

Eye on Conservation

Working Locally, Thinking Regionally

Wood Soil & Water Conservation District Newsletter

Summer 2017



International Nutrient Management Tour

As the challenge of maintaining the water quality of Lake Erie continues, the Wood Soil and Water Conservation District assisted on a local tour with international and state elected officials from Ohio and Canada. Stops included an edge-of-field monitoring station at the Drewes Farm, MSB Dairy, and Swartz Farm.

The purpose of the visits were to see first hand the best management practices Ohio is researching and recommending to local landowners in the efforts to reduce excess nutrients in Lake Erie. Representatives from Ontario, Canada shared the programs offered in doing their part with the conservation effort.

The group included members of the Governor Kasich's staff, Directors of the State Agencies: OEPA, ODA and ODNR and from Canada the province of Ontario's Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Kathleen McGarry.



"Conservation is a cause that has no end. There is no point at which we will say our work is finished."

- Rachel Carson



L to R: Lee Sundermeier, Bernie Scott, Ron Snyder, Dennis Ferrell, and Kris Swartz

WOOD SWCD
OFFICE HOURS
7:30 A.M.—4:30 P.M.
MONDAY—FRIDAY



The Wood SWCD
Board of Supervisors holds
regular monthly meetings the
third Friday of each month at
8:00 a.m. at the district office.



Jonah Stanley, Wood SWCD Summer Intern

“Boots on the Ground” - By Jonah Stanley

Spending this summer break from college interning at the Wood County Soil and Water Conservation District has provided me with plenty of learning experiences and an altogether new perspective on agricultural practices in Northern Ohio. I do not come from a farming background, so my time here at the office, in the field, and at the event I have detailed below has been eye-opening.

With Ohio weather cooperating for once, it could not have been a better day to get outside and learn about what is being done to improve soil and water quality in the Midwest. I was lucky enough to join Abby Wensink and Ron Snyder in making the trek out to Fulton County for a no-till conference dubbed “Field to Lake Field Day”.

Not knowing what to expect, I was surprised to find upwards of 100 people gathered near a single large tent nestled between various fields. An assortment of farmers, government workers, and members of other organizations made up the immense and social assembly.

After a brief introduction, the group dispersed as people were free to choose which scheduled presentation they wanted to attend. Picking and choosing my topics of interest, I quickly found that every speaker had something unique to say, likely a result of their different backgrounds and presentation styles. The special aspect of these presentations was their location, as the farm setting allowed almost every speaker to supplement what they were saying with real life examples for us to see. In addition, they always encouraged questions and discussion at the conclusion of their speeches. In no time, I had received a crash course in soil’s physical properties, microbiology, chemistry, and much more.

Reflecting on that experience, here are a few things I learned. First, not all phosphorus in the soil is easily accessible for plants to utilize. Second, no-till practices should be maintained in fields for consecutive years in order for the positive effects on soil and water quality to become more pronounced. And lastly, never underestimate just how excited someone can get when preaching about soil microbes.



FINGERLING FISH SALE

The Wood SWCD fall fingerling fish is order deadline is Tuesday, September 5.

Fish pick-up is 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 12 at the entrance of the Wood County fairgrounds.



Lake Erie’s fish population accounts for an estimated 50% of all fish inhabiting the Great Lakes.

For your Service

District Staff

Nicki Kale, District Administrator/Education Coordinator
Jim Carter, District Administrator/Engineering & Technical Coordinator
Jeremy Gerwin, District Technician
Beth Landers, Portage River Watershed Coordinator
Abby Wensink, Strategic Watershed Action Team Conservationist
Julie Lause, Administrative Assistant

