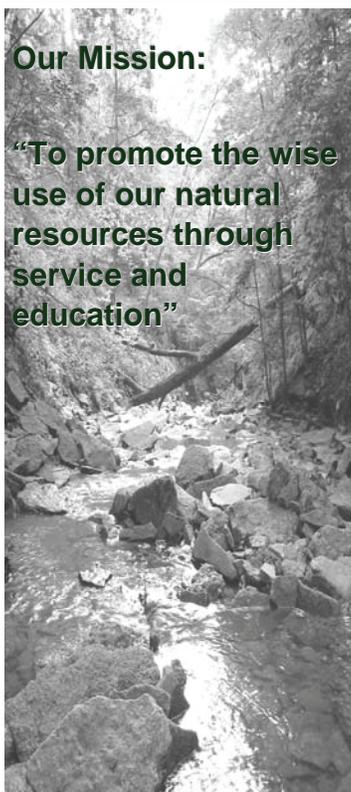




Spring 2010



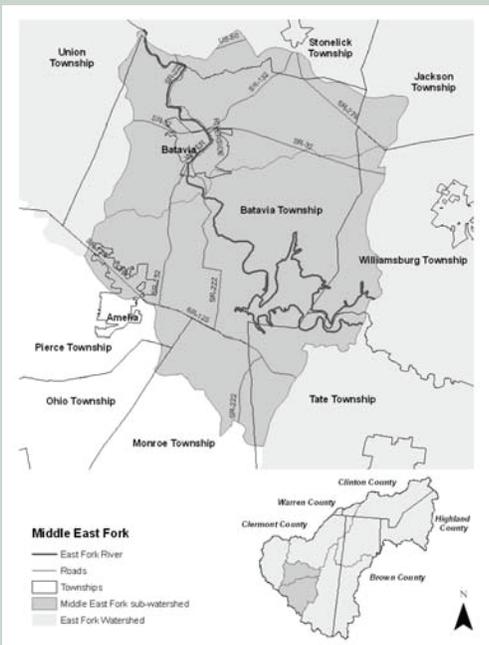
Our Mission:

“To promote the wise use of our natural resources through service and education”

Clermont SWCD Awarded Balanced Growth Grant

Clermont SWCD is one of six recipients across the state to be awarded a grant through the Ohio Water Resources Council to develop a Balanced Growth Watershed Plan for a sub-watershed of the East Fork Little Miami River. The Balanced Growth program was designed to help communities facing development challenges in their local watersheds.

Over the next two years, Clermont SWCD and Clermont County’s Planning Department will be working with local jurisdictions to develop a Balanced Growth Plan for the Middle East Fork. This sub-watershed is 56 square miles in total area and is located entirely in Clermont County. The jurisdictions involved with the project include: Stonelick Township, Jackson Township, Williamsburg Township, Tate Township, Monroe Township, Pierce Township, Union Township, Batavia Township, the Village of Batavia, the Village of Amelia and Clermont County.



The Balanced Growth Plan will identify priority areas for conservation and development, which will help communities coordinate their planning efforts. Jurisdictions will also work together to develop a suite of best local land use practices and model ordinances to implement the plan. The application of these Balanced Growth practices will improve economic development and the protection of local water resources.

Mark your calendars now! Volunteers are needed for the 18th Annual East Fork River Sweep. This annual event will be held on **Saturday, April 24th** from 9:00 a.m. to lunchtime. Clean up efforts will focus on selected segments of the East Fork Little Miami River that will be determined within the next month. We will also “sweep” shoreline areas at East Fork Lake and Stonelick Lake.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- David Anspach
- Joe Glassmeyer
- Meri Johnson
- Steve Phillips
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NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Lori Hillman - District Conservationist

DISTRICT STAFF

- Paul Berringer
- Judy Krebs
- Susie Steffensen
- Rebecca McClatchey
- Jacob Hahn

(Continued on page 2)

Volunteers can either walk the riverbanks or use a provided canoe to collect litter. Gloves and trash bags are provided as well. Free T-shirts and a picnic lunch will be given to all volunteers at the conclusion of the clean-up.



