

# Conservation News

VOLUME 25, No. 2 Spring 202

#### **Board of Supervisors**

Matt Staley Rick Weigand Andy Clarridge Cheryl Trivisonno Randy Trapp

#### **SWCD Personnel**

Brent Nickel
Mark Watkins
Jeremy Burrey
Sherry Maisenbacher
Garrett Carpenter
David Smilnak
Damien Pepin—Perry
Allan Robison

#### **NRCS Personnel**

Ron Nieman, DC LaRae Baker

#### **Union SWCD**

18000 St. Rt. 4 North Suite B Marysville, OH 43040 **937-642-5871 x 3** 

https:// www.unioncounty ohio.gov/unionsoil-waterconservationdistrict

# Union SWCD 2021 Annual Tree Sale to be held on April 17!

Mark your calendars for this year's tree sale! The sale will be held on Saturday, April 17 at the Union County Agricultural Center parking lot.

We will be conducting the sale as a drive through event again this year.

Evergreens will be sold in packets of 25 for \$25/pkt and Hardwood and Shrub packets of 5 for \$10/pkt.

Evergreen Species include: White Pine, Colorado Blue Spruce, and White Spruce

Hardwood species include: Sugar Maple, Northern Red Oak, Black Cherry, White Flowering Dogwood, Eastern Red Bud and American Elderberry.

The sale will be held from 9 AM until Noon Trees are available on a first come first serve basis.

Cash and checks are accepted, but please wait until time of purchase to write out any checks.

The following pages detail the various species available at the tree sale, as well as preferred planting conditions for each.

Included in this newsletter is an order form to be used on the day of the sale.

Would you like to receive *Conservation News* by email on a quarterly basis? Email bnickel@unioncountyohio.gov to be included on our list.

# 2021 UNION SWCD TREE AND SHRUB SALE - ORDER FORM

The sale date for 2021 will be Saturday, April 17th, at the Union County Agricultural Center's Ditch Maintenance Building located in the rear parking lot at 18000 St. Rt. 4, Marysville, Ohio.

The sale will start at 9:00 a.m. and run until noon, or until sold out. Any remaining seedlings will be sold the following week, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., in the Union SWCD office located in Suite B of the same building.

All seedlings to be sold will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

We will not accept orders prior to the sale. All stock are seedlings only. Please make selections below and bring the completed form with you on the day of the sale. After ensuring that all species desired are still available, we will total your order. Cash or check only, we do not accept credit cards accepted for payment.

<b>EVERGREENS</b> (25 trees p	<b>EVERGREENS</b> (25 trees per packet)	
. Colorado Blue Spruce, 10-16	,,	<u>\$</u>
White Pine, 8-12" (2-1)		\$
White Spruce, 12-18" (2-1)		\$
HARDWOOD & SHRUB P	PACKETS (5 trees per p	oacket)
pkt. American Elderberry	18-24"	\$
pkt. Black Cherry	6-12"	\$
pkt. Common Lilac	12-18"	\$
pkt. Northern Red Oak	12-18"	\$
pkt. Sugar Maple	12-18"	\$
pkt. White Flowering Dogwood	1 12-18"	\$
<b>ACCESSORIES</b>		
ndle Marking Flags (100 in bu	Marking Flags (100 in bundle)	
	TOTAL DUE	\$
PAII.	PAID w/CHECK	
	Colorado Blue Spruce, 10-16 White Pine, 8-12" (2-1) White Spruce, 12-18" (2-1)  HARDWOOD & SHRUB F  pkt. American Elderberry  pkt. Black Cherry  pkt. Common Lilac  pkt. Northern Red Oak  pkt. Sugar Maple  pkt. White Flowering Dogwood  ACCESSORIES  addle Marking Flags (100 in but)	Colorado Blue Spruce, 10-16"  White Pine, 8-12" (2-1)  White Spruce, 12-18" (2-1)  HARDWOOD & SHRUB PACKETS (5 trees per polyte.  American Elderberry 18-24"  pkt. Black Cherry 6-12"  pkt. Common Lilac 12-18"  pkt. Northern Red Oak 12-18"  pkt. Sugar Maple 12-18"  pkt. White Flowering Dogwood 12-18"  ACCESSORIES  addle Marking Flags (100 in bundle)  TOTAL DUE

