



Conservation News

VOLUME 23 No. 2

SPRING 2018

Board of Supervisors

Andy Clarridge
Bill Conklin
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Matt Staley
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Aaron Smith
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NRCS Personnel

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LaRae Baker

Pheasants Forever

Linnea Rowse

Union SWCD

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

[www.co.union.
oh.us/Union-Soil-
Water-
Conservation-](http://www.co.union.oh.us/Union-Soil-Water-Conservation-)

Union SWCD will hold Annual Tree Sale in April

We are offering a few new varieties of trees and shrubs at this year's annual sale along with some of our traditional offerings.

Evergreens will be sold in packets of 25 for \$25/pkt and
Hardwood and Shrub packets of 5 for \$10/pkt.
We have ordered larger trees again this year.

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

Hardwood and Shrub species include:
Sugar Maple, Swamp White Oak, Ohio Buckeye, American
Plum, Paper Birch, White Flowering Dogwood, Highbush
Cranberry, Shadblow Serviceberry and Butterfly Bush.

The sale will be held on April 14, 2018 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 aaron.smith@oh.nacdnet.net to be included on our list.**

2018 UNION SWCD TREE AND SHRUB SALE

The main sale date for 2018 will be Saturday, April 14
at the Union County Agricultural Center's Ditch Maintenance Building
located at the rear parking lot at 18000 State Route 4 North, Marysville, Ohio.

The sale will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.

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 stock is sold on a first come, first served basis.

No orders may be placed prior to the sale. All stock are seedlings only.

Please make selections below, and bring completed form with you on the day of the sale.

Orders will be totaled at the sale, after ensuring that all species desired are still available.

No credit cards will be accepted for payment.

# Packets	<u>EVERGREENS (25 trees per packet)</u>	TOTAL
_____ \$25/pkt.	White Pine, 12-18" (2-2)	_____
_____ \$25/pkt.	Colorado Blue Spruce, 12-18" (2-2, P+2)	_____
_____ \$25/pkt.	White Spruce, 14 -20" (2-2)	_____
_____ \$25/pkt.	Arborvitae, 12-18" (2-2)	_____

<u>HARDWOOD and SHRUB PACKETS (5 trees per packet)</u>		
_____ \$10.00/pkt.	Sugar Maple, 12-18"	_____
_____ \$10.00/pkt.	Swamp White Oak, 12-18"	_____
_____ \$10.00/pkt.	Ohio Buckeye, 12-18"	_____
_____ \$10.00/pkt.	American Plum (Wild), 18-24"	_____
_____ \$10.00/pkt.	Paper Birch, 12-18"	_____
_____ \$10.00/pkt.	White Flowering Dogwood, 12-18"	_____
_____ \$10.00/pkt.	Highbush Cranberry, 12-18"	_____
_____ \$10.00/pkt.	Shadblow Serviceberry, 12-18"	_____
_____ \$10.00/pkt.	Butterfly Bush, 18-24"	_____

<u>ACCESSORIES</u>		
_____ \$10/bundle	Marking Flags (100 in bundle)	_____

TOTAL: _____

Please include email address if you would like to be included in our newsletter mailing list.

*(See more information on tree species at:
<http://www.co.union.oh.us/Union-Soil-Water-Conservation-District/>
under Sales & Rentals tab.)

2018 Union SWCD Tree Sale - Brief Descriptions of Species

(CW stands-for Coefficient of Wetness. Typically 0 to +5 are drier site suitable; and 0 to -5 are wetter site suitable.)

1. **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. CW: 3

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. CW: 0

3. **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. CW: 3

4. **Arborvitae – *Thuja occidentalis* var.**

This native evergreen is a hard-working, versatile specimen. The narrow, pyramid shape makes it a natural choice for windbreaks. It requires almost no care when used as a hedge or screen. Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree and it grows well in acidic, loamy, moist, rich, sandy, silty loam, well-drained, wet and clay soils.

