at Faurot Park

Lima— May 12, 2019 — Floating wetlands have been added to Bear-Pit pond and Cemetery pond in Faurot Park to balance the ecosystem in these bodies of water.

The joint initiative by the City of Lima and Allen Soil and Water Conservation District is a green Best Management Practice (BMP) designed to reduce excess nutrients within the pond system. By utilizing a collection of eighteen different types of plants, the root system expands within the water acting as a biological filter which helps absorb the excess algae-causing nutrients, nitrogen and phosphorus. In order to determine how effective the floating wetlands are, water samples were taken in each pond at the beginning of the summer and will be measured again towards the end of the summer for comparison. The floating wetlands are expected to remain in the ponds throughout the entire year.

The unique design and construction of these floating wetlands is the result of the cooperative efforts of college interns: Jaden Addis, Caleb Austin, Haley Belisle, Janelle Houseman, and Cooper Wall. Jaden Addis is a sophomore at the Ohio State University, Civil Engineering. Caleb Austin is a junior at Wittenberg, Biology. Haley Belisle is a senior at Ohio Northern University, Environmental and Field biology. Janelle Houseman is a junior at the University of Vermont, Environmental Science. Cooper Wall is a junior at Findlay University, Environmental Safety and Occupational Health. In an experimental approach, they have incorporated different design elements into each of the floating wetlands.

The floatation elements are made up of recycled bottles, plastic snow fence, PVC pipes, coconut fiber matting, burlap and untreated mulch. The floating islands are anchored down by the use of cement anchors; fencing and artificial plants were used to deter geese.

A special Thank You to Spence Restoration Nursery (Muncie, IN) and Resource Recycling, Inc. (Lima) for their donations to the project.

For additional information contact Jim Morrisey at (419)-221-5179