(See more information on tree species at our webpage under the Sales & Rentals, Tree Sale tab) <a href="https://www.unioncountyohio.gov/union-soil-water-conservation-district">https://www.unioncountyohio.gov/union-soil-water-conservation-district</a>

# 2021 Union SWCD Tree Sale - Brief Descriptions of Species

#### 1. White Spruce – Picea glauca

This non-native spruce, to 60' high and 20' wide, is more tolerant of heavier clay soils and wetness than the Norway spruce. It is slower growing than Norway spruce and has a symmetrical shape with blue-green needles. The primary benefit locally *is that it will better tolerate the acidic heavy clays*. It will not survive extended seasonal wetness.

## 2. Colorado Blue Spruce – Picea pungens

This non-native spruce, to 50' high and 16' wide, is a conical evergreen conifer with densely growing horizontal branches. It has scaly grey bark on the trunk with yellowish-brown branches. They are often grown as ornamental trees in gardens and parks and also grown for the Christmas tree industry It grows at a slow to medium rate, adapts well to many soils - growing in acidic, loamy, moist, rich, sandy, well-drained and clay soils. It requires normal moisture with moderate tolerance to flooding and drought.

#### 3. White Pine – *Pinus strobus*

According to many the Eastern White Pine is a NE Ohio native. This beautiful pine is majestic in appearance and may reach a mature height of 80'+ with a 40' pyramidal spread. Its soft blue-green needles add beauty to the landscape. It is a fairly fast grower and loves full sun, but will tolerate partial shade. It prefers moist, but very well drained soils.

#### 4. Sugar Maple – Acer saccharum

Another Union County native, Sugar Maple can be expected to grow across Union County – except in areas of extended seasonal wetness. This maple is the most efficient at producing maple syrup. Growth habit includes a broad canopy and beautiful fall color. It prefers plenty of space and sunlight. Will tolerate shade with subsequent slower growth,

#### 5. Northern Red Oak – Quercus rubra

This Union County native may reach a mature height of 80+ feet. Unlike other oaks, this species grows fairly rapidly on ideal sites with ideal conditions. Fall foliage features vivid russet red to bright red colors. It is tolerant of lower pH (4.5-6.0) and prefers full sun, space, and moist, but well drained soils. This is the northernmost Eastern oak.

#### 6. Black Cherry - Prunus serotina

A rapidly growing woodland tree common throughout all of Ohio, is often found in open fields and previously harvested forests. Its small fruits are relished by birds and mammals as a food source in late summer. Also known as Wild Black Cherry, this tree may grow to 60 feet tall by 30 feet wide (or larger) when it is found in an open field.

# 7. White Flowering Dogwood – Cornus florida

Flowering dogwood is a small deciduous tree growing to 30' high and is often wider than it is tall when mature, with a trunk diameter of up to 1'. Flowering dogwood does best in moist, acidic soil in a site with some afternoon shade, but good morning sun. The fruit is a cluster of two to ten drupes, which ripen in the late summer and the early fall to a bright red, or occasionally yellow with a rosy blush. They are an important food source for dozens of species of birds. The leaves turn a rich red-brown in fall.

#### 8. Common Lilac – Syringa vulgaris

Common lilac is longest blooming species within the genus. Its wonderfully fragrant flowers may be single or double and are available in a wide range of colors including white, cream, rose, magenta, pinkish-purple, lavender, and purple. They occur at the tips pf the shoots in long panicles, up to 8 in. (20cm), before or as the leaves mature. They make wonderful cut flowers for the home. Cultivars of this species can be early, midseason o late midseason bloomers. With thoughtful planning, it is possible to have some lilacs in full bloom for at least 6 weeks.