Got a group? We encourage you to organize a group at work, at church, or in your club or civic organization for the River Sweep. Your

“Team” can have fun while helping to protect the river. This is an excellent public service opportunity for scout troops, 4-H clubs, fraternities/sororities, etc. If you would like to participate in the East Fork River Sweep, call the SWCD office at 732-7075 and ask for watershed coordinator Becky McClatchey.

NOTE: Children under 18 will need to have a waiver signed by their parents to participate.

Tree Planting Demonstration and Forestry Workshop

Date: April 7th 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Rustic Valley Farm (Just minutes North of downtown Batavia)

If you have property you would like to convert to forestland or are currently looking for ideas to manage your existing woodlot, plan to join us for an interactive and educational day of forest management. Bring your hiking boots and a pair of gloves (if you desire) as you receive hands-on experience using different tree planting tools on an active forest conversion site. Topics of discussion will include all aspects of tree planting design, care, and implementation. Woodlot management, timber measurement, and Ohio forest health issues will also be discussed, along with any questions you are free to bring.

A cost of just \$30 will include a boxed lunch, materials, and timber measuring stick.

Please contact the SWCD office before March 31st to register and receive additional information about this event. **Space is limited.** Come prepared to navigate through woods and uneven terrain.

Sponsored by Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District and the Ohio Division of Forestry.

Pond Clinic to be Held April 27th

If you own a pond or are planning on building a pond, plan on attending Clermont SWCD’s annual pond clinic on **Tuesday, April 27 at 6pm**. The clinic is free and there will be door prizes available.



New topics added this year, include management of storm-water ponds/basins. What they are and how they can be managed properly.

The clinic will be held in the 4-H Building at the Clermont County Fairgrounds. The meeting will begin with somelight refreshments at 6pm. Pond management experts will be giving presentations on various pond topics. The evening should wrap up around 8:30 with a question and answer session. Call the office at 732-7075 to register.

Subjects to be discussed:

- pond construction
- aquatic weed control
- fish stocking
- aeration
- goose control
- Anything else you may ask!



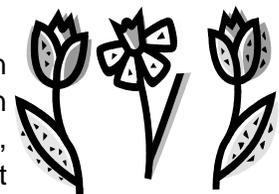
Grants for Rain Gardens Available

There are still several \$100 grants available for anyone interested in constructing a rain garden.



Rain gardens are beautiful landscape features filled with deep rooting native plants. They often attract various kinds of wildlife. Rain

gardens collect stormwater from rooftops, driveways, and roads. The native plants help filter and slow down stormwater, thus helping keep our streams and lakes clean.



If you are interested in constructing a rain garden and receiving a grant, contact the district office at 732-7075. An application

can also be found on our website www.clermontswcd.org/raingardengrantapp.pdf

2010 CONSERVATION PLANT SALE

Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District

Order Form &
Descriptions Inside!

Orders Taken : Until April 9, 2010

Pick Up Date: April 17, 2010, 8:30AM - 2:00 PM

Where: Clermont County Fairgrounds

Order Form Also Available at
clermontswcd.org

The Clermont SWCD is offering tree seedlings and groundcovers at discount prices. This program provides the opportunity for individuals to develop small areas of reforestation, wildlife enhancement, or enhance home landscaping.

Most of the plants described in this newsletter are 2-3 yr. old seedlings. Size varies from 6 inches to 4 feet; see order form for details. Plants 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.

In addition to trees and groundcovers, we will have **bird houses, rain barrels and compost bins**. There are descriptions of all these items and an order form in this newsletter. The deadline to place orders is **April 9, 2010**. Please send your check or money order with your completed order form to Clermont SWCD.

Do You Love Birds? Plant Natives!

