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WOOD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1616 East Wooster Street, Box 32
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
Phone: 419-354-5517
Fax: 419-354-7923
E-mail: wcdswcd@woodswcd.com

**2008 Tree Sale
Going on NOW!**

Board of Supervisors
Dennis Ferrell, Chairman
Tom Dierksheide, Vice Chairman
Bernard Scott, Secretary
Kris Swartz, Fiscal Agent
Lee Sundermeier, Member

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Ryan Bergman, District Technician IV
Jim Rickenberg, District Technician
Jeremy Gerwin, Western Lake Erie Basin Conservationist

NRCS Staff
Kelly Niehaus, District Conservationist

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

EQUIPMENT FOR RENT

PHILLIPS ROTARY HARROW

- 43' working width
- Requires minimum 140 horse power tractor
- Rental rate is \$2.00 per acre

SALFORD TOOL

- 23' working width
- Requires 150 horse power tractor
- Rental rate: 1-50 acres \$8.00 per acre
51-100 acres \$7.00 per acre
101 acres + \$6.00 per acre

TREE PLANTER

\$25.00 First Day
\$45.00 Each Additional Day

For More Information contact
Jim Rickenberg at 419-354-5517

ITEMS FOR SALE

Floating Pond Filter	\$198.50
Replacement Filter	\$ 39.00
Pond Safety Kit**	\$110.00
Ring Buoy	\$ 45.00
Rope (price is per foot)	\$.25
Tile Probes	\$ 30.00
Tree Protectors	\$ 2.00
Flags (.10 each)	
100 4x5	\$ 7.00
100 5x8	\$ 8.00
Giant Flags	\$ 5.00
Rat Guard Prices	
4"	\$ 4.00
6"	\$ 6.00
8"	\$ 8.00
10"	\$ 10.00
12"	\$ 12.00
15"	\$ 21.00
Wood County Soil Survey CD	\$ 10.00

**Must be preordered and prepaid.

WOOD SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

EYE ON CONSERVATION

FEBRUARY 2008

Points of Interest

**Northern Ohio Crops
Day February 14,
2008
Ole Zim's Wagon
Shed
1375 N. St. Rte 590
Gibsonburg, OH**

**2008 Tree Sale
Order forms available
Call the office and
request a order from
419-354-5517
Or
419-352-5172
Download from our
website
www.woodswcd.com**

**Conservation Tillage
& Technology Conf.
February 21 & 22,
2008
Ohio Northern Univer-
sity— Ada, Ohio
http://ctc.osu.edu**

**SWCD accepting
2008 Farm Beautifi-
cation Nominations.
See page 2**

**Next SWCD Board
Meeting:
February 22, 2008
At 8:30 a.m.**

Plateau® Herbicide Now Available To Producers

BASF has recently changed their marketing policy and now Plateau® Herbicide is available for area producers to purchase and use on native grass plantings.

This product previously was only available to Conservation groups and government entities. BASF has now made this product available to the average producer although reporting of product quantities for auditing purposes will be required.

This product has a "best fit" on native grass

plantings (warm season grasses and forbs) that are tolerant to Plateau® Herbicide. Because some plant species are very sensitive to this product and stand density and diversity could suffer. Be sure to verify what species of native plants you have on your acreage before making an herbicide application. Always read and follow label instructions.

Producers interested in using this product for management of their native grass acres should

contact their local chemical dealer for availability and pricing of the product. The producer should be aware that possible minimum quantities may be required.



Coming This Spring! Great Plains 1006 NT end wheel No-Till Drill

This drill will be available for Wood County landowners who are seeding cool and warm season grass for conservation practices.

- ⇒ Transport width 12' 6"
- ⇒ Working width 10'
- ⇒ Opener spacing 7 1/2"
- ⇒ Standard grain seed box capacity 13 bushel
- ⇒ Native grass seed box capacity 12 bushel
- ⇒ Fine grass seed box attachment
- ⇒ Gross weight 4500 lb.
- ⇒ 75 horsepower tractor needed in field



For more information please contact the Wood SWCD (419) 352-5172

WINTER MANURE APPLICATION SAFETY

Winter is a difficult time of year to utilize manure safely. The primary issue is that manure applied to frozen ground is subject to movement when a rainfall event occurs before the ground thaws. Additionally since incorporation is not possible, manure can move very easily with runoff. The possibility for large amounts of nutrients and pollution reaching the waters of the state are quite large and unacceptable.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has setup guidelines for manure application on frozen or snow covered ground. Any livestock producer should have a manure management plan that manages manure application during seasons that are less risky for environmental pollution. The winter application rules should only be looked at in emergency situations to help you get by until more favorable weather occurs.

The winter application rules specifically require all of the following:

1. Fields must have at least 90% ground cover, a field of corn stalks not disturbed by tillage. A field of soybean residue will seldom have enough cover to meet the 90% requirement. Cover crops are highly desirable in meeting the 90% cover requirement.
2. Increase the setback along streams, waterways, surface drains, ditches and other water bodies to 200'.
3. Limit the rate of application to 5000 gallons per acre or 10 wet tons per acre.
4. Limit the application area to 20 contiguous acres, separated by 200 feet.
5. Avoid applying to fields with steep slopes over 6%.

