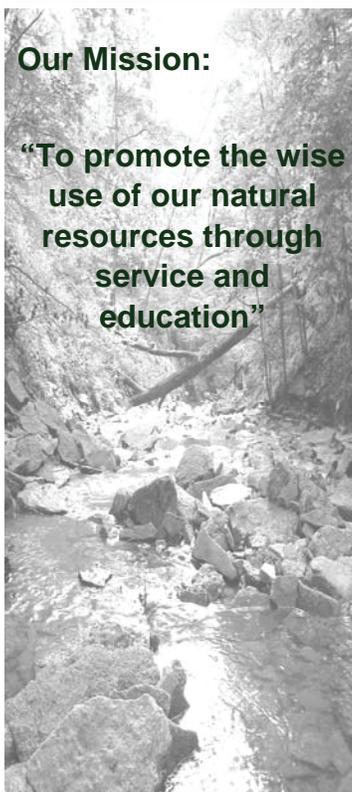


Spring 2012

Our Mission:

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



Conservation Sale Edition!!

Soil Quality & Cover Crop Workshop

Friday March 2nd, 2012 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 East Fork State Park Conference Room
 3294 Elklick Rd, Bethel, OH 45103

Cover Crops are an essential part of successful conservation agriculture. Some of the benefits of using cover crops include:

- Increased soil quality, infiltration and crop yields
- Decreased soil compaction, erosion and fertilizer needs
- Pest & weed control

Join us for an informative session on utilizing winter cover crops in Southwest Ohio and the surrounding areas. Please see the agenda for speakers and topics.

The workshop will include a box lunch and seed & other relevant vendors.

Admission \$9.00

Includes Box Lunch

Register by February 24

Please register by mailing a check with names of attendees to:

Clermont SWCD
 PO Box 549
 Owensville, OH 45160

Questions?

Phone: (513) 732-7075

E-mail:

ssteffensen@clermontcountyohio.gov

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Lori Hillman - District Conservationist

DISTRICT STAFF

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

Agenda

- 9:00 Introduction
- 9:05 **Soil Quality Demonstrations - George Derringer**
- 9:30 **Biology of Soil Compaction - Jim Hoorman**
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 **Soil Ecology & Nutrient Recycling - Jim Hoorman**
- 10:45 **Homegrown Nitrogen from Legumes with Sustainable Crop Rotations - Jim Hoorman**
- 11:45 Lunch
- 12:20 **Cover Crop Economics - Jim Hoorman**
- 1:00 **Farmer's Panel (Q&A) - Facilitator - Rob Hamilton**
- 1:30 **Making Cover Crops Work in our Area - Rob Hamilton**
- 2:00 **Funding Opportunities**
- 2:15 **Q&A, Conclusion**



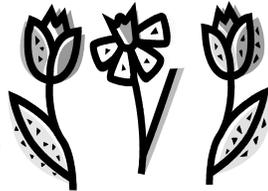
Grants for Rain Gardens Available

There are \$200 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, which in turn keep our streams and lakes clean.



Contact the district office if you are interested in constructing a rain garden and receiving a grant, at 732-7075. An application can also be found on our website:

www.clermontswcd.org/raingardengrantapp.pdf



SPRING CLEAN-UP SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 28TH

Mark your calendars! Volunteers are needed for the annual East Fork River Sweep and Clermont Clean & Green Spring Litter Clean-Up scheduled for Saturday, April 28, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.



By combining the River Sweep and Clean & Green events, we hope to reach record numbers of volunteers and tons of trash collected across Clermont County and the East Fork Watershed. Volunteers can clean areas at the established Clean & Green sites, or canoe and walk the river banks along selected segments of the East Fork River. Volunteers can also help out at East Fork Lake and Stonelick Lake.

Protective gloves and trash bags will be provided and a picnic lunch will be given to all volunteers at noon. Got a group? We encourage you to organize a clean-up group at work, at church, or in your club or civic organization. This is an excellent public service opportunity for students, scout troops and 4-H members.

If you would like to participate at the River Sweep sites, please contact the Clermont SWCD office at: 513-732-7075. Volunteers interested in the Clean & Green sites, please contact Valley View Foundation at 513-218-1098.

Note: All volunteers must sign a waiver to participate. Children under 18 will need a signed waiver from their parents/guardians. Children must be at least 11 yrs. of age to use canoes.

Pond Clinic to be Held April 10th

If you own or are planning on building a pond, plan on attending the Clermont SWCD's annual pond clinic on **Tuesday, April 10 at 6 pm**. The clinic is free and there will be door prizes available.

Last year record setting rainfall kept ponds full, while stressing overflow structures and saturating dams. Come learn about the new information available about pond health and maintenance, including the new **Clermont County Stormwater Basin Management Guide**.



