

CONSERVATION NOTES

Mission: To promote conservation of natural resources through local leadership, education and technical assistance.

Board of Supervisor Elections and Annual Banquet

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Volunteer Recognition Reception 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Supervisor Election 5:30 - 6:30p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and Presentation at 7:00 p.m.

Heritage Hall, 1058 E. Main St., Newark, OH 43055

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Tickets:
\$15 each

**Reservation deadline:
Monday, November 2, 2015**

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771 E. Main St., Suite 100, Newark Ohio 43055

Seeking Conservation- Minded Leaders

As a political subdivision of the State, Licking Soil & Water is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors elected by Licking County residents and landowners. The Board is actively seeking interested, conservation-minded and qualified community members to serve as candidates for the 2015 Board of Supervisors election.

Candidates must be willing to give their time and talents to help promote natural resources conservation and oversee Soil & Water initiatives. Two candidates will be elected during the supervisor election prior to the Soil & Water Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 5, 2015.

To be considered for candidacy by the Nominating Committee, submit an application by September 9, 2015. For more information or to request an application, contact Nominating Committee Chair, John Chacey at (740) 670-5330 or adminassist@lickingswcd.com.

What's up with our Water Quality?

Dr. Christopher J. Winslow is the Assistant Director, Ohio Sea Grant College Program. He has worked at OSU's Stone Laboratory for five years. Dr. Winslow teaches Current Topics in Environment and Engineering and appreciates the hands-on opportunities for students to learn about scientific principles while visiting the lab. He earned a B.S. from Ohio University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from Bowling Green State University. His research focuses on behavioral, population, and community ecology of fishes with an emphasis on invasive species. His presentation at the Licking Soil & Water Annual Banquet on November 5th will focus on water quality issues facing our region.



2015 Soil & Water Annual Banquet Registration

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Names of Additional Attendee(s) for Name Tags:

Tickets: ____ x \$15 each \$ _____

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Meet Intern Amanda

Amanda Bressoud is a Granville resident and graduate of Granville High School. She brings her experience in aquatics, forestry, soils, and wildlife as a former Granville Envirothon team member. Her interest in natural sciences led her to pursue a Biology degree at Grinnell College, where she is a junior.



During her internship, Amanda will be concentrating on the maintenance of the demonstration gardens, both around the Newark office, as well as at the Hartford Fair Natural Resources Area. She hopes to develop informational signs for the gardens as well as expand rain garden/native garden related posts on Licking Soil & Water's Facebook pages. Updated rain garden brochures and web pages are also part of Amanda's internship goals.

In addition to maintaining the demonstration gardens, Amanda will examine the data collected through Stream Team over the last several years, and putting together a report on the water quality in Licking County.

After completing her internship, she will be studying abroad in Australia as part of a tropical rainforest studies program focused on rainforest conservation.



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Grass Clippings, Leaves, and Branches Oh My!

Summer is now upon us and for some, that means yard work. Mowing the lawn may leave you with bags full of grass clippings. After trimming the hedges or just some general weeding, you may end up with a large pile of twigs and vegetation. And after heavy summer storms, you can find people all across Licking County picking up tree branches from their yards. All of these activities usually lead to us asking, *What do I do with all of this yard waste?*

Below are some yard waste best management practices:

- Compost it! If you have your own compost pile or compost tumbler at home, GO YOU! You get the added benefit of producing rich soils to add to a garden or flower beds at no cost to you.
- Drop it off! There are several locations in Licking County that accept yard waste free of charge,

including Hope Timber, Elm Recycling, Kurtz Brothers and The Compost Farm. These businesses recycle yard waste into mulch or compost.

- Do not dump yard waste in ditches, streams, or low-lying wet spots! It pollutes our waterways with excess nutrients, and fertilizer and pesticide residue. Instead, start a compost pile in a drier location away from water.

- Use scheduled pickup days! Many of our local communities have scheduled pickup days in the fall for tree limbs and leaves. If collecting for a local curb-side pickup, do not leave open piles on curbs or near storm drains. Debris can be destructive to stormwater systems, causing them to clog and overflow after rainfalls. Instead, bag your waste in paper or decomposable waste bags, as is often required by local communities.

Licking County River Round Up Planned

Save the date for Saturday, September 12, 2015. This year, for the 21st anniversary of the River Round Up, the goal is to continue to branch out into the community and clean up more waterways throughout the county. Some additions for 2015 include: sections of the South Fork Licking River in Heath and Kirkersville, and Muddy Fork in Pataskala. Other sections include South Fork in Pataskala and Union Township, North Fork Licking River in St. Louisville and around Everett Park in Newark, Licking River from Riverview Reserve in Newark through Blackhand Gorge, Raccoon Creek in Granville, and the stormwater ditch system in Hebron.



