

# The Hillsider

Conservation News in Lawrence County

WINTER/SPRING 2018

## LAWRENCE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 144 • Willow Wood, Ohio 45696  
740-867-4737 • Fax only: 867-5513  
HOURS: 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

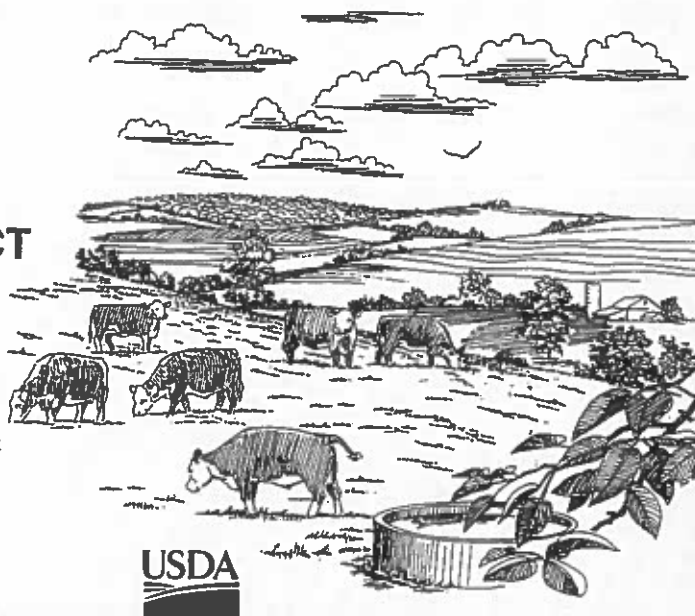
David Kline  
Jim Mayberry  
Larry Bare  
Steve Lambert  
Terry Porter

### DISTRICT PERSONNEL:

Matthew A. Capper, Office Manager  
Kim Carrico, Urban/Education Specialist  
Peggy Reynolds, Administrative Assistant

### NRCS PERSONNEL:

Ralph Crawford,  
District Conservationist



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## 70th Annual Meeting and Banquet

The Lawrence Soil and Water Conservation District celebrated 70 years of service at its joint annual meeting and banquet with the Lawrence County Farm Bureau on October 21, 2017 at Collins Career Technical Center.

District contest winners were recognized and presented awards for their achievements. Newsletter Sponsors were presented certificates of recognition. The 2017 Cooperator of the Year was awarded to Frank and Beverly Fulks. An election of one supervisor was conducted. Congratulations to Jim Mayberry on his re-election to serve a three year term on the Board of Supervisors. The Banquet concluded with the drawing of door prizes.

The Lawrence Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors and Staff would like to thank everyone who attended the 70th annual meeting. We would also like to thank the Collins Career Technical Center. Additionally, we would like to thank all of those who donated a door prize for the annual meeting and banquet:

Buckeye Rural Electric  
Bridgeport Equipment-Wurtland  
Mark Capper  
Matt & Amanda Capper  
Colegrove Temco  
Collins Career Technical Center FFA  
Good News Llamas  
Freeman Heating & Cooling  
Freddie Hayes, Jr. Co. Commissioner  
Flush'em High Pheasant Hunts  
McDonald's Produce  
Iron City Hardware  
Jim's Termite and Pest Control  
K-Hill Indoor Shooting Range  
Steve and Cindy Lambert Farms  
McCarty's Greenhouse  
Mark and Crystal Crawford  
Monnig Bros. Feed  
Pratt's Greenhouse  
Ron Evans Enterprises  
Scherer Mountain Insurance  
Terry Porter & Family  
Union Stock Yards

A Touch Of Grace  
Barker Farm Equipment  
C & C Grocery  
Chad Crank  
Peggy Capper  
Charlie's Tire Sales  
Ralph Crawford Family Farms  
Dickess Christmas Tree Farm  
Lawrence County Farm Bureau  
Gail Ash  
Coal Grove Giovanni's  
Hall Funeral Home  
Myers Fast Lane  
Jason and Julie Stephens  
Jviden's Farm Equipment  
David & Theresa Kline  
Liberty Federal Savings & Loan  
McCauley's Furniture  
Jim and Sharon Mayberry  
Ohio University-Proctorville  
Proctorville Animal Clinic  
Scottown Pizza  
Sherwin Williams  
Symmes Valley FFA  
Mike & Kim Carrico

