



Plant Sale  
Edition!

# The Clermont Conservation Quarterly

Spring 2024

## Our Mission

To provide resources to meet the conservation needs of Clermont County

## Board of Supervisors

Todd Winemiller  
Connie O'Connor  
David Anspach  
Joe Glassmeyer  
Tim Rose

## Natural Resources Conservation Service

Christina Gates  
Brittany Feichtner  
Mariah Denzik

## District Staff

Amanda Best  
Elea Cooper  
Jacob Hahn  
Jacob Lynch  
Becky McClatchey  
John McManus  
Connie Miller  
Abbie Frazer (Americorp Member)

## Staff Recognized at Ohio SWCD Federation Meeting

Clermont SWCD had a memorable time at the annual partnership meeting of the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in January. Staff gave presentations on our Williamsburg Wetland Project (see video below) during the general session and a breakout session during the first day of the conference, and on the following day, we were presented with the 2023 Urban Program of the Year award. To top things off, our own Becky McClatchey was honored as the Ohio Outstanding Employee of the Year - we wholeheartedly agree!



SWCD Staff accepting the Urban Program of the year Award with OFSWCD president, Jeff Duling (right).



Left to Right: Chad Stang, Becky McClatchey and John McManus. Becky accepts her Outstanding Employee of the Year Award

## In Our Watersheds



Check out this video highlighting the Williamsburg Wetland! Designed to remove pollutants and provide quality habitat, the wetland is functioning as intended and absorbing excess water during storm events. Thanks to the many project partners, especially the Clermont Co. Office of Public Information and Ohio EPA for their assistance producing this fun and educational video.



Scan or click to open video



facebook.com/clermontswcd

instagram.com/clermont\_swcd

## Staff Updates

### SWCD Welcomes New Education Specialist

Hello, my name is Elea Cooper and I am the new Education and Communications Coordinator. I am originally from Des Moines, Iowa, but have been living in Oxford, Ohio for the last 4 years while attending Miami University. This May, I will be graduating with a B.A. in Biology and Sustainability and a Master of Environmental Science. I've also completed certificates in Environmental Education and Geographic Information Systems, and did my thesis on the impacts of overabundant deer on forest health. In my free time, I enjoy spending time outdoors and hanging out with my dogs. I am so excited to be joining the Clermont SWCD team! Please feel free to reach out to me at [ecooper@clermontcountyohio.gov](mailto:ecooper@clermontcountyohio.gov) for any questions or recommendations about programming.



All NRCS / SWCD programs and services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status.

## H2Ohio Moves State-Wide



East Fork Lake algae bloom



H2Ohio is Governor Mike DeWine's water quality initiative for the state. This initiative is implemented through various partnerships including the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA).

H2Ohio and ODA's partnership program works to bring money to farmers for implementing best management practices. ODA works through local County based Soil and Water Conservation Districts to bring these programs to producers and to provide the technical assistance to make sure that practices are working effectively for each farmer.

In past years H2Ohio has focused on bringing agricultural incentives to farmers in the Western Lake Erie Basin by cost sharing on the development and implementation of volunteer nutrient management plans. These plans follow Ohio State guidelines (Tri-State guide) for the application of manure and other fertilizers to crop fields. This spring H2Ohio will be rolling out the program to the rest of Ohio.

If you would like to learn more about the program please call our office at (513) 732-7075.

The application window is not currently open but we are creating a contact list to send out updates. Funding is limited and will be first come first serve.

For more information on H2Ohio, visit <https://h2.ohio.gov/agriculture/>

## Get Ready for Spring Litter Clean Up!

The Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District (CSWCD) 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 for the Annual Spring Litter Clean-up on **Saturday April 20, 2024.**

In 2023 over 230 volunteers came together to help spruce up areas in their communities while enjoying the outdoors and ended up collecting a combined total of over 310 bags of trash.

That's 310 bags of trash no longer plaguing our shared waterways!

This year our goal is to meet and exceed last year's impact by recruiting another 50 volunteers and another 75 bags of trash for a total of 280 volunteers and 385 bags of trash.



