



Field Notes

Growing Opportunities
in Agriculture at Rhodes State

April 2024

Diggin' In



Last week, students in Nutrient Management and Soils classes delved into environmental stewardship during a field trip to Kalida Fish and Game. Joined by experts from the Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District, they focused on managing phosphorus runoff to protect Lake Erie's waters. Students learned firsthand about proper management practices,

explored ecological balance techniques, and visited a crafted wetland ecosystem. This collaboration not only prevents erosion and runoff but also supports wildlife and improves logistical amenities. The trip wasn't just about learning—it was about experiencing the impact of collaboration on our environment, highlighting the vital connection between humanity and nature.

What's on the Horizon?

Exciting Opportunities Await!

Are you ready to revolutionize agricultural education? Partner with Rhodes State College to bring the Ag REACH Program to your students, employees, or community members. Participation is free, thanks to the USDA grant covering all costs. Contact Danielle Banks at banks.d@rhodesstate.edu to seize this incredible opportunity!

The Future in Ag

Know a student fascinated by high-tech agriculture? Recommend them using the form linked below for a chance to explore prescription mapping, agronomy, and robotics in agriculture. Join us at the forefront of innovation! Limited spots available for group discussions; contact dyer.l@rhodesstate.edu for more details.

[Click for the Form](#)



Danielle M. Banks
Project Director, USDA Ag REACH

o. (419) 995-8878
banks.d@RhodesState.edu

Women in Ag



Traci Bultemeier: Serving as a Link in Agriculture

For high school students considering a career path, the world of agriculture offers boundless opportunities for growth and fulfillment. Meet Traci Bultemeier, a territory manager for Pioneer Seed in northeast Indiana, whose journey exemplifies agricultural careers' diverse and rewarding nature.

In her role, Bultemeier serves as a vital link between farmers, sales agents, and the agricultural community at large. With a home office and a truck logging over 35,000 miles annually, her days are busy. From supporting seed dealers to ensuring exceptional customer service year-round, Bultemeier's responsibilities encompass a wide array of tasks, including troubleshooting in the field.

Growing up on a farm in eastern Ohio laid the foundation for Bultemeier's passion for agriculture. Through experiences with FFA and agronomy contests, she discovered her calling—providing trusted information and helping farmers thrive. "Seeing people succeed is the best part of my job," Bultemeier reflects. Whether it's assisting sales agents in expanding their businesses or mentoring young farmers, Bultemeier finds purpose in fostering growth and transformation within the agricultural community.

As a woman in agriculture, Bultemeier sees no barriers to success. "Hard work, dedication, and authenticity transcend gender," she asserts. For those considering a career in agriculture, Bultemeier's advice is simple yet profound: Get in there and get dirty! Book education only takes you so far - you have to be a part of the people, community, and families that you are serving. That's what we do in agriculture - we serve.