

SO, YOU THINK YOU WANT A POND?

Ponds dot the landscape of Ohio and have for a very long time. Initially, ponds were created to provide a reserve source of water for the farm to water livestock, provide fire protection, enable fish production, and other purposes. However, in today's changing land-use landscape, ponds offer a source for recreation, creating wildlife habitat, or improving the aesthetics of a property. There is more to building and managing a pond than digging a hole and grabbing a lawn chair! Some of the things to consider include:

1. Are the soils conducive to having a pond? Some soils hold water better than others. A pond can leak due to improper soils, incorrect construction methods, and/or porous geologic formations resulting in a mud hole. Evaluation of the soils at a pond site can determine if a pond is economically feasible. Ponds are expensive; even more so if additional material needs hauled in to seal the bottom. Preliminary information on soils and their suitability can be provided by Soil & Water.



- 2. What is the source of water to fill and maintain a pond?** Ponds can be filled and maintained through a variety of water sources. If surface runoff is the main source of water for the pond, is there a sufficient number of acres to provide the volume of water necessary for the size of pond desired? Soil & Water can assist in determining the watershed to see if it is suitable for the size of the pond being considered.
- 3. What impact will a pond have to adjacent properties?** Regardless of the source of water to fill and maintain a pond (springs, runoff, streams), careful consideration is warranted regarding the impact and location of the overflow and emergency spillway.
- 4. How is the pond going to be managed?** While a pond can provide a valuable asset to a property, it must be managed to maintain its contribution as an asset rather than a liability. Several methods exist to manage unwanted or excessive

vegetation (algae, cattails, aquatic growth), which include biologic approaches (various species of fish) and chemical approaches (dyes, herbicides, algacides, etc.). Aeration is another approach that has been shown to improve water quality, increase oxygen in the water, discourage growth of algae, and promote healthier fish.

- 5. Are permits required?** Landowners desiring a pond should check with several agencies to determine if a

continued on page 3

IN THIS ISSUE

- So, You Think You Want A Pond?
- Meet Our New Staff Members
- Volunteers Needed To Help with Tree Sale
- 2021 Farmland Preservation Program
- Pond Clinic
- Backyard Conservation Day
- Protect the Edge
- Fish Sale Information and Order Form
- River Round Up Poster Contest
- Important Dates

FISH SALE & POND CLINIC

Join us at our Pond Clinic, April 28th. Additional information on page 4.

New for this year, Soil & Water is offering a fish sale. Details and order form on pages 6 & 7.



Promoting conservation of natural resources through local leadership, education, and technical assistance.

771 East Main Street, Ste 100
Newark, Ohio 43055-6971
740-670-5330

@ConservingSoil&Water

LickingSWCD.com

SOIL & WATER STAFF

- Jackie Bruns
- Brent Dennis
- Kristy Hawthorne
- Briana Hodgson
- Joe Jarvis
- Kyle Seitz
- Britney Stuller
- Madison Wisniewski

BOARD MEMBERS

- Kim Byce
- Seth Dobbelaer
- Bill Goodman
- Mamie Hollenback
- Ron Thompson

ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS

- Jeff Baker
- Jeff Bates
- Dee Hammel

USDA NRCS STAFF

- Joe Koehler
- Carlton Howard
- Emily Price

Office Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Monday – Friday
Closed Federal Holidays

The office is open by appointment only. Please call 740-670-5330 to set up an appointment.

The Soil & Water Board meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 4:30 PM. Contact the office for location and virtual participation option. The public is welcome to attend.

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

MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Madison Wisniewski is the newest Urban District Technician at Soil & Water! She is originally from the Cleveland area, where she worked with watershed organizations to improve water quality in Lake Erie.

In 2018, she graduated from Ohio University with a B.S. in Environmental Geography. Since then, she has completed a service year with AmeriCorps and worked at Chagrin River Watershed Partners. She also took part in assisting with the coordination of the Northeast Ohio Master Rain Gardener program, where she discovered her love for native plants and rain gardens. On top of that, she also has experience in assisting landowners with stormwater issues, using GIS software, creating education materials, and event planning.