To register as a volunteer, or to learn about the student logo design contest visit [www.springlittercleanup.com](http://www.springlittercleanup.com)



# LANDOWNER CONSERVATION SERIES

Free to All | Protect Your Land | Hands-On

Join the SWCD as we partner again with the Clermont Park District and Ohio State University Extension to host the 2024 Landowner Conservation Series!

Join in each month this year for a different workshop every first Wednesday 6:00-7:30 pm.

Below are the workshops for the year. Registration is for each individual session.

Go to <https://www.clermontparks.org/registration-forms/landowner-conservation-series/> to register, read session descriptions, and find location details!



~~Jan 3~~ – Livestock on a Small Farm  
4-H Hall, Clermont County Fairgrounds



~~Feb 7~~ – Growing Backyard Vegetables  
4-H Hall, Clermont County Fairgrounds

Mar 6 – Homeowners Guide to Non-Native Pests  
Pattison Park Lodge

Apr 3 – Dealing with Heavy Rains  
4-H Hall, Clermont County Fairgrounds



May 1 – Sustainable Yard Care  
4-H Hall, Clermont County Fairgrounds

June 5 – Invasive Plants Removal  
Clingman Park

July 3 – Intro to Composting  
4-H Hall, Clermont County Fairgrounds



Aug 7 – Gardening for Wildlife  
4-H Hall, Clermont County Fairgrounds

Sept 4 – Caring for your Trees  
Pattison Park Lodge

Oct 2 – SW Ohio Native Plantings  
Hartman Log Cabin



Nov 6 – Living with Wildlife  
Pattison Park Lodge

Dec 4 – Growing Fungi  
4-H Hall, Clermont County Fairgrounds



# SAVE THE DATE



Upcoming Spring events with the District

## DISTRICT CALENDAR

- Monthly Board Meeting — Mar. 13 8am
- Monthly Board Meeting — Apr. 10 8 am
- Pond Clinic — Apr. 16 6pm
- Spring River Clean Up — Apr. 20
- Online Rainbarrel Auction — Ends Apr. 25
- Monthly Board Meeting — May 8 8am
- Memorial Day (Office Closed) – May 27
- Monthly Board Meeting — Jun. 12 8am

## 2024 POND CLINIC

**WHEN** Apr. 16th, 6 pm

Please register for this free event by calling our office.

**WHERE** Union Twp Building,  
4350 Aicholtz Rd

**513-732-7075**

Join us for our annual pond clinic in partnership with Jones Lake Management and Mayfly Consulting LLC.

This year our featured presentation is on algae.

Breakout Sessions:

- Pond Weed/algae control
- Ponds 101
- Fish Stocking/Aeration
- Algae ID with microscopes (Bring own pond water for algae ID breakout session if you want)

## 2024 RAINBARREL ART PROJECT TIMELINE

**Apr 1st to Apr 25th, 2024**  
Rain Barrels Displayed @  
The Cincinnati Zoo



**Start TBD - April 25, 2024**  
Rain Barrel Art Online Auction  
**Check website in April for updates!**

**Apr 25th, 2024**  
Artist Reception  
@ the Cincinnati Zoo



[savelocalwaters.org](https://savelocalwaters.org)

# 2024 CONSERVATION PLANT SALE

Orders taken until May 2nd OR until stock runs out.  
 To place your order go to [store.clermontswcd.org](http://store.clermontswcd.org)



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

## What To Expect:

The Clermont SWCD is offering tree and shrub seedlings, as well as a few native perennials at discount prices. This program offers the opportunity for individuals to develop small areas of reforestation, wildlife enhancement, or additions to home landscaping. Tree and shrub seedlings will be bare rooted; we dip the plants in a root preservative to help keep the roots from drying out and wrap them in a plastic bag. Most packets will be in a bag about the size of a grocery bag and can easily be placed in your car for pick up. 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. This way you can keep the plants near water and care for them until they get roots established. If you plant directly into the ground, make your planting hole deep enough to accommodate the roots. DO NOT TRIM TAP ROOT, but it is better to prune the axillary 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.
- Plant the seedling at same depth as it was in the nursery pot. Ground level should be where the roots stop and the stem begins.
- Water thoroughly. Use only water soluble fertilizer with root stimulating ingredients.
- Mulch, mulch, mulch! Dried grass clippings, ground up leaves or commercially available organic mulches will suppress weeds and hold in moisture.
- WATER SEEDLINGS WHEN DRY FOR THE FIRST 2 YEARS!

