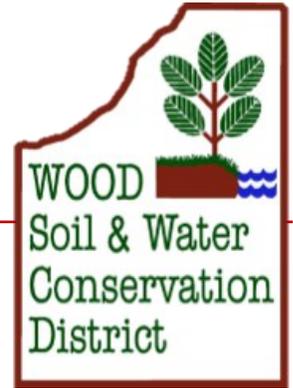


# Eye On Conservation

## Wood Soil & Water Conservation District



### COVID-19 Response

While the Wood SWCD special events and workshops were cancelled, the office continues to remain open and the staff is available to assist you. With our large office space, proper distancing is maintained and surfaces are cleaned. A plexiglass barrier is used at the front desk and masks are worn when talking with visitors. The front door does remain locked to control the number of visitors at one time so please call ahead (419-354-5517 #4) or knock and we will welcome you in.



For your convenience in dropping off paperwork, a blue drop box is located in the atrium to the right of the district door. Curbside drop-off or pick-up is available if you do not feel comfortable coming into the office.

Sales of pond replacement filters, marking flags, tree protectors, and animal guards have been popular with the beautiful fall weather. A few 2021 desk planners are still available and we are stocked with the most current 2018 plat books.

The Wood SWCD staff and supervisors are concerned with citizens' health and safety while still maintaining the office with program assistance, technical design, ditch cleaning projects, and daily district operations.

Stay tuned as we continue to navigate through these unfamiliar waters.



**OFFICE HOURS**  
7:30 AM —4:30 PM  
MONDAY—FRIDAY

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

**2020 Board of Supervisors**  
Front L to R: Bernie Scott, Lee E. Sundermeier, and Kris Swartz  
Back L to R: Ron Snyder and Dylan Baer



## “Boots on the Ground” by Bernie Scott

WOOD COUNTY SWCD / AG ED / FFA 1962-2020  
 MY 58 YEARS OF WOOD COUNTY CONSERVATION/EDUCATION  
 PARTICIPATION

My “Boots on the Ground” [SOIL CONSERVATION] started at the very young age of 11 or 12 in Muskingum Township in Muskingum County in about 1948-1949. I was already a member of Richvale Boys 4-H Club when a neighboring farmer invited us to join a newly organized specialized county-wide Soil Conservation 4-H Club. Our main activity was usually shadowing adult farmers by going to evening on-farm conservation demonstrations on area farms and watch a new tillage tool or practice. Mr. Eldon Sauerbrey, a farmer, was the 4-H Advisor and our parents took my brother and I to his farm where we rode to events in his Willys Ag Jeep that was always a thrill for pre-teen boys. One particular visit was to see a new rotary hoe demonstrated. Remember this was before hydraulic lifts and farms all had property line fences good enough to turn cattle. [Fence law: face your neighbor, build and maintain 50% to the right.] Mending fences was a constant chore. The farmer demonstrating the rotary hoe related an earlier experience of pulling out of field and driving the hoe into a grown-up grass fence row and in so doing drove over the top of an abandoned piece of woven wire fence and spent hours cutting it out of the tangled rotary hoe. I recently visited the Muskingum SWCD Office and OSU Extension Office and they had no record of the somewhat experimental 4-H Club. At least one year the club spent hours setting up a model farmstead at the county fair showing contour strip tillage and grassed waterways. Most of Muskingum County is hilly but has two large very productive river bottoms of the Muskingum and Licking Rivers. The two rivers merge at the “Y Bridge” in downtown Zanesville. The only bridge where you go to the middle of the river and turn right or left!



