



THE CLERMONT CONSERVATION QUARTERLY



OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE RESOURCES TO MEET THE CONSERVATION NEEDS OF CLERMONT COUNTY

SPRING CONSERVATION CHECKLIST

There’s no question that it’s been a long winter, with bitter temperatures and over 2½ feet of snow (so far!). If you’re like us, our minds are turning to spring, and now is a great time to start making plans! We’ve prepared a list of conservation-related actions you can take to get you in the Spring mood.

- Clean leaves, brush, and other yard waste from drainageways and storm inlets, especially if the ground in your area is relatively flat.
- Test the soil in your flower garden, vegetable garden, or lawn to learn what your soil actually needs before fertilizing.
- Consider replacing a small portion of your lawn with native plants. Now is a good time to create a landscaping plan so you’re prepared
- Hold off on mowing for a while. It can be hard for pollinators to find flowers in early spring. By letting your lawn grow longer, you can help provide pollen and nectar for bees and butterflies.
- Early spring is a good time to work on invasive species management. Invasive species such as honeysuckle and lesser celandine typically leaf out or bloom before our native plants.
- Re-connect your rain barrel after the dangers of a hard freeze have passed, usually sometime in April. If you’re interested in installing a rain barrel, we have these available as part of our plant sale.
- Consider composting if you don’t already. The Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District is selling composters and small under-the-counter kitchen scrap containers through our plant sale.

As always, Clermont Soil & Water staff is happy to provide guidance with any of your conservation needs!



Cardinal Flower

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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- CONNIE O’CONNOR
- DAVID ANSPACH
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- CHRISTINA GATES
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SPRING LITTER CLEANUP

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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LOWER EAST FORK RESTORATION BEGINS

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SPRING LITTER CLEANUP

Planning for the 2026 Spring Litter Clean-up is in full swing, and we are preparing to host groups of volunteers on Saturday, April 25th. Clermont Soil & Water and the Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District are joining together again this spring with local partners to support community volunteers throughout Clermont County and the East Fork Little Miami River Watershed.

In 2025, over 250 volunteers came together to help spruce up areas in their communities while enjoying the outdoors and ended up collecting a combined total of over 130 bags of trash. That's 130 bags of trash no longer plaguing our shared waterways!

Volunteers are needed! You can register individually, organize a school/scout group, or bring some neighborhood friends to participate in this fun, worthwhile event! Protective gloves, trash grabbers, and trash bags will be provided.

We'd like to extend a big thank you to our event/contest sponsor - the Southern Ohio Association of Realtors for sponsoring the Logo Contest again this year. The winning logo will be featured on this year's t-shirts!



SAVE THE DATE!
APRIL 25TH, 2026



To register as a volunteer, or to learn about the Annual Spring Litter Clean-up event, visit www.springlittercleanup.com

CONSERVATION FARM PLANS



Clermont Soil & Water is offering Conservation Farm Plan development for interested landowners.

Conservation Farm Plans are a holistic look at the conservation needs on the land you manage or own. Soil & Water staff walk the land with you and discuss any conservation-based concerns you have. Then, we create a detailed document offering solutions and resources to help you handle these concerns.

Conservation plans are voluntary documents and all the information developed within belongs to the farmer/landowner who is ultimately responsible for all decision making and implementation.

These plans can be modified and updated over time and we can aid you in those decisions.

Interested in a conservation plan for your land? Contact Amanda at abest@clermontcountyohio.gov or 513-732-7075 ex.7

RAIN BARREL/HEAVY RAIN WORKSHOPS

Learn how to install & maintain a rain barrel just in time for summer! Additionally, we'll learn all about ways you can deal with a wet yard and drainage issues.

We are offering TWO of these workshops this year! This program is FREE to attend. You can also go home with a high quality rain barrel at the heavily discounted price of \$55.

April 21, 6 - 7:30 pm

Williamsburg Library

594 W. Main St
Williamsburg, OH 45176

May 4, 6 - 7:30 pm

Miami Twp Library

5920 Buckwheat Rd
Milford, OH 45150

Please register at:

WWW.SAVELOCALWATERS.ORG/RAIN-BARREL-WORKSHOP.HTML

MASTER RAIN GARDENER GET TOGETHER

Are you a Master Rain Garden Graduate? Or are you interested in learning more about MRG and meeting other gardeners?

At the event, there will be a potluck, plant swap, shovel sharpening help, and a tour of the church gardens and other sustainability features. You do NOT have to be a MRG Grad to attend.