5. **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, CW: 3

6. **Swamp White Oak, or “Bicolor Oak”– *Quercus bicolor***

If Union County had an official tree, this would be an excellent candidate. While it is tolerant of extended seasonal wetness, this white oak family tree is just as much “at home” on higher and drier sites. It is used as a tree lawn tree where space is afforded, but grows anywhere adequate space will permit (Mature height 60', with a 50-60' wide crown). Swamp white oak has recently been referred to as “Bicolored Oak” in the landscape industry - taking from its scientific second name of *bicolor*. This reference is to the summer's glossy green leaves that are silvery white on the backside. CW: -4

7. **Ohio Buckeye – *Aesculus glabra***

Our state tree, this native can be expected to thrive in moist, but well drained areas – *such as floodplains*. Here it obtains its optimum size, health, and vigor. Fall color can be brilliant and often occurs earlier than other deciduous trees. CW: -1

8. **American Plum – *Prunus americana***

This is a “wild plum” and it is native to Ohio. Expect it to reach an ultimate height of 20' – with a mature spread of 25', on **ideal sites**. It tolerates many soil types and conditions. It reverts to thicket formations if not attended-to as a landscape specimen. Prefers full sun.

9. **Paper Birch – *Betula papyrifera***

The **Paper Birch** tree is considered to be one of the most attractive tree species in North America. Its' handsome summer and fall foliage, graceful form and showy white bark keep this **Birch** species in demand for landscaping applications. **Paper Birch** was once used by northern Native Americans to build canoes and is also known as ‘**Canoe Birch**’. It should not be pruned during late winter through spring due to the copious bleeding that occurs from sap rising during that time of the year. Union County would be considered to be at the southernmost range of its area of growth.

10. **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. CW: 3

11. **Highbush Cranberry – *Viburnum trilobum***

Native to moist woods, lake margins, thickets and moist low places, Highbush Cranberry is easily grown in average, moist, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. It prefers consistent moisture, but tolerates a wide range of soils. The fruit is excellent for jams, jellies and syrups, but very tart uncooked. Highbush Cranberry is a larval host plant for the Spring Azure butterfly. To keep it from getting larger than desired an annual pruning each year just after flowering will maintain the present size. The arching stems and a dense, rounded form make it a popular landscaping choice for use as a screening hedge. For a solid screen, plants should be spaced 2 – 3 feet apart CW:-5

12. **Shadblow Serviceberry – *Amelanchier arborea***

This adaptable deciduous shrub is also known as “Shadbush”, “Juneberry”, and “Shadblow”. It is a tall shrub/small tree (to 20') with a rounded crown, showy star-shaped white spring flowers, and often orange-red-yellow fall colors. It produces a sweet early summer berry that is beloved by songbirds. It is a great plant to naturalize an odd area, or as a landscape specimen planting.

13. **Butterfly Bush – *Buddleia* spp.**

True to its name, one can expect to attract countless butterflies to this 6-12' deciduous shrub. “Butterfly bushes perform best in moist, well-drained soils in partial to full sun. Avoid wet, poorly drained sites. Also, select sites that provide winter protection. Butterfly bushes planted in open, exposed sites are more likely to be destroyed by harsh, winter weather.

2018 Union SWCD - Tree Sale Species at a Glance

Please refer to **2018 Union SWCD Tree Sale – Brief Descriptions of Species** on **page 1** for more species-specific details

