



Conservation News

VOLUME 28 No. 2

SPRING 2024

Board of Supervisors

Rick Weigand
Andy Clarridge
Matt Staley
Cheryl Trivisonno
Randy Trapp

SWCD Personnel

Brent Nickel
Mark Watkins
Sherry Maisenbacher
Matt Archer
Joseph Grove
Joe Eads
Ross Carter
Cody Beery
Matt Williams

NRCS Personnel

Ron Nieman, DC
Adam Slappy
Mariah Lashley
LaRae Baker
Leisha Billenstein
Isabel Nazarian
Anna Nott, PF Biologist
Brent Smith, ACES

Union SWCD

18000 St. Rt. 4 Suite D
Marysville, OH 43040
937-642-5871 x 4

www.unioncountyohio.gov/USWCD

Union SWCD

2024 Annual Tree Sale to be held on April 20!

The sale will be held at the Union County Agricultural Center parking lot and will be conducted as a drive-through.

Evergreens will be sold in packets of 25 for \$40/pkt.

Canaan Fir, Norway Spruce, and White Pine

Hardwood & Shrub species will be sold in packets of 5 for \$15/pkt.

American Chestnut, American Plum, Black Elderberry, Pussy Willow, River Birch, Shagbark Hickory, Sugar Maple, and Swamp White Oak

The sale will be held from 9:00 a.m. and run until noon, or until **SOLD OUT!** Trees are available on a **first come first serve basis.**

Cash and checks are accepted, but please wait until the time of purchase to fill out your check.

The order form and species description are included in this newsletter. For the most up-to-date sale information, click on the link below.

<https://www.unioncountyohio.gov/departments/USWCD/tree-sale>

2024 UNION SWCD TREE AND SHRUB SALE

Sale date will be Saturday, April 20, 2024

The sale will be held at the Union County Agricultural Center's Ditch Maintenance Building in the rear parking lot at 18000 St. Rt. 4, Marysville, Ohio. Sale starts at **9:00 a.m. to Noon or until SOLD OUT**

Any remaining seedlings will be sold the following week in our office, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

We will not accept orders prior to the sale. All stocks are seedlings only and **sold will be on a first-come, first-served basis**. 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.

We accept Cash or Checks only for payment. Make Checks Payable to: Union SWCD

EVERGREENS

<u># Packets</u>	<u>25/Pkt. (cost + tax)</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sub-Total</u>
_____	<u>\$40/pkt.</u> (\$37.38 + \$2.62)	Canaan Fir	8-16"	(P+1)	_____
_____	<u>\$40/pkt.</u> (\$37.38 + \$2.62)	Norway Spruce	18-24"	(2-0)	_____
_____	<u>\$40/pkt.</u> (\$37.38 + \$2.62)	White Pine	8-12"	(2-1)	_____

HARDWOOD/SHRUB

<u># Packets</u>	<u>5/Pkt. (cost + tax)</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sub-Total</u>
_____	<u>\$15/pkt.</u> (\$14.02 + \$.98)	American Chestnut	6-12"	(1-0)	_____
_____	<u>\$15/pkt.</u> (\$14.02 + \$.98)	American Plum	12-18"	(1-0)	_____
_____	<u>\$15/pkt.</u> (\$14.02 + \$.98)	Black Elderberry	12-18"	(1-0)	_____
_____	<u>\$15/pkt.</u> (\$14.02 + \$.98)	Pussy Willow	12-18"	(1-0)	_____
_____	<u>\$15/pkt.</u> (\$14.02 + \$.98)	River Birch	12-18"	(1-0)	_____
_____	<u>\$15/pkt.</u> (\$14.02 + \$.98)	Shagbark Hickory	12-18"	(1-0, 2-0)	_____
_____	<u>\$15/pkt.</u> (\$14.02 + \$.98)	Sugar Maple	12-18"	(2-0)	_____
_____	<u>\$15/pkt.</u> (\$14.02 + \$.98)	Swamp White Oak	12-18"	(1-0, 2-0)	_____

ACCESSORIES

<u># Bundles</u>	<u>100/bd. (cost + tax)</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Sub-Total</u>
_____	<u>\$10/bd.</u> \$9.30 + \$.70)	Marking Flags	_____

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Please include your email address below if you would like to receive our quarterly newsletter

OFFICE USE:

Cash / Check

Check # _____

Receipt # _____

2024 Brief Descriptions of Species

Evergreens:

Canaan Fir – *Abies intermedii*

Canaan fir is an attractive medium-sized tree generally reaching 40-55 feet in height and 20-25 feet in width. It exhibits a relatively dense, pyramidal crown with a slender spire-like tip. An important asset of Canaan fir is its ability to grow in areas not well suited to other native firs, but will not do well in heavy, **wet**, clay soils. In recent years, considerable interest has developed in using Canaan fir as a Christmas tree species.

