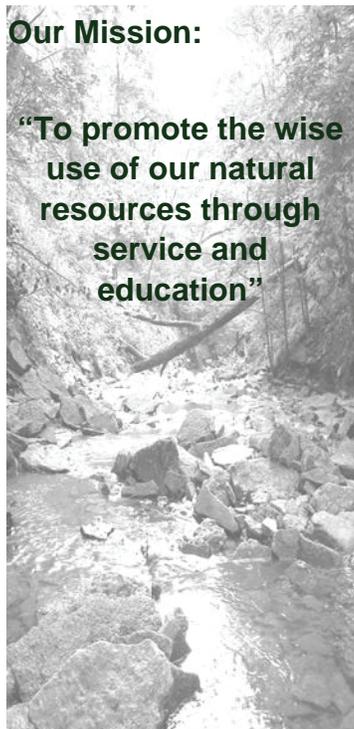




Winter 2012

**Our Mission:**



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



**Season's Greetings**



### Annual Meeting Spotlights Conservation Success

Over 100 friends of conservation turned out at Clermont County Fairgrounds on November 1<sup>st</sup> for the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District. The evening got underway with the election of two board supervisors (see article p. 2) and a tasty BBQ chicken and pork dinner provided by My Personal Gourmet Caterers.

At the meeting, several conservation partners were recognized for 2011-2012 achievements in the conservation field, including Dan Weber of Monroe Township who was honored as the District's Conservation Cooperator of the Year (see article p. 6) for his outstanding efforts.



Board member Melody Newman (right) with Dan Weber, SWCD Cooperator of the Year

The evening continued with a game of Agriculture Jeopardy emphasizing the importance of soil health on our food supply. Attendees were able to browse the displays and try to stump the expert soil scientist George Derringer from NRCS.

The meeting concluded with some wonderful door prizes. The District would like to extend a special thank-you to all those individuals and businesses who donated funds or door prizes to help make the 2012 conservation banquet a great success.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

- David Anspach
- Joe Glassmeyer
- Melody Newman
- Steve Phillips
- David Smith

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

Lori Lenhart - District Conservationist

**DISTRICT STAFF**

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

### Ohio EPA Study of the East Fork Watershed

Ohio EPA has been collecting water quality and biological samples in the East Fork Little Miami watershed to gather information that will be part of a plan to maintain and, where necessary, restore water quality of the river and its tributaries. Most of the sampling was conducted through October 2012, with some additional field work planned through summer 2013. The sampling will reveal which pollutants are present in the water and the condition of aquatic life in the stream and its tributaries. This data will give Ohio EPA a picture of where the water is healthy and where to focus work

*(TMDL Continued on page 2)*

## Glassmeyer re-elected, Winemiller joins Board of Supervisors

In the election held on November 1<sup>st</sup>, Joe Glassmeyer (right) retained his seat on the Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Supervisors, where he has faithfully served for the past 27 years and will begin serving his tenth term. Joe is on track to serve as President of the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the coming year.



Todd Winemiller (left) was elected to his first term. Todd has provided his expertise while working with the district on programs and special projects throughout the years. He has recently served 10 years on the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Committee.

Joe and Todd's terms will begin January 1, 2013 and run through 2015.

Congratulations to both gentlemen and thank you for serving your conservation district and county!

*(TMDL Continued from page 1)*

with stakeholders to find solutions for polluted waters.

The federal Clean Water Act requires a water quality plan, called a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), to be developed and implemented for water impaired by pollution. A TMDL is the maximum amount of pollutants a creek or river can receive on a daily basis without violating water quality standards. If a TMDL is required to be developed, stakeholders will have the opportunity to comment on, and make use of data from the final report.

For more information on the East Fork TMDL Study, visit:

[http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/tmdl/monitoring\\_EastForkLittleMiamiRiver.aspx](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/tmdl/monitoring_EastForkLittleMiamiRiver.aspx) and  
<http://clermontswcd.org/East+Fork+TMDL.aspx>

## Special thanks to all our sponsors in 2012 through newsletter advertising, door prizes, and donations!

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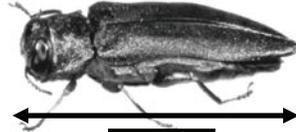
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**East Fork River near Batavia**

## Emerald Ash Borer Update

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) is gaining the headlines of our newspapers, but the emerald ash borer (EAB) continues to be a major threat to ash trees in Clermont County. Unlike the ALB, the EAB cannot be controlled at this time and any untreated ash will most likely succumb to this pest. Noticeable tree death has been noticed in the West and Northwest regions of the county during the past few years and is spreading quickly.