	Tree Species	Scientific Name	Coefficient of Wetness Scale (0 to +5: Drier) (0 to -5: Wetter Sites)	Ohio Native	Size @ Maturity on Ideal Sites: Mature Height & Spread	Rate of Growth on Ideal Sites: F: >2 Feet / Yr. M: 1-2 Feet / Yr. S: <1 Feet / Yr.	Tolerates Extended Seasonal Wetness	Moist - Well Drained Sites	Well Drained Sites	Urban Tolerance	Fall Leaf Color	Sunlight Preference
1	White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	3	Yes (NE OH?)	50' - 80' (>100') ✓ 20' - 40'	Fast		✓	✓	✓	Evergreen Conifer	Full Sun to Light Shade
2	Colorado Blue Spruce	<i>Picea pungens</i>	3	No	40' - 60' (>75') ✓ 10'-20'	Slow to Medium		✓	✓	✓	Evergreen Conifer	Full Sun to Light Shade
3	White Spruce	<i>Picea glauca</i>	3	No	40' - 60' ✓ 10'-20'	Medium		✓	✓	✓	Evergreen Conifer	Full Sun to Light Shade
4	Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> var.	3	No	10'-15' (>20') 5'-8'	Medium		✓	✓	✓	Evergreen Conifer	Full Sun
5	Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	3	Yes	60' - 70' (120') ✓ 40'-50'	Slow to Medium		✓	✓	✓	Brilliant Yellow to Burnt Orange	Full Sun. Tolerates Shade
6	Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	-4	Yes	50' - 60' = Equal Spread	Slow to Medium	✓	✓	✓	✓	Yellow to Bronze	Full Sun to Light Shade
7	Ohio Buckeye	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	-1	Yes	20' - 40' (80') Similar Spread	Medium		✓	✓	✓	Yellow to Orange- Red (often turns early)	Full Sun to Light Shade
8	American Plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>	5	Yes	To 20' ✓ to 25'	Medium		✓	✓	✓	Varies: Green Yellow, Orange, Red	Thrives in Full Sun
9	Paper Birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>		Yes (N Ohio)	50' - 70' ~ 35'	Medium to Fast		✓	✓	✓	Bright Yellow	Full Sun to Part Shade
10	White Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	3	Yes	15' ✓ 20'	Slow		✓	✓	✓	Red, Red-Yellow, Red-Purple	Full Sun to Full Shade
11	Highbush Cranberry	<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	-5	Yes	8'-15' Similar Spread	Fast	✓	✓	✓	✓	Purplish Red	Full to Partial Sun
12	Shadblow Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>		Yes	To 25' 15'	Medium		✓	✓	✓	Yellows Orange-Red	Full Sun to Part Shade
13	Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleia davidii</i>		No	6' - 12' = Equal +	Fast		✓	✓	✓	Non Descript	Full Sun to Light Shade

Marysville Service Center Welcomes Two New Employees!

Linnea Rowse, Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist



Linnea Rowse recently joined Pheasants Forever as a Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist in central Ohio, for Champaign, Clark, Logan, Madison, and Union counties. She will be working out of the USDA service center offices in those counties, in partnership with the USDA □ Natural Resources Conservation Service and Ohio Department of Natural Resources. She comes to Ohio from a recent position in northern New York, where she worked in a similar capacity to conserve young forest habitat for Golden□winged Warblers. Linnea received her B.S. in Wildlife and Conservation Biology from the University of Rhode Island in 2008, and her M.S. in Environment and Natural Resources from The Ohio State University in 2013. She has been working in the wildlife and conservation field for 9 years, and has a wide variety of experience in wildlife ecology, with a special interest in bird conservation.

When not in the office, you will find Linnea hiking, birding, and generally spending time outdoors. She looks forward to meeting and working with landowners to address resource concerns; Linnea is passionate about finding the intersection between agricultural production and soil, water, and wildlife conservation goals.

Linnea Rowse
(952)451-0096
lrowse@pheasantsforever.org

Sherry Maisenbacher, Administrative Assistant



The Union Soil and Water Conservation District is happy to announce that Sherry Maisenbacher has been added to the staff as Administrative Assistant!

Sherry will be filling a critical role at USWCD, performing receptionist, clerical, bookkeeping, and budgeting duties.

Hailing from Scioto County, Sherry moved to Union County 19 years ago. She now lives with her husband, has three grown sons (that kept her busy with involvement in 4H and school sports), is a new grandmother, and keeps horses and goats. Prior to joining the team at USWCD, she was the Operations Manager at Good Steward Books for 16 years!

Sherry Maisenbacher
(937)642-5871
smaisenbacher@co.union.oh.us

**UNION SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT
January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017**

The Union SWCD was formed in 1945. It is a legal subdivision of the State of Ohio. A board of five supervisors who are elected for three-year terms governs the district. The supervisors donate their time to serve Union County landowners. The board meets the second Thursday of each month to conduct district business. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. April through October and at 6:00 p.m. November through March and the public is invited to attend.

SERVICES

Education:

- **School Presentations** – Gave 16 presentations in total on Groundwater Simulator, Enviroscope, In Stream Studies/Sampling/Water Quality/Chemical Water Quality Testing, Passport to Fishing, The Lorax, and “Pave It or Save It” to 1225 students to discuss topics relating to stormwater, groundwater, soil conservation, water quality, fishing and development.
 - **National Hunting & Fishing Day** – assisted with – 50 participants
 - **Hunting & Fishing Education** – assisted with - 36 classes for 1,015 people
 - **Pheasants Forever Youth & Ladies Shoot and Hunt** – 2 presentations/18 participants
- Conservation Tillage Club Breakfasts** – 4 Conservation Tillage Club breakfasts were held in 2017 at the Plaza Inn in Mt. Victory with 270 people attending.