NRCS Staff

Becky Duncan, District Conservationist
Kelly Copeland, Resource Conservationist

Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

Items for Sale

Floating Pond Filter	\$245.00
Pond Filter Float	\$ 92.00
Replacement Filter	\$ 55.00
Pond Safety Kit	\$110.00
Ring Buoy	\$ 64.00
Deep Water Sign	\$ 14.00
Rope (per foot)	\$ 0.25
Tile Probes	\$ 33-35
Soil Test Probe	\$63 & 95
Garden Soil Test Kit	\$ 25.00
Tree Wraps with Stake	\$ 4.00
Flags	\$ 0.10 ea
100 4x5	\$ 8.00
100 5x8	\$ 9.00
6’ field flag	\$ 7.00
Nut Wizards®	\$ 40-45
Compost Bin	\$ 50.00
Rat Guards	
4”	\$ 5.00
6” stainless steel	\$ 10.00
8” stainless steel	\$ 12.00
10” stainless steel	\$10 & 18
12” stainless steel	\$15 & 28
15”	\$ 25.00

(Cash or Check payable upon receipt)

Equipment for Rent

Great Plains Drill
(for CRP Practices only)

- 10’ working width
- 7 1/2’ row spacing
- Minimum 65 hp with live hydraulics

Rental Rate is \$10.00/acre (\$50 minimum)

Dibble Bar
\$40 Refundable Deposit

Tree Planter
\$25.00 First Day
\$45.00 Each Additional Day

Weed Wrench

\$225 Refundable Deposit
\$20 Rental 1-3 Days
\$20 Each Additional Day

Delivery Charge \$20.00
Cleanout Charge \$25.00
(if applicable)

For Use by Wood County Residents




Contact Us

Wood SWCD
1616 E. Wooster St.
Suite 32
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Phone: 419-354-5517
Fax: 419-354-7923

wcswcd@woodswcd.com

www.woodswcd.com



UPCOMING Events

August

August 31-Soil Health Testing Field Day 9-1 (Corner of Dunbridge and Poe Roads at Riker Seed Plots)

September

September 1–October 31
Milkweed pod collection

September 4– district office closed
September 5th—Fish Sale order deadline

September 16 - Annual Meeting & ATV Tour
Ag Incubator Foundation, Bowling Green

September 19, 20, 21—
Farm Science Review

September 23—STEM in the Park
BGSU Field House

September 30-Tire collection at the south parking lot of the fairgrounds.

Follow the Wood Soil and Water Conservation District on Facebook, the blog and check the website for additional details on each event.



Promoting Conservation from Ag to Urban Communities

Milkweed Pod Collection. It's that time again!

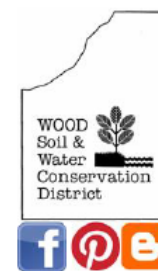
The Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative is calling on Ohioans for a second year of Milkweed pod collections! This project started in 2015 as a 7 county pilot and last year hundreds of Ohioans worked together last fall to collect approximately 200 lbs of common milkweed seeds, totaling over 19 million seeds!

Milkweed is the only host plant for the Monarch butterfly for egg laying and caterpillar rearing. It also serves as a food source for Monarchs as well as many other pollinator species. The disappearance of milkweed across the U.S. has contributed to the 80% decline of the eastern monarch butterfly population over the last 20 years. We are working hard to change this and you can help! Lets make our collection efforts in 2017 even better by following these simple tips!

- Make sure that before you collect seed, you become familiar with the common milkweed to avoid harvesting pods from similar plants such as hemp dogbane and swamp milkweed
- It is best to collect the pods when they are dry, grey, or brown. IT IS IMPORTANT TO CHECK THIS
- If the center seam pops with gentle pressure, they can be harvested.
- Store the pods in paper bags; plastic bags collect unwanted moisture.
- Put the date and county collected on the bag when you turn them in.
- Keep the pods in a cool, dry area until you can deliver them to the nearest collection site.

Collections start September 1st and goes until October 30th (we will accept pods until November 1st)

If you have questions regarding milkweed collection, please contact Marci Lininger at marci_lininger@fws.gov or Lori Stevenson at Lori_Stevenson@fws.gov.
For more information on Milkweeds refer to this video! <http://u.osu.edu/beelab/milkweed-seed/>



Wood SWCD 2017 Fall Fish Sale

The Wood Soil and Water Conservation District is offering new and established pond owners the opportunity to stock their ponds conveniently and at a low cost.