Altizers Feed  
Frisch's Big Boy  
Central Hardware  
Aaron & Kaitlyn Capper  
Capper's Tax Service  
Citizens Deposit Bank  
Cross & Son's  
Dickess Hardware  
Proctorville Food Fair  
George and Linda Fuller  
Guy's Floor Covering  
H & H Pet Sitting  
Randy Harper Trucking  
Jim's Farm Equipment  
Kevin Waldo  
Larry and Sherry Bare  
Lambert Family Farm  
Gary Leach-State Farm Ins.  
Motor Parts Machine Shop  
Peddler's Home Cooking  
R & R Grocery  
Reid's Apiary  
Sharon Smith  
The Flower Shop  
Wade's Western Wear

# District Education Contest Winners ---

The 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Coloring Contest had 557 entries from 10 schools. The County Winners were:

- 1st – Ava Daniels, Chesapeake Elementary - \$25.00
- 2nd – Ryder Guthrie, St. Lawrence Elementary - \$15.00
- 3rd – Rylee Littlejohn, Symmes Valley Elementary - \$10.00

The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster Contest had 232 entries from 6 schools. The County Winners were:

- 1st – Avril Klaiber, Dawson-Bryant Elementary - \$25.00
- 2nd – Alexis Chinn, Fairland West Elementary - \$15.00
- 3rd – Kaitlyn Williams, Ironton Elementary - \$10.00

The County Soils Judging Contest had 20 students from Symmes Valley High School FFA and Collins Career Technical Center FFA in attendance. We would like to thank Jim and Tracy Herrell for hosting the contest and Norman Ray Humphrey for donating the digging of the soils pits:

## Urban Soils/Land Use:

- 1st – John Fleihman, Collins Career Technical Center - \$25.00
- 2nd – Andrew Maynard, Collins Career Technical Center - \$15.00
- 3rd – Elizabeth Crupe, Collins Career Technical Center - \$10.00

## Agricultural Soils/Land Use:

- 1st – Nathan Moore, Symmes Valley High School - \$25.00
- 2nd – Morgan Klaiber, Symmes Valley High School - \$15.00
- 3rd – Autum Mart, Symmes Valley High School - \$10.00

# Board Meeting Notice ---

The Lawrence Soil and Water Conservation District will hold its regular monthly meetings on the last Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at the District office in Willow Wood.

# Planning Commission Meeting Notice ---

The Lawrence County Regional Planning Commission meets the third Thursday of every month (except December – there is no meeting) at 11:00 a.m. at the Giovanni's in Chesapeake. Not only does the planning commission regulate the development of subdivisions but also the splitting of lots. If you have any questions, please call the office at 740-867-4737 or come to a meeting.

# Equipment Rental Rates ---

The following is a list of equipment available from the District and rental rates for each.

- 1 – John Deere 1750 No-Till Corn Planter, at a rate of \$10.00/acre, \$30.00 minimum.
- 1 – John Deere 7000 No-Till Corn Planter, at a rate of \$10.00/acre, \$30.00 minimum.
- 2 – Tye No-Till Drill, at a rate of \$9.00/acre, \$30.00 minimum.
- 1 – Stoltzfus 2 Ton Lime Spreader, at a rate of \$2.00/ton, \$30.00 minimum.
- 1 – Drum/Fertilize Spreader, at a rate of \$30.00 per day.

The Lawrence Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# Lawrence Soil and Water Conservation District 2018 Tree and Wildlife Packet Sale

## How to Order

Orders will be taken until Wednesday, February 21, 2018. Tentative order distribution date is the last Friday in March. You will be contacted to confirm exact pick up date and times. Be sure to include the number of packets ordered, correct address, telephone number and email address on the order form. Please complete the enclosed order form and mail it with your payment to:

Lawrence SWCD, P.O. Box 144, Willow Wood, OH 45696

You may also place orders by stopping in our office between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you have any questions, please call 740-867-4737. For additional order forms visit our website at [www.lawrenceswcd.com](http://www.lawrenceswcd.com).