Norway Spruce – *Picea abies*

This hardy spruce is a fairly fast growing evergreen that can reach a mature height of 80'+ and a naturally pyramidal spread of 25-30'. Its dark green needles make it a fine landscape specimen or very effective as screen plantings. Norway spruce will not tolerate excessive moisture for prolonged periods.

White Pine – *Pinus strobus* (native)

The White Pine is a fast growing (2-3 ft per year or more) evergreen that has needles of from 3-6 inches long and are arranged in bundles of five on the stem. In Sep-Oct this pine “sheds “ all of its needles that grew out the previous year. It will grow to 80 feet tall by 40 feet wide or larger under optimum conditions, with a rapid growth rate. Its shape is upright pyramidal when young but becomes irregular with maturity. The White Pine performs best in evenly moist, rich, well-drained, acidic soils in full sun.



Hardwoods/ Shrubs:

American Chestnut – *Castanea dentata*

American Chestnut was predominately located in the eastern half of Ohio, where the soils are more acidic. Its nuts were a staple food of the Native Americans and pioneers, while its wood was harvested for the production of furniture, musical instruments, caskets, crates, and tannin. Dimensions of 80 feet tall by 60 feet wide were regularly obtained when it was located in the open. As a member of the Beech Family, it is related to the Oaks and the Beeches, in addition to other Chestnuts.

American Plum – *Prunus americana*

Known as Wild Plum, is present throughout all of Ohio, and is native to most of the eastern and central United States. Its fruits are sweet when fully ripe, and make excellent jelly or jam due to their high pectin and high acid content. American Plum reaches 20 feet tall by 25 feet wide as an individual specimen under optimum conditions, but forms thickets of indeterminate width with time.

Black Elderberry – *Sambucus nigra L. ssp. Canadensis (L.) R. Bolli*

Black elder is a loose, graceful, deciduous shrub with both woody and herbaceous branches to 12 ft. Many long stems arise from the base, arching at the top. Broad, white pith in stems and branches. Flowers white, 3/16 to 1/4 inch across, in broad, flat, conspicuous clusters up to 10 inches or more in diameter, appearing from May to July. Fruit berrylike, dark purple when ripe, 3/16 to 1/4 inch wide, edible.

Pussy Willow – *Salix discolor*

Silvery flowers bloom in late winter. The flowers provide pollen for native bees very early in the season and are conspicuous because they bloom on bare stems, before leaves appear. Finches and cardinals find the flower buds tasty. Several different butterflies use the blue-green leaves as a larval food source. If planted in dense clumps, this multi-stemmed shrub provides good cover and nesting sites for a variety of birds. Prefers full sun. Grows well in most soil, including wet, poorly drained areas.

River Birch – *Betula nigra*

River birch is a 30-50 ft., usually multi-trunked tree which can reach 90 ft. in height. River birch is fast growing and long-lived and is probably our most trouble-free birch. The tree's selling point is its satiny, silver bark that peels to reveal a cinnamon-brown trunk beneath. Its ability to thrive on moist sites makes it useful for erosion control.

Shagbark Hickory – *Carya ovata*

Rare are the Union County woodlots that do not boast this native and truly "American" tree. Found throughout the county, it often appears as a majority species in many woodlots. With maturity it develops naturally re-curving bark and produces edible hickory nuts that are beloved by wildlife and people. Strong and hard, it also makes great firewood.

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.

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.

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.

Hunting Regulations:

Fishing Regulations:

"Hunting With Permission" forms and hard copies of the **Hunting and Fishing Regulations** are available at our office.

Get the **HuntFishOH Mobile APP** and get everything in one place!

Share Your Love for the Outdoors - Take A Kid Fishing

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 an 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**

Canada Geese – A Closer Look!

Efforts to legally discourage Canada geese from nesting on properties should have begun by now.

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: <https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/wildlife-management/nuisance-wildlife/nuisance-geese>

Don't Forget Your Best Friend

Training and Testing seasons are upon us and most dog related hunting seasons won't be back until early fall. So take advantage of any local training groups and keep your best friend in shape and sharp on their skills. Most wildlife areas are open for training and exercising now until May 1.