Madison will be assisting Licking County’s communities with the urban stormwater permit requirements.

Contact Madison at 740-670-5334 or madisonwisniewski@lickingswcd.com.

Britney Stuller has joined the Soil & Water team as the part-time Administrative Assistant.

Britney attended OSU/COTC and has a background in banking and customer service. Her responsibilities include customer service, financial reporting, and helping her coworkers behind the scenes.

Britney lives locally with her four children and loves watching them participate in year-round sports. She also loves riding her motorcycle.

Contact Britney at 740-670-5330 or via email britneystuller@lickingswcd.com

NEEDED: VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH TREE SALE

Annually, Licking Soil & Water distributes tens of thousands of trees. Consider helping inventory and package the delicate seedling trees, putting together wildflower seed packets, and assisting community members when they pick up tree orders. Opportunities are inside and outside, sitting and standing, and for a couple hours or for a whole day. Any time you can give is much appreciated.

On Monday, April 12: in the morning, we’ll be packaging and labeling wildflower seed packets inside, and we’ll be in the barn all day inventorying trees and prepping for packaging the bulk trees into bundles.

On Tuesday, April 13 and Wednesday, April 14: in the morning and afternoon, we’ll be packaging the trees in bundles, labeling the bundles, and organizing the barn for customer pick-up.

On Thursday, April 15: we’ll be filling and distributing large orders in the morning through early afternoon, then starting in early afternoon, we’ll be inventorying and preparing for Friday pick-ups.

On Friday, April 16: in the morning, afternoon, and evening, we’ll be assisting community members when they pick up their orders and preparing seedling trees for students.

On Monday, April 26: in the morning and afternoon, we’ll be preparing trees for sale at Backyard Conservation Day.

Sign up to volunteer at LickingSWCD.com or call 740-670-5330.

LOCAL AGRICULTURAL EASEMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM (LAEPP) NOT FUNDED IN 2021

As of December 2020, the LAEPP program will not be accepting applications due to decreased funding from the Clean Ohio fund for 2021. We anticipate the program to be fully funded in 2022.

Looking ahead, there are items that can be discussed and steps that can be taken by landowners to prepare for the 2022 application process.

To be considered for permanent protection, the farm must remain in agriculture

production in perpetuity. Selected farms must be at least 40 acres, actively engaged in farming, participate in the Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV) program, demonstrate good stewardship of the land, have the support of their local government, and not lay directly in the path of development.

Contact Briana at BrianaHodgson@LickingSWCD.com or 740-670-5330 for more information about how to prep for a future application. 🌱



TWO FARMS ADDED TO THE FARM-LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

The Ohio Department of Agriculture, Office of Farmland Preservation partners with landowners, local government, soil and water conservation districts, and land trusts to permanently preserve Ohio farms in agricultural production, strengthening Ohio's number one industry, food and agriculture.

Licking County Soil & Water has been a local sponsor for the the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP) since 2009, holding a total of 22 easements for a total of 3,599 acres.

Congratulations to the Fitzsimmons on Lesley Road in Madison Township and the Wills on Brownsville Road in Hopewell Township! 🌱

SO, YOU THINK YOU WANT A POND?

continued from page 1

permit is required. These include the Licking County Planning Department (<https://lickingcounty.gov/depts/planning/default.htm>, 740-670-5200), Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources (<http://water.ohiodnr.gov/safety/dam-safety/about>, 614-265-6620), and the Township Zoning Inspector (if applicable; <https://lickingcounty.gov/about/township.htm>). Permit requirements are usually determined by the location of the pond (where in the county or municipality, proximity to roads and houses, etc.), whether the proposed pond is in a floodplain, the effect on neighbors and adjacent landowners, and if the pond is dug out or will have a dam.