## Seedling Descriptions

### Deciduous Trees

**Black Cherry** (*Prunus serotina*) Commercially important tree growing to 60+ ft. at maturity; commonly used for lumber, veneer, and furniture. Leaves are dark green in summer and yellowish in fall. The small black fruit provides food for a variety of birds and mammals. Tolerates a wide variety of growing conditions.

**Black Walnut** (*Juglans nigra*) A rapidly growing tree common in all of Ohio, is most common in moist bottomlands and open fields, but is found everywhere due to squirrels burying its nuts. It has dark green compound leaves and produces delicious nuts that are preferred by wildlife. It is valued for timber, veneer, and furniture. Grows well in most locations, but prefers fertile, deep soils. Mature height and spread is 70 ft. Prefers full to part sun.

**Northern Red Oak** (*Quercus rubra*) Tall, relatively fast growing tree that can reach 80+ ft. at maturity. Leaves are shiny green in summer and bright red in fall. Makes an excellent tree for street or yard. Prefers full sun and acidic soil. It has a commercial value for furniture and lumber. Yields acorns that are round and ¾-1 inch long with a flat, thick, saucer-like cap. Acorns from this tree are at the top of the food preference list for blue jays, wild turkeys, squirrels, small rodents, whitetail deer, raccoons and black bears. Deer also browse the buds and twigs in wintertime.

**Sugar Maple** (*Acer sacharum*) This large shade tree, which can reach heights over 100 ft., is the cornerstone of the maple syrup industry. The medium green leaves can turn brilliant yellow, orange, or red in the fall. Prefers partial to full sun and well-drained soil. Excellent shade tree.

**White Oak** (*Quercus alba*) A large, broadleaf tree growing to 100+ ft. at maturity. This species is shade tolerant, found on a variety of sites, and grows best in deep, sandy loam soil on south and west facing slopes. A great species for wildlife. Yields acorns that are up to 1 inch long with a warty cap that covers about ¼ of the nut. The acorns are one of the best sources of food for wildlife and are gathered, hoarded and eaten by birds, hoofed browsers and rodents. Leaf buds also are eaten by several bird species, and all parts of the tree are a favorite food for deer.

### Coniferous Trees

**Bald Cypress** (*Taxodium distichum*) Large, slow-growing, long-lived, deciduous conifer. Frequently reaches 100-120 ft. in height and 3-6 ft. in diameter. The leaves are alternate, linear and flat with blades generally spreading around the twig. Prefers very wet soils consisting of muck, clay or fine sand where moisture is abundant and fairly permanent. Excellent for erosion control, timber, wildlife, and site rehabilitation. Consider their large size when planting near houses or power lines.

**Colorado Blue Spruce** (*Picea pungens* var. *glauca*) This large evergreen with a moderate growth rate can reach heights of 100+ ft. It has short, stout, prickly, bluish green to bright, silvery blue needles. Prefers fertile, moist soil in full sun, but will tolerate dry, well-drained areas as well. Valued as ornamentals, windbreaks, and Christmas trees.

**Eastern White Pine** (*Pinus strobus*) An outstanding timber pine due to its large size (80+ ft. at maturity) and fast growing ability. It has long, soft, light green needles and grows well in many soil types. Often used for windbreaks, wildlife habitat, lumber, and Christmas trees. Prefers full sun, but can tolerate some shade. Not salt tolerant.

**Norway Spruce** (*Picea abies*) One of the fastest growing spruces! Reaches 100 ft. at maturity. This extremely attractive evergreen has strong, distinctive, sweeping branches, and shiny green ½-1 inch long, flat needles. Grows well on most sites and is used for ornamentals, windbreaks, and Christmas trees.

**Scotch Pine** (*Pinus sylvestris*) Medium-size pine that can grow 50-80 ft. at maturity. Bluish green, medium length needles enhance its Christmas tree appeal. Also used for ornamentals, windbreaks, and lumber. Prefers well-drained, dry soils of lower fertility and full sun.

