



CONSERVATION NOTES

SOIL & WATER PARTNERING WITH THE NATURE CONSERVANCY ON \$1.2 M PROJECT TO PROTECT WATER IN CENTRAL OHIO

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) announced a groundbreaking collaboration with several companies to reduce the pollution of lakes and restore streams in Central Ohio. This crucial region is home to some of the fastest-growing population centers in the state.

Amazon Web Services, Google, Bath & Body Works, and Ryan Companies US, Inc. are providing a combined \$1.2 million for the project, which is expected

to divert runoff from more than 700 acres of mostly farm fields through a restored wetland. It will be an important step in utilizing TNC’s science and local relationships to establish regional priorities for stream and wetland restoration in Central Ohio.

TNC will collaborate with the Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District to restore the wetland and expects the effort to be completed in late 2026.

“This collective funding model is the result of the private sector coming together for nature,” said TNC Ohio State Director, Bill Stanley. “AWS, Google, Bath & Body Works and Ryan Companies see the valuable role of nature in protecting our irreplaceable freshwater sources, which are critical for drinking water, recreation and our way of life.”

Read the full Press Release at www.LickingSWCD.com

IN THIS ISSUE

- Soil & Water Partnering with The Nature Conservancy on \$1.2 M Project to Protect Water in Central Ohio
- Drought Assistance Program for Licking County Producers
- 2025 Local Work Group Meeting: Collaborating for Conservation
- Volunteers Needed for Tree Sale & Backyard Conservation Day
- 2025 Seedling Tree Descriptions
- 2025 Seedling Tree Order Form
- Spring Maintenance: Managing Invasive Species for Healthy Stormwater Practices
- Native Plant Options for This Spring
- 2025 Fish Sale Order Form
- 2025 River Round Up Poster Contest
- 2025 Camp Canopy Scholarship
- Join Stream Team: Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program
- Important Dates

DROUGHT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR LICKING COUNTY PRODUCERS

A new state-funded Drought Assistance Program is now available to support farmers affected by the recent drought. This program provides an additional 30-40% payment on Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) contracts for eligible producers in Licking County and 27 other impacted counties.

Program Details:

- **Signup Period:** February 15–April 1
- **Eligibility:** LFP contract holders in affected counties
- **How to Apply:** Visit the Licking SWCD office during designated signup times.

Walk In Signup Hours at Licking SWCD:

- **Tuesdays:** 8:30 – 11:30 AM
- **Wednesdays:** 1:00 – 4:30 PM

Contact us to set up appointments outside the open walk-in sign up dates at (740) 670-5330 or contact Tayler Coy at TaylerCoy@LickingSWCD.com.

Complete the Program Application & W-9 at www.LickingSWCD.com, print and bring to the Soil & Water office at 771 East Main Street, Suite 100, Newark. We will have copies at the office as well.

Take advantage of this opportunity for additional drought relief—contact us with any questions.



Department of Agriculture

2025 Tree Sale order form is enclosed - Order Now!



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

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



740-670-5330
LickingSWCD.com

SOIL & WATER TEAM

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Kyle Seitz
Britney Stuller
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BOARD MEMBERS

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Jeff Carr
Seth Dobbelaer
Bill Goodman
Ron Thompson

ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS

Jeff Bates

USDA NRCS STAFF

Joe Koehler
Mike Puckett
740-670-5340
www.nrcs.usda.gov

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

The Soil & Water Board meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 4 PM at the Soil & Water office. The public is welcome to attend.

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

2025 LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETING: COLLABORATING FOR CONSERVATION

The annual Local Work Group (LWG) meeting, a collaborative effort among the Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Licking County Farm Bureau, is scheduled for **March 7, 2025, at Heritage Hall, 1058 E Main St, Newark, Ohio.**

Purpose of the Meeting

This gathering aims to engage land-owners and stakeholders in discussions about local conservation practices and needs. Participants will be able to guide NRCS and Soil & Water field offices concerning the implementation and delivery of conservation programs. Additionally, the Licking County Farm Bureau will be present to determine the policy needs of their members.