Some important memories as I conclude my 21st year on the Wood SWCD Board of Supervisors. Perhaps my first encounter with the District was in the Fall of 1962 where the District staff conducted and/or judged the annual county FFA soil judging contest. It was my first try preparing a team to compete in the rural soils contest following my first classroom lesson plan in the study of soils. Many years later a second “urban” soils use contest started. In 1965 a Mr. Pete Patrick, SWCD, suggested that all county FFA Chapters help install a wind break on the school campuses, most with fairly new campuses and buildings. The plans were made and specific trees were ordered. They arrived in early April and were planted by students. Otsego even ordered a then popular load of The Andersons Corn Cob Mulch. By June or July most of the Otsego trees appeared to be dying. Mr. Patrick, recognized and researched the problem. It was discovered that the trees had been delivered by commercial motor freight to the school/District and had traveled in the closed semi-trailer next to bags of granular weed killer with the residual fumes doing the kill. In 1966 they were all replanted.

**Find “the rest of the story” on the Wood SWCD website - [woodswcd.com](http://woodswcd.com) under the Home tab, Supervisors & Staff.**

## Welcome to Sarah and Beth Anne



Sarah St. John is the newest member of the Wood SWCD team. She will be working as a District Technician and comes to us from the Wood County Farm Service Agency, where she was the Conservation Reserve Program Technician since 2016. Sarah is originally from Woodville and currently lives in Martin with her husband Kyle, and basset hound Daisy. Outside of work, they spend most of their time on home improvement projects! With what little time is left, Sarah enjoys spending time outdoors hiking, kayaking, horseback riding and spending time with friends and family.

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My name is Beth Anne (Keller) Hermes and I am the new Nutrient Management Technician covering Sandusky, Ottawa and Wood counties. My primary role will be writing Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs). My home office location will be Sandusky County, however I will also be traveling to Ottawa and Wood counties as necessary.

I grew up on a dairy farm in Castalia, Ohio in Erie County. I am a 2011 graduate of Margaretta High School and a 2015 graduate of The Ohio State University, with a degree in Agricultural Business & Applied Economics with a minor in Agronomy. My prior experience in the agricultural field was 2 agronomy internships with Sunrise Cooperative followed by 5 more years with Sunrise, running their plots and trials company-wide and managing their interns.

In my free time I enjoy coaching junior high volleyball for Margaretta, spending time with my 2 golden retrievers and attending Ohio State and Cleveland Browns football games. I recently got married in May and my husband and I just bought a house, so I also enjoy home improvement projects as well. I'm very excited about my new position at Soil & Water and look forward to working with the staff and producers in the area!



Last February, the Ohio Department of Agriculture rolled out the H2Ohio program, with the hopes of allocating approximately 80 million dollars of cost share towards agricultural practices that reduce phosphorous loss to Lake Erie. Enrollment was far beyond what anyone had expected across the 14-county area that was eligible. Originally, H2Ohio was going to be a four-year program that started in the spring of 2020, but office closures and budget uncertainty delayed the execution of agreements. Currently, H2Ohio is funded for 2021, and the outlook is encouraging for 2022 funding.

Wood County has executed agreements with 126 producers, representing over 78,000 acres of farmland. Each of these producers has agreed to limit fertilizer inputs to the TriState Fertility guidelines, calculating phosphorous applications to the needs of the crop, based on recent soil test data. In 2021, almost 6,000 acres of cropland will receive manure based on the same limits, with the additional requirements of the manure being incorporated and followed with a cover crop. Over 10,000 acres of wheat are already planted as part of H2Ohio, and about 1500 acres of hay will also be established for the 2021 crop year. In addition to these annual practices, there are at least 150 controlled drainage structures scheduled to go in in 2021, controlling tile water on over 2500 acres of cropland. All told, Wood County's producers have committed to about \$3 million of conservation practices.

We would like to thank all of the producers who considered participating in H2Ohio, even if you decided that this program was not a good fit for your operation.

## Well done, Jr. Conservationists!



The Northwest Ohio Soil & Water Conservation Districts offered a free at-home 'Do-It-Yourself Jr. Conservationist' summer program. 15 Wood County kids registered for the program with many completing at least 15 activities each to receive a certificate and t-shirt. Some of the favorite activities included finding soil critters, meeting a tree, and going on a nature scavenger hunt.

