



THE CLERMONT CONSERVATION QUARTERLY



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

SPRING LITTER CLEANUP

While it was a little chilly, the rain stayed away for the 33rd Annual Spring Litter Cleanup in the East Fork watershed. Nearly 200 volunteers attended, including families, 4-H clubs, scout troops, and local businesses. A huge thank you to the volunteers who came to help keep our watershed clean and beautiful. Thank you to the Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District, The Clermont County Park District, ODNR State Parks, East Fork and Stonelick State Parks, and the Harsha Lake Army Corps of Engineers. Also, thank you to our partners at the City of Milford, Miami and Union Townships, and the Village of Williamsburg. If you're interested in learning more about litter prevention, call Connie Miller at (513) 732-7075 ext. 2 or visit www.springlittercleanup.com. If you couldn't make this event, check out the Ohio River Sweep happening on June 28th (more on page 3).



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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- CONNIE O'CONNOR
- DAVID ANSPACH
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NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

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WE HAVE A NEW LOOK!



CLERMONT EST 1943
SOIL & WATER
 Conservation from the Ground Up

@ClermontSoilAndWater
 @ClermontSoilWater
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CLERMONT SOIL & WATER RELEASES NEW LOGO AND TAGLINE

We're so excited to share our new logo and tagline! The new design shows a plant growing from healthy soil, reflecting how our work starts with protecting the natural resources that support life. Our new tagline, "Conservation from the Ground Up," reflects our mission: helping people implement real, on-the-ground conservation — from farm fields and backyard gardens to classrooms and community spaces. Our look has changed, but our mission remains the same: conservation that makes a difference.

SPRING LITTER CLEANUP LOGO CONTEST WINNER

Once again, we held our yearly Spring Litter Cleanup Logo contest for local K-12 students. The contest was started to help increase promotion of litter prevention/awareness and natural resources protection. We are so grateful to the Southern Ohio Association of Realtors (SOAR) who have sponsored the contest for the last 11 years.



This year, the winner was Norah Stark, a 10th grade homeschooled student from Bethel. We loved Norah's stamp design that features Clermont County's own Harsha (East Fork) Lake. Norah's logo looked amazing on the hats and stickers our volunteers received. She also won a \$100 cash award and an additional \$100 gift given to the school art department. As Norah is a homeschool student, she donated her \$100 to the McCormick Elementary Art Department, where her younger cousins attend school. Grade-level award winners received \$25 each.

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to everyone who participated! For additional information about the logo contest, contact Connie Miller at cmiller@clermontcountyohio.gov or call (513) 732-7075 ext. 2



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CONSERVATION PLANT SALE!

This year we sold 1,955 seedlings and 1,200 perennials during our annual plant sale focused on Ohio native species. Thank you to all of our customers! We will continue to offer plant material for homes, gardens, and reforestation projects for years to come.

We had 600 assorted tree seedlings left, which we donated to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Bethel Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradication Program. Bethel and Tate Township have experienced significant tree loss due to the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB), and we hope to help the community re-establish the tree canopy.

Do you have any plants you would like to see at future sales? We love suggestions from our customers; we also enjoy hearing stories about trees bought years ago at our sale that are now huge and thriving! Email Connie at cmiller@clermontcountyohio.gov with your suggestions and feedback.

COMPOSTERS AND RAIN BARRELS STILL AVAILABLE

The Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District is still offering the Earth Machine Compost Bins and 2 gallon Kitchen Collectors at below market value. For additional information, visit <https://oeq.net/home-composting/>.

We also still have rain barrels in stock. Visit <https://store.clermontswcd.org/> to purchase.

Sale

LANDOWNER CONSERVATION CHATS

Free to All | Protect Your Land | Hands-On

Sessions are every second Wednesday 6:00-7:30pm

Pest Problems, Jun. 11th *Clingman Park*

Gardening for Wildlife, Jul. 9th
4H Hall, Clermont Fairgrounds

Caring for your Trees, Aug. 13th
Clingman Park

Composting, Sep. 10th *Clingman Park*

Invasive Plant Removal, Oct. 8th
Clingman Park

Growing Fungi, Nov. 12th *Clingman Park*

Upcycling Holidays, Dec. 10th
Clingman Park



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

2025 OHIO RIVER SWEEP

SATURDAY, JUNE 28TH-9:00AM-NOON

Get ready for the 2025 Ohio River Sweep! Clermont County will be hosting four locations:

- Chilo Lock and Dam** – meet at the boat ramp. This site is only open to adults and older teens due to the terrain. Participants will get wet!
- Moscow** – meet at Riverview Park on Second St.
- Neville** – meet at the boat ramp, located on Morgan Street off US 52.
- New Richmond** – meet at riverfront bandstand.