Susie Steffensen, Administrative Assistant

I have been reading an awesome book that every gardener should have on their shelf; *Bringing Nature Home; How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants* by Douglas Tallamy. This book can change the way people design and plant their landscape, enriching them so insects and birds can multiply and thrive.

One point that Tallamy makes sticks out in my mind... America's love of grassy lawns and the occasional foundation planting (usually non-native) does not provide the food sources necessary to support insect populations that birds and other insectivores depend on for survival. Over 90% of terrestrial bird species in North America depend on insects and spiders to feed their young (Dickinson 1999). Without these insects and adequate nesting habitat, bird populations are declining at an alarming rate. Still seeing lots of birds? I'll bet House Sparrows and English Starlings are the majority, and they are not native to the United States.



Simply put, non-native plants are not used for food by our native beneficial insects. It seems plants and insects need to evolve together for the plants to attract these insects. This is why non-native plants fulfill the 'insect resistant' demands of suburban gardeners.

It's time to change our way of thinking and start providing the necessary habitat for the survival of our insects, birds and wildlife. You don't have to tear out the non-natives in your yard, just begin to incorporate native plants into your landscape designs. For a list of native plants to Ohio, go to ohioline.osu.edu/b865/index.html, Bulletin 865 put out by OSU Extension.

Clermont SWCD is incorporating more **native trees and shrubs** into our Conservation Tree Sale that takes place April 17th. Native plants are designated on the order form found in this newsletter. Plants must be preordered, and supplies are limited so look through our brochure and order early!

Planting Tips...

1. 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!
2. Make your planting hole deep enough to accommodate the roots. It is better to prune the roots with scissors than to wad or curl the roots to make them fit in your planting hole.
3. Plant so that the roots are free, not cramped. Trim any broken roots. Ground level should be where the roots stop and the stem begins.
4. Plant the seedling at the same depth as it was in the nursery.
5. Water thoroughly. Use only water soluble fertilizer with root stimulating ingredients.
6. Mulch, mulch, mulch! Dried grass clippings, ground up leaves or commercially available organic mulches will suppress weeds and hold in moisture.

7. WATER SEEDLINGS FAITHFULLY THE FIRST 2 YEARS



2010 Conservation Plant Sale



Packet A Eastern White Pine \$12.00
 Prefers sun, partial shade OK. PINUS STROBUS 10 /pkt.
 3 year / 18-24" bare root

Native to Ohio: Beautiful hardy evergreen. Color is bluish green. Long soft needles. The fastest growing evergreen we offer. Will tolerate slightly wet areas but does best on dryer slopes. Grows to 100 ft. at maturity. Excellent for windbreaks and ornamental use.

Packet B Colorado Blue Spruce \$10.00
 Prefers sun. PICEA PUNGENS 10 /pkt.
 12 to 18" bare root

The most popular of the spruces for ornamental and Christmas trees. Blue-green stiff needles. Color is 95% blue depending on the plant-soil conditions. Has a slow to medium growth rate that should reach 6 feet in 8 to 9 years, and can reach a height of 100 ft. when mature.

Packet C Norway Spruce \$10.00
 Prefers sun, partial shade OK. PICEA ABIES 10/pkt.
 12-18" bare root

Fast growing 8 to 10 inches a year. Dark green, short needles with drooping branches and upswept tips. Requires good drainage for best growth. Reacts well to shearing. Grows to 90 ft. at maturity. Excellent for windbreaks and Christmas trees.

Packet D White Oak \$10.00 **New**
 Prefers sun QUERCUS ALBA 3/pkt
 18-24" bare root

Native Species; Beautiful tree that is highly prized for its landscape, lumber and wildlife value. Plant these majestic trees for generations to come, but chose site carefully, as they can grow to 80 feet tall. More than 180 different types of birds and mammals use acorns as a food source.

Packet E American Plum \$10.00
 Prefers sun PRUNUS AMERICANA 2/pkt
 3-4 ft. bare root

Native Species; also known as Wild Plum. Height and spread is 20 to 25 feet. It's white, pungently sweet blossoms emerge in early spring and fruit is sweet when fully ripe, making excellent jelly and jam. Will grow just about anywhere.