# 9. American Elderberry – Sambucus canadensis

Also known as American Elder and Common Elder, this native deciduous large shrub, or small tree, produces small black-purple berries that many people and wildlife enjoy. Commonly found in wetter areas and fencerows, this shrub will adapt to backyards, as well as wild areas – especially near forest edges. It may grow to 12' tall, with arching branches.

# Wild About Wildlife

Brent Nickel, Union SWCD Wildlife Specialist. bnickel@unioncountyohio.gov

# Winter Wildlife, Habitat, Interests and Concerns

#### What's In-Season

Always Refer to the Current Year's Regulations.

See what is currently "In-Season" at this website: <a href="http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/huntingandtrappingregulations">http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/huntingandtrappingregulations</a>

#### **Fishing Regulations:**

http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/fishingregulations

"Hunting With Permission" forms and Hunting Regulations and Fishing Regulations are available at our office.

# **GOT THE APP?**

Have hunting, Fishing, or Rules and regulations questions? There's an APP for that!

The Ohio Division of Wildlife has launched a new mobile APP! The app allows convenient access to user accounts, licenses, and harvest information.

Other features include sunrise/ sunset info., interactive mapping for lakes, shooting ranges and public hunting and fishing areas.

Look for it in the App Store and Google Play.

# Wildlife Conflict Management ...Forget Control!

Experiencing wildlife conflicts? Try the solutions associated with this wildlife conflict resolution website!

The Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management:

http://www.icwdm.org/

# **Nuisance Geese?**

If you have had nuisance geese problems in the past, you are likely to have them again.

Efforts to legally discourage Canada geese from nesting on properties should begin early. It takes uncommon persistence to keep them from instinctively nesting. If, despite one's very best efforts, one still needs assistance, the Ohio Division of Wildlife has an on-line website to assist with human-geese conflicts.

Go to:

- www.wildohio.com
- Click onto Wildlife Resources
- Find Canada Goose Conflicts then Click.

#### Ticks In Ohio

Tick season is here and you should take the time to learn about Ohio's tick species and how to protect yourself. American Dog Ticks, Blacklegged ticks and Lone star Ticks can all pose a threat to outdoorsmen and women. Read More About Ohio's Ticks Here:

Ticks In Ohio

# Tallgrass Truths—Revealed! Native Warm Season Grasses in Spring

Unlike the familiar Cool Season grasses which begin to green in March—and again in the fall,
Native Warm Season Grasses (NWSG) are on a far different schedule. Do not expect last year's unkempt-looking NWSG residue to green-up until July.
NWSG makes 70 percent of its robust growth after July 1st—the "warm season". It's namesake.

\* For USDA Farm Bill grassland practice contracts, the annual Ground Nesting & Brood-rearing Season begins on March 1st and runs through July 15th. Mowing is Prohibited during this period of nesting, egg-laying, brooding, nestling development, and fledging of grassland birds.

# **DON'T FORGET YOUR BEST FRIEND**

Designated dog training areas are located on portions of the Berlin, Caesar Creek, Delaware, Fallsville, Indian Creek, Killdeer Plains, Lake La Su An, Oxbow, Resthaven, Rush Run, Spencer, Tri-Valley and East Fork wildlife areas.

Dogs may not be trained or exercised on state public hunting areas from **May 1 through August 31**, except on these designated dog training areas.

# **Recommendations to PONDer!**

Look now for any unwanted curly-leaf pondweed, filamentous algae, duckweed, and watermeal in ponds. If there is a history of their presence, they will likely be there again...

I have fact sheets available in my office that cover a wide variety of common pond problems and the potential treatments of those problems.

Give ma a call to schedule your onsite pond management consultation to discuss your goals and what can be done to get the most enjoyment from your pond.