Manure application rules can be complex. The Wood SWCD can help you evaluate your best option, and develop a Certified Nutrient Management Plan to help you manage your manure resource. Remember you are still responsible for a manure spill no matter what season of the year the spill occurs.

Following the recommendations of the Wood SWCD will help to minimize the penalties you will incur if an accidental spill occurs. Finally remember that manure application should never be thought of as disposal, with the price of fertilizer, nutrient utilization should always be considered! Take soil tests of your fields every few years and adjust your manure application to fields that need the nutrients. Contact the Wood SWCD for more information.

SWCD SEEKING FARM BEAUTIFICATION NOMINATIONS

Each year, the Wood Soil and Water Conservation District presents one outstanding farm in Wood County with the Farm Beautification Award. The winning farm is chosen after considering such things as the condition of the buildings, condition of the lawn and garden, landscaping, absence of unnecessary equipment, and overall appearance.

If you have a farm in mind that you feel would be a winner, please submit your nomination by August 11, 2008 to Wood SWCD, 1616 East Wooster Street, Box 32, Bowling Green, wcdswcd@woodswcd.com or call the office at 419-352-5172. All nominations will be considered and the winner will be announced at the Wood SWCD's Annual Open House in September. To be eligible the nominated farm must belong to a working or retired farmer.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Area 1 Envirothon
Wednesday, April 30, 2008
Miller Conservation Farm
Seneca County
www.area1envirothon.org

Northwest Ohio Conservation Camp
June 4-7, 2008
Camp Palmer

Black Swamp Educators Extravaganza
June 17-19, 2008

Watch for further details on these upcoming events or check out our website for more information at www.woodswcd.com!

WINTER POND CARE

Ponds need more care in icy snow covered conditions!

Fish kills occur from stress. There are numerous kinds of stress but lack of oxygen is the primary stress condition that kills fish. Oxygen that enters the water from the atmospheric diffusion stops with ice cover. Snow accumulation on the ice shades the plants in the water causing them to stop photosynthesis and increase respiration. In this darkened situation the dissolved oxygen in the water decreases rapidly. Given a long enough time the oxygen levels will get critically low.

What will help raise low oxygen levels? Drilling a hole in the ice, will **not** help! It will only give you exercise. The pond in winter is inversely stratified where the warmest and most dense water is on the bottom of the pond. Stratification will remain as long as the surface water remains below 39 degrees Fahrenheit. The best solution is **to let the sunlight into the pond** by

shoveling the snow off of the ice. This will allow the plants to resume photosynthesis and oxygen to be produced. Remember to use good common sense in ice safety while removing snow from the ice on the pond.

One caution! Do not run your **deep** water aeration in the winter. Deep water aeration will chill the pond water by circulating the "warm" 39 degree water from the pond bottom allowing the entire pond to move closer to 32 degrees. This will stress the fish and can contribute to winterkill conditions. Aeration diffusers should be moved to shallow water in the winter to prevent problems.

Always remember to remove debris that may accumulate in the pond. Dead fish, leaves and trash should be removed as soon as possible. Also never use herbicides for weed control when the water is cold, they are not effective and can create other problems.

Call the Wood SWCD for more information.

TREE PLANTING TIPS

Planting a tree can be easy if you understand a few guidelines. Trees need care just like anything you plant! Following a few simple ideas will help improve your seedling survival rate.

First check to see if the tree you select is right for your site. Some trees do best in full sunlight some like shade, some like moist soil other do not, some prefer clay soils others like sandy conditions. Do some home work and find out which tree species are best suited to your site. Wood SWCS employees can help you with this!

Next remember that seedling trees require care to survive and grow quickly. Planting trees in the lawn and mowing the grass around them is a very **bad** place for trees to survive. Competition from the grass for moisture and nutrients, and the fact that lawn mowers cut off the tops of more trees makes it a poor place for your trees to survive. A good way to care for a tree is to keep a circle 2 feet in diameter or larger area free from weeds and grass around each tree. This can be done with herbicides or with a hoe. If you really want to get fancy, mulching this 2' bare circle will help reduce weed growth and conserve moisture. This must be done for the several years until the tree becomes established.

Watering is the main issue that most people talk about. Usually it is very difficult to water enough to

make a huge difference. The best way to water is to use some sort of trickle system that will drip water in the same place for a long time. An inexpensive example is a 5 gallon pail with a pin hole in the edge that you refill daily.

Fertilizing is the last thing that you have to worry about. Most trees grow in very poor conditions and Wood County soils supply all the fertility trees need. In fact over fertilization may damage the roots of the tree.

Finally remember that doing a good job of planting the tree in the soil is very important. Plant the tree as soon as you can, trees die quickly the bag. Fan the tree roots out as they grew in the nursery. A post hole digger is a good tool for making the hole for the tree. If you spud them in, their roots are not in contact with as much soil and their chances of survival are reduced especially if the soil gets dry and the slit cracks open. Also try to plant the tree at the same depth that it grew in the nursery. If it is a wet area where you are planting, try building a small mound 6" to a foot tall and plant the tree on top of it. Many people plant trees in a garden area for the first year and move them in the fall with soil around the roots.

Starting your own seedling trees can be a very rewarding and money saving endeavor. Contact the district for more information.