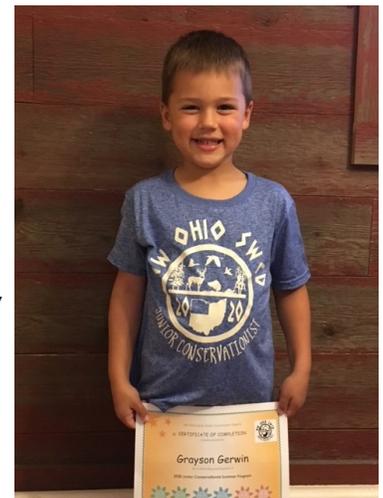
Parents shared some great photos and fun stories with the district. The activity ideas are available online at [www.lucasswcd.org](http://www.lucasswcd.org) if you'd like to participate and receive a Jr. Conservationist certificate.

Changing seasons offer new opportunities for conservation education. You are welcome to share your experiences and photos with the district and on the district Facebook page - Wood Soil & Water Conservation District.



Please contact the Wood SWCD if you are in need of natural resource educational activities for classrooms, homeschooling, clubs, organizations, etc. With the current health and safety restrictions, the district staff is unable to host events; however, lesson plans and supplies are available for your use.

Soil and water are essential!



## Tree Seedling Sale



The annual tree seedling sale is returning for 2021. Packaging and pick-up will take a little more planning; however, the staff and supervisors will maintain the guidelines provided by the county health department and Board of County Commissioners.

Several species are in limited supply so return your order form and payment in sooner rather than later. The deadline for orders and payment is Monday, March 1. The order form is included with the newsletter. Additional order forms are available on the district website at [www.woodswcd.com](http://www.woodswcd.com) at the district office or contact the office to have an order form emailed to you.

A tree workshop will be held at the beginning of the year. The time and date are to be determined.

**WOOD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**2021 TREE & SHRUB SEEDLINGS SALE**  
**ORDER FORM**  
*(Order Deadline: March 1, 2021)*



**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

| <i>(10 PLANTS PER PACKET)</i> |                     | PRICE PER<br>PACKET |   | NUMBER OF<br>PACKETS<br>ORDERED |              | TOTAL     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| <b>Conifers</b>               |                     |                     |   |                                 |              |           |
| American Arborvitae           | Transplants 8"-14"  | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| Colorado Blue Spruce          | Transplants 10"-18" | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| Norway Spruce                 | Transplants 10"-18" | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| Bald Cypress                  | Seedling 12"- 18"   | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| <b>Hardwoods</b>              |                     |                     |   |                                 |              |           |
| Red Maple                     | Seedling 12"-18"    | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| Shagbark Hickory              | Seedling 12"-18"    | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| Swamp White Oak               | Seedling 12"-18"    | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| Tulip Poplar                  | Seedling 12"-18"    | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| <b>Wildlife Shrubs</b>        |                     |                     |   |                                 |              |           |
| Black Chokeberry              | Seedling 12"-18"    | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| Highbush Cranberry            | Seedling 12"-18"    | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| Redbud                        | Seedling 6"-12"     | \$12.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
|                               |                     |                     |   |                                 |              |           |
| Cone-A-Fir Tree Protector     |                     | \$2.50              | x |                                 | =            |           |
| 100 Marking Flags             |                     | \$10.00             | x |                                 | =            |           |
| 10 Marking Flags              |                     | \$1.00              | x |                                 | =            |           |
|                               |                     |                     |   |                                 |              |           |
|                               |                     |                     |   |                                 |              |           |
|                               |                     |                     |   |                                 |              |           |
|                               |                     |                     |   |                                 | <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>\$</b> |

Please fill out the order form above and return with check before Monday, March 1, 2020  
 Make check payable to the Wood SWCD, 1616 E Wooster St Suite 32, Bowling Green, OH 43402  
**\*\*We do our best to obtain the best quality nursery stock, however, survival of the plants is beyond our control.\*\***  
**\*\*We will not be responsible for refund or replacement of stock which does not survive.\*\***  
*Quantities limited please place your orders early.*

## 2021 Tree Seedling Sale Descriptions

### American

**Arborvitae** *Thuja occidentalis* is a dense, pyramidal evergreen tree. Its main trunk often divides into several leaders. The branches with scale-like foliage are displayed in horizontal sprays. Needs a moist rich soil, somewhat tolerant to wet soils.