**SEEDLING SIZE:** Tree and shrub seedlings should be between 6 and 18 inches tall, depending on the species. Seedlings should be planted within 5 days after pick-up and then watered regularly.

## Specialty Tree and Shrub Packets

### Hard Mast Packet

(4 each of the following species - 20 seedlings total - No Substitutions)

**Northern Red Oak** (*Quercus rubra*) See page 1 for description.

**White Oak** (*Quercus alba*) See page 1 for description.

**American Chestnut** (*Castanea dentate*) A broadleaf species, leaves are 6-8 inches long. In autumn, large spiny burs produce 1-5 nuts. Minimum seed-bearing age is 4 years. Commonly found on hill slopes in gravelly or rocky, well-drained soils. Rapid growing trees that can reach 60-100 ft. at maturity. These seedlings are secured from the West Virginia State Nursery and are considered pure American Chestnut. This cultivar has shown a resistance to chestnut blight but it is too soon to claim resistance.

**Bur Oak** (*Quercus macrocarpa*) This massive and majestic, slow growing oak can reach mature heights of 90 ft. and mature spreads of 80 ft. It prefers full to partial sunlight and grows well in both moist and dry soil types. Yields acorns that are larger than most others, with a conspicuously fringed cap that extends about halfway down the nut. Bur oak acorns are the preferred food for wood ducks, wild turkeys, white-tailed deer, rabbits, mice, squirrels and other rodents.

**Shagbark Hickory** (*Carya ovata*) This medium growing tree can reach mature heights of 100 ft. and mature spreads of 40 ft. It is frequently found in dry uplands or moist valleys. Its cut timber is prized for making tool handles, athletic equipment, furniture, construction timbers, and firewood. It is also sought after for smoking meats, especially pork. It produces sweet and large nuts relished by squirrels and other wildlife.

### Moist Soils Packet

(4 each of the following species - 20 seedlings total - No Substitutions)

This packet contains trees that are better suited to areas subject to seasonal or prolonged periods of wetness.

**Butternut** (*Juglans cinerea*) Mature tree height can be 40 to 60 ft. It forms a wide spreading crown with stiff upright branches producing large, alternate, pinnately compound leaves with numerous leaflets. Oblong, yellow-green, sticky husks contain an irregularly-ribbed nut containing sweet, oily meat. The slow growing butternut prefers full sun and grows in acidic, alkaline, loamy, moist, rich, sandy, well-drained, wet and clay soils.

**Swamp White Oak** (*Quercus bicolor*) Frequently found in wet woods, swamps, wetlands, bottomlands and near bodies of water; it is surprisingly very drought tolerant. Reaching a mature spread and height of 60 ft., this slow to medium growing tree is nearly indistinguishable from White Oak when cut and is used for the same purposes.

**Sycamore** (*Platanus occidentalis*) Noted for its white bark in winter, this species is usually found lining the paths of creeks and rivers. It easily reaches heights of 80 ft. and spreads of 60 ft. It prefers full to part sun and deep, moist, rich, well-drained soils.

**Black Walnut** (*Juglans nigra*) See page 1 for description.

**Chinquapin Oak** (*Quercus muehlenbergii*) With a mature height of 60 ft. and spread of 80 ft., this slow to medium growing tree does best in rich, deep bottomlands. While it grows best in high pH soils

it will tolerate neutral to acidic soils. Prefers full to partial sun.

### Pollinator Packet

(2 each of the following species - 10 seedlings total - No Substitutions)

These species will add color to any landscape while benefiting our native pollinators by providing early season to late season blooms.

**Eastern Redbud** (*Cercis canadensis*) This tree heralds the arrival of spring with its showy, lavender-pink flowers that typically open in April, long before the foliage emerges. It can reach mature heights of up to 30 ft. and spread of 10 ft. It prefers full sun to part shade and moist soils but is quite adaptable to most soil conditions.

**White Flowering Dogwood** (*Cornus florida*) Its white blossoms in very early spring - prior to leaf emergence, make this woodland edge tree very easy to spot. With a mature height of 15 ft. and spread of 20 ft., this slow growing species does best in evenly moist, well-drained, fertile, deep, acidic soil in partial sun.

