



# Board of Commissioners

## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** March 20, 2026  
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### Lake County Commissioners Proclaim “National Agriculture Week”

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, March 20, 2026 – At the March 19, 2026, Commissioners’ meeting, Lake County Farm Bureau volunteers visited with the Lake County Commissioners to promote agriculture in celebration of National Agriculture Week (March 15–21, 2026). During the meeting, the Commissioners issued a resolution recognizing the vital role agriculture plays in everyday life.

The resolution emphasizes how agriculture impacts daily living, from food and clothing to energy and building materials, underscoring its far-reaching importance across communities.

Despite its impact, fewer Americans today have a direct connection to farming. Farm and ranch families now make up less than 2% of the U.S. population, yet each American farmer feeds more than 169 people—demonstrating the innovation, efficiency, and dedication of the agricultural community.

“Agriculture continues to stand as our state’s number one industry, driving economic growth, supporting jobs, and sustaining rural and urban communities alike. Yet, many people may not realize just how few individuals are responsible for producing the food we all depend on. Less than 2% of our nation’s population grows the food that feeds us all, yet agriculture remains our state’s number one industry. Supporting our farmers isn’t optional—it’s essential to the strength, security, and future of our communities. A strong agriculture sector means a strong community, a stable food supply, and a healthier future for everyone. This week, and every week, we are reminded that when we support agriculture, we support ourselves.”

“This week, we honor American agriculture and the farm and ranch families who are dedicated to providing a safe and sustainable food supply. I am pleased to declare March 15–21, 2026, as National Agriculture Week in Lake County,” stated Commission President Morris W. Beverage III.

“Agriculture is the foundation of our daily lives, delivering not only food, but also the essence of our communities and economy. No farmers, no food. As we observe National Agriculture Week, let us take a moment to acknowledge the hard work of our farmers, who fill our plates and help build our homes,” said Commissioner John T. Plecnik.

“With fewer than 2% of Americans directly tied to agriculture, the vital contributions of our farming families can easily be overlooked. Today, each farmer feeds more than 169 people, reflecting their ingenuity and hard work. This National Agriculture Week, let us take a moment to recognize and appreciate the essential role they play in supporting our nation’s health and prosperity,” remarked Commissioner Morgan R. McIntosh.

Agriculture remains a cornerstone of the economy, supporting millions of jobs in food production, processing, transportation, and retail. As the global population continues to grow, the importance of American agriculture will only increase, sustaining both rural and urban communities. To learn more and register for events, please visit [agday.org](http://agday.org).



*From the left: Commissioner John T. Plecnik, Steve Ohmes, Anne Poorman, Mandy Orahoad, Commissioners Morgan R. McIntosh and Morris W. Beverage III.*

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