Packet F White Flowering Dogwood \$12.00 **New**
 Shade to full sun CORNUS FLORIDA 3/pkt.
 18 to 24 inch bare root

Native Species; small tree with spectacular white flowers in early spring. Tolerates shade as well as full sun. Excellent as a landscaping tree. Red fruits are an important food for many birds and other wildlife species.

Packet G Tulip Poplar \$12.00
 Prefers sun LIRIODENDRON TULIPIFERA 3/pkt.
 18-24" bare root

Native Species; also know as Yellow-Poplar because of the color of the heartwood. A great shade tree with a tall straight trunk and large crown. Leaves have a distinct tulip shape. Fast growth rate; will grow to heights of 50 to 100 ft with trunk diameters of 3 to 4 feet.

Packet H Eastern Redbud \$12.00
 Prefers partial shade CERCIS CANADENSIS 3/pkt
 18-24 inch bare root

Native Species; brilliant purple flowers in early spring. Very effective in mass plantings/ naturalized settings. Large, dark green heart-shaped leaves turning bright yellow in fall. Northern bobwhite and songbirds eat the seeds and this tree provides nesting sites and cover for both birds and small mammals. Grows to 25 feet.

Packet I River Birch \$8.00
 Full to partial sun BETULA NIGRA 1/pkt.
 36-48 inch bare root

Native to Ohio; the River Birch has become a popular landscape tree because of its distinctive bark and graceful crown. The cinnamon-colored, exfoliating bark of the River Birch is spectacular in the winter. Its small but plentiful seeds are appreciated by a wide range of songbirds. Leaves turn yellow in autumn. Performs well in either wet or dry soils that are acidic to neutral in pH. Height 50-70 ft. and 25 to 45 ft. wide.

Packet J Flame Maple \$10.00
 Prefers sun ACER GINNALA 'FLAME' 2/pkt.
 24-36 inch bare root

Outstanding Fall color - Can be grown as single or multi-trunked specimen. Height to 30', width to 25'. Dense growth when grown as multi-trunked, serves as excellent screen.

Packet K American Hazelnut \$10.00 **New**
 Deep shade to full sun CORYLUS AMERICANA 3/pkt.
 24-36" bare root

Native Species; this large, fast growing thicket forming shrub has a mature height of 10-18 feet and is perfect for naturalizing or as a screen or windbreak. Leaves turn orange to red-purple in the fall. American Hazelnut shrubs are used for wildlife plantings and the nuts are prized by cooks throughout Europe and the US. Nuts also known as filberts.

Packet L Common Lilac \$10.00
 Prefers sun SYRINGA VULGARIS 3/pkt.
 12-18 inch bare root

Dense vigorous growth, to 15' tall by 6-10' spread. Fragrant flowers in mid-May. Makes a wonderful flowering screen when planted 6' apart. Lilacs transplant easily, and prefer well-drained, slightly acidic soils. Once your lilac has bloomed, remove old flower heads and prune as needed.

Packet M Nannyberry Viburnum \$10.00 **New**
 Sun or shade VIBURNUM LENTAGO 2/pkt.
 2-4 ft. bare root

Native Species; Nannyberry is a large, upright, multi-stemmed, suckering shrub which typically grows to 10-18' tall with a spread of 6-12', but may also be grown as a small, single trunk tree which may reach a height of 28'. This is a very adaptable shrub that can grow in shade or sun. White flowers give way in autumn to blue-black, berry-like drupes which often persist into winter and are quite attractive to birds and wildlife. Fruits are edible and may be eaten off the bush when ripe or used in jams and jellies.

GROUNDCOVERS

Packet G1 Pachysandra \$16.00

Shade PACHYSANDRA TERMINALIS

Tray of 32 plants

Attractive rapid growing evergreen ground cover plant with bright green leaves. Small white flowers in early May. Clipping in early spring stimulates new growth. Plant 1 ft. apart in good loose soil and no competition from other plants for rapid growth and dense cover.