## Pick Up Information

- Pickup Times
  - Thu. May 2nd, Noon - 6:30 pm
  - Fri. May 3rd, Noon - 4:30 pm
- 1000 Locust Str, Owensville
- Clermont County Fairgrounds, Commercial Building

## GARDEN ACCESSORIES FOR SALE

### RAIN BARREL

**\$90.00 (PLUS TAX)**

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

#### Features:

- 50 gallon capacity
- Large opening 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 to transported from the counter to your outdoor organic collection or compost bin.

\* CASH OR CHECK ONLY



# 2024 CONSERVATION PLANT SALE

## TREES



**White Pine** 12" 3/pkt. \$11.00

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



**Blue Spruce** 9-15" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Silvery blue-green with short firm needles. Grows 30-60 ft. at maturity. Used ornamentally, for windbreaks and as Christmas trees.



**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   N




**White Dogwood** 12" 3/pkt. \$11.00

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



**Downy Serviceberry** 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Oval leaves turn orange in fall; blanketed in white flowers in spring. Grows 15-40 ft. at maturity   N



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

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



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

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

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





Sometimes called white walnut. Produces rich butter-flavored nuts and high quality wood. Grows 40-70 ft. at maturity   N

**Cottonwood** 12-18" 3/pkt. \$11.00



Fast growing tree that is suitable to wet areas. Can also be used as wind breaks. Grows 50-100 ft.   N

## 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.     N





**Common Ninebark** 12" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Reddish-purple foliage, and deep red fall color. Grows showy white flowers in early Summer. 5-10 ft. at maturity.   N

**Nannyberry** 12" 3/pkt. \$11.00

Showy white flower clusters in May, dark blue summer berries and burgundy autumn leaf color. Grows 15-20 ft. at maturity.    N

**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.     N

**Sensitive Fern** 2/pkt. \$2.00




Used to provide areas with lush groundcover. N

## POLLINATOR PLUGS



**Purple Coneflower** *Echinacea purpurea* 5 plugs \$15.00

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



**Black-eyed Susan** *Rudbeckia fulgida* 5 plugs \$15.00

Yellow daisy like wildflower blooms through summer and early fall and can grow up to 3 ft. tall.    N




**Pink Turtlehead** *Chelone lyonii 'Hot Lips'* 5 plugs \$15.00

Wildflower with upright, busy mound of shiny green foliage. Can grow 2-3 ft. Blooms late summer/early fall.   N




**Cardinal Flower** *Lobelia cardinalis* 5 plugs \$15.00

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

**New England Aster** *Aster nova-angliae* 5 plugs \$15.00

Bunches of dark violet to purple-pink flowers blooms in late summer/early fall. Can grow up to 6 ft.    N

**Rain Garden Mix** 25 plugs \$65.00

Mix of our pollinator plugs to give you a headstart on planting your own rain garden. Includes 5 plugs of each of the following: Purple Coneflower, Black-eyed Susan, Pink Turtlehead, Cardinal Flower, New England Aster.    N

**FOR BEST SUCCESS, PLANT IMMEDIATELY**

**PLANTS MAY SELL OUT - ORDER EARLY!**

- KEY:**
-  Streambank Stabilizing
  -  Wildlife Favorite
  -  Pollinator Favorite
  -  Good in Rain Gardens
  - N** Native

# How to Harness Spring Rains

Flowers need water, right? Plant a garden in an area that receives water naturally, such as below a roof downspout. Simply dig a small depression that will collect and hold an amount of water that will soak in or evaporate over two days. This is known as a rain garden, and we offer several plants that will thrive in these conditions, like all of our pollinator plugs (purple cone flower, black-eyed susan, pink turtlehead, cardinal flower and new england aster) as well as some shrubs (button bush, nannyberry and spice bush).

For more tips on creating your own rain garden, give us a call or visit [www.clermontswcd.org/rain-gardens-barrels/](http://www.clermontswcd.org/rain-gardens-barrels/)



*Left and Right: Rain Garden in front of the Agricultural Service Building on the Clermont County Fairgrounds.*



[www.clermontswcd.org](http://www.clermontswcd.org)

(513) 732-7075



Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District  
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