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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Director of Ohio EPA to give Keynote Address at MORPC Summit on Sustainability and the Environment**

**(Columbus – September 9, 2014)** The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is pleased to announce Craig W. Butler, director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as this year's keynote speaker at the Summit on Sustainability & the Environment on Friday, October 10, 2014, at the Columbus downtown Hilton, 401 N. High Street. Appointed by the Governor in February, 2014, Butler directs all activities of the Agency including policy development and rule making, enforcement, strategic planning, coordinating state and federal initiatives, and providing outreach, education and assistance to the regulated community and citizens.

Butler previously served as the assistant policy director for Energy, Agriculture and the Environment in Governor Kasich's administration. His primary responsibilities included providing guidance and input to senior staff and Governor Kasich on energy, agricultural and environmental issues. Butler was also instrumental in the passing of Ohio Senate Bill 315 which updated Ohio's oil and gas regulations and set in place Ohio's comprehensive energy policy.

A public servant of more than 24 years, Butler has served as chief of Ohio EPA's Central District Office and Southeast District Office. He is a board member of the Dangerous Wild Animal Board and is a past member of the Board of Directors for the Ohio Alliance for the Environment.

Butler has a BA in Geography and Environmental Science from Mansfield University and a Masters in Environmental Science from Ohio University.

The Summit on Sustainability & the Environment is MORPC's signature environmental conference, bringing hundreds of community leaders together to explore and share sustainable ideas and solutions. This year's theme, *Building a Sustainable Future*, focuses on sharing best practices that can be applied by local governments, businesses and residents to improve the built environment in which we live. To register for the Summit visit [www.morpc.org/summit](http://www.morpc.org/summit).

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*The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is a voluntary association of local governments and regional organizations which envisions and embraces innovative directions in economic prosperity, energy, the environment, housing, land use, and transportation. Our transformative programming, services and innovative public policy are designed to promote and support the vitality and growth in the region.*

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*Working to Build a Better Region*

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