### Colorado Spruce

*Picea pungens* 'glauca' is a stiffly pyramidal evergreen conifer. Its horizontal branches reach to the ground, but form may become more open with age. Foliage occurs in a wide range of colors from green to silver blue. Prefers a moist, well-drained soil but will tolerate drier soil, but is adaptable to a wide range of conditions. Full sun is preferred to keep the "blueness" in color.



### Norway Spruce

*Picea abies* is a large conifer that is well adapted to much of the upper Midwest. It is faster growing than many of the other spruces. Foliage color is dark green. Norway spruce produces pendulous cones up to 6" long. Prefers soil with ample moisture. Transplants well. Best in full sun, since foliage becomes sparse in shade.



### Baldcypress

*Taxodium distichum* A stately deciduous conifer that is adaptable to wet or dry conditions. Best known in wet areas. Prefers acid soils and full to partial sun. Grows to 50' - 70' with a 25' spread.



### Red Maple

*Acer rubrum* will bring color to your landscape year-round. Its green stems turn red in winter; new leaves are red-tinged, turning to green. Fall color is deep red or yellow. Flowers are also red. Fast growing and tolerant of many soils. Grows to 40' to 60', 40' spread



### Shagbark

*Hickory Carya ovata* Shagbark hickories average in height from 60 to 80 feet tall, but they sometimes reach 120 feet in height. Usually grows among oak trees. It grows in wet and dry areas, but grows better in well-drained soils.



### Swamp White Oak

*Quercus bicolor* can have a broad oval to round crown. Is found in the wild in moist lowland sites. It also does well in upland sites in the landscape. Leaves are medium green above and silvery green beneath. Fall color is yellowish tan to orange brown. They are tolerant of heavy soils as well as tolerant of poor drainage and drought. Requires a somewhat acid soil.



### Tulip Poplar

*Liriodendron tulipifera* is a fast-growing shade tree that is able to grow 15 to 20' over a 6 to 8 year period. As a specimen tree on a large property it has great beauty and in fall can be



spectacular. The Tulip Poplar has moderate water requirements and a moderate tolerance for salt and alkali soils.

### Black Chokeberry

*Aronia melanocarpa* is a very adaptable shrub, and grows 1 1/2' to 3' tall producing red to purple fruit in fall. It is shade tolerant, and prefers wet bog or swampy soils. They are a valuable source of wildlife food for fall and winter.



### Butterfly Bush

*Buddleia davidii* is a deciduous shrub with long arching branches that can reach a height of 15 feet. The showy flower spikes are often purple, and the leaves and stems are typically hairy.



### Redbud

*Cercis Canadensis* is a small to medium sized ornamental tree with small pinkish-purple flowers blooming in the early spring and has large dark green heart shaped leaves. Grows to 25-35 feet.



419-354-5517 #4  
www.woodsacd.com

www.arboday.org  
www.odnr.state.oh.us

www.plants.usda.gov/plantguide

## Ohio's Historic Family Farms



Wood County is honored to have 51 Historic Family Farms recognized by the state of Ohio. The United States agricultural industry remains an essential part of the global economy. Recognizing the history of our local family farms reminds us of the determination, ingenuity, and challenges the generations before us endured as the many farmers immigrated to the U.S. seeking a new life.

The Ohio Department of Agriculture recognizes the many social, economic, and historic contributions made by Ohio's founding farm families. Ohio's Historic Family Farms program was developed as a way to honor these families for their enduring legacy to our state.