**American Plum** (*Prunus americana*) Its white, pungently sweet blossoms emerge in early spring before the foliage breaks bud. It is very adaptable to a wide variety of environmental conditions and needs full sun. Can reach a mature height of 20 ft. and mature spread of 25 ft.

**Persimmon** (*Diospyros virginiana*) The persimmon is quite adaptable to a variety of soil, moisture, and polluted conditions. It is a slow to medium growing tree reaching a mature height of 50 ft. and spread of 30 ft. This tree produces a yellow flower in late spring and early summer.

**Sourwood** (*Oxydendrum arboreum*) This small, native tree has a mature height of 25-30 ft. Small, creamy-white, urn-shaped, fragrant flowers are borne in 4-10 inches long panicles in June to early July. The rich, indescent green leaves turn vibrant yellow, purple, and red in fall. The sourwood grows in acidic, loamy, moist, sandy, well-drained and clay soils. Prefers full sun and normal moisture but has some drought tolerance.

### Fruits and Mushrooms

**Gala/Red Rome Beauty Apple Trees** (2 trees - 1 of each species)

The Gala apple tree produces a delicious and versatile fruit suitable for both cooking and snacking. They tend to fruit young and ripen early. Throughout the summer the Gala apples mature to a bright overall red color, with bold red stripes over a yellow-green background. The fruit is firm, juicy and sweet with a slight tart flavor that resist bruising and stores well. The Red Rome Beauty is a mildly tart, firm flesh apple, excellent for use in sauces, baking and pies. Like the Gala, it is resists bruising and stores well. Full sun is essential and these seedlings prefer well drained soils. Mature height and spread for this species is 35 ft. Plant these trees within 100 ft. of each other for required cross-pollination.

**Shiitake Mushroom** (1 kit) Delicious mushrooms that have brown, slightly convex caps that range from about 2-4 inches in diameter. Kit contains 200 inoculated shiitake dowel plugs, 1/4lb. bees wax, wax dauber, 5 metal tags for labeling and an easy to follow growers guide. Each kit will plug approximately 10 logs 3 inches in diameter and 40 inches long. Logs not included.

## Seed Mixes

**Wildlife Food Plot Mix** (25 lb. bag) Plant this mixture of sorghum, millet, soybeans, field pea, sunflower, buckwheat, and foxtail to provide a supplemental food supply for wildlife. An excellent choice for the conservation-minded landowner who wants to attract wildlife. Covers ½ acre.

**Erosion Control Seed Mix** (2 lb. bag) A blend of Birdsfoot Trefoil, Timothy, Tall Fescue, Annual Ryegrass, Alsike Clover, and Red Top. Excellent substitute for crownvetch. For severe erosion control measures. Covers 2000 sq. ft.

**Showy Northeast Native Wildflower & Grass Seed Mix** (1 oz. packet) A mix of native wildflowers and prairie grasses that will provide a wonderful display of color from spring through summer. This full sun/part shade mixture contains drought resistant species that attain an average height of 2-3 ft. Excellent for native meadows and wildflower patches. Covers 200 sq. ft. Mix contains (subject to change): Big Bluestem, Virginia Wildrye, Sideoats Grama, Indian Grass, Partridge Pea, Black-eyed Susan, Ohio Spiderwort, Tall White Beardtongue, Marsh Blazing Star, Wild Senna, Oxeye Sunflower, Autumn Bentgrass, Zigzag Aster, Hairy Beardtongue, New England Aster, Butterfly Milkweed, Wild Bergamot, Orange Coneflower, Maryland Senna, Blue False Indigo, and Early Goldenrod.

## Pollinator Seed Mixes



Created by Pheasants Forever, these seed mixes have been designed by wildlife professionals to provide diverse high-quality long-lasting wildlife habitat, meet Ohio Department of Agriculture standards and exceed NRCS conservation standards. Both of these seed mixes meet criteria set forth by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) practice - Establishment of pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat. In addition they also meet criteria set forth by Farm Service Agency (FSA) for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) practice CP42 - Pollinator Habitat. If you are purchasing seed for either of these programs, please be sure to follow all Standards and Specifications as directed from NRCS and/or FSA. Seed sold in 1/2 acre increments.