RSVP at forms.gle/NpS2CCQtiHqkxdsP6 or call 513-732-7075 ex.5

SAVE THE DATE



Monthly Board Meeting	— Mar. 11, 8am
Master Rain Gardener Event	— Mar. 23, 6pm
Recycling @ Amelia Library	— Mar. 24, 6:30pm
Monthly Board Meeting	— Apr. 8, 8am
Pond Clinic @ Pattison Park	— Apr. 14, 5:30pm
Rain Barrel/Heavy Rain Workshop @ Wburg Library	— Apr. 21, 6pm
Rain Barrel Auction Closes	— Apr. 24, 10am
Spring Litter Cleanup	— Apr. 25, 9-12pm
Plant Sale Pickup	— Apr. 30- May 1
Rain Barrel/Heavy Rain Workshop @ Miami Twp Library	— May 4, 6pm
Monthly Board Meeting	— May 13, 8am

March 23rd, 6-7:30pm

Loveland Presbyterian Church

2026 RAIN BARREL ART PROJECT

Local artists have transformed rain barrels into beautiful, functional works of art to educate people on stormwater runoff, watersheds and water conservation.

Check out these beautiful painted barrels at the Cincinnati Zoo from March 28 - April 23!

Barrels will be auctioned from April 1 - 24, and 4 barrels will be raffled. All proceeds support environmental education.

For more information, visit:

savelocalwaters.org



POND CLINIC

WHEN Apr. 14th, 5:30 pm

WHERE Pattison Park Lodge,
2228 U.S. 50, Owensville

If you own or are planning on building a pond, plan on attending Clermont Soil & Water's annual pond clinic with our staff and Jones Fish Hatchery. The clinic will begin with some light refreshments provided by Clermont County Farm Bureau.

We will discuss:

- Pond basics
- Aquatic weed control
- Fish stocking
- Aeration
- Anything else you would like to know about ponds!

Please register for this free event by calling our office. 513-732-7075 ex.2

2026 CONSERVATION PLANT SALE

Orders taken until stock runs out.
Order at store.clermontswcd.org

Have questions or need help placing your order?
Call Connie Miller at (513) 732-7075 ext.2



WHAT TO EXPECT:

Clermont Soil & Water is offering trees and shrub seedlings, as well as native perennials at discount prices. Tree and shrub seedlings will be bare rooted; they are dipped in a root preservative to help keep the roots from drying out and wrapped in a plastic bag. Most packets are about the size of a grocery bag and can easily be placed in your car. Perennials are sold as 'plugs'.

PLANTING TIPS FOR BARE ROOT SEEDLINGS:

- Never let roots dry completely OR leave seedlings immersed in water for long periods as they will drown. These are the most common causes of seedling death!
- Putting seedlings in pots is a great alternative to planting in the ground. If you plant directly into the ground, make your planting hole deep enough to accommodate the roots. DO NOT TRIM THE TAP ROOT, but it is better to prune the auxillary roots with scissors than to wad or curl the roots to make them fit in your planting hole. Plant so that the roots are free, not cramped. Trim any broken roots.
- When planting, ground level should be where the roots stop and the stem begins.
- Water thoroughly. Use only water soluble fertilizer with root stimulating ingredients.
- Mulch! Dried grass clippings, ground up leaves, compost, or commercially available organic mulches will suppress weeds and hold in moisture.
- Water seedlings when dry for the first two years.

Good News! The Shroomery at SA Farm & Apiaries will be at our plant sale this year. Buy at pickup or preorder here: farmnivorous.com/shop/TheShroomery



Roothouse Aquaponics is offering a new microbial soil conditioner, *SoiLive™*, that breathes new life into your soil. Buy at pickup or preorder and learn more here: roothouseaqua.com/shop



PICK UP INFORMATION

Pickup Times
Thu. Apr 30th, 10 am- 6:30 pm
Fri. May 1st, 10 am - 4:30 pm

1000 Locust St, Owensville
Clermont County Fairgrounds,
Commercial Building

GARDEN ACCESSORIES FOR SALE

RAIN BARREL

\$90.00 (PLUS TAX)

The use of rain barrels lowers water demands and saves energy at water treatment facilities by reducing water pollution and storm water runoff.

Features:

- 50 gallon capacity
- Large lid with locking feature
- Lid can be reversed to act as a planter
- FlexiFit™ diverter and all parts included for installation.
- FlexiFit™ diverter returns rainwater to downspout when barrel is full - no spillover
- 10 Year UV Resistance

COMPOSTER

\$60

We have partnered with the Adams/Clermont Solid Waste District again this year to sell Earth Machine composters. For a detailed description, check the online order form.

