



Volunteer for the River Round Up!

The Licking River Round Up is a community-based effort to keep our water clean. Last year, volunteers pulled over 18,000 pounds of trash and 300 tires out of our waterways. Can you imagine if we didn't have the River Round Up every year?

Be the change you want to see. Be the change for clean water!

[Like us at the River Round Up on Facebook for updates.](#)

Sign up to be a River Round Up volunteer!

Soil & Water Gives Back

To celebrate Soil & Water's 75th Anniversary, the Board established a community Conservation Mini-Grant Program in 2019. The program offers up to \$1,000 to Licking County non-profits that demonstrate the need and ability to carry out on-the-ground conservation projects.

The Mini-Grant program is open to non-profit organizations such as schools, watershed groups, local government entities, municipalities, community groups (including governing bodies and associations such as HOA's and condo associations), and civic associations.

[Learn more and complete an application here.](#)



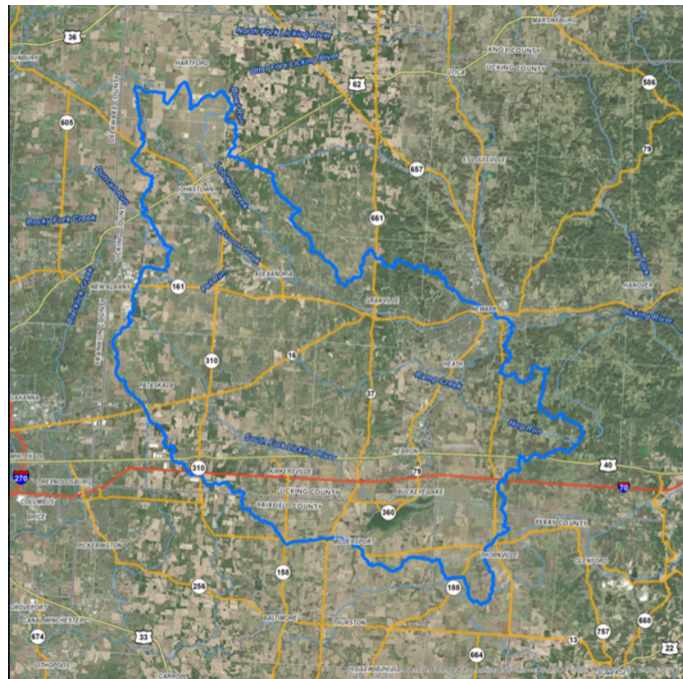
Check out 2020 grant recipient, Licking Valley Middle School's rain garden project!

Flood Damage Reduction and Channel Maintenance

The South Licking Watershed Conservancy District (SLWCD) invites property owners and businesses within the South Fork Licking River watershed to report information for a Flood Damage Reduction Planning Study.

The planning study and findings will serve as the basis for updating the Official Plan for the SLWCD, which is essential to the District being able to implement improvements throughout the area.

Landowners are encouraged to provide input about what is happening on their properties and in their communities.



[Learn more about the South Licking Watershed Conservancy District efforts here.](#)

The Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative is calling on all Ohioans for another year of Milkweed pod collections!

Milkweed is the only host plant for the Monarch butterfly for egg-laying and caterpillar rearing. It also serves as a food source for Monarch butterflies for egg-laying and caterpillar rearing. It also serves as a food source for Monarchs as well as many other pollinator species.

- 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! (Since pod collection starts September 1st and runs through October 31st... please use September as the time to locate milkweed plants and to keep an eye on the pods while they ripen and then pick them once they look like the picture shown.)
- If the center seam pops with gentle pressure, it can be harvested.
- Store the pods in paper bags; plastic bags collect unwanted moisture.
- Please 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.

[Click here to learn more!](#)



Reserve the no-till drill for fall planting



No-till improves soil quality or soil function, carbon, organic matter, aggregates in the soil, protects the soil from erosion, evaporation of water, and structural breakdown of the soils. A reduction in tillage passes can also help prevent the compaction of the soil.

[Check out the John Deere 1590 No-Till Drill or Great Plains 706 No-Till Drill for your planting needs.](#)

[Why is Protecting Stormwater](#)

[Important?](#)

With 71% of Earth's surface covered in water, it seems like it would be an infinite resource! In reality, 97% of water is found in the oceans - making it unusable for humans. This leaves just 3% of Earth's water as potable water for us to use for watering crops, drinking, bathing, and everything else. All the water we have on Earth now is all the water we've ever had and will ever have! If our water gets polluted, we don't have any backup supplies - so we better work to keep it clean!



Stormwater accounts for an estimated 70–90% of water pollution. Not only does polluted water affect us, but it also harms the ecosystems around us. Plants and animals rely on clean water for drinking and habitats. Next time it rains, consider all the ways you can keep pollutants out of our waterways!

[Check out these ways you can help protect stormwater!](#)

[Visit our calendar for upcoming events!](#)

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Take a simple step and help us accomplish our mission. Save paper and receive our monthly newsletter via email only. If you are still on our mailing list and would like to opt out, [click here to remove your physical address, and go green!](#)

www.LickingSWCD.com

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