**Ohio Pollinator Seed Mix** (1.60 lbs. PLS) - Little Bluestem, Sideoats Grama, Switchgrass, Black-eyed Susan, Brown-eyed Susan, Culver's Root, False Sunflower, Yellow Coneflower, Illinois Bundleflower, Lanceleaf Coreopsis, New England Aster, Partridge Pea, Purple Coneflower, Stiff Goldenrod, Wild Bergamot, Alsike Clover, Crimson Clover, Ladino Clover, Annual Lespedeza, Butterfly Milkweed, Common Milkweed, and Swamp Milkweed.

**Ohio Pollinator (NO GRASSES) Seed Mix** (1.36 lbs. PLS) - Black-eyed Susan, Brown-eyed Susan, Culver's Root, False Sunflower, Yellow Coneflower, Illinois Bundleflower, Lanceleaf Coreopsis, New England Aster, Partridge Pea, Purple Coneflower, Stiff Goldenrod, Wild Bergamot, Alsike Clover, Crimson Clover, Ladino Clover, Annual Lespedeza, Butterfly Milkweed, Common Milkweed, and Swamp Milkweed.

## Groundcover

This year only native groundcover options are offered! We hope you find them suitable for your needs.

**Wild Ginger** (*Asarum canadensis*) This native spring wildflower is usually grown in woodland gardens, native plant gardens or used as edging in landscapes. Easily grown in a variety of soil types in part shade to full shade. Spreads slowly by rhizomes. Height is 4-8 inches at maturity. Plant 8-12 inches apart. 25 bulbs per packet.

**Partridge Berry** (*Mitchella reptans*) A mat-forming, evergreen groundcover that displays interesting foliage, flowers and fruit. Tolerates heavy shade and dry conditions. Height is 2 inches at maturity. Plant 8-12 inches apart. 25 bulbs per packet.

**Wild Columbine** (*Aquilegia canadensis*) With a mature height of 2-3 ft, this native wildflower has a light pink/yellow to blood red/yellow flower that blooms April to May. It tolerates a wide range of soil conditions as long a drainage is good. Can be planted in full sun to part shade. Freely self-seeds and will naturalize to form large colonies in optimum growing conditions.

## Wildlife Boxes

**Bat House** Bats play an essential role in keeping populations of night-flying insects in balance; one bat can catch hundreds of insects per hour! They are the primary predators of beetles, moths, leafhoppers, mosquitoes, and other insects. Installing this cedar bat house on your property will provide roosting locations for these nocturnal mammals.

**Eastern Bluebird Box** Landlords wanted! Attract bluebirds to your property! Bluebirds readily accept nesting boxes to raise their young. Ideal bluebird habitat is a mix of scattered trees and open grasslands including short, mowed, or grazed grass. These cedar nest boxes should be placed at least 300 ft. apart. Contact the District for more information on bluebirds.

## Tree Supplies

**Tree Marking Flags** 30 inch high metal stake with a 4 x 5 inch purple flag. Perfect for marking those newly planted trees, shrubs, and groundcover.

**Plantskydd** 100% organic, safe for use in protecting flowers, ornamentals, seedlings, shrubs, trees, as well as fruit, vegetables, and other food crops against browse damage from deer and rabbits. Won't harm the environment or pets. It is non-toxic, biodegradable, and also acts as a fertilizer. Available in 1 quart ready to spray bottle or 2.2 lb. soluble powder concentrate (makes 10 quarts of liquid for spraying).