Attending the LWG meeting allows one to influence conservation practices and policies that directly impact the local community. Your input is valuable in shaping effective conservation

strategies and ensuring that programs meet the needs of landowners and the environment.

Agenda Highlights

- **Conservation Practices:** Review and discuss current conservation practices and identify areas for improvement.
- **NRCS Programs:** Learn about NRCS programs, including ranking criteria and application periods.
- **Policy Development:** Contribute to policy development discussions to address local agricultural and conservation issues.

Event Details

Date: March 7, 2025

Time: 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Location: Heritage Hall,
Newark, Ohio

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR 2025 TREE SALE & BACKYARD CONSERVATION DAY!

Spring is just around the corner, and we’re gearing up for two exciting events—the **2025 Tree Sale** and our **4th Annual Backyard Conservation Day on May 10th!** These events help bring native trees and conservation education to our community, but we can’t do it without your help.

We have a variety of volunteer opportunities during the months of April and May—whether you prefer working indoors or outdoors, sitting or stand-ing, for just a couple of hours or the whole day. To volunteer click this link <https://forms.gle/rDyLa243ziByYR3j9>.



2025 SEEDLING TREE SALE

NATIVE SHRUBS, SMALL TREES, FRUIT BEARING



Arrowwood Viburnum- *Viburnum dentatum*
 Mature Height: 6–15'
 Mature Width: 6–15'
 Growth Rate: M
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: D, M, W
 Soil pH: A, N, B

Comments/Uses: ornamental, white flowers, and blue-black berries attract pollinators



Black Chokeberry- *Aronia melanocarpa*
 Mature Height: 3–6'
 Mature Width: 3–6'
 Growth Rate: S–M
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: M
 Soil pH: A

Comments/Uses: fall foliage, black fruit in winter and attracts wildlife



Pawpaw- *Asimina triloba*
 Mature Height: 15–30'
 Mature Width: 15–30'
 Growth Rate: M–F
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: M, W
 Soil pH: A, N

Comments/Uses: edible fruit, wildlife



Red Osier Dogwood- *Cornus sericea*
 Mature Height: 20–30'
 Mature Width: 20–25'
 Growth Rate: S–M
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: M
 Soil pH: A

Comments/Uses: spring flowers, red/burgundy fall foliage



Spicebush- *Lindera benzoin*
 Mature Height: 6–12'
 Mature Width: 6–15'
 Growth Rate: S–M
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: M, W
 Soil pH: A

Comments/Uses: host plant for swallowtail butterfly, pollinators, wildlife, fall foliage and fragrant



Arapaho Thornless Blackberry- *Rubus fruticosus* 'Arapaho'
 Mature Height: 4–6'
 Mature Width: 3–4'
 Growth Rate: S–M
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: M
 Soil pH: A

Comments/Uses: small seeds and thornless- good for jams and syrups, pollinators



Fallgold Yellow Raspberry- *Rubus idaeus* var. *strigosus* 'Fall Gold'
 Mature Height: 2–4'
 Mature Width: 2–4'
 Growth Rate: F
 Light Required: ☀️
 Soil Moisture: M
 Soil pH: A

Comments/Uses: ever-bearing, producing golden-colored medium to large conical berries that are extremely sweet

NATIVE LARGE TREES



Black Gum- *Nyssa sylvatica*
 Mature Height: 60–80'
 Mature Width: 20–30'
 Growth Rate: S–M
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: M
 Soil pH: A

Comments/Uses: wildlife and pollinators



Chinkapin Oak- *Quercus muehlenbergii*
 Mature Height: 40–60'
 Mature Width: 50–80'
 Growth Rate: S–M
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: D, M
 Soil pH: B

Comments/Uses: drought tolerant, fall foliage and wildlife



Northern Pecan- *Carya illinoensis*
 Mature Height: 70–100'
 Mature Width: 40–80'
 Growth Rate: M
 Light Required: ☀️
 Soil Moisture: D, M
 Soil pH: N

Comments/Uses: edible fruit, wildlife, timber



Pin Oak- *Quercus palustris*
 Mature Height: 50–70'
 Mature Width: 40–60'
 Growth Rate: M–F
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: M, W
 Soil pH: A