Packet G2 Periwinkle \$16.00

Prefers partial shade. VINCA MINOR

Tray of 48 plants

Nonaggressive evergreen that grows to a height of 4 to 5 inches. It spreads by stolons and grows quickly. Violet blue flowers in spring. Prepare loose soil with no competing roots. Can be slow to establish, but be patient. It's worth the wait.

Packet G3 Crown Vetch \$16.00

Prefers sun CORONILLA VARIA

Tray of 48 plants

A fast growing perennial ground cover for banks, slopes, and large problem areas. Produces pinkish white flowers from June until frost. Grows 12 to 18 in. tall. Very hardy. Planted on 24 inch centers, this tray will plant 200 square feet.

RAIN BARREL

RB Rain Barrel \$80.00



Limited Quantities!

We are offering **60 gallon rain barrels** made from food grade barrels to our conservation minded customers. The rain barrel has a screw-on, perforated top with screen mesh to keep out children, debris, and dirt. The barrel

also includes 2 top overflow male hose connections, a polypropylene spigot and a bottom drain plug. The overflow fittings allow excess water to be diverted into a second (or third, or fourth) barrel or by attaching a hose, excess water can be diverted to a remote garden or flower bed. The polypropylene spigot is shipped inside the barrel and will need to be screwed on. All you need to buy is a downspout diverter from any building supply store, and hose sections and fittings to link barrels, if you choose to do so. Easy to follow instructions will be provided! **Barrels are terra cotta in color, but black may be substituted if terra cotta supplies are exhausted**. Barrels can easily be spray painted to match your home exterior!

BIRD HOUSE

Price Reduced!

BH1 Bluebird House \$15.00

Made from red cedar, this nesting box is naturally weather resistant and ideal for Bluebirds. Includes mounting hardware and hinged door for easy clean out.



Ground Cover Spacing

How many plants will it take to cover the area you need to protect? The following chart will give you an idea of how many **square feet** will be covered by various amounts of plants and spacings.

Plant spacing in inches	50 plants	100 plants	150 plants	200 plants
24	200sq ft	400sq ft	600sq ft	800sq ft
18	112.5sq ft	225sq ft	337.5sq ft	450sq ft
12	50sq ft	100sq ft	150sq ft	200sq ft
6	12.5sq ft	25sq ft	37.5sq ft	50sq ft

COMPOST BIN

CB Compost Bin \$45.00



Doing the right thing couldn't be easier . .

The Earth Machine produces an all-natural soil conditioner that provides gardens with much needed nutrients, while helping to retain moisture in the soil.

The result is significantly higher yields, with a substantial reduction in soil erosion. The Earth Machine has become a sleek high performance compost bin used by more than 2 million environmentally concerned people worldwide.

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- Measures 33"x33"x34 assembled, weighs under 20 lbs.
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- 10 year manufacturer warranty

2010 ORDER FORM - CLERMONT SWCD

Pkt.	Description	Plants/pkt.	Plant Size	Price/pkt.	# of pkts.	Total Cost	Pkt.
A	Eastern White Pine	10	18-24"	\$12.00			A
B	Colorado Blue Spruce	10	12-18"	\$10.00			B
C	Norway Spruce	10	12-18"	\$10.00			C
D	White Oak	3	18-24"	\$10.00			D
E	American Plum	2	36-48"	\$10.00			E
F	White Flowering Dogwood	3	18-24"	\$12.00			F
G	Tulip Poplar	3	18-24"	\$12.00			G
H	Redbud	3	18-24"	\$12.00			H
I	River Birch	1	36-48"	\$ 8.00			I
J	Flame Maple	2	24-36"	\$10.00			J
K	Hazelnut	3	24-36"	\$10.00			K
L	Common Lilac	3	12-18"	\$10.00			L
M	Nannyberry Viburnum	2	24-48"	\$10.00			M