1/8"

The metallic green adult emerald ash borer

Trees that have yet to be attacked by this insect or have light to moderate infestation can be treated by an approved ALB insecticide by applying a root drench or having insecticide trunk injections by a tree care professional. Chemical treatment has shown very good results of resisting the EAB and should be treated yearly to ward off the insect. Currently there are **no funding programs** for removing infested or dead ash trees.

For those of you waiting for the trees to fall so insurance will reimburse the cost of removal, be aware that most insurance companies will not cover known hazards such as dead trees.

Quarantines are still in place by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) to prevent any ash from leaving the state (even to another quarantined state). This includes the movement of logs, firewood, chips, lumber, nursery stock, or any other ash related material without a compliance agreement with USDA. The entire state of Ohio is under a state quarantine, meaning ash can be moved to any county within the state, however, it is not recommended to move ash material to slow the spread of this insect.

Clermont SWCD is available for landowner consultation as the result of tree removal disturbances and related soil and water issues.

## New and Small Farm College

OSU Extension is hosting a New and Small Farm College that will be held at the 4-H Hall of the Clermont County Fairgrounds on Thursday's beginning January 10, 2012 through February 28, 2012. This eight week introductory short course for the new landowner or anyone wishing to learn how to make the most of a few acres will feature:

- ♦ Getting Started – Where are you and where do you want to be? Goal setting, family matters, business planning, budgeting and resources.
- ♦ Where to get assistance – overview of county resources; OSU Extension, government agencies and programs (CAUV, EQIP, Grants, etc)
- ♦ What are the legal issues and insurance – fence laws, liabilities, insurance needs?
- ♦ Financial, Management, Farm Records and Taxes – balance sheet and record keeping.
- ♦ Assessing your natural resources – forestry, timber, marketing, wildlife, ponds, etc.
- ♦ Crops and Horticulture Options – soils, forages, fruits, vegetables and the green industry.
- ♦ Animal Production – cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, horses, rabbits, poultry, etc.
- ♦ Marketing Alternatives – direct marketing, cooperatives, agri-tourism, bed and breakfast, niche markets.
- ♦ Small Farm Tour – a tour will conclude this program.

New and Small Farm College registration information can be found at the Clermont County Extension Office or [www.clermont.osu.edu](http://www.clermont.osu.edu). Price includes 1 notebook per \$150 registration fee, soil test, refreshments and bus tour. Registration closes on January 2, 2013, so don't hesitate to register early.

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# Thanks to All Our Cooperators for the Conservation Best Management Practices Installed This Year!

AES Asset Management	Forest Stand Improvement (4)
Arthur Motch	Forest Stand Improvement (3)
Doug Auxier	Grassed Waterway (2)
Troy Baker	Pasture and Hay Planting (2)
Roger Bedinghaus	Manure Storage Facility, Pasture and Hay planting (2), Nutrient Management
Boy Scouts of America	Forest Stand Improvement
W A Byrne	Forest Stand Improvement
Cincinnati Nature Center	Forest Stand Improvement
Cornwell Family LTD	Cover Crops
Victor Day	Forest Stand Improvement (2), Brush Management
Russell Durbin	Heavy Use Area, Manure Storage Facility
Charlie Ernstes	Cover Crops, Critical Area Planting (2)
Donald Ellis	Brush Management
Christina Freeman	Manure Storage Facility, Fence, Underground Outlet
Billy Hazelbaker	Fence, Waste Storage Facility, Access Road, Heavy Use Area
Greg Hensley	Fence (2), Pasture and Hay Planting (2), Underground Outlet (2), Subsurface Drain, Critical Area Planting
Linda Gonzalez	Manure Storage Facility, Access Road, Critical Area Planting, Heavy Use Area
Donald Graves	Fence, Roof Runoff Structure, Critical Area Planting
Thomas Grote	Forest Stand Improvement (2)
Carlos Hamilton	CNMP*
Ted Hollander	Cover Crops
Tim Jarman	CNMP*
Karen Johnson	Fence, Waste Storage Facility
Jim Liming	Manure Storage Structure, Fence, Heavy Use Area
David Longworth	Forest Stand Improvement (4)
Dennis McDonald	Grassed Waterway
Robert Meiners	Forest Stand Improvement
Jim Napier	Heavy Use Pad, Fence (2), Pasture and Hay Planting
Gregory Nause	Cover Crops
Steve Pearce	Mulching, Access Road, Critical Area Planting
Terry Pell	Fence
Steve Phillips	Forage and Biomass Planting
Nacy Pinger	Cover Crop, High Tunnel, Critical Area Seeding
Helen Post	Raingarden
Sam Pschesang	Forest Stand Improvement
Robbie Fisher Trust	Pasture and Hay Planting (2)