Comments/Uses: wildlife



Swamp White Oak- *Quercus bicolor*
 Mature Height: 50–70'
 Mature Width: 50–70'
 Growth Rate: S–M
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: M
 Soil pH: A

Comments/Uses: adaptable, bottomlands, timber, wildlife

NATIVE LARGE CONIFER TREES



Eastern White Cedar- *Thuja occidentalis*
 Mature Height: 40–45'
 Mature Width: 12–15'
 Growth Rate: S–M
 Light Required: ☀️ ☁️
 Soil Moisture: M, W
 Soil pH: N

Comments/Uses: ornamental, wet footed



White Pine- *Pinus strobus*
 Mature Height: 60–80'
 Mature Width: 20–40'
 Growth Rate: F
 Light Required: ☀️
 Soil Moisture: M
 Soil pH: A, N

Comments/Uses: timber, windbreak, wildlife



www.LickingSWCD.com



Get in touch with your roots and order your trees today.

Growth Rate:

F = fast, 12"+ per year,
 M = medium 6–12" per year,
 S = slow 2–6" per year

Light Required:

S = sun ☀️
 P = part sun/shade ☁️
 SH = shade ☁️

Soil Moisture:

D = dry, M = medium, W = wet

Soil pH:

A = acidic (6.5 or less),
 N = normal pH range (6.5–7.5),
 B = basic/alkaline (7.5+)

2025 SEEDLING TREE ORDER FORM



Indicate quantity of saplings or packs in area provided for each variety							
Native Shrubs, Small Trees, and Fruit Bearing	Saplings (2'-4')	Pack of 5 (12"-18")	Pack of 25 (12"-18")	Total # of packets × price			
	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$45.00				
Arrowwood Viburnum							
Black Chokeberry							
Pawpaw							
Red-Osier Dogwood							
Spicebush							
Arapaho Thornless Blackberry		5 & 25 packs are NOT available ONLY saplings are available					
Fallgold Yellow Raspberry		5 & 25 packs are NOT available ONLY saplings are available					
Native Large Broadleaf Tree Species	Pack of 5 (12"-18")	Pack of 25 (6"-12")	Pack of 100 (6"-12")	Total # of packets × price			
	\$15.00	\$40.00	\$110.00				
Black Gum							
Chinkapin Oak							
Northern Pecan	Pack of 5 N/A						
Pin Oak							
Swamp White Oak							
Native Large Conifer Tree Species	Pack of 5 (12"-18")	Pack of 25 (6"-12")	Pack of 100 (6"-12")	Total # of packets × price			
	\$15.00	\$35.00	\$80.00				
Eastern White Cedar							
White Pine							
Additional Items	Cost	Qty	Total price	Additional Items	Cost	Qty	Total price
Erosion Seed Mix	\$5.00			Marking Flags	\$0.20		
Wildflower Seeds	\$5.00			Dibble Bar	\$95.00		
Marking Paint	\$9.00			Rain Barrel	\$65.00		
Tree Tube / Stake	\$7.50			Geotextile	\$2.00 / Lin. Ft.		
Watering Rings	\$12.50			Pond Management Book	\$20.00		
Tree sizes are estimates and based on nursery availability. SWCD reserves the right to make reasonable substitutions if our vendors' supplies are limited.					SUB-TOTAL		
Order Deadline: March 21, 2025 Pick Up: April 18, 2025					** Sales Tax (7.25%)		
<i>(Please Print)</i>					COMPLETE TOTAL		

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Remit to: LCSWCD • 771 East Main St., Suite 100
Newark, OH 43055
Order online at www.LickingSWCD.com

For office use only

SPRING MAINTENANCE: MANAGING INVASIVE SPECIES FOR HEALTHY STORMWATER PRACTICES

Spring is the perfect time to assess and manage invasive species that threaten both native ecosystems and stormwater infrastructure. Invasive plants can disrupt the natural flow of water, reduce soil stability, and outcompete beneficial native vegetation that helps filter and absorb stormwater.