Denotes Ohio Native Trees/Shrubs

Cut Here →

GROUNDCOVERS

G-1	Pachysandra	32/tray	1 year	\$16.00			G-1
G-2	Periwinkle	48/tray	1 year	\$16.00			G-2
G-3	Crown Vetch	48/tray	1 year	\$16.00			G-3

BIRD HOUSE

BH1	Bluebird House	1	*REDUCED PRICE!	\$15.00			BH1
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RAIN BARRELS & COMPOSTERS

RB	Rain Barrel	1	60 gallon	\$80.00			RB
CB	Compost Bin	1	80 gallon	\$45.00			CB

Donation to Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District..... Thank You!!
All proceeds and donations go towards conservation education and outreach programs

Total Due

A check must accompany your order. Please make check payable and send to:

Clermont SWCD, PO Box 549, Owensville, OH 45160 *we cannot accept credit cards *

Check #: _____

You must make arrangements to pick up your order on April 17th, as we cannot ship or hold orders.

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Eastern Tent Caterpillars

This native caterpillar appears each year in late spring and begins feeding on tree leaves. They are often found in large numbers, dozens, even hundreds in one colony, and are best known for the “tents” that they construct in the branches of trees. These tents provide protection and camouflage to deter natural predators and last for 4-6 weeks before caterpillars leave to spin individual cocoons. These caterpillars are hairy and have a white stripe down their back.



Black cherry, apples, and crabapples are their primary host, while maple, peach, pear, and others may also be affected to a lesser degree. Tents are found in the crotches of limbs, unlike the Fall Webworm that builds near the tips of branches later in the year. Although destructive and unsightly, permanent damage to the host tree is usually minimal, requiring multiple years of heavy defoliation to seriously harm the health of a tree.

Depending on the setting and the extent of infestation, landowners have options to control these caterpillars. Mechanically removing tents from trees by means of pruning is best during light infestations. Another method that can be used is “bug bands”, a sticky strip around the stem of the tree that captures insects in a sticky trap and prevents insect movement up and down the tree. Remember the size of the tree may require professional equipment or advice to handle larger infestations.



The removal by means of burning is not recommended because damage to the tree will be greater than damage to the tent caterpillar.

Chemical controls work well early in the season when “tents” are less than three inches in length. *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt), a natural bacteria that attacks tent caterpillars and is harmless to the environment, can be applied in early season. There are many other chemical brands available, consult your local garden center to determine the best method for your situation. Always read instructions and apply chemicals according to manufacturers’ recommendations.

Treatment is less effective when colonies are large and caterpillars are reaching maturity; you should treat in April and May for best results.

** These are paid advertisements, and inclusion in this newsletter should not be construed as a recommendation of any advertiser or their products or services.*



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Phone: 513-732-7075
Fax: 513-732-7077
Web: www.clermontswcd.org

Conservation District & Staff Honored at Ohio Federation Meeting

The Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) was named the 2009 Ohio Conservation Education District of the Year at the Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation District's Annual Meeting in Columbus January 16-17. There are 88 Conservation District's in Ohio and the award is given annually to the district with the most outstanding conservation education project.

In 2009, Clermont SWCD collaborated on a landmark project with the Clermont County Water Resources Department, Clermont Educational Services, Greenacres Foundation and Marvin's Organic Gardens to install rain gardens on ten (10) school campuses throughout Clermont County. A curricula guide was also developed to allow the gardens to be used as outdoor learning labs by the school districts.

At the Federation meeting, district education coordinator Judy Krebs was also honored for 20 yrs. of outstanding service. Clermont SWCD was recognized as Ohio's Outstanding Conservation Education District in 2000 as well.

Calendar of Events

SWCD Board Meeting	Mar. 10
Forestry Field Day	Apr. 7
SWCD Board Meeting	Apr. 7
Conservation Sale Pick-up	Apr. 17
East Fork River Sweep	Apr. 24
Pond Clinic	Apr. 27
SWCD Board Meeting	May 12