Installations of gravel heavy use areas to prevent mud in livestock sacrifice lots



Livestock watering system with spring development and solar powered pump

(Cooperators...Continued from page 4)

James Rouse	Waste Storage Facility
Bernard Schultian	Watering Facility (2), Stream Crossing, Access Road, Pumping Plant, Pipeline (2)
Shawnee Meadows LLC	Brush Management
Kenneth Shinkle	Roof Cover
Stonelick Springs HOA	Forest Stand Improvement (2)
Albert Stahl	Cover Crops
James Stahl	Cover Crops
Anne Thornbury	CNMP*
Tim Trestor	Heavy Use Area
Waltz Interprises	CNMP*, Manure Storage Facility
Anthony Wolfer	Nutrient Management (2), Conservation Crop Rotation
Randall Workman	Forest Stand Improvement (2)

(\*)CNMP-Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan

(2)- Number of practices completed

## Ohio Master Gardener Volunteer Program

OSU Extension is pleased to announce an upcoming *Master Gardener Volunteer* Training program this year for area clientele. It will be held on Wednesday's starting in late January from 10a-3p at extension offices location in Brown, Clermont and Highland Counties. Class dates are subject to change due to speaker, tour or location conflicts.

After completing the program and final exam, individuals will be required to volunteer a minimum of 50 hours and complete 10 hours of advanced training to become a *Master Gardener Volunteer*. These individuals volunteer their time assisting with educational programs and activities for area residents through OSU Extension. Volunteer hours can be completed in your county of residence. An application, references, background check and fingerprinting are required for all OSU Volunteers. This must be completed by the first class of the *Master Gardener Volunteer* training.

A short interview to discuss your interest in becoming a *Master Gardener Volunteer* is also required prior to the first class. Please call your local Extension Office for times and dates of the interviews. The cost for the entire course is \$150.00 per person if registered or to take non-credit MGVCourses the cost will be \$360 or \$30 per single day attendance.

Contact OSU Extension Clermont County for more information and application at 513-732-7070 or [neal.331@osu.edu](mailto:neal.331@osu.edu).



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Web: www.clermontswcd.org

*Calendar of Events*

SWCD Office Closed (Holiday)	Dec. 25
SWCD Office Closed (Holiday)	Jan. 1
SWCD Board Meeting	Jan. 9
SWCD Office Closed (Holiday)	Jan. 21
SWCD Board Meeting	Feb. 13
SWCD Office Closed (Holiday)	Feb. 18

**Dan Weber Receives District Conservation Cooperator of the Year Award**

Dan Weber and his family own 127 acres of woodlands, pastureland, and crop ground in Monroe Township. They have a diverse farm operation growing produce, and raising sheep, Scottish Highland cattle, and poultry. Over the last several years, Dan has worked with the District and NRCS on numerous conservation practices including: a livestock stream crossing, livestock stream exclusion fencing, pasture seeding, prescribed grazing, and a livestock watering system.



Automatic waterer to facilitate rotational grazing

Many practices are designed to protect water quality such as excluding livestock from surface water, diverting clean downspout water away from feed lot, and installing a

stream crossing to prevent streambank erosion when moving cattle between fields.

Dan has great knowledge and understanding of prescribed grazing and pasture management. He uses an intensive grazing system to prolong pasture season and to minimize supplemental

feeds. This also includes grazing sheep and chickens in rotation with the cows to eat undesirable plants, weed seeds, and insects and to improve nutrients. Thus reducing inputs and costs to his operation by doing things naturally.

Dan's enthusiasm and eagerness to learn and share with others make him a great ambassador for conservation farming.



Stream crossings reduce erosion and improves access to pastures

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