- 6. Find a reputable contractor.** Locate a contractor who has the knowledge, experience, and equipment to build a pond. One question to ask is do they have a sheepsfoot roller. A sheepsfoot roller is used to compact material. The bottom layer of a pond needs to be compacted correctly to enable it to hold water and not leak.
- 7. Consider incorporating a dry hydrant.** A dry hydrant is an unpressurized pipe incorporated into a pond design that enables a hookup to a fire engine pump. The dry hydrant then becomes a source of water for fighting fires. Contact your local fire department about this as an option. 🌱

RENT OUR NO-TILL DRILL



Have a pasture or hay field to replant? Small soybean field? Other planting needs? Our no-till drills rent for only \$12 per acre.

**Call to schedule:
740-670-5330**

Great Plains 706NT Drill

**Tractor Requirements – 85 hp
Planting Width – 7 feet
Total Width – 9 feet 10 inches**

John Deere 1590 Grain Drill

**Tractor Requirements – 55 hp
Planting Width – 10 feet
Total Width – 10 feet 6 inches**

**Pond
Clinic**

How To Build & Maintain A Healthy Pond

April 28, 2021 • 5:30 – 7:00 PM

2400 Montgomery Road, Newark, OH 43055

Brent Dennis of Soil & Water, will cover considerations for building a new pond, including soil types and how to determine the size based on your watershed.

Steve Fender of Fender Fish Hatchery will address pond concerns, fish stocking, fish habitat, and methods to control aquatic vegetation. He will also provide insight on how to maintain a healthy pond.

Soil & Water will be taking orders for our Fish Sale until April 29th. Fish Sale details & order form are on pages 6 & 7.

Please **RSVP** at www.LickingSWCD.com
or call 740-670-5330

Thank you to our event partner  **Granville**
Milling Co.
est. 1953



**Backyard
Conservation
Day**

**A Day of Education and Celebration of
Licking County's Natural Wonders!**

May 8, 2021 • 10 AM – 2 PM

771 East Main Street, Newark, OH 43055

Join us for a day of hands-on activities at Soil and Water's very own Land Lab.
Follow us at facebook.com/ConservingSoilandWater for more details.



Explore our
rain gardens and
pollinators they host

Purchase seedling trees*,
wildflower seed, and
rain barrels

Learn about invasive
species and how to keep
small woodlots healthy

Nature-related
take-n-make
craft kits

*Visit www.LickingSWCD.com for list of species available and complete list of products for sale.
740-670-5330 • information@lickingswcd.com

PROTECT THE EDGE – STREAMBANK MAINTENANCE

Is your house located along a stream? Streams are dynamic systems, meaning they are constantly changing. Your stream may be a babbling brook most days, but after a heavy rain, it can become a roiling river. The best way to get along with your stream is to protect the edge with a buffer strip of native grass, forbs, trees, and/or shrubs. To an uninformed eye, a buffer of natural, unmown or rarely mowed, native vegetation may give an unkempt appearance; however, the buffer is beneficial for many reasons:

- Plant roots help stabilize the stream bank. Native plants have robust root systems which hold the soil in place.
 - Buffers intercept sediment and prevent its accumulation in the stream. Sediment can smother aquatic organisms that live on the stream bottom and make it difficult for fish to find food. Murky water affects the aesthetics of your stream.
 - Within the water, small fish and other aquatic organisms will find vital cover under plants that hang over the edge. The shade provided by the plants in the buffer helps to moderate the temperature of the stream.
- Cooler water holds more oxygen and reduces stress on fish and other aquatic creatures.
 - Flourishing vegetation on the bank attracts desirable wildlife such as mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. Buffers entice insects like dragonflies, and various birds, which feed on mosquitoes and ticks. Buffers provide an excellent food source for our valuable pollinators. Buffers provide connecting corridors that enable wildlife to move safely from one habitat area to another.
 - Buffers help filter trash as well as leaves, grass clippings, fertilizers, and other debris that can cause excessive nutrient spikes. If the stream receives runoff laden with nitrogen and phosphorus, nuisance vegetation and algae can grow. Excessive growth may lead to water quality problems such as foul odors, low dissolved oxygen levels potentially leading to fish kills, and harmful algal blooms which are unsafe for people, pets, and wildlife.
 - Buffers absorb rainwater, which recharges groundwater supplies and allows storm runoff to be released

more slowly. This can reduce the intensity and frequency of flooding.