Injured—or what appears to be Helpless Wildlife?

Call or contact the **Ohio Wildlife Center** – 614-793-WILD (9453) – then follow their every instruction! <a href="http://www.ohiowildlifecenter.org/dnn/">http://www.ohiowildlifecenter.org/dnn/</a>

# Mill Creek Log Jam Project Update

The Mill Creek log jam removal project has been making good progress in the past months. There have been several meetings with the log jam committee and the County engineer's office discussing cost estimate, removal process for jams and dead trees and construction assessments. Using the data collected from the creek survey we have put together good maps of log jam locations with descriptions and size of each jam. We have also spent some time reviewing the revised Ohio drainage laws (House Bill 340) that went into effect on March 18<sup>th</sup> of this year as it has made some changes to the petition process that will govern the Mill Creek project.

As always if there are any questions or concerns as the project moves forward please feel free to contact me!

Garrett Carpenter Drainage Project Manager/ Technician 18000 St. Rt. 4 Marysville OH 43040 Phone: 937-642-5871 X 2216

gcarpenter@unioncountyohio.gov

# **Drainage Maintenance Update**

We look forward to the changing of the season and warm weather! The Drainage Maintenance staff have several projects that we are working on and will be extremely busy for the coming year.

We have continued to work on the Beery Morris ditch petition projects along with Lincoln, Wenrick and Farrington. Dun's Run was dipped out this Fall and Winter and leveling of spoils is nearly complete. Fine grading and seeding will follow in the coming weeks.

Preparations for the spring and summer mowing and spraying season have begun. This year we will be spraying the ditches North of 347 and mowing the ditches South of 347. Subdivisions will be mowed late summer and sprayed. Pond treatments will be continued on maintained basins. We also plan on repairing concrete basins in the subdivisions throughout the summer months when the water levels are low. We will also be pumping down and cleaning out retention basin forebays in Mitchell Crossing.

If You have any Drainage issues or have questions about an existing petition project, please call our office and we will be happy to assist you.

Jeremy Burrey
Drainage Maintenance Supervisor
18000 St. Rt. 4
Marysville OH 43040

Phone: 937-642-5871 X 2228 jburrey@unioncountyohio.gov

# Don Cook Memorial Scholarship

The Don Cook Memorial Scholarship was established in 1995 in memory of Don Cook. The program allows campers to have learning experiences that will enable them to develop an appreciation for conservation and the outdoors, both of which were very important aspects of Cook's life. Sponsored by Cook Real Estate, Dean Cook Insurance, and Union SWCD, scholarships are available for youth attending 4-H Camp.

This year we are offering (4) scholarships worth \$80 each to 4-H members attending 4-H camp @ Camp Clifton in Yellow Springs, Ohio. To apply, write a short essay about "The part of 4-H camp I most look forward to in 2021". Mail or drop off your letter of application by May 1st to:

Union Soil and Water Conservation District 18000 St. Rt. 4, Suite B Marysville, OH 43040

\*\*Recipients will be notified direct so please include contact information with your essay\*\*

# Looking for SWCD Supervisor Candidates

Union SWCD is seeking candidates for its Board of Supervisors. One supervisor will be elected at the 2021 Annual Meeting which will be held on August 11, 2021.

Board Supervisors guide the district, its staff, and cooperating agencies in efforts to implement conservation programs in the county that address management and conservation of soil, water, and related resources. Board members should have a sincere interest in conservation and must have the enthusiasm, dedication, and time to serve as elected officials. This is a volunteer position, but supervisors can be reimbursed for mileage & expenses (registration, lodging, meals, etc.) related to events involving soil & water professionals.

What a potential supervisor needs to know:

- \* Candidate must be over 18 years old and a resident of Union County.
- \* This is a volunteer position and runs in 3-year terms.
- \* Board meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of the month lasting between 1 to 2 hours.
- \* Attendance at occasional outside meetings, events, or training is required.