Dogs may not be trained or exercised on state public hunting areas May 1 through August 31, except on designated dog training areas. Keep an eye out for testing and trial days and come out and watch some amazing dogs show off their talents.

OLHAP



OHIO LANDOWNER/HUNTER ACCESS PARTNERSHIP

- This is private property open to access for the purpose of wildlife-based recreation.
- OLHAP permit is required.
- Please practice leave no trace by packing all trash out.
- Funding for OLHAP is partially funded by grant monies in the VPA section of the Farm Bill.
- For more information on this program or to obtain your OLHAP permit visit ohiodnr.gov.



VPA-HIP

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



OLHAP - OHIO LANDOWNER/HUNTER ACCESS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Looking for some new places to hunt? Have you heard about the OLHAP program? Check out the above link to find out more about the newest hunter access program in Ohio.

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

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/>

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/>

Drainage Maintenance Update

Drainage maintenance crews have been busy dipping the following ditches:
Marriott, Landon Patton, Kile, Elliot Run and Rapid Run.

Ditch maintenance crews will be back in the early spring to level spoil piles. We will then grade the affected areas and plant grass seed to restore the filter strip.

If you have storm damage on a county-maintained ditch, please do not hesitate to give us a call.



For any drainage related questions, Please contact our office M-F from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Joe Eads

Drainage Maintenance Supervisor

18000 State Route 4, Ste. D

Marysville, OH 43040

937-209-2236

jeads@unioncountyohio.gov

<https://www.unioncountyohio.gov/USWCD>

Technical Trivia: Riprap

Covering conservation and drainage topics on a quarterly basis.

What is it?

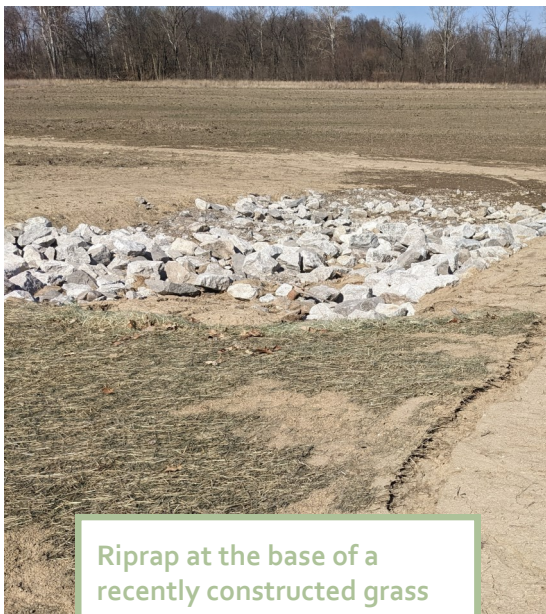
Put simply, riprap is crushed limestone that is used to stabilize earthen slopes. Riprap limits soil erosion by protecting exposed soil from concentrated flow during or after heavy rain events.

Some places where you might expect to see it are:

Along the banks of a creek or river

At the base of a pipe outlet or inlet

At the beginning or end of a grassed waterway



Riprap at the base of a recently constructed grass waterway



Hooded inlet surrounded by riprap

Typically supplied by quarries, riprap has angled edges that lock together and help to hold the stone in place.

It comes in four sizes: A, B, C, and D, ranging from largest to smallest.

Riprap is versatile and has many applications. If you have questions or want to learn more, feel free to contact us!

Up the Crick...

Using resources today, conserving for tomorrow.
Joseph Grove, Urban Technician - jgrove@unioncountyohio.gov



Tornado Safety

When most people think of tornado outbreaks, states like Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas come to mind. But as of this year, Ohio has been outpacing all three of these states combined. According to the National Weather Service, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas have had a combined total of 6 tornadoes so far this year. Ohio by contrast has already had 16, including the one on March 14th which decimated Indian Lake. Trends like these have led some experts to believe that “tornado alley” is migrating eastward into Ohio.

With tornadoes becoming increasingly frequent in the state and Ohio’s severe weather season (April through early June) fast approaching, it is prudent to review some key tips from the National Weather Service for staying safe during a tornado:

In Homes or Other Buildings:

- Go to the basement or a small interior room.
- Cover your head.
- Stay away from windows.