Wildlife:

- **Wildlife Conflict/Damage Investigations:** 3 deer permits issued
 - **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. Multiple EAB ID requests.
- Nuisance Animal Guidance Provided for:** Squirrels, Beaver, Bees, Coyote, Fox, Red Tailed Hawk, Geese, Bats, Swans, Chukar, Bagworms, Caterpillars, Songbirds, Muskrats, Turtles, Feral Cats, and Raccoon.

Union County Ditch Maintenance Program:

Maintained 43 projects with 59.6 miles of ditches by spraying (southern ditches) and mowing (northern ditches). Also maintained were 14.91 miles of subsurface drain pipe along agriculture drainage systems, 41 urban subdivision retention basins, and 144 concrete drainage structures which included headwalls, manholes and catch basins.

Urban Conservation:

- Memorandums of Understanding – In the process of updating Township MOUs and currently have with Darby, Dover, and Leesburg Townships.
 - Subdivision Plat Reviews: 19 subdivision plats were reviewed by 2 staff members.
 - Home Site Reviews: 25 site visits to determine proper lot drainage for new homes were performed.
 - Inspected 11 construction sites for sediment and erosion control BMPs.
 - Marysville Stream Cleanup Event – 40 people participated
- Central Ohio Watershed Group – Became a participating member of the ‘Be the Change for Clean Water’ group” <http://www.bethechangeformcleanwater.org/>

Drainage Complaints/Investigations/Information:

40 incidents were addressed for total of 80 people.

Farmland Preservation:

Clean Ohio AEDP – Did (4) annual inspections of and reports for farms enrolled in this program.

Equipment Rentals:

One no-till drill was rented by 19 people for 861.3 acres, and the straw blower was rented by 3 people for 5 days. A tree puller and a tree seedling planter were also available for rent.

Tree Seedling & Related Products Sale: 101 people purchased 4350 seedlings during 2017 sale.

Fish Sales: 5 people purchased a total of 1,331 fish fingerlings during the 2017 fall fish sale.

Camp Scholarships:

Don Cook Memorial Scholarship Fund: 2 students were sponsored to attend 4-H Camp with scholarships funded by Dave Cook, Dean Cook and the Union SWCD.

Education Grant for Teachers:

John Rockenbaugh Memorial Education Grant for Teachers: Five education grants for teachers were awarded in 2017 to Lara Cordell of Northwood Elementary School; Dannielle Taylor and Emily Latham of Creekview Intermediate School; Carrie Mize of Northwood Elementary; and (2) to Suzi Clarridge of Bunsold Middle School.

MARKETING

Union SWCD Website: May be found at www.co.union.oh.us/Union-Soil-Water-Conservation-District

Darby Watershed Website: May be found at www.darbywatershed.com
4 newsletters were web published plus had a variety of articles and photo stories (20) in newspapers, magazines, and circulars. – reached 5000 people.

Displays - Richwood Independent Fair, Union County Covered Bridge Festival; National Hunting/Fishing Day

CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

- Grassed Waterways – 15 Waterways for total of 12,580 Feet installed
 - Agricultural Easement Inspections – 4 Inspections done
 - Subsurface Drain – 23,565 Feet installed
 - Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral – 1,680 Feet installed
 - CRP – MCM Assessment/Review and Landowner Meetings – 38 Field Visits/Landowner Meetings
- Pond Management Assistance was provided to 32 pond owners

THANKS: The Union SWCD Board of Supervisors would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their continued support in 2017: Union County Commissioners; Union County Engineer; Union County Auditor; Union County Treasurer; OSU Extension; Union County Health Department; USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; USDA Farm Service Agency; ODA Division of Soil and Water Conservation; ODNR Divisions of Forestry and Wildlife; Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts; Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission; National Association of Conservation Districts; City of Marysville; The Scotts Company; Union County Ag Association; Union County Chapter of Pheasants Forever; Darby Township Trustees; Union County Farm Bureau; Marysville Journal-Tribune; Richwood Gazette; Plain City Advocate; Associate Supervisors Suzi Clarridge, Steve Drumm, Matt Furer, Jim Mitchell, Jay Rausch and Joe Wiley; Affiliate Members: Cook Real Estate; Dean Cook Nationwide Insurance Agency; Ohigro, Inc.; Parrott Implement Company; Smart Oil LLC and Smith Distributing.