According to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, properly installed and maintained buffers have the capacity to remove up to an astounding 50 percent or more of nutrients and pesticides and up to 75 percent or more of sediment!

For more information on how to protect your stream, contact Soil and Water at 740-670-5330 or visit www.LickingSWCD.com

2021 CONSERVATION MINI-GRANT APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE

We are excited to announce the Conservation Mini-Grant was funded by the Board of Supervisors for \$5,000 for the 2021 Program year.

The Licking Soil & Water's Conservation Mini-Grant program offers up to \$1,000 to nonprofits, including schools, that demonstrate the need and ability to carry out on-the-ground conservation projects. Applications will be accepted until October 1, 2021. Awards will be announced by October 31, 2021.

Who May Apply

The Mini-Grant program is open to nonprofit organizations such as schools, watershed groups, local government entities, municipalities, community groups (including governing bodies and associations such as HOAs and condo associations), and civic associations. Projects are limited to Licking County, Ohio.

Contact us at information@LickingSWCD.com or visit www.LickingSWCD.com for more information and application.



Grow, Don't Mow! This streambank would benefit from the protection that trees, shrubs, and deep-rooted native grasses and wildflowers would provide.

2021 FISH FINGERLING SALE INFORMATION



Channel Catfish

4–5" fingerling: a sport and food fish; spawns are forage for bass; can grow up to 14"; easier to catch after a hard rain



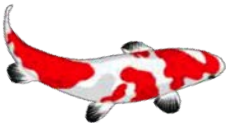
Fathead Minnow

1–2" fingerling: a forage fish; can grow to 3" ; readily consumed by predatory species



Hybrid Bluegill

2–4" fingerling: a forage and sport fish; known for their rapid growth to 10"; the primary prey of largemouth bass



Japanese Koi

6–8": Maximum length is 3 feet; do best in ponds with more than one koi; get along well with other, nonaggressive fish; great for controlling duckweed and other aquatic weeds



Redear Shellcracker

2–4": closely related to the bluegill; popular pan fish; can grow up to 11"; eats snails, crayfish, and small fish



White Amur (Grass Carp)

8–14": good for aquatic weed control



Yellow Perch

2–3" fingerling: requires brush or weeds to lay eggs during the first part of April



Bluegill

2–3" fingerling: a forage and sport fish; can grow up to 10"; the primary prey of largemouth bass

Recommended Stocking Rates Number Per Pond Surface Acre

Channel Catfish	50–100
Fathead Minnow	1,000
Hybrid Bluegill	100
Redear Shellcracker	100
Yellow Perch	100
Bluegill	200
White Amur	
20–40% Pond Cover: 5 Fish	
40–60% Pond Cover: 10 Fish	

For more information on any of the items sold in this year's sale, you may visit our supplier's website:

Fender's Fish Hatchery

www.fendersfishhatchery.com



Fish Sale Pick Up Information

Order forms are due by April 29th with payment

Fish pick-up: Saturday, May 8th from 1–2 PM

Location: Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District

771 E. Main Street Newark, OH 43050

- Bring a 10–20 gallon garbage can or 5 gallon bucket
- Line container with non-deodorized plastic liner
- Fill half full of your own pond water

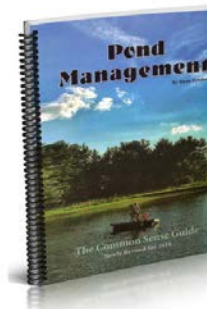
Approximately 10 gallons of water holds 100 fingerlings. Each White Amur and Koi requires 2 gallons of water and must be placed in a container with a lid or a liner that can be tied at the top. All fish guaranteed to be delivered in good condition, however, we can not guarantee survival after being picked up.