As the number of river miles cleaned up continues to increase, generous sponsors help make the event

possible. The Presenting Sponsor for the 2015 Licking County River Round Up is Shacklefords Disposal. Learn more about Shacklefords Disposal at shacklefordsdisposal.net/home. Learn more about the River Round Up through Facebook and lickingswcd.com.

Save the Date:

Saturday, September 12, 2015
Licking County River Round Up

Presenting Sponsor



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Introduction to Forestry Workshop Planned

ODNR Service Foresters John Kehn and Andy Sabula, covering Morrow, Licking, Knox, Perry, Cuyahoga, Geauga, and Summit Counties will host an "Introduction to Forestry" class on Friday July 24th 2015 at 7778 Priest Hollow Dr. Frazeyburg, Ohio 43822. Space is limited to the first 35 participants who register.

Service Foresters work with private landowners on all aspects of forest management from tree planting through harvesting. The topics covered in this class will include selling timber, how trees grow, property tax reduction programs, improving the quality and growth of your trees, and the economics of forestry.

The class will commence at 9 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m. Dress

for the weather; the event will be outside rain or shine. Please bring a sack lunch and a folding chair. There is no cost to participate.

This class does count for Ohio Forest Tax Law credit but does NOT cover the required "Core" class, which is held periodically at various locations in the state. The two classes will not cover the same material.

To register for the class, call 440

564-5883 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Depending on participation levels, in addition to the "Introduction to Forestry" class, subsequent classes covering specific topics such as "Timber Stand Improvement", and "Timber Marketing" in more detail will be offered throughout the year in various locations in the state.

For more information, visit lickingswcd.com/calendar.



2015 Rain Barrel Order Form

(7-1-2015 NL)



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 with payment to: Licking SWCD, 771 E. Main St., Suite 100, Newark, OH 43055.**

Master Gardener Open House

Licking County Master Gardener Volunteers of Ohio State University Extension, will host their Demonstration Garden Open House on Saturday, July 18 from 10 a.m.– 1 p.m.

Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer gardening questions. Demonstrations will be given. Enjoy the music and food provided while strolling through the gardens. Don't forget to bring your camera!

Gardens include: Food Pantry Garden (last year 3,200 pounds of food was donated to the Salvation Army Food Pantry), Fairy Gardens, Perennial Cutting Gardens, Pollinator Gardens and Phenology Garden (Part of OSU/ Wooster research), Certified Butterfly Garden, Herb, Memorial Gardens, Raised beds, Hops, and Ornamental Grasses.



Pollinators need YOUR help!

Pollinators, such as butterflies, moths, bees, hummingbirds, and other insects, play a crucial role in the production of most fruits and vegetables grown in Ohio, including summer favorites such as strawberries, peaches, apples, cucumbers, squash, tomatoes, and watermelons. In the United States pollination by honey bees and other pollinators contributed to over \$29 billion of crops in 2010. Pollinators are also important in nature because only pollinated plants produce seeds, and these seeds will eventually produce new plants, providing food and habitat for a diverse array of wildlife.

The importance of pollinators to both humans and wild places has been recognized at the highest levels. On May 19, 2015, The White House released the National Strategy to Promote Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated June 15-21 National Pollinator Week. Governor Kasich recently signed a proclamation designating this same week as Ohio Pollinator Week. Federal and State wildlife agencies, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife, are reaching out to Ohio's landowners to help protect and restore pollinator populations. In addition, the USFWS has created the statewide Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative (OPHI). OPHI is a collaborative effort, working with numerous partners such as ODNR, Ohio Department of Transportation, The Ohio State University, American Electric Power, Licking Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), to create and/or improve pollinator habitat across the State of Ohio and increase pollinator conservation awareness of all Ohioans.



Check out these tips to promote pollinators in your own backyard:

1. Plant your garden with pollinator-friendly flowers that provide nectar for food throughout the growing season.
2. Pollinators need different food during different life stages. Add plants to your yard that provide food and habitat for caterpillars.
3. Avoid or minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides in your garden and on your lawn. If chemicals must be used, select a variety that targets just your problem, follow the directions on the label exactly, and apply only to problem areas.
4. Leave un-mowed areas along fence lines, streams, wet areas, roads, and other out of the way places. These patches of habitat provide homes for pollinators and great pollinator plants, such as common milkweed.
5. For assistance in planning and implementing a larger-scale pollinator habitat restoration, contact USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) Program Office at 740 670-5312.