The clinic will be held in the 4-H Hall at the Clermont County Fairgrounds. The meeting will begin with some light refreshments at 6pm. Pond management experts will be presenting on various pond topics. The evening should wrap up around 8:30 with a question and answer session. Please register at our office or call: 732-7075.

Subjects to be discussed:

- pond construction
- aquatic weed control
- fish stocking
- aeration
- Nuisance wildlife control



2012 CONSERVATION PLANT SALE

Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District

Order Form on Back & Descriptions Inside!

Orders Taken : Until April 13, 2012

Pick Up Date: April 21, 2012, 8:30AM - 2:00 PM

Order Form Also Available at clermontswcd.org

ALB Host Trees

For those residents located in or near the Asian Longhorn Beetle (ALB) eradication area in Clermont County, we have listed trees available from our sale that are known host species. The planting of host trees near or within the quarantine boundary are subject to future infestation and loss of tree and thus not recommended for planting. Additional avenues are being explored to address reforestation and loss of tree canopy to those landowners who have lost trees due to ALB. Clermont SWCD is available for consultation with reforestation alternatives and methods.

Introducing... Herbs as Groundcovers

Susie Steffensen, Administrative Assistant

Beautiful plants in your garden or woodlands are a pleasure to behold... how about adding fragrant herbs to enhance your sensory pleasure? Clermont SWCD is adding an herb assortment that can be used as groundcovers, borders or specimen plants.

Mother of Thyme - This low growing (2-3") semi-evergreen herb forms a dense mat of gray-green leaves. Tiny purple flowers cover the plant in early summer and are attractive to bees. This herb tolerates light foot traffic, so is suited for walkways or between stepping stones - just mow if it gets too high! Mother of Thyme likes it hot and dry, so good drainage is a must - addition of organic matter will greatly increase this plant's livability and beauty. This plant does not have culinary value.

Hidcote Blue Lavender - A true 'English Lavender', this dwarf variety grows to 18" tall. Covered in beautiful purple flowers in mid-late summer. Fragrant leaves give off wonderful scent when crushed or

brushed against. Lavender thrives in hot, dry conditions with good drainage - poor drainage will lead to root rot in the winter. Use as a border or specimen plant.

Roman Chamomile - Also known as English Chamomile, this 3-6" plant packs an aromatic punch similar to green apple candy. Use to make a scented pathway or specimen plant, roman chamomile can be mowed to keep it flat. Small, daisy-like flowers can be dried and used for a relaxing tea, but leave the flowers on to attract beneficial insects!

No matter which herbs you choose, all prefer dry feet, and that means our clay soils will need some preparation before planting. Organic mater added to the soil will lighten the soils, increase drainage and improve soil structure. Once the herbs are established, their dense growth habit will discourage weeds and require little maintenance.

The Clermont SWCD is offering tree and shrub seedlings and groundcovers at discount prices. This program provides the opportunity for individuals to develop small areas for reforestation, wildlife enhancement, or enhance home landscaping. Most of the plants described in this newsletter are from 12

inches to 4 feet in height; 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.

Planting Tips For Bare Root Seedlings...

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 accomodate 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 FOR THE FIRST 2 YEARS!**



2012 Conservation Plant Sale



Packet A Eastern White Pine ** \$12.00
 Prefers sun, partial shade OK. PINUS STROBUS 10 /pkt.
 4 year / 12-22" bare root

Native Species; 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 Norway Spruce ** \$12.00
 Prefers sun, partial shade OK. PICEA ABIES 10 /pkt.
 4 year / 12-24" 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 C Paw Paw ** \$12.00
 Sun/Part Shade ASIMINA TRILOBA ***New*** 3/pkt.
 18-24" bare root

Native Species; Small (25') tropical-like tree that bears nutritious, banana-like fruit. Seedlings require shading for first 2 years, then prefer full sun. Begin bearing fruit when 6' tall if other paw paws available for cross-pollination. Trees that grow from root sprouts cannot cross pollinate, thus the need to introduce new trees. Can be difficult to grow.

Packet D Redosier Dogwood \$10.00
 Sun/Part Shade CORNUS SERICEA ***New*** 3/pkt.
 24" bare root

Native Species; Loose and rounded bush with many stems reaches 7-10'. Fruit and twigs are used by several species of wildlife, such as robins, cedar waxwings, rabbits, and deer. Provides dense cover for a large number of wildlife species. Great for windbreaks and hedges. Excellent for use along banks for erosion control and general landscaping. Dark, blood-red bark provides winter color. Prefers moist soil.

