Urban Soil Assessment and Restoration (ENR 5279): OSU Student Education and Immersion to Help Columbus Grow Better

Purpose
This course offers an innovative, collaborative partnership between The Ohio State University and the City of Columbus. Students use a comprehensive soil contaminant and soil health assessment framework to evaluate land suitability for food production. Students write professional reports which are shared with The City of Columbus Land Redevelopment Office and project partners, including Mid-Ohio Food Bank. This class provides a model approach for building food security in the community through effective soil management.

Impact
Students learn innovative soil physical, biological, and chemical assessment techniques and how to make management recommendations based on the results.

The City of Columbus receives detailed site assessments and recommendations, improving their knowledge of Columbus soil resources.

Potential lot reuse options are enhanced and refined based on student-led assessments and reports.

How you can get involved:

- Recommend courses which share our food security emphasis
- Contact us with future location suggestions
- Encourage students with interests in food security to consider this class
- Suggest additional assessment components
- Share ideas for future collaborations

To get involved, contact:

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Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved
School of Environment and Natural Resources
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

Community Partners Involved
City of Columbus Land Redevelopment Office