Funding for these local cleanups come from the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission, the Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District, Clermont Soil & Water, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Questions? Contact: ksnider@newrichmond.org

SAVE THE DATE

Upcoming events with the District



District Calendar

Monthly Board Meeting	— Jun. 11, 8am
Juneteenth (Office Closed)	— Jun. 19
Ohio River Sweep	— Jun. 28, 9am-12
Fourth of July (Office Closed)	— Jul. 4
Monthly Board Meeting	— Jul. 9, 8am
Clermont County Fair	— Jul. 20-26
Natural Resources Day @ Fair	— Jul. 22
Monthly Board Meeting	— Aug. 14, 8am
Pasture Walk @ Grassy Acres	— Aug. 20, 6pm-8
Annual Meeting	— Sep. 11, 6pm

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendars for our 2025 Annual Meeting!

September 11th, 2025, 5-8pm
Winemiller Farm

6428 Taylor Pike, Blanchester, OH, 45707



MASTER
RAIN
GARDENER

2025 GREATER CINCINNATI MASTER RAIN GARDENER FALL COURSE

The Master Rain Gardener (MRG) Course is a 6-day course that takes place over 7 weeks. During the course, students are guided through the rain garden design and installation process by experienced regional professionals. The fall course will be hosted by Clermont Soil & Water, with guest speakers from Clermont County Park District and OSU extension.

Pattison Park Lodge
2228 US-50
Batavia, OH 45103

Thursdays from 1:00-4:00 pm
October 2nd - November 13th
(no class November 6th)

\$50 Registration Fee
50% Student Discount Available - Call 513-946-8032

REGISTER HERE:

www.cincyraingardener.org

AGRICULTURE UPDATES

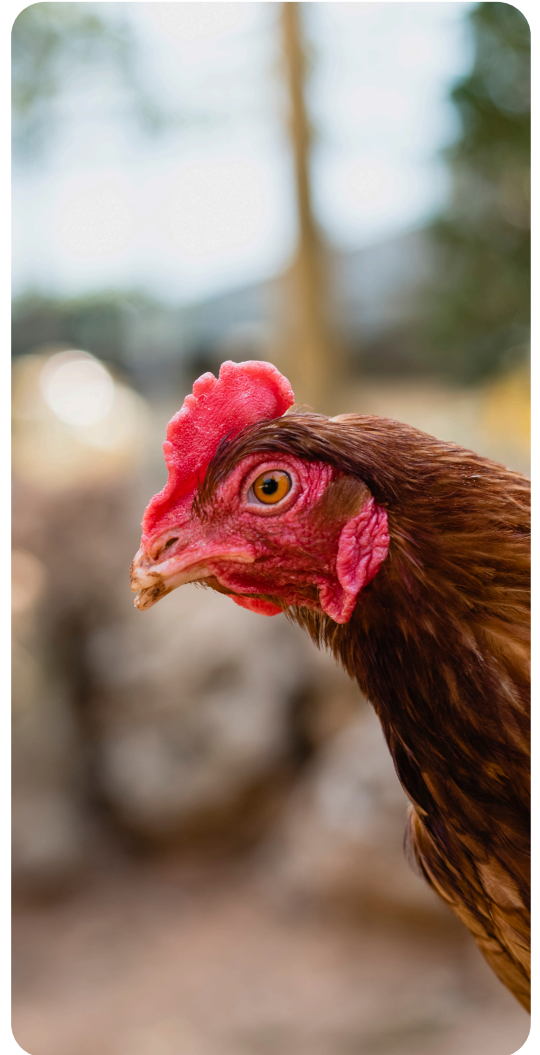
KEEP YOUR HENS HEALTHY!