In Mobile Homes or Vehicles:

- Do not try to outrun the tornado in your car (a car is the least safe place to be).
- Get to the nearest shelter.
- If a shelter is not available, as a last resort you can:
 - ◇ Stay in the vehicle with your seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows and cover it with your hands.
 - OR
 - ◇ Lie flat in a ditch and cover your head with your hands.

If you would like to donate to those affected by the tornado at Indian Lake, you can do so at:

<https://www.uwlogan.org/indian-lake-tornado-relief-fund-0>

Union Soil and Water Conservation District

Serving Union County's Conservation needs for 78 years

2023 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 2nd Thursday of each month to conduct business. All meetings are open to the public and held on the second Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

2023 Board of Supervisors

Rick Weigand, Chair

Andy Clarridge, Vice-Chairman

Matt Staley, Fiscal Agent/Treasurer

Cheryl Trivisonno, Secretary

Randy Trapp, Member

2023 Union SWCD Operating Funds

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

Local Funds:

Union County Commissioners	\$200,000.00
Township Trustees	\$ 1,000.00

Other Sources:

State Matching Funds	\$382,831.00
ODNR Wildlife Specialist Grant	\$ 20,000.00

Annual Meeting & Election

The Union Soil & Water Conservation District held its 78th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, with 66 people in attendance. The election of Supervisors was held with candidates Randy Trapp and Rick Weigand elected to 3-year terms to begin January 1, 2024.

Entertainment: Stephen Graham provided the entertainment for the evening. Steve gave a presentation on his farm practices and the CREP program.

Awards: The 2023 Cooperator of the Year award went to Stephen Graham or Graham Farm. He took over his family farm in the early 2000s, implementing several USDA practices to bring the farm back to life. The farm has been in operation for over 120 years in Union County.

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
Ross Carter, District Technician
Matt Williams, District Technician
Joseph Grove, Urban Technician
Joe Eads, Drainage Maintenance Supervisor
Matt Archer, Drainage maintenance Technician
Cody Beery, Drainage maintenance Technician

USDA, NRCS Staff

Ron Neiman, District Conservationist
LaRae Baker, Resource Conservationist
Adam Slappy, Soil Conservationist
Mariah Lashley, Soil Conservationist
Anna “Quinn” Baltisberger, Soil Conservationist



Conservation Products

- Rentals: No-till drill was rented out (13) times for a total of 535.7 acres
Straw blower was rented out (5) times.
Tree Planter was rented out (3) times.
Tree Puller was rented out (0) times.
- Tree Sale: Union SWCD 2023 Tree Sale was held as a drive-thru on April 15, 2023 With 5,625 seedlings available to 101 customers.
- Fish Sale: Union SWCD 2023 Fish Sale was held in October and we sold 5,655 fingerlings to 10 customers.

Education

- School Presentations: Presented the Groundwater Simulator and the Enviroscape modules to Fairbanks Middle School and read The Lorax to the first graders at North Union on Earth Day.

The Groundwater Simulator, the Enviroscape modules, and the AR Sand table were made available to Union County teachers upon request to use in their classrooms.

- National Hunting & Fishing Day:
Assisted with – (50) participants
- Hunting & Fishing Education:
Assisted with - (10) classes for over 400+ participants
- Pheasants Forever Youth & Ladies Shoot and Hunt:
(2) presentations / (75) participants
- Conservation Tillage Club Breakfasts:
(4) Conservation Tillage Club breakfasts were held in 2023 at the Plaza Inn in Mt. Victory with (200+) people attending.
- Farmers' Breakfast Series:
(2) Breakfasts were held in 2023 to discuss The Future of Rural Economies with (111) people attending.

Outreach

- Don Cook Memorial Scholarship Fund: Cook Real Estate, Dean Cook Nationwide Insurance and Union SWCD sponsored Brooklyn Coder, Mackenzie Lynn Keemann, Gabe Bertin, and Preston Davis to attend 4-H Camp at Camp Clifton.
- Provide a subscription of the Ohio Woodland Journal to Fairbanks, Marysville and North Union High Schools.
- Participated in the Richwood Independent Fair by providing educational displays
- Union SWCD Website: Provided announcements, events, quarterly newsletters, conservation and drainage information to the public.