Pond Conditioner

Nature's Pond Conditioner by Koenders is a two in one bottle product, containing both needed bacteria and pond dye.

Pond Management Book *The Common Sense Guide*

Written by Steve Fender of Fender's Fish Hatchery.



2021 FISH FINGERLING ORDER FORM



Orders must be received by April 29, 2021

Order online at www.LickingSWCD.com/for-sale-or-rent/.com



Name (Please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____

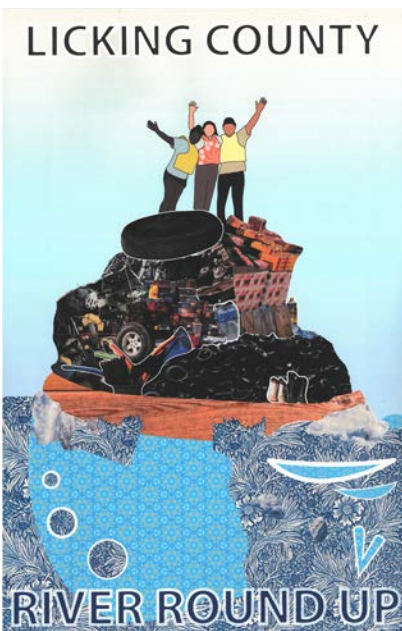
Phone _____

Office Use Only
Receipt # _____

Species	Size	Quantity	Price	Item Total
Channel Catfish	4-5"		.75	
Fathead Minnow	1-2"		100 for \$7.00	
Hybrid Bluegill	2-4"		.85	
Japanese Koi	6-8"		\$12.00	
Redear Shellcracker	2-4"		.85	
White Amur	8-14"		\$14.00	
Yellow Perch	2-3"		.90	
Bluegill	2-4"		.85	
Pond Conditioner	1 gallon		\$90.00	
Pond Management Book	1 book		\$20.00	
Checks (payable to Licking SWCD)			Total Price	\$

Mail to: Licking SWCD, 771 E. Main Street, Ste 100, Newark, OH 43055

2020 Winning Poster



771 East Main Street
Suite 100
Newark, Ohio 43055-6971

Return Service Requested
DATED MATERIAL

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
Paid
Newark, Ohio
Permit No. 326

RIVER ROUND UP 2021 POSTER CONTEST

The poster contest is open to all school-aged youth living in Licking County.

Stormwater is a main source of pollution in our waterways. After it rains, water washes across our yards, roads, and other surfaces picking up pollutants that eventually end up in our lakes, rivers, and streams. Showcase your skills by creating a poster that reflects the importance of water pollution awareness and encourage volunteer participation in the River Round Up.

The grand prize winner will receive \$100 in prize money and the artist’s school will receive a \$500 scholarship to advance

science and art programming. Two honorable mentions will receive \$50 in prize money and a \$250 scholarship for their school.

The winning poster will be the primary electronic marketing picture for the 2021 River Round Up and will also be displayed at River Round Up Event sites on September 11, 2021.

All entries must be submitted electronically at <https://lickingswcd.com/how-to-help/river-round-up-2021.html>

DEADLINE: Friday, April 16th, 2021 at 4:30 PM

IMPORTANT DATES

Apr 12–16	Volunteers Needed for Tree Sale
Apr 16	River Round Up Poster Contest Submission Deadline
Apr 16	Tree Sale Pre-Orders Pick-Up
Apr 21	Soil & Water Board Meeting**
Apr 28	*Pond Clinic: How to Build and Maintain a Healthy Pond
Apr 29	Fish Sale Order Deadline
May 1	Farm Bureau Farmer Share Breakfast
May 8	Backyard Conservation Day
May 19	Soil & Water Board Meeting**
May 31	Memorial Day (Soil & Water Office Closed)

* RSVP Required - Visit LickingSWCD.com for details.

** Virtual option available

CELEBRATE NATURAL RESOURCES THIS SPRING

Start of Native Plant Month

April 1

Earth Day

April 22

Arbor Day

April 30

NACD Stewardship Week

April 25–May 3