The program grants three designations based on the number of years of same-family ownership:

- Century Farms (100-149 years);
- Sesquicentennial Farms (150-199 years); and
- Bicentennial Farms (200 years and more).

Qualified registrants receive an heirloom certificate signed by the Governor of Ohio and the Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

Follow the link on the Wood SWCD website to download and print the registration form to apply. A hard copy may be requested by calling 614-752-4505. Contact the Wood SWCD for assistance: 419-354-5517 #4 or [wcdswcd@woodswcd.com](mailto:wcdswcd@woodswcd.com)

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## Farmers Needed for a \$900,000 Farmer-Led Conservation Project

The application period is open for farmers in the Maumee River Watershed who are interested in sharing their conservation farming practices with other farmers. Farmers interested in participating as a Farmer Advocate for Conservation can complete the online application form on the project landing page, <https://sites.google.com/view/farmeradvocate/>. Farmer Advocates for Conservation will be compensated for their time to attend the training and work with other farmers @ \$30/hour. The focus of the project is to promote farmers learning about building soil health with cover crops and other best management practices from each other.

The first trainings will occur in January and February of 2021 and will be completely virtual, which will allow the farmer to train in the comfort of their own home or office. Another training is scheduled for March/April 2021.

To apply as a Farmer Advocate for Conservation or to nominate a farmer you believe would be an excellent candidate please use the online application and nomination forms on the landing page found at <https://sites.google.com/view/farmeradvocate> or please contact Stephanie Singer, [Stephanie.Singer@tnc.org](mailto:Stephanie.Singer@tnc.org).



### Items for Sale

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Floating Pond Filter | \$250.00   |
| Pond Filter Float    | \$140.00   |
| Replacement Filter   | \$ 60.00   |
| Pond Safety Kit      | \$150.00   |
| Ring Buoy            | \$ 70.00   |
| Deep Water Sign      | \$ 14.00   |
| Rope (per foot)      | \$ 0.25    |
| Tile Probes          | \$37 & 39  |
| Soil Test Probe      | \$ 63.00   |
| Flags                | \$ 0.10 ea |
| 100 5x 8             | \$ 10.00   |
| 6' field flag        | \$ 7.00    |
| Nut Wizards®         | \$ 40-45   |
| Compost Bin          | \$ 50.00   |
| Rat Guards           |            |
| 4" stainless steel   | \$ 8.00    |
| 6" stainless steel   | \$ 10.00   |
| 8" stainless steel   | \$ 12.00   |
| 10" stainless steel  | \$ 18.00   |
| 12" stainless steel  | \$ 28.00   |
| 15" mild steel       | \$ 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)

Delivery Charge \$20.00

Cleanout Charge \$25.00

(if applicable)

#### Dibble Bar

\$40 Refundable Deposit

#### Tree Planter

(for large planting projects)

\$25.00 First Day

\$45.00 Each Additional Day

*For Use by Wood County  
Residents and Landowners*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tree Seedling Sale**  
**December 14-March 1**

(please note that some  
species are limited  
quantities)

**Tree Workshop**  
**TBD**

**Fingerling Fish Sale**  
**Pick-up**  
**April 27, 2021**

**Pond Clinic**  
**TBD**

### District Staff

Jim Carter, District Administrator/Drainage & Engineering Coordinator

Jeremy Gerwin, Resource Protection Specialist

Beth Landers, Resource Protection Watershed Specialist

Julie Lause, Administrative Assistant & Outreach Coordinator

Sarah St. John, District Technician

Beth Anne (Keller) Hermes, WLEB Nutrient Management Technician

### NRCS Staff

Becky Duncan, District Conservationist

Kelly Copeland, Resource Conservationist

Josh Gerwin, Area Resource Conservationist

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.*

**Please contact the district office to update contact information or to be added to the email contact list. The majority of correspondence from the Wood SWCD is through email and social media.**

### CONTACT US

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