<https://www.unioncountyohio.gov/USWCD>

- District Facebook Page: Provided announcements, events, conservation and drainage information to the public

Drainage Maintenance

- *Ditches*: (34) Maintained with 62.59 miles of ditches by spraying (southern ditches) and mowing (northern ditches).
- *Subdivisions*: (35) maintained with 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 and (41) projects are pending awaiting the final punch-outs
- *Construction Projects*: Morris Beery completed in the fall.
- *Petition Projects*: Mill Creek Logjam gathered data with UCE staff.
- *Subdivision Plat Reviews*: (23) subdivision plats reviewed by 2 District staff members.
- *Assessment Spreadsheets*: (69) spreadsheets are maintained by 3 District staff.

Technical Assistance

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

- Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP): (4) Inspections completed
- Agricultural Pollution Abatement Program (APAP): (2) Complaints: Investigated
- CRP-MCM Assessment/Review: (19) Field Visits and Landowner Meetings
- Grassed Waterways: (5) Reviewed for Contract Renewal; (17) Installed; (26) others designed
- Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP): (1) UC landowner
- Pond Management: Provided assistance to (16) pond owners.
- Pond Site Evaluations and Planning: Assisted (7) residents
- Drainage Assistance: Assisted (113) UC landowners with Erosion, sediment, stormwater control and management
- Ohio Agriculture Conservation Initiative (OACI): Contacted (80) UC landowners
- Low Water Crossing (LWC): designed (1) for UC landowner
- Agricultural Subsurface Drainage: designed (3) for UC landowners
- Petitioned ditches: Beach Open; Clark Yoder; Fry Open; Marriott Open; Leo Rausch; Morris-Beery; Sugar Run; Tobey Run; Pending: Lincoln, Wenrick, Farrington, and Mill Creek Logjam.
- Petitioned subdivisions: Britonwood; Mitchell Crossing; Waterford Estates; Jerome Village - ERN06, GPN05, GPN08, VN004, VN005
- Solar Projects: Acciona/Union Solar; Invenergy/Cadence Solar, Engie Solar, Light source BP/Acamar Solar; and Samsung/Richwood Solar.
- Drainage Maintenance: Developed an inventory and project tracking system

Urban Conservation

- Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) Townships: Currently we have agreements to provide technical assistance on soils and drainage for all new home sites. In addition to home site inspections, the following townships require a zoning permit for ponds as well
 - Darby Township Trustees
 - Dover Township Trustees
 - Leesburg Township Trustees
 - Liberty Township Trustees
 - Millcreek Township Trustees
 - Paris Township Trustees
 - York Township Trustees
- Home Site Reviews: (18) Home site visits to determine proper lot drainage for new homes were performed and (2) construction site for sediment and erosion control BMPs.
- Be the Change for Clean Water Partner: The Be the Change initiative 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.bethechangeformcleanwater.org>
- Drainage Complaints/Investigations/Information: (45) incidents were addressed

Wildlife Assistance

- Wildlife Conflict/Damage Investigations (15):
Bagworms, Bats, Beaver, Bees, Caterpillars, Coyote, Fox, Feral Cats, Geese, Hawks, Muskrats, Raccoons, Groundhogs, Woodpeckers, Blackbirds/ Starlings, Squirrels/chipmunks, Rabbits, Swans, and Turtles.
- Wildlife Assistance (17):
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 (19):
Landowner discussions for field management/contract requirements.
Assist landowners with Native Plant ID’s.

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

2023 Supporters

Union County Commissioners

Union County Auditor

Union County Engineer

Union County Treasurer

Union County Health Department

City of Marysville

Pheasants Forever - Union County Chapter #535

National Wild Turkey Federation - Union County Chapter

Union County Farm Bureau

OSU Extension

USDA Farm Service Agency

Union County Ag Association

The Scotts Company

Darby Township Trustees

National Association of Conservation Districts

ODNR Division of Forestry

ODNR Division of Wildlife

ODA Division of Soil & Water Conservation

Ohio Soil & Water Conservation Commission

Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

2023 Affiliate Members

Cook Real Estate (Gold Member)	59 years
Ohigro Inc. (Silver Member)	50 years
MJS Oil, Inc., dba Smith Distributing (Silver Member)	37 years
Dean Cook Nationwide Insurance (Gold Member)	31 years
Select Sires, Inc (Platinum Member)	29 years
Union County Farm Bureau (Gold Member)	26 years
Smart Oil, LLC (Gold Member)	10 years
Millcreek Gardens LLC (Silver Member)	4 years
Seed Consultants (Silver Member)	4 years
Vititoe Construction, Inc. (Platinum Member)	4 years
Connolly Construction Co. (Silver Member)	3 years
MitchellAgri (Gold Member)	3 years
The Seed Center (Gold Member)	3 years
Benny's Pizza (Gold Member)	2 year
Bluescreek Farm LLC (Gold Member)	2 year
Bokes Creek Hot Shots (Gold Member)	2 year
Bokes Creek Orchard (Gold Member)	2 year
Mitchell's Berries & Blooms (Silver Member)	2 year
Richwood Tire Center (Silver Member)	2 year
Steve Stolte (Gold Member)	2 year
Al's Leather Craft LTD (Silver Member)	1 year
Heart of Ohio Fish & Game Association (Gold Member)	1 year
The Grainery (Gold Member)	1 year