An aerator tank truck from Fender's Fish Hatchery in Baltic, OH will distribute **preordered** fish fingerlings on **Tuesday, September 12 at 3:00 p.m. at the Wood County Fairgrounds.**

Bring your own containers filled with pond water. Your container should be lined with a plastic bag and filled with your pond water as close to pick up time as possible to prevent drastic changes in temperature in the water which can cause shock to your fish during transportation. A 5-10 gallon container is adequate for 100 fish, unless purchasing white amur; 2-3 white amur per 5-10 gallon container.

Fish are guaranteed to be in good condition at time of delivery; however, we cannot guarantee survival after stock is in your pond. **Order Deadline: Tuesday, September 5, 2017.**

Fish Species Available:

Bluegill
Channel Catfish
Redear Sunfish (shell crackers)
Largemouth Bass
Yellow Perch
Fathead Minnows
White Amur

*Redear Sunfish provides an alternative to bluegill.

- Grow larger than bluegill
- Predators of pond snails
- Lower reproduction rate

Recommended stocking rates of fingerling fish for new or renovated ponds					
Number of fish to stock per acre					
Stocking Combination	Bass	Bluegill	Redear Sunfish	Catfish	Perch
Bass/Bluegill	100	500			
Bass/Bluegill/Redear Sunfish	100	250	250		
Bass/Bluegill/Catfish	100	500		100	
Bass/Perch	100				100
Bass/Bluegill/Perch	100	500			100
Bass/Bluegill/Catfish/Perch	100	500		100	

Fathead Minnows may be stocked at a rate of 1,000 per one acre pond

Return order form and payment by Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

Make check payable to:

Wood SWCD

1616 E. Wooster St., Suite 32

Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

419-354-5517 • woodswcd.com

<u>NAME</u>		<u>DAY PHONE</u>
<u>ADDRESS</u>		<u>EMAIL</u>
<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>ZIP</u>

Species	Size	Price	# Purchasing	Total Cost
Bluegill	2-4"	\$ 0.85 x	<u> </u> =	\$ <u> </u>
Redear Sunfish	2-4"	\$ 0.85 x	<u> </u> =	\$ <u> </u>
Channel Catfish	4-5"	\$ 0.80 x	<u> </u> =	\$ <u> </u>
Largemouth Bass	2-3"	\$ 0.90 x	<u> </u> =	\$ <u> </u>
Yellow Perch	2-3"	\$ 0.85 x	<u> </u> =	\$ <u> </u>
Fathead Minnows	1-2"	\$ 0.07 x	<u> </u> =	\$ <u> </u>
White Amur	8-10"	\$ 13.00 x	<u> </u> =	\$ <u> </u>
DO NOT ADD SALES TAX: Total				\$ <u> </u>

YOUR ARE INVITED TO JOIN US
FOR THE
2017 ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS BANQUET
AS WELL AS THE
5TH ANNUAL CONSERVATION ATV TOUR

Saturday, September 16, 2017
at the
Agricultural Incubator Foundation
13737 Middleton Pike
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Registration for the ATV tour begins at 8:00 a.m.

Tours include Renewed Outdoors, a native plant residential landscape, the Bowling Green Water Treatment Plant, and the Ag Incubator Foundation.
(Find the registration form and waiver online at www.woodswcd.com)

Supervisor Elections are 11:30 am.—1:00 p.m. Lunch begins at 12:15 p.m.
Awards presentation at 1:15 p.m.

Come to hear Dr. Nathan Crook tell the story of the food in the
Great Black Swamp.

Tickets available for \$10 each.
Please RSVP to the district office by Friday, September 1.



Dr. Nathan C. Crook: Associate Professor and Coordinator of English and College Credit Plus at Ohio State ATI. As the College Credit Plus Coordinator, he actively recruits, advises, and supports 25 to 30 high school students who are taking college courses on the Ohio State ATI campus. As the English Coordinator, he supervises between 9 and 13 instructors teaching a range of writing from developmental, to intermediate, and argumentative writing. Crook is a cultural anthropologist.