If you are interested in becoming a Board Supervisor for Union SWCD, please contact Brent Nickel, District Administrator by email @ bnickel@unioncountyohio.gov or phone at (937) 642-5871 Ext: 2220.

# Become a Union SWCD Affiliate Member



https://www.unioncountyohio.gov/union-soil-water-conservation-district

Affiliate membership dollars are used to help contribute to a variety of natural resource education efforts for Union County residents. Such efforts include field days, pond clinics, displays, tours, camp scholarships and presentations to schools and civic groups.

# Membership Benefits:

Recognized in our quarterly newsletter Listed in our Annual Report Listed on our website Recognized on Annual Meeting PowerPoint Listed in our Annual Meeting Program (2) Annual Meeting tickets

Please complete the f	form below:		
Business Name:			
Contact Name:			
Email:	Phone:		
Address:			
City:		_State:	Zip:
Website:			
Cho	oose one of the following Aff	iliate member	ships available:
-	Diamond Membership	\$500 or	more
-	Platinum Membership	\$250 - \$	499
-	Gold Membership	\$100 - \$2	249
-	Silver Membership	\$50 - \$9	9
-	Bronze Membership	\$25 - \$49	9
Send this form	n along with a check payable to:		NCD ate Route 4, Suite B le, OH 43040

If you have any questions please contact Sherry Maisenbacher at 937/642-5871 x 2221 or <a href="maisenbacher@unioncountyohio.gov"><u>smaisenbacher@unioncountyohio.gov</u></a>

# 2021 Affiliate Members

# Platinum Memberships





# Gold Memberships





MITCHAGRI, INC





# Silver Memberships











# Bronze Memberships



# **SWCD Equipment for Sale and Rent**

# The following items are available for sale:

Marking flags

Soil Survey Narratives

• Topographic Quadrangles

Soil Survey Aerial Maps

Fish Fingerlings

Tree Seedlings

\$10 per 100 flags, available year round

\$15 each or free online, available year round

\$6 each, available year round

Free

Prices vary, sale held in Fall

Prices vary, sale is in April







# The following equipment is available for rent: (subject to schedule and availability)

•	John Deere 1590 No-Till Drill (15-foot)	\$12/ acre w/ \$125 minimum charge
•	Tree Puller	\$100 per day \$150 per weekend \$300 per week
•	Straw Blower (tailgate mulcher) - \$150 deposit	\$75 per day \$100 per weekend
•	Tree Planter	\$40 per day

All equipment must be scheduled through the Union SWCD office at 937-642-5871 during regular business hours.

Please contact Brent Nickel at ext. 2220 to schedule.

# Don Cook Memorial Scholarship

The Don Cook Memorial Scholarship was established in 1995 in memory of Don Cook. The program allows campers to have learning experiences that will enable them to develop an appreciation for conservation and the outdoors, both of which were very important aspects of Cook's life.

Sponsored by Cook Real Estate, Dean Cook Insurance, and Union SWCD, scholarships are available for youth attending 4-H Camp.

This year we are offering (4) scholarships worth \$80 each to 4-H members attending 4-H camp @ Camp Clifton in Yellow Springs, Ohio.

To apply, write a short essay about "The part of 4-H camp I most look forward to in 2021".

Mail or drop off your letter of application by May 1st to:

Union Soil and Water Conservation District 18000 St. Rt. 4, Suite B Marysville, OH 43040

\*\*Recipients will be notified direct so please include contact information with your essay\*\*

# **Looking for SWCD Supervisor Candidates**

Union SWCD is seeking candidates for its Board of Supervisors.

One supervisor will be elected at the Annual Meeting which will be held on August 11, 2021.

Board Supervisors guide the district, it's staff, and cooperating agencies in efforts to implement conservation programs in the county that address management and conservation of soil, water, and related resources.