Don Cook Memorial Scholarship

Established in 1995, the Don Cook Memorial Scholarship was in memory of Don Cook. This scholarship allows campers to have learning experiences that will enable them to develop an appreciation for conservation and the outdoors. These were 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.

Dave and Dean Cook and Union SWCD will be sponsoring 4 - \$80 Don Cook Memorial Scholarships to 4-H members attending 4-H camp @ Camp Clifton in Yellow Springs, Ohio June 11th - 15th, 2024 .

To apply: write a short essay about "Two Things I Plan to Do at Camp".

Mail or drop off your letter of application by April 24, 2024 to Union Soil and Water Conservation District 18000 St. Rt. 4, Suite D, 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 one (1) candidate for its Board of Supervisors for the 79th Annual Banquet and Election to be held on August 7, 2024.

Board Supervisors guide the district, its staff, and cooperating agencies in efforts to implement conservation programs in the county that address the 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.

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 for 3-year terms.
- * Board meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of the month @ 6:00 p.m.
- * Attendance at occasional outside meetings, events, or training is required.

Click on the [Board Supervisor Position Description](#) to learn more about responsibilities.

Contact Sherry Maisenbacher, Administrative Assistant, by phone at (937) 642-5871 Ext: 2221 or email @ smaisenbacher@unioncountyohio.gov if you are interested in becoming a Board Supervisor.

2024 Affiliate Members

Diamond Memberships



Platinum Memberships



YOUR SUCCESS *Our Passion.*



Gold Memberships



Silver Memberships



Union SWCD Affiliate Member Application

<https://www.unioncountyohio.gov/departments/USWCD/affiliate-members-donors>

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:

Annual Meeting Tickets (2)

Listed in our Annual Meeting Program

Listed in our Annual Report

Listed on our website

Recognized in our quarterly newsletter

Recognized on Annual Meeting PowerPoint

Please complete the form below:

Business Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Website: _____

Choose one of the following Affiliate memberships available:

_____ Diamond Membership \$500 or more

_____ Platinum Membership \$250 - \$499

_____ Gold Membership \$100 - \$249

_____ Silver Membership \$50 - \$99

Send this form along with a check payable to:

Union SWCD
18000 State Route 4, Suite D
Maryville, OH 43040

If you have any questions please contact Sherry Maisenbacher at
(937) 642-5871 x2221 or smaisenbacher@unioncountyohio.gov

Upcoming Events / Office Closures:

April 11, 2024	Union SWCD Board Meeting, 6:00 pm in the Ag Center - Buckeye Mtg Room
April 20, 2024	Union SWCD Annual Tree Sale, 9:00 a.m. - Noon or until SOLD OUT
May 9, 2024	Union SWCD Board Meeting, 6:00 pm in the Ag Center - Buckeye Mtg Room
May 27, 2024	Holiday: Memorial Day - Office Closed
June 13, 2024	Union SWCD Board Meeting, 6:00 pm in the Ag Center - Buckeye Mtg Room
June 19, 2024	Holiday: Juneteenth - Office Closed
July 4, 2024	Holiday: Independence Day - Office Closed
July 11, 2024	Union SWCD Board Meeting, 6:00 pm in the Ag Center - Buckeye Mtg Room
August 7, 2024	Union SWCD 79th Annual Banquet & Election @ Der Dutchman Plain City, OH
September 2, 2024	Holiday: Labor Day
September 12, 2024	Union SWCD Board Meeting, 6:00 pm in the Ag Center - Buckeye Mtg Room

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

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

Mailing Address Goes Here

Union Soil & Water Conservation District
1800 State Route 4, Suite D
Marysville, Ohio 43040
(937) 642-5871 option 4
<https://www.unioncountyohio.gov/USWCD>

Conservation News

STANDARD RATE
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #3
Marysville, OH 43040