A strain of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, also known as HPAI, or more commonly as the Bird Flu, has seen a proliferation of cases, spreading throughout this past winter and early spring. Within Ohio, this disease has largely been restricted to a handful of counties in the West central area, including Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Portage, Stark, and Van Wert counties. As of May 5th, 2025, there have been a total of 14,961,612 birds impacted in Ohio. Currently, there has not been a confirmed case of bird flu with in Clermont County according to the Ohio Department of Agriculture's (ODA) tracking effort.

For the time being, make sure to monitor your flocks - even if you have just a handful of backyard layers - and try to increase your biosecurity measures. If you notice any unusual symptoms in your birds, reach out to ODA (614-728-6220, or afterhours 888-456-3405) or USDA (614-856-4735) for assistance. They can send a field veterinarian or inspector to take samples of your flock.

For more information on the signs of HPAI, ways to increase biosecurity, or updates to the current tracking system, visit the ODA website:

<https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/animal-health/hpai>



H2OHIO'S IMPACT ON CLERMONT COUNTY

Clermont County has seen much progress since last spring when the Ohio Department of Agriculture expanded H2Ohio funding statewide. H2Ohio is a voluntary, incentive-based program that assists farmers with planning and the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to improve soil health and water quality. In the first round of statewide sign-ups, Clermont County enrolled 8,173 acres of cropland land. Through H2Ohio, producers receive nutrient management plans compliant with the Tri-State Fertilizer recommendations. These recommendations help producers strike the right balance - applying enough fertilizer to achieve expected yields without overapplying. Overapplication can increase the risk of excessive nutrient runoff into our shared waterways. At this point in the process, all Clermont County producers enrolled in H2Ohio have received their volunteer nutrient management plans for the 2025 and 2026 growing season - effectively helping to ensure our waterways stay cleaner!

EDUCATION UPDATES

SCHOOL SUPPLY DONATION PROGRAM

This year, we had 13 Clermont schools participate in our School Supply Donation Program. In total, they donated over 2000 pounds of school supplies that will be diverted from the landfill! This includes new and used pencils, markers, crayons, notebooks, binders, glue, books, and more. After sorting and weighing supplies, we donate them to local community partners or take them to be recycled.

Through this program, we are always surprised to see the quantity of brand new supplies that are thrown away! We encourage teachers and parents to think twice about what students will need in the upcoming school year. Stopping waste at the source is the most effective action we can take.

Thank you so much to all of our amazing teachers who help coordinate this program! If you would like to get your school involved, volunteer with supply sorting, or know an organization in need of school supplies, contact our Education Coordinator, Elea Cooper, at ecooper@clermontcountyohio.gov



FIELD TRIPS



We had a great spring field trip season this year! We loved taking groups out to Williamsburg Wetland, Chilo Lock and Dam, and Sycamore Park to explore soil and water quality. Students participated in activities like fish seining, macroinvertebrate collection and identification, canoeing, water chemistry testing, habitat assessments, and more.

Want to take your group out for a field trip? Our programs are FREE to any school, K-12 organization, or even adult groups in Clermont County. Contact Elea Cooper at ecooper@clermontcountyohio.gov to request summer and fall field experiences!

STAFFING UPDATES

Our Watershed Technician Americorps member, Abbie Frazer, was unfortunately impacted by federal cuts to the Americorps program. Luckily, we were able to bring Abbie on temporarily to continue her amazing work on water quality monitoring projects. We're so excited to have you back, Abbie!

We also welcomed two college interns from UC Clermont this summer. Ione Sally and Ben Bowerman will be joining us to help with behavior change campaigns, agriculture projects, and GIS mapping.

A very big thank you is due to our two amazing West Clermont High School interns, Ryan Magnussen and Suzy Lemon, for all their work with us this spring! During their term, they helped with environmental education programs, invasive removal, tree planting, social media, and much more. We are happy with the work they have done and are excited to continue this program with WCHS going forward.

Finally, we are sad to lose our Urban Specialist, Jacob Lynch. Jacob has worked for the district for almost two years inspecting erosion and sediment runoff control practices at construction sites. Needless to say, he has been very busy, and we will miss him very much. Jacob will start work closer to home with the Butler County Engineers Office in June. Thank you Jacob, and we wish you the best!



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