Why It Matters

Invasive species such as **Japanese knotweed, honeysuckle, and garlic mustard** can take over stormwater basins, bioswales, and riparian areas, leading to:

Increased soil erosion and sedimentation in waterways

Reduced water infiltration, leading to more runoff and flooding

Decreased biodiversity, harming pollinators and native wildlife

Spring Maintenance Tips

- **Early Detection & Removal** – Remove invasive plants before they flower and spread. Hand-pulling, cutting, or targeted herbicide application may be necessary, depending on the species.
- **Replant with Natives** – Replace invasive species with deep-rooted native plants like **swamp milkweed**,

blue flag iris, and wild bergamot, which improve soil structure and stormwater absorption.

- **Monitor & Maintain** – Regularly check stormwater features for regrowth of invasives and reinforce native plantings to keep them in check.

By actively managing invasive species, we can improve water quality, reduce flooding risks, and support a thriving local ecosystem. Take time this spring to inspect your property and contribute to a healthier watershed! 🌍



NATIVE PLANT OPTIONS FOR THIS SPRING

Soil & Water will not be hosting a native plant sale this spring like we have the past few years. But don't worry—there are still plenty of great resources for finding native plants in our area!

- **Soil & Water's Tree Sale** - Check out the options for small native trees, shrubs and wildflower seeds in the Tree Sale catalog at www.LickingSWCD.com
- **Backyard Conservation Day/OSU Master Gardener Plant Sale** – Mark

your calendar for May 10, 2025 at the Ag Center, 771 East Main Street, Newark. This annual event features a variety of plants, including native selections, to enhance your garden.

- **Native Seed Libraries** – Check out your local library for free native seeds to start your own pollinator-friendly garden.
 - Pataskala Public Library
 - Licking County Library
 - Granville Public Library

- **Pollinator Pathway Resource List** – Many local nurseries specialize in native plants. Find a trusted source near you and support biodiversity in your backyard. Visit www.lickingpollinatorpathway.org for options.

Embracing native plants helps sustain local wildlife, improve soil health, and conserve water. Explore these options and bring native beauty to your landscape this spring! 🌍

2025 Fish Fingerling Order Form

Descriptions, pick up and order information are online at www.lickingswcd.com/shop/2025-fish-sale

Licking SWCD, 771 E Main Street Suite 100, Newark, OH 43050

Cash and Checks (payable to Licking SWCD) accepted

Return this form with payment by April 28, 2025

Name (Please Print): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

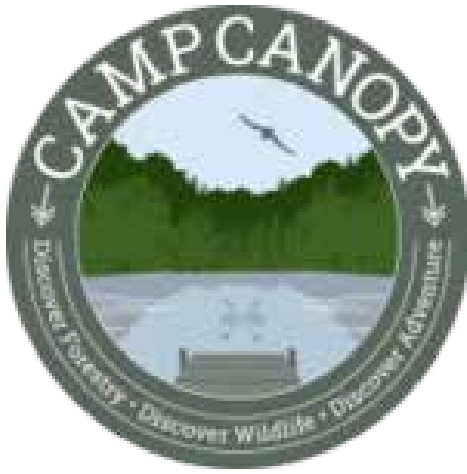
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Species	Size	Quantity	Price	Item Total
Largemouth Bass	2-3"		\$1.50	
Bluegill	2-4"		\$1.15	
Channel Catfish	4-5"		\$1.00	
Hybrid Bluegill	2-4"		\$1.15	
Red Ear Shellcracker	2-4"		\$1.15	
Fathead Minnows	1-3"		\$10.00 / 100	
Japanese Koi	6-8"		\$14.00	
White Amur	8-14"		\$16.00	
Yellow Perch	2-3"		\$1.15	
Black Crappie	2-4"		\$1.15	
Nature's Pond Cond	1 GAL		\$100.00	
Nature's Pond Cond	5 GAL		\$395.00	
Pond Management Book			\$20.00	
Optimal Fish Food	40# bag		\$55.00	
*If you are tax exempt you must provide			Total Due	\$
your exemption form for our records.			Subtotal	\$
			*Tax 7.25%	\$

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

CASH _____ CHECK # _____ RECEIPT # _____





CAMP CANOPY SCHOLARSHIP

Camp Canopy, held June 8-13, 2025, is a one of a kind summer camp for students interested in forestry, wildlife, conservation, ecology, and other natural resource fields. Together, the OFA and Camp Canopy provide a curriculum that gives a comprehensive overview of the forestry and wildlife disciplines through lessons that incorporate both adventure and education. The Camp is held at Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum in Carrolton, OH.

