

Backyard Conservation Day

This Saturday!

May 13, 2023, from 8:30 am until 1 pm.

Join Soil and Water for the third annual Backyard Conservation Day at our very own land lab! This year, Soil and Water is partnering with the OSU Master Gardeners to have a combined Backyard Conservation Day

and Master Gardeners' Plant Sale!

Bring the whole family to participate in conservation-related learning opportunities and activities! Some of these activities include:

- Explore our wetland and woodlot and learn about the importance of trees and wetlands in the ecosystem!
- Learn how to manage and capture the excess water on your property with rain gardens and rain barrels!
- Explore the soil tunnel to learn all about soil!
- Purchase tree seedlings, wildflower seeds, and other conservation supplies! [Tree species available are listed here.](#)
- Tour the Licking County Master Gardener's demonstration garden and buy a plant at their plant sale!

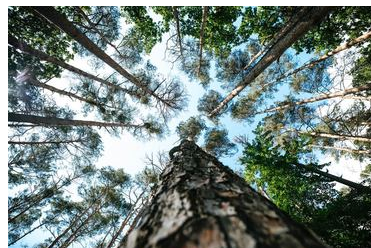
For any questions about Soil and Water's Backyard Conservation Day, please call 740-670-5330 or email Information@LickingSWCD.com.

Camp Canopy Scholarship

Licking Soil and Water is now offering a scholarship for one Licking Heights high schooler to attend Camp Canopy!

Camp Canopy is a one-of-a-kind summer camp, located in Carrollton, Ohio, for students interested in forestry, wildlife, conservation, ecology, and other natural resource fields. It is a week-long, co-ed residential camp open to high school students entering their freshman year up through graduating seniors.

Supported by the Ohio Forestry Association, the camp offers a mixture of educational sessions with traditional camp activities and adventures. All educational sessions are taught by instructors from Ohio's top natural resource organizations and industry experts from the state's top educational institutions. 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.



At the end of camp, campers can take a test to qualify for a scholarship to The Ohio State University's School of Environment and Natural Resources, Hocking College's School of Natural Resources, Zane State College, or a scholarship for the student to use at a natural resource school of their choice.

If you have any students who may be interested in attending Camp Canopy, encourage them to apply to the Licking Soil and Water Camp Canopy Scholarship! The Scholarship application can be found on the [Education Page](#) of our website.

If you have any questions about Camp Canopy or the scholarship process, please contact Deirdre Wetmore at DeirdreWetmore@LickingSWCD.com or 740-670-5333.



Conservation Mini-Grant Program

The Soil and Water Conservation Mini-Grant program is an excellent opportunity to help fund a conservation-based service learning project for your students.

In celebration of Soil and Water's 75th Anniversary, the Board established a Community Mini-Grant program in 2019. Each year, the program offers up to \$1000 to Licking County non-profits that demonstrate the need and ability to carry out on-the-ground conservation projects.

Last year, eight applications were received from Licking County non-profits, local entities, and schools for local conservation projects. Just over \$5000 was distributed to all eight organizations!

The Mini-Grant program is open to non-profit organizations such as schools, watershed groups, local government entities, municipalities, community groups, and civic associations within Licking County. The deadline to apply for the 2023 Conservation Mini-Grant is September 29, 2023.

To learn more about Soil and Water's Mini-Grant program, please visit the [Conservation Mini-Grant](#) page of our website. To apply for a Conservation Mini-Grant, please visit the [Conservation Mini-Grant Online Application](#) page of our website. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Britney Stuller at BritneyStuller@LickingSWCD.com or 740-670-5330.

2023 Summer Educator Workshop Series

Soil and Water have partnered with Licking Parks District and Dawes Arboretum to offer a series of workshops for educators. This workshop series is correlated to state and national education standards and focuses on utilizing different natural resource-based programs within the classroom and other educational settings.



The workshops offered include: Newark Water Infrastructure Tour

- Project Learning Tree
- Project WILD and WILD Aquatic
- Environmental Education for Early Childhood

- Citizen Science
- Project WET and Healthy Water, Healthy People

Registration opens on May 1, 2023. Pre-registration is required for all workshops. For more information on workshop dates and costs or to sign up for a workshop, please visit the [Education Page](#) of our website or contact Deirdre Wetmore at DeirdreWetmore@LickingSWCD.com or 740-670-5333.



Seeking Interested Candidates for Board and Committee Positions

The Board is actively seeking interested, conservation-minded leaders to continue the mission of promoting the conservation of natural resources through local leadership, education, and technical assistance.

The Board of Supervisors elected by county residents and landowners, helps chart the course for soil and water conservation and natural resources management in Licking County. The Board also provides supervision to the District Administrator, oversight of fiscal

decisions, and technical expertise.

Associate Board Members are concerned citizens who officially volunteer their time to assist the Board and District. Associate Board Members serve on board committees, help plan, promote, and implement district programs, activities, field days, etc., represent the district at various meetings and events, and present district programs to individuals, groups, and organizations.

Committee members: Through committees, work can be divided so that far more can be accomplished. Committees typically meet on a quarterly or as-needed basis.

[Additional information can be found here!](#)

Join Our Team!

We are dedicated to helping the people of Licking County better conserve our natural resources.

Outreach Coordinator/Stormwater Educator will be responsible for creating the newsletters, social media posts and managing the website. Working with the team members to coordinate events and represent Soil & Water in the community.

Urban Technician will provide an essential service to help the communities in Licking County comply with the MS4 stormwater permit requirements. Working in the field, in the office, and with partners, team members work together toward the mission of conserving our natural resources through leadership, education, and technical assistance.

[Find the details and application process here.](#)

Important Dates

May 13: Backyard Conservation Day @ Soil and Water Land Lab

May 15: Deadline for Camp Canopy Scholarship applications

May 15: Deadline for Native Plant Sale orders

May 19: Endangered Species Day

May 20: World Bee Day

May 23: World Turtle Day

Jun 3: Outdoor Adventures!

Jun 10: Farm Bureau ATV Farm Tour*

Jun 22: World Rainforest Day

Aug 5: Board Candidate Information forms due

Aug 6-12: Soil & Water at Hartford Fair at Natural Resources Area

Sep 9: Licking River Round Up*

Sep 29: Conservation Mini-Grant Application Deadline

* RSVP Required

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

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