Wild About Wildlife

Brent Nickel, Union SWCD Wildlife Specialist.
brent.nickel@oh.nacdn.net

Spring Wildlife, Habitat, Interests and Concerns

“OFFICIAL” Proper Management of CRP Grass Cover

In the past, aesthetic mowing of CRP grass cover was a widely accepted practice by many participants. Today with more research and understanding, it has been shown that properly managed grass cover will reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and is more beneficial to wildlife than annually mowed grass covers.

Wildlife, especially grassland birds including pheasants and quail, and pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, view properly managed CRP cover as a source of food and habitat suitable to raise their young. Wildlife will not be attracted to CRP cover if plants are not allowed to mature. Game birds and bees are disappearing because of habitat loss.

Properly managed grass cover does not include noxious weeds such as thistle and teasel or woody species like trees and multiflora rose. These noxious weeds must be controlled. This can be done in several ways. Mowing of CRP cover, not to exceed 20% of the total CRP acres in a field, is permitted. This activity must be included in your conservation plan and be conducted outside of Ohio's primary nesting season (**March 1st – July 15th**). The location of this mowing shall be changed from year to year. Another option to control noxious weeds is by spot mowing affected areas or spot spraying of an approved herbicide. These treatments will have a minimal effect on the CRP practice cover's ability to meet the purposes of erosion control, water quality, and wildlife habitat.

Unauthorized disturbance of CRP cover is considered a violation of the terms and conditions of the CRP contract and conservation plan. Violations could potentially result in hefty penalties including contract termination and refund of all contract related payments.

Properly maintained CRP cover can be very attractive if noxious weeds and invasive species are controlled and grasses and wildflowers are allowed to mature. Please scout your CRP fields before weeds go to seed. Contact your local FSA office for permission to spot treat your CRP grass cover during Ohio's primary nesting season (**March 1st – July 15th**). Plan to have your CRP cover assessed for the need of mid-contract management activities that are designed to enhance your CRP cover for wildlife. Mid-contract management is a contractual obligation that is outlined in your CRP-1 Appendix and conservation plan.

Contact your [FSA County office](#) for more information on proper maintenance and management of CRP practice cover.

What's In-Season

Always Refer to the Current Year's Regulations.

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

Fishing Regulations:

<http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/fishingregulations>

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

Share Your Love for the Outdoors - Take A Kid Fishing

Weather will be warming soon and the skim of ice will soon be a memory. Spring fishing affords many opportunities for nice catches of Crappie, White Bass, Bluegill and larger species such as Saugeye, Walleye and Catfish. So string up and extra pole and take a youngster with you when you head out to your favorite hole to wet a line. Teach them to tie a fishing knot, let them play in the bait box or minnow bucket, make a game of packing out litter and show them how much fun a few hours wetting a line can be. Take pictures and display them. It's amazing what kids can remember from photos. Most of all, have fun and create memories!

**Secure the future of Fishing for Tomorrow.
Take a Kid Fishing!**

Backyard Wildlife Habitat

A fun, easy project for the family is to create habitat in your very own back yard. It can be as simple as reducing the amount of lawn that you mow. Even uncut lawn grasses like fescue and bluegrass can provide cover benefits to many small animals. Simple shelters made of log piles, firewood stacks, and brush provide needed safe places to hide from predators. Consider designating an area for a bird and butterfly garden and when choosing plants for the area try to choose natives. Native plants usually provide the best sources of food and cover and generally support more species of wildlife. Many pollinators are attracted to very specific species of plants, such as the Monarch Butterfly. Monarch Butterflies need milkweeds to lay eggs and for the caterpillar to develop into a butterfly. Take some time this spring to plan out a beneficial habitat project for your favorite species and be rewarded with great wildlife watching throughout the year. For those interested, I still have some Native Wildflower seed packets and Milkweed Seed envelopes available for FREE.

Stop in a pick up some for your spring planting.

