

# OH/LEX: Revitalizing Vacant Land in Shrinking Cities in Ohio

## Purpose

The goal of this project is to create productive partnerships between OSU Extension staff members and city/county land banks to implement the “OH/LEX” approach, or the Ohio Land EXchange, to revitalize vacant land. Based on a pilot-project in Lima, OH, a group of faculty members in Ohio State’s Knowlton School has developed a suite of tools for small- and medium sized cities with persistently high levels of vacancy and abandonment.

OH/LEX enables the user to assess vacant and abandoned properties, bring together community stakeholders to plan for the future of these parcels and implement practical reuse strategies on empty lots. Over the next year, the Knowlton School, OSU Extension and community partners will train staff members in the use of this suite of tools and gauge interest in communities throughout Ohio to implement them.

## Impact

Develop partnerships between OSU Extension and City/County Land Banks to assess vacant and abandoned parcels and structures.

Activate outreach strategies to community partners in specific jurisdictions to generate interest in vacant land reuse.

Implement activation strategies on vacant and abandoned lots in communities in Ohio.



## Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Engineering  
Knowlton School  
City & Regional Planning  
Landscape Architecture  
College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences  
OSU Extension  
Center for Urban and Regional Analysis

## Community Partners Involved

City of Lima, OH  
Allen County

## How you can get involved:

- Advertise (or attend) our workshop on May 25
- Assistance with development of website
- Support for construction materials
- Volunteer for the construction and use of temporary activation strategies in Lima, OH (scheduled for August 2017)

## To get involved, contact:

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