Board members should have a sincere interest in conservation and must have the enthusiasm, dedication, and time to serve as an elected official.

This is a volunteer position, but supervisors can be reimbursed for mileage & expenses (registration, lodging, meals, etc.) related to events involving soil & water professionals.

What a potential supervisor needs to know:

- \* Candidate must be over 18 years old and a resident of Union County.
- \* This is a volunteer position and runs in 3-year terms.
- \* Board meetings are on the 2nd Thurs. of the month usually last between 1 to 2 hours.
- \* Attendance at occasional outside meetings, events, or training is required.

If you are interested in becoming a Board Supervisor for Union SWCD, please contact Brent Nickel, District Administrator by email @ bnickel@unioncountyohio.gov or phone at (937) 642-5871 Ext: 2220.

# **OFFICE UPDATES**

Due to continued concerns over the Coronavirus, the Union Soil & Water Conservation District Office will remain closed to the public.

Our staff is available by email, phone and by appointment.

Please contact our office during business hours if you have any questions or to schedule an appointment.

For an in-person meeting, we ask that you follow all Ohio Department of Health, Center for Disease Control, and Union County Health Department procedures, recommendations, and guidelines.

Face coverings are required while visiting the office.

If you need to drop-off/pickup call 937-642-5871 ext. 3 to schedule.

# Thank you for your understanding and flexibility during this ever-changing time.

Union SWCD District Staff - Office # 937-642-5871 x 3

Brent Nickel	(ext. 2220)	bnickel@unioncountyohio.gov
Sherry Maisenbacher	(ext. 2221)	smaisenbacher@unioncountyohio.gov
Mark Watkins	(ext. 2217)	mwatkins@unioncountyohio.gov
Jeremy Burrey	(ext. 2228)	jburrey@unioncountyohio.gov
Garrett Carpenter	(ext. 2216)	gcarpenter@unioncountyohio.gov
David Smilnak	(ext. 2218)	dsmilnak@unioncountyohio.gov

# **Union Soil and Water Conservation District**

Serving Union County's Conservation needs for 75 years

# 2020 Annual Report

**Our Mission** is to promote, preserve, and enhance the wise use of our natural resources for the people of Union County by providing technical, financial and educational assistance.

The Union SWCD was formed in 1945, the 47th District in Ohio, for the purpose of planning and carrying out natural resources conservation programs. The District is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio and is governed by a board of five supervisors, elected by the landowners of Union County, who serve staggered three-year terms. The supervisors donate their time to serve Union County landowners.

Monthly board meetings of the Union SWCD Board of Supervisors are held on the second Thursday of each month to conduct business. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. April through October and at 6:00 p.m. November through March. All meetings are open to the public. Contact the office for date and time of meetings.

**2020 Board of Supervisors** Steve Robinson, Chairman

Rick Weigand, Vice-Chairman

Cheryl Trivisonno, Secretary

Andy Clarridge, Fiscal Agent/Treasurer

Matt Staley, Member

# **2020 Union SWCD Operating Funds**

The Union Soil and Water Conservation District operates on funding provided by the Union County Commissioners, the City of Marysville, the Union County Township Trustees and matching funds from the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil & Water Resources.

## **Local Funds:**

*Union County Commissioners	\$ 2	225,000.00
*City of Marysville	\$	46,696.98
*Township Trustees	\$	21,500.00

#### **Other Sources:**

*State Matching Funds	\$ 2	253,448.00
*ODNR Wildlife Specialist Grant	\$	15,300.00

# **Annual Meeting & Election**

Unfortunately due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our 75th celebration was canceled The Union SWCD's Board of Supervisors and staff proceeded with the election by holding a series of drive-thru dates to allow the Union county residents to place their ballots. The Supervisor election was held with candidates Randy Trapp and Rick Weigand to 3-year terms to begin January 1, 2021.

