

for immediate release

MEDIA CONTACT:

Christina Weyrick
Community Relations Manager
330.499.4712 x331
cweyrick@northcantonlibrary.org

Kick-off Earth Week with the North Canton Public Library

Library Green Team to host a Spring Market and Recycling Fair in celebration of Earth Day.

NORTH CANTON, Ohio, March 14, 2016 - As part of the North Canton Public Library's ongoing commitment to sustainability, the organization will kick-off Earth Week with a Spring Market and Recycling Fair Saturday, April 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Spring Market will allow community members to meet local farmers, food producers and artisans providing seasonal foods, personal care products and baked items. Attendees will have an early opportunity to purchase produce provided by the StarkFresh Grower's Collaborative as well as starter plants, handmade baked goods (breads, pastries and pet treats), locally produced personal care items and more. Gluten free and vegan items will be available. Additionally, team members from the soon-to-be opening Earth Fare North Canton will be on-site to offer a taste of the Earth friendly products the community will find in their new store when it opens late in the Spring of 2016.

The second component of the event will be a Recycle Fair, allowing for recycling of electronics, batteries and more. eCycle Solutions of Ohio will accept electronic items for recycling, and when asked what exactly they accept, their response was "if it plugs in, we'll recycle it." From household appliances to computer equipment, eCycle will safely recycle unwanted items. This service is free with the exception of tube TVs and monitors (\$20 each) and fluorescent light bulbs (\$0.50 to 1.50 each). The eCycle station will be in the parking lot across Ream Street from the library. With support from the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Recycling District, the library will also collect household alkaline batteries for recycling at no cost. Batteries will be collected inside the library.

In the library's ongoing partnership with StarkFresh, representatives from their organization will be inside the library to accept any unwanted gardening equipment/tools and cooking supplies (chopping and paring knives, mixing spoons, canning jars, pots, pans, stainless/glass mixing bowls) for redistribution to their community garden and partner sites.

The library established its Green Team in December of 2013 after being awarded a sustainability audit scholarship from Stark State and the North Canton Chamber of Commerce. The team is made up of ten members, representing each department of the library. "Since the team's inception, we've worked together to institute an internal recycling program, to make recommendations for energy savings and to help with sustainability awareness in the library and our community," explained community relations manager and Green Team member, Christina Weyrick.

The North Canton Public Library's recently completed strategic plan encourages a focus on three areas: Library as Community Hub, Creating a Vibrant Learning Center and Enhancing the Customer Experience. This Earth Week Kick-off Event provides a means to each of these objectives, and is the second of several larger-scale events that will be hosted in 2016 with a goal of meeting the needs of the North Canton community. "The first event, a How-to Festival held in March, was a tremendous success with nearly 1,100 attendees," said Weyrick.

The Recycle Fair and Spring Market are open to everyone. There is no registration required. For additional information, please contact Christina Weyrick at 330.499.4712 x331 or cweyrick@northcantonlibrary.org.

###