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 covers a wide variety of common pond problems and the potential treatments of those problems.

Injured—or what appears to be **Helpless Wildlife?**

Call or contact the **Ohio Wildlife Center** – 614-793-WILD (9453) – then follow their every instruction!

<http://www.ohiowildlifecenter.org/dnn/>

Understanding 100-Year Storm Events

Doesn't it make sense that a 100-year storm event should occur approximately once every 100 years? By definition, a "100-year storm" is an event of the magnitude that has a percent chance of occurrence in any given year. Perhaps more accurately, it should be called a "1-in-100chance storm." The law of averages states that this type storm should have a return rate of approximately once every 100 years. But aberrations can and do occur. Thus a coin toss can turn up heads five times in a row. And, although it's really unlikely, we can experience two 100-tear storms in one year.

Storm events must be reported relative to some standard time period and geographical area to be meaningful. For the Union County area, a 100-year storm is considered to be approximately 5.0 inches of rainfall over a 24 hr. period. Actually, 100-year storm events are reported for rainfall durations starting at 5 minutes and running all the way up to 10 days.

Why does it seem like we have so many 100-year storm events? A 100-year storm event doesn't necessarily equal a 100-year runoff event or flood. Several factors are involved. First off, a 100-year storm in a small drainage basin or watershed, say 1 sq. mile, will have a more significant effect on stream flow than the same storm in a 50 sq. mile basin. Also, soils that are already saturated from previous rains have lower capacity for infiltration. The amount of impervious materials (roads, roofs, driveways, etc.), lack of natural retention areas (such as wetlands), and loss of wooded areas and fencerows can heavily affect the velocity of runoff. The faster the water gets to the stream the more swollen the stream can get, making it appear like we received a large storm. "I never remember seeing the stream come that far out of banks in the past", is a comment that our office gets on an annual basis. Is this because we keep getting larger storm events? Not likely! Everything we have done, and continue to do, is speed up water and our streams, rivers, ditches, and tile systems have not magically gained capacity and cannot keep up!

Drainage Maintenance Quarterly Report

Spreading of spoil piles has started on the various ditches that were dipped out last fall and winter. There will be a bulldozer and various other pieces of equipment out on the ditches to complete the spreading and seeding of the spoils.

Several other projects are slated to take place this summer and will continue into Fall. Low-water crossing repair will be a focus for 2018, as well as dip-outs and outlet replacements on a select few ditches.

Mowing and spraying will continue this year with the Northern half of the county being Mowed and the southern part of the county being sprayed . The line for this boundary is St. Rt. 347.

If you have any questions about drainage Maintenance please contact our office at (937)642-5871 Ext. 2228

Thank You!
Jeremy Burrey
Drainage Maintenance Supervisor

SWCD Equipment for Sale and Rent

The following items are available for sale:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| • Marking flags | \$10 per 100 flags, available year round |
| • Soil Survey Narratives | \$15 each or free online, available year round |
| • Topographic Quadrangles | \$6 each, available year round |
| • Pond Warning Signs | \$7 each, available year round |
| • Soil Survey Aerial Maps | Free |
| • Fish Fingerlings | Prices vary, sale held in Fall |
| • Tree Seedlings | Prices vary, sale held 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.**

Upcoming Events:

April 12, 2018 - Union SWCD Board Meeting - 7:00 PM
Ag Center - Conservation Mtg. Room

April 14, 2018 - Union SWCD Tree Seedling Sale - 9:00-Noon
Ag Center - Ditch Maintenance Building

May 10, 2018 - Union SWCD Board Meeting - 7:00 PM
Ag Center - Conservation Mtg. Room

May 28, 2018 - Memorial Day - HOLIDAY - Office Closed

June 14, 2018 - Union SWCD Board Meeting - 7:00 PM
Ag Center - Conservation Mtg. Room

July 4, 2018 - Independence Day - HOLIDAY - Office Closed

July 10, 2018 - Union SWCD Board Meeting - 7:00 PM
Ag Center - Conservation Mtg. Room

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Mailing Address Goes Here

Union Soil & Water Conservation District
18000 State Route 4 North, Suite B
Marysville, Ohio 43040
(937) 642-5871 option 3
www.co.union.oh.us/Soil-Water-Conservation-District/

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