FOOD COLLECTOR

\$5

2 gallon Kitchen Collector is designed for convenient kitchen food scrap collection. The kitchen collector is a mess-free, odor free and easy-to-use food scrap pail that is easily transported from the counter to your outdoor organic collection or compost bin.

2026 CONSERVATION PLANT SALE

TREES

White Pine 7-10" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Blueish green with long soft needles. Grows to 80-120 ft. at maturity. Used for windbreaks and ornamental applications.

Basswood 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Heart-shaped leaves and fragrant flowers that bloom in June. Grows 40-60 ft. at maturity.

Eastern Redbud 12" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Large dark green heart-shaped leaves turning bright yellow in fall. Grows to 15-25 ft. at maturity.

White Dogwood 12" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Small tree with spectacular white flowers in early spring. Grows to 15-30 ft. at maturity.

Colorado Blue Spruce 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Blue needled tree that grows to 40-60 feet. Good for windbreaks and providing habitat to birds.

Black Gum 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Glossy green leaves with spectacular autumn color. Grows 30-50 ft. at maturity.

Persimmon, Common 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Fragrant white flowers and females produce orange edible fruit in fall. Grows 40-60 ft. at maturity.

Ohio Buckeye 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Large and fast growing. Leaves turn orange to red in the fall. Produces edible nuts. 10-18 ft. at maturity.

Sycamore 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Large tree with broad green leaves and peeling bark. Grows 75-100 ft. at maturity.

Butternut 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Also known as White Walnut. Produces edible nuts in fall. Grows 40-60 ft. at maturity.

SHRUBS

Buttonbush 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Clustered white flowers that leave ball-like fruits filled with seeds. Can grow up to 15 ft. but normally around 3-5 ft. at maturity.

Winterberry 12" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Low maintenance shrub with gorgeous red color in fall through winter. Grows 3-15 ft. at maturity.

Sweet Shrub 6-12" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Dark red-purple flowers with sweet fragrance. Grows 3-9' tall.

Spice Bush 12" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Small yellow flowers in the spring and female has red fall berries with light green leaves in summer. Grows 10-20 ft. at maturity. Works well as a honeysuckle replacement.

Sensitive Fern 2/pkt. \$2.00

Used to provide areas with lush groundcover.

POLLINATOR PLUGS

Cardinal Flower 5 plugs \$15.00

Showy wildflower with bright red flowers. Can grow between 1-6 ft.

Clustered Mountain Mint 5 plugs \$15.00

Small, clumped white and pink flowers in the summer. Leaves give off a minty aroma. Can grow 3-4 ft.

Purple Coneflower 5 plugs \$15.00

Daisy like flower that draws butterflies and bees. Can grow 3-4 ft. Blooms late summer/early fall.

Prairie Blazing Star 5 plugs \$15.00

Lavender tufted flowers that attract butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. Blooms July-August.

Yellow Coneflower 5 plugs \$15.00









Tall, daisy like flower that draws butterflies and bees. Can grow 3-6 ft. Blooms late summer/early fall.

The Perennial Package 25 plugs \$65.00

Mix of our pollinator plugs to give you a head start on planting your garden. Includes 5 plugs of each of the following: Cardinal Flower, Clustered Mountain Mint, Eastern Purple Coneflower, Prairie Blazing Star, Yellow Coneflower.

FOR BEST SUCCESS, PLANT IMMEDIATELY

PLANTS MAY SELL OUT - ORDER EARLY!

- KEY:**
-  Streambank Stabilizing
 -  Wildlife Favorite
 -  Pollinator Favorite
 -  Good in Rain Gardens
 -  Native
 -  Full Sun
 -  Part Sun/Shade
 -  Shade

CONSTRUCTION STARTS ON LOWER EAST FORK RESTORATION PROJECT

Work has begun to restore approximately 1 mile of the lower East Fork Little Miami River! This site is included on Ohio EPA’s list of impaired streams due to severe stream bank erosion and sedimentation occurring along this river stretch. Over the years, high loads of sediment have degraded stream habitat and water quality, leading to declines in the native fish and mussel communities and resulting in significant property loss.

This project is funded through Ohio EPA’s Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program. Project partners include Davey Resource Group, Greensite Construction, Valley View Foundation, Madison Tree & Landscaping, Clermont Co. Park District, and Clermont Soil & Water. Construction is expected to continue through summer 2026.




Scan the QR code to learn more and view pictures/videos of the project site



[TINYURL.COM/EFLMR](https://tinyurl.com/EFLMR)



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SOIL & WATER
Conservation from the Ground Up
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