Packet E Sugar Maple \$12.00
 Sun or Part Sun ACER SACCRUM 3/pkt.
 18-24" bare root

Native Species; brilliant Fall color, sap for maple syrup, and important forest tree, the Sugar Maple can reach mature heights of 60 to 75 feet. This maple can tolerate shade when young, but grows best in full sun. Not good as a curbside tree. **ALB Host Tree.**

Packet F Yellow Buckeye \$15.00
 Sun or Part Sun AESCULUS OCTANDRA ***New*** 3/pkt.
 18-24" bare root

Native Species; Large shade tree that can reach 75' at maturity. More resistant to leaf damage and diseases than other buckeyes. Native habitat includes old growth forests, streambanks and bottomlands. Smooth husk on poisonous fruits. **ALB Host Tree.**

Packet G American Beech \$12.00**
 Sun or Part Sun FAGUS GRANDIFOLIA ***New*** 3/pkt.
 18-24" bare root

Native Species; distinctive and elegant forest tree reaching 90-100' at maturity that prefers deep, moist soils. Shallow root system and dense foliage discourages under-canopy growth. Reproduces by root suckers; Beech nuts are an important food source for numerous wildlife species. It will NOT tolerate wet or compacted soils.

Packet H Tulip Poplar \$10.00
 Prefers sun LIRIODENDRON TULIPIFERA 3/pkt.
 24" bare root

Native Species; A great shade tree with a tall straight trunk and large crown reaching a mature height of 50-100". Leaves have a distinct tulip shape. Easy to grow, tolerant of many soil types and **fast growth rate.**

Packet I Black Gum ** \$10.00
 Sun or Part Sun NYSSA SYLVATICA ***New*** 3/pkt.
 12" bare root

Native Species; Beautiful shade tree with glossy leaves that produce some of the brightest and reliable fall color. Mature height of 30-50'. Tolerates wet soils. Slow growth rate. Does not transplant well.

Packet J River Birch \$ 12.00
 Full to partial sun BETULA NIGRA 3/pkt.
 36" bare root

Native Species; 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. Height 50-70 ft. and 25 to 45 ft. wide. **ALB Host Tree.**

Packet K Butterfly Bush ** \$12.00
 Prefers full sun BUDDLEIA DAVIDII 3/pkt.
 24" bare root

A vigorous growing deciduous shrub reaching a mature height of 6 to 8 feet. It produces long spikes of flowers on new growth from July to September that **attract butterflies and hummingbirds.**

Packet L American Hazelnut ** \$12.00
 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 M Spicebush ** \$12.00
 Sun to part shade LINDERA BENZOIN 3/pkt.
 24-36" bare root

Native Species; A light fragrance, yellow fall color and pest tolerance makes this plant perfect for the shrub border. The Spicebush attracts birds and butterflies and serves as host plant for butterfly larva. Rabbits and deer browse on leaves and twigs. Mature height of 10-20 feet. Spicy yellow to red fruit are something of a delicacy, as not many shrubs set fruit.

HERBS

New



HERB PRICES:

1 to 3 pots	\$3 each
6 pots	\$16
12 pots	\$30
18 pots (1 flat)	\$40

Packet G1 Roman Chamomile *see above*
 Sun or Part Sun CHAMAEMELUM NOBILE
 3" pots

HERB; Low-growing evergreen perennial that forms a spreading mat of aromatic foliage typically growing 3-6" tall and spreading by decumbent stems to 12" wide. Daisy-like flowers bloom throughout the summer and into early fall. Fern-like foliage emits a fruity scent when bruised. Drought tolerant.

Flower heads may be dried to make chamomile tea, a folk medicine remedy for a variety of ailments including headache, colds, flu, stomach disorders and gastrointestinal disorders.

Packet G2 Lavender 'Hidcote Blue' *see above*
 Full Sun LAVANDULA ANGUSTIFOLIA
 3" pots

HERB; Versatile garden perennial with purple-blue flowers and fragrant gray foliage. 'Hidcote' is a compact mounded form typically growing to 18" tall. May be kept dense with regular pruning. Well-drained soils are required, particularly in winter. Root rot attacks plants grown in poorly drained soils - drought tolerant.

A famous English Lavender, it's blooms are distilled to provide one of the purest true lavender scents. To dry flowers, pick when showing color but before fully open.

Packet G3 Mother of Thyme *see above*
 Sun or Part Sun THYMUS SERPYLLUM
 3" pots

HERB; Easy to grow plants form 3" dense evergreen mats, blanketed in early summer with countless small purple flowers. They require sun / speckled light and well-drained soil, and that is about all. Thyme is a perfect ground cover for hot, dry places and makes a delightful edging for an informal path. Because it tolerates foot traffic, it's also excellent for planting between stones in a dry-laid terrace or walk. Drought tolerant. Not culinary quality.