# **Associate Supervisors**

Bill Conklin Jay Rausch Jim Mitchell Joe Wiley

Matt Furer Steve Drumm Suzi Clarridge

# **District Staff**

Brent Nickel, District Administrator/Wildlife Specialist
Sherry Maisenbacher, Administrative Assistant
Mark Watkins, District Technician
Gabriel Hart, Urban Technician
Jeremy Burrey, Drainage Maintenance Supervisor
Garrett Carpenter, Drainage maintenance Technician
Emmett Phelan, Drainage Project Manager/Technician
David Smilnak, District Technician

# **USDA NRCS Staff**

Ron Neiman, District Conservationist LaRae Baker, Resource Conservationist

# **Pheasants Forever Staff**

Mark Wallen, Pheasants Forever Biologist

## **Conservation Products**

- Rentals: No-till drill was rented out (22) times for a total of 796.5 acres
   Straw blower was rented out (2) times.
   Tree Planter was rented out (1) times.
   Tree puller was rented by (2) people for weekend rentals.
- <u>Tree Sale</u>: Union SWCD 2020 Tree Sale was held as a drive-thru in May, 4525 seedlings were available the sale was a complete success as we sold out.
- Fish Sale: Union SWCD 2020 Fish Sale was held in October we sold 3662 fingerlings

# **Drainage Maintenance**

Maintained (87) projects with 59.6 miles of ditches by spraying (southern ditches) and mowing (northern ditches). Also maintained were 16.58 miles of subsurface drain pipe along agriculture drainage systems, (52) urban subdivision retention basins, and (199) concrete drainage structures which included headwalls, manholes and catch basins.

- Subdivision Plat Reviews:
  - (20) subdivision plats were reviewed by 2 staff members.

## **Education—Due to COVID-19**

- School Presentations: The Groundwater Simulator and Enviroscape modules were provided to the local teacher due to the fact we were unable to enter the buildings.
- National Hunting & Fishing Day: Cancelled
- Hunting & Fishing Education:
- Pheasants Forever Youth & Ladies Shoot and Hunt:
- Conservation Tillage Club Breakfasts: Cancelled

# **Outreach**

- Don Cook Memorial Scholarship Fund: 4-H Camp was cancelled due to the pandemic.
- Provide subscription of Ohio Woodland Journal to Fairbanks, Marysville and North Union High Schools
- Richwood Independent Fair canceled
- National Hunting/Fishing Day canceled
- Union SWCD Website: Provided announcements, events, quarterly newsletters, conservation and drainage information to the public.

https://www.co.union.oh.us/union-soil-water-conservation-district

## **Technical Assistants**

The following are some of our technical accomplishments of the past year:

- Agricultural Easement Inspections: (4) Inspections completed
- CRP-MCM Assessment/Review & Landowner Meetings: (14) Field visits & (14) landowner meetings
- Grassed Waterways: (6) installed, 13.8 acres; (5) others designed, 5.2 acres
- Pollution Abatement Complaints: (1) follow-up from 2019
- Pond Management Assistance: Provided assistance for (37) pond owners
- Pond Site Evaluations and Planning Assistance for (5) residents
- Provided assistance for erosion, sediment, stormwater control and management for (39) residents.
- Subsurface Drain: Systematic designs for (6) landowners
- Petition ditches Beery/Morris, Farrington, Lincoln, Tobey Run, Wenrick

#### **Urban Conservation**

Memorandums of Understanding with Townships: Currently we have agreements with Darby, Dover, Leesburg, Paris and York Township Trustees to provide technical assistance on soils and drainage for all new home sites. In addition to home site inspections, Darby, Dover, Leesburg, Paris and York Townships are requiring a zoning permit for ponds as well.