In 2013, The History Press published his book, *A Culinary History of the Great Black Swamp: Buckeye Candy,*

Bratwurst and Apple Butter, that explores history, culture, and cuisine in a micro-region of the Midwest. Crook's research is interdisciplinary and his primary area of focus is on the use of the ephemeral as a communicative device in everyday life. Specifically, he researches and writes about the myriad uses of food as community and communication.

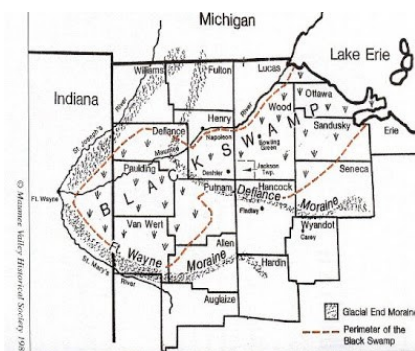
He is the past Assistant Director of the Northwest Ohio Foodways Traditions Collection Project at Bowling Green State University.

**2017 Conservation
ATV Tour Stops**

Renewed Outdoors, located on Route 25 south of Perrysburg, offers a complete line of renewed mulch, topsoil, nursery stock and garden items.

Hal Mann converted his traditional non-native residential landscape to a pollinator and wildlife friendly native plant landscape. Hal is the President of Wild Ones Oak Opening Region and serves on the National Monarch Butterfly Conservation program.

The City of Bowling Green is committed to improving and expanding water treatment systems to provide the highest quality drinking water to the citizens of Bowling Green and surrounding communities.



The Great Black Swamp covered an estimated 1,500 square miles from Indiana to Cedar Point.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Two supervisors will be elected to serve three-year terms beginning January 1, 2018.

On Saturday, September 16, 2017 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. in accordance with Chapter 940 Revised Code of Ohio, the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election to be held at the annual meeting of Wood SWCD electing two supervisors to fill the expiring terms.

Residents or landowners, firms and corporations that own land or occupy land in Wood County and are 18 years of age and older may vote for supervisor. A non-resident landowner, firm or corporation must provide an affidavit of eligibility, which includes designation of a voting representative, prior to casting a ballot. Two Supervisors will be elected to serve a three year term.

There are three ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot:

(1) at the Wood SWCD annual meeting (2) at the SWCD office on Friday, September 15th until 4:00 p.m. or (3) vote absentee by requesting the proper absentee request forms from the Wood SWCD office at 1616 E. Wooster St. Suite 32 Bowling Green, OH 43402.



Bernie Scott- Bernie retired from Otsego High School in 2000 where he served as the Agriculture Education teacher. He received both his Bachelors of Science and Masters of Science from The Ohio State University.

Bernie and his wife Jean have seven grown children and 19 grandchildren.

Bernie enjoys volunteering his time and can be found sharing his knowledge not only locally in Wood County but also state wide. Some of the places you can find Bernie volunteering include: State Envirothon, The Apple Butter Festival, The National Tractor Pulling Championships, and delivering Meals on Wheels to name a few.

In 2013, Bernie was inducted to the Ohio Agricultural Hall of Fame and the Wood County Agricultural Hall of Fame.



Ron Snyder - Ron is a retired teacher who also farms in eastern Wood County. Ron holds a Bachelors of Science in Education from Bowling Green State University.

In his spare time, Ron enjoys 4-wheeling, boating, camping and gardening.

Ron and his wife Barb have two daughters and one granddaughter.

Ron has been no-tilling continuously on his farm for six years and had has no-tilled beans for over 20 years. He has recently started adding cover crops and enjoys getting to experiment with the right mix for his farm. He also enjoys seeing the improvements he is making to the soil.



Steve Benner - Steve is a sale representative for S & D Application, Wayne and a CCA.

Steve is a commissioner of the Wood County Veterans Service Commission, Commander of the American Legion Post 45, Troup Commander for Boy Scout Troup 485, and Deputy Grand Knight for Council 6373 Knights of Columbus at St. Al's parish.

Steve and his wife Marcia have been married for 40 years. They have two sons and six grandchildren.

Steve is active with agriculture, veterans activities, and golf.

His goal it to promote common sense agronomic solutions to protect our most precious natural resources; soil and water.