Order Forms Also Available at clermontswcd.org

Packet G4 Crown Vetch **\$16.00**
 Prefers sun CORONILLA VARIA
 Flat 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. *****WILL be invasive if not managed*****

RAIN BARRELS

RB Rain Barrel \$75.00

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

- 55 gallon capacity
- Constructed of up to 50% recycled materials
- Mosquito mesh keeps bugs and leaf debris out
- Lid is screwed onto base for added safety
- Easily accommodates existing downspouts
- Overflow hose can be linked to another rain barrel. Installation instructions, spigot, screws, overflow hose and clamp included
- BPA free

COMPOST BINS

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.

- Large capacity (80 gallon or 10 cubic feet)
- Measures 33"x33"x34 assembled, weighs under 20 lbs.
- Easy snap together assembly
- Durable and lightweight design
- Convenient 13" x 16.5" harvest door
- Twist locking lid
- Vertical and horizontal columnar ventilation
- 10 year manufacturer warranty

2012 CONSERVATION PLANT SALE ORDER FORM

Pkt.	Description	Plants/pkt.	Plant Size	Price/pkt.	# of pkts.	Total Cost	Pkt.
A	Eastern White Pine**	10	12-22"	\$12.00			A
B	Norway Spruce**	10	12-24"	\$12.00			B
C	Paw Paw**	3	18-24"	\$12.00			C
D	Redosier Dogwood**	3	24"	\$10.00			D
E	Sugar Maple	3	18-24"	\$12.00			E
F	Yellow Buckeye	3	18-24"	\$15.00			F
G	American Beech**	3	18-24"	\$12.00			G
H	Tulip Poplar**	3	24"	\$10.00			H
I	Black Gum**	3	12"	\$10.00			I
J	River Birch	3	36"	\$12.00			J
K	Butterfly Bush**	3	24"	\$12.00			K
L	American Hazelnut**	3	24-36"	\$12.00			L
M	Spicebush**	3	24-36"	\$12.00			M

: Ohio Native **BOLD: ALB Host**

Cut Here →

GROUNDCOVERS

Price for all groundcovers EXCEPT crown vetch

G-1	Roman Chamomile	1	3" pot				G-1
G-2	Lavender 'hidcote blue'	1	3" pot	1-3/\$3 ea., 6/\$16, 12/\$30, 18/\$40			G-2
G-3	Mother of Thyme	1	3" pot				G-3
G-4	Crown Vetch	48/tray	Tray		\$16.00		G-4

RAIN BARRELS & COMPOSTERS

RB	Rain Barrel	1	55 gallon	\$75.00			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

Check #: _____

** we cannot accept credit cards **

You must make arrangements to pick up your order on April 21st, as we cannot ship or hold orders.

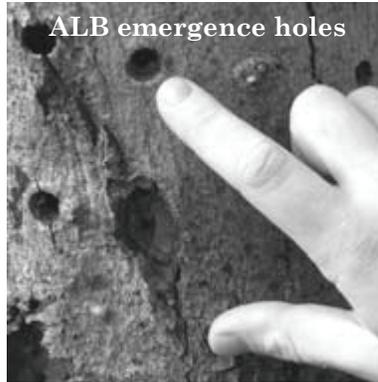
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Asian Longhorn Beetle Update

Infested trees are continuing to be removed in the Bethel area of Tate township and nearby Monroe township, with cutting to continue until spring. Wet weather has hampered this process, however USDA-Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is confident that all known infested trees will be removed prior to spring emergence. Work continues on the upcoming environmental assessment that should be released this spring that includes future management goals and methods. This assessment will allow for a 30-day public comment period prior to finalization.



Survey crews are still assessing the extent of this infestation and new finds are being discovered daily; mostly near the initial find.

Clermont SWCD continues to monitor this process and contribute guidance to all agencies involved. Although we are not directly involved in the decision making aspects of eradication, SWCD is playing an active role in education, landowner assistance, and collaborating with all agencies to ensure that the best science is used during the ongoing eradication process. The District supports the immediate removal of all ALB infested trees that is currently underway.

The District is currently working with ODNR-Division of Forestry to locate funds and additional assistance for reforestation efforts. We are also collaborating to monitor and assess water quality within the watersheds being impacted by tree removal and loss of stream corridor canopy. The district is preparing comments for the upcoming environmental assessment.

To report a suspected ALB infestation contact Beetle Busters at 866-702-9938 or online at www.beetlebusters.info/

** 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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Clermont County Farm Bureau

FB A membership organization which fights for fair property taxes, property rights, and the interest of agriculture.

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Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 549
1000 Locust Street, Owensville, Ohio 45160

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



Calendar of Events

Soil Quality & Cover Crop Workshop	Mar. 2
SWCD Board Meeting	Mar. 14
Pond Clinic	Apr. 10
SWCD Board Meeting	Apr. 11
Conservation Sale Pick-up	Apr. 21
East Fork River Sweep	Apr. 28
SWCD Board Meeting	May 9
Office Closed (Memorial Day)	May 28

If your address is incorrect or you would like to be added / removed from our mailing list, please contact us at (513) 732-7075

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.