At the end of camp, campers can take a test to be eligible for a scholarship to a Natural Resources program at a select local college.

Scholarship Information

Parties Eligible to Apply for Scholarship: High school students (entering freshman through exiting seniors) up to 19 years old, who live in or attend school within Licking County an application can be downloaded at <https://lickingswcd.com/education/2025-camp-canopy-scholarship.html>.

Value of Award

Camp registration cost of \$500 (this includes cost of meals and programs)

Due Date

Completed scholarship application must be returned to Licking Soil and Water by May 12, 2025. 🌍

2025 RIVER ROUND UP POSTER CONTEST

The 2025 River Round Up Poster Contest is open to all school-aged youth living in Licking County.

Posters should reflect water pollution awareness and encourage volunteer participation in the 30th Annual River Round Up. The deadline to submit posters is April 4, 2025.

Posters will be judged in three age categories: Elementary (K–4), Middle School (5–8), and High School (9–12). One winner will be chosen from each age category. Prizes will be awarded to students and their respective schools.

Poster Awards: \$100 to the student artists of the winning posters from each of the categories and \$500 to the student's school for advancing science and art programming. The winning poster artwork will be the primary electronic marketing images used for the 2025 River Round Up event.

Take a look at www.LickingSWCD.com or the Licking County River Round Up and Soil & Water Facebook pages for more information on submitting posters to participate in the contest. 🌍

LICKING COUNTY RIVER ROUNDUP 2025 POSTER CONTEST

For More Information:



<https://lickingswcd.com/education/river-round-up-2025.html>
740-670-5330

2024 Elementary School Winner
2024 High School Winner
2024 Middle School Winner

JOIN STREAM TEAM: VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM

Licking Soil & Water is excited to offer Stream Team, a volunteer water quality monitoring program. We are currently looking for volunteers to join our team!

Spring Workshops are scheduled for 5:30–7:30 pm.

- March 25, 2025 at Lobdell Reserve
3100 Mounts Rd., Alexandria, OH.
(Rain date March 28)
- April 15, 2025 at Hoback Park
42 Dorsey Mill Rd. E. Heath, OH.
(Rain date April 18)

Through a **2-hour workshop**, volunteers will:

- Learn about the health of local rivers
- Discover the role of citizen science in early warning systems
- Understand the importance of watershed health

The workshop includes an instream assessment of habitat, biology, and chemical parameters. Participants will leave equipped with the knowledge and tools to evaluate the health of waterways.

Upon completing the training, volunteers will receive a Stream Team Kit, which includes:

- Macroinvertebrate net
- Turbidity testing equipment
- Chemical testing tools

Check out the new training videos on our website to get a better understanding of the program at www.LickingSWCD.com. Volunteers will also agree to adopt a stream site for ongoing monitoring.

If you're interested in becoming a guardian of our water resources, contact Kyle Seitz at (740) 670-5330 or KyleSeitz@LickingSWCD.com.



IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 15–Apr 1	Drought Assistance Program Applications due to SWCD
Mar. 1 & 2	@ The Works StemFEST
Mar. 7	Local Work Group Meeting*
Mar. 11	Soil & Water Board Meeting
Mar. 21	Native Tree Sale Order Deadline
Mar. 22	@ Farm Bureau Farmer Share Breakfast
Mar. 25	South Licking Watershed Conservancy District Director Meeting
Mar. 25	Stream Team Workshop*
Apr 14–17	Volunteer to Help with Tree Sale Prep*
Apr 18	Tree Pre-Order Pick Up
Apr 22	Earth Day
Apr 25	Arbor Day
May 10	Backyard Conservation Day & OSU Master Gardener Plant Sale

*Events require RSVP. Please visit our website at LickingSWCD.com, or call our office at 740-670-5330.

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