Preserving Farmland

Licking Soil & Water continues to work with landowners on conservation options and help place agricultural easements on their farmland. As a 2015 Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) Certified Local Sponsor, Licking Soil & Water received \$351,175 to purchase an easement on the highest-scoring farm. In addition, Licking Soil & Water applied for \$178,650.00 in federal matching funds that if received, may allow for one to two more farms to be funded.

An agricultural easement is a legal agreement to limit development on a parcel(s) of land. The landowner continues to own the land and can sell, gift or transfer it. The easement remains with the land and is binding on future owners.

ODA oversees the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LEAPP) and uses soil types, proximity to protected land, conservation planning, development pressure, local comprehensive planning and other factors for scoring applications. For more information on LAEPP, visit ODA's web site: <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/farmland/> or contact Pat Deering at Licking Soil & Water at pmdeering@lickingSWCD.com or 740-670-5330.

Meet Intern Ryan

Ryan Kauchak is a resident of Granville and graduate of Granville High School. She completed her freshman year at Lake Erie College where she majored in Biology. Ryan will start her sophomore year at Ohio University as a Biology major, with a concentration in Environmental Science.

During high school, Ryan took an ecology course where she learned how to conduct water quality tests. This experience led to the formation of her primary internship project, identifying waterways that have not been monitored and collecting data for the Stream Team water quality monitoring program.

As a past member of the Newark Junior Gardeners program, and experience assisting with Granville's Wildwood Park gardens, Ryan will also use her expertise to help with demonstration garden maintenance.



Local Food Week Planned

The Local Food Council will host the Second Annual Local Food Week, August 14-22, 2015. Licking County has a rich agricultural heritage and diverse array of producers and entrepreneurs. These businesses specialize in local food enterprises as varied as pick-your own apple orchards, vibrant farmers markets, local wineries and breweries, fine restaurants and a historic mill.

Local Food Week is sponsored by the Licking County 30 Mile Meal, a project of the Local Food Council. The Council is a coalition of local producers, buyers, and consumer advocates focusing on promoting the local food economy.

Local Food Week events include a Kick-off at Infirmity Mound Park and wrap up with a Food Truck Festival at The Dawes Arboretum.

Find more information here: <http://realfoodreallocalinstitute.org/lickingcounty-oh/> or contact: lickingcountylocalfood@gmail.com. Mark your calendar for a great week celebrating local food.



Thank You Sponsors

Granville Kiwanis - Platinum Plus Sponsor

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Funds raised during the 2015 Licking Soil & Water Annual Giving Campaign help support many mission-based programs for youth and adults. For more information or to make a campaign donation, call 740-670-5330 or visit www.lickingSWCD.com.

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This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District
771 E. Main Street, Suite 100
Newark, OH 43055
740-670-5330
www.lickingSWCD.com

Advertising in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by the Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District supervisors or staff.

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Summer
2015



Licking County Soil & Water
Conservation District Office
740-670-5330 * www.lickingSWCD.com

Consider electronic delivery to help conserve natural resources and reduce postage costs. Email information@lickingSWCD.com to sign up. For updates and more activities, visit www.lickingSWCD.com/calendar.

Visit us at the Hartford Fair Natural Resources Area

The five-acre Natural Resources Area provides family-friendly, free and educational programs throughout the Hartford Fair. With a pond, wetland and creek on site, water-related activities are ongoing. In addition to canoeing and kayaking, Stand Up Paddleboarding programs are new this year.

Community members are encouraged to enter one of many contests from Nature Photography and Cooking Contests to Duck Race and Fishing Derby. A Natural Resources Skillathon has also been added to the line-up. For contest rules, please contact zachbollheimer@lickingSWCD.com.

A full schedule of events is available at lickingSWCD.com, or pick up a Fair book in the Licking Soil & Water building. The Natural Resources Area is located just east of the horse complex.



Important Dates

Jul 24: Intro to Forestry Workshop
Aug 9-15: Hartford Fair
Aug 14-22: Local Food Week
Aug 19: LCSWCD Board Meeting
Late August (TBD): Spring Development Wksp.
Sep 7: Labor Day-Office Closed
Sep 12: River Round Up
Sep 17: Stream Team Training
Sep (TBD) : Cover Crop Workshop
Sep 9: LCSWCD Board Meeting
Oct 12: Columbus Day-Office Closed
Nov 5: LCSWCD Volunteer Reception
Nov 5: LCSWCD Ann Meeting
Nov 11: Veterans' Day-Office closed

More events at www.lickingSWCD.com/calendar.