- Home Site Reviews:
  - (25) Home site visits to determine proper lot drainage for new homes were performed and (12) construction sites for sediment and erosion control BMPs.
- Be the Change for Clean Water Partner:

Be the Change exists to keep you informed about programs and services in Central Ohio & how they can benefit you! When it comes to protecting our water resources we all need to be part of the solution. Be The Change for Clean Water is bringing together ten counties and a multitude of partners to provide education, resources, and opportunities to make it easier for all Central Ohio residents to Be the Change for Clean Water.

http://www.bethechangeforcleanwater.org

• Drainage Complaints/Investigations/Information:

(47) incidents were addressed

#### Wildlife Assistance

- Wildlife Conflict/Damage Investigations
- Wildlife Assistance:

Provided assistance to variety of individuals concerning pheasant rearing, wildlife rescue information, "orphaned wildlife", wildlife exclusion methods, habitat, muskrat/dike damage, wildlife conflict/nuisance investigations, Nuisance Trapper Lists, plant ID, etc.

Wildlife Habitat Assistance:

Landowner discussions for field management/contract requirements. Assist landowners with Native Plant ID's.

• Nuisance Animal Guidance Provided for:

Bagworms, Bats, Beaver, Bees, Caterpillars, Coyote, Fox, Feral Cats, Geese, Muskrats, Raccoon, Red Tailed Hawk, Songbirds, Squirrels, Swans, and Turtles.

# Union SWCD Board of Supervisors would like to thank all the Partners, Funders, Sponsors and Supporters

# **2020 Supporters**

Union County Commissioners
Union County Treasurer
UC Chapter of Pheasants Forever
USDA Farm Service Agency
Darby Twp. Trustees
Millcreek Twp. Trustees

Union County Engineer
Union County Health Dept.
Union County Farm Bureau
Union County Ag Assoc.
Dover Twp. Trustees
Taylor Township Trustees

Union County Auditor City of Marysville OSU Extension The Scotts Company Paris Twp. Trustees

National Association of Conservation Districts

ODNR Division of Forestry & Wildlife

ODA Division of Soil & Water Conservation

Ohio Soil & Water Conservation Commission

Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

# **2020 Affiliate Members**

Cook Real Estate	56 years
Parrott Implement Company	56 years
Ohigro Inc.	47 years
MJS Oil, Inc., dba Smith Distributing	34 years
Dean Cook Nationwide Insurance	27 years
Select Sires, Inc	26 years
Smart Oil, LLC	7 years
Hickory Lane Farms Nursery & Landscape LLC	2 years
Scotts Miracle-Gro	2 years
KG Agricultural Product, Inc.	1 year
Millcreek Gardens LLC	1 year
NOVUSag/Cardinal Ag. LLC	1 year
Seed Consultants	1 year
Vititoe Construction, Inc.	1 year

# **Upcoming Events:**

April 8, 2021 - Union SWCD Board Mtg. - 6:00 PM - Ag Center - Buckeye Mtg. Room

April 17, 2021 - Union SWCD Tree Seedling Sale - 9:00-Noon - Ag Center - Parking Lot

May 13, 2021 - Union SWCD Board Mtg. - 6:00 PM - Ag Center - Buckeye Mtg. Room

May 31, 2021 - Memorial Day Holiday - Office Closed

June 10, 2021 - Union SWCD Board Mtg. - 6:00 PM - Ag Center - Buckeye Mtg. Room

July 5, 2021 - Independence Day Holiday observed - Office Closed

July 8, 2021 - Union SWCD Board Mtg. - 6:00 PM - Ag Center - Buckeye Mtg. Room

Would you like to receive *Conservation News* by email on a quarterly basis? Email bnickel@unioncountyohio.gov to be included on our list.

The Union Soil and Water Conservation District and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibit discrimination in their programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status.

Mailing Address Goes Here

STANDARD RATE U.S. Postage Paid Permit #3 Marysville, OH 43040 (937) 642-5871 option 3 https://www.unioncountyohio.gov/union-soil-water-conservation-district

18000 State Route 4 North, Suite B Marysville, Ohio 43040

Union Soil & Water Conservation District