## ORDER FORM

Tree	Trees per Packet	# Packets	\$/Packet	Total \$
Black Cherry	25		\$21.00	
Black Walnut	25		\$21.00	
Northern Red Oak	25		\$21.00	
Sugar Maple	25		\$21.00	
White Oak	25		\$21.00	
Bald Cypress	25		\$18.00	
Colorado Blue Spruce	25		\$18.00	
Eastern White Pine	25		\$18.00	
Norway Spruce	25		\$18.00	
Scotch Pine	25		\$18.00	
Hard Mast Packet	20		\$25.00	
Moist Soils Packet	20		\$20.00	
Pollinator Packet	10		\$15.00	
Gala/Red Rome Beauty Apple Trees	2		\$20.00	
Shiitake Mushrooms	1kit		\$25.00	
Wildlife Food Plot Seed Mix	25 lbs		\$40.00	
Erosion Control Seed Mix	2 lbs		\$15.00	
Wildflower and Grass Seed Mix	1 oz		\$6.00	
Ohio Pollinator Seed Mix	1.60 lbs PLS		\$84.00	
Ohio Pollinator (NO GRASSES) Seed Mix	1.36 lbs PLS		\$80.00	
Wild Ginger	25 per packet		\$25.00	
Partridge Berry	25 per packet		\$25.00	
Wild Columbine	25 per packet		\$25.00	
Bat House	each		\$18.00	
Eastern Bluebird Box	each		\$18.00	
Tree Marking Flags	each		\$.10	
Plantskydd-ready to use spray	1 quart		\$22.00	
Plantskydd-soluble powder	2.2 lbs		\$39.00	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number(S): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total:**

**Order deadline is  
February 21, 2018**

*Make checks payable to:*  
**Lawrence SWCD**

# Best Management Practices

By Sandra Springer, WLEB Nutrient Mgt. Tech.

Nutrient runoff is a continuous problem for freshwater throughout the state. There are a wide variety of actions that can be taken to reduce the volume and rate of storm water runoff, as well as to reduce the amount of nutrients in the runoff. These actions are typically known as Best Management Practices (BMPs), which include soil and water conservation practices, other management techniques, and social actions that are developed for a particular region as effective and practical tools for environmental protection.

There are a wide range of BMPs available to farmers that minimize the potential for phosphorous (P) loss in agricultural runoff. They are designed to control sources of P on farms, as well as the process by which P is transported from land to moving waters. Best management practices range from measures that involve a change in farming operations, like conservation tillage, to simple actions, such as not applying manure before forecasted rain. It is critical that the most appropriate BMP, or Suite of BMPs, are selected and implemented in the right place on the landscape, following recommended installation and maintenance guidelines. Individual producers must decide which combination of BMPs is best suited to their farm enterprise, taking into account the specific soils, climate, and management factors.

Farmers throughout the country are already making strides to keep nutrients on the fields. To minimize nutrient loss, farmers are creating customized nutrient management plans. By accounting for the different soil types, crop rotations, water flow and nutrient needs, each plan will help farmers better control the amount, source, placement, type and timing of fertilizer applications. Technology and advanced farm equipment are also helping farmers accurately apply the right source of fertilizer, at the right time, in the right place and with the right amount, thus producing more with less. Equally important is that everyone is affected by and can contribute to a resolution of nutrient related concerns. Most field evaluations of BMP effectiveness at reducing watershed export of P conclude that nutrient management is the single most effective measure for controlling P loss.

# Conservation Tips for Winter Weather

Courtesy of the Union SWCD

Snow falling from the sky is every kid's dream, but is an often-overlooked reality when it comes to snowmelt and the impacts it has on our water resources. Pollution and sediment entering into storm sewers, creeks and streams can be quite the headache down the road, so here are a few tips for you to consider this winter:

- Remove the snow before it turns to ice! This limits how much deicing materials you need to use.
- Consider using deicing materials other than rock salt, which can harm plant growth, aquatic habitats, and drinking water. Sand, sawdust, and even cracked corn are a few examples of good alternatives to using salt. You may even hear of people using beet juice!
- When shoveling snow from impervious surfaces, shovel it onto landscaped and grassy areas. As the snow melts, it will soak into the ground instead of directly into a storm water drain or a body of water. The soil acts as a natural filter and will help clean the water as it travels.
- Besides your porch steps, sidewalks, and driveways, also clear snow and ice from storm water drains! Obstructed or clogged storm water drains cause water to pool and flood, which can cause another long list of problems.
- Sweeping up sediment and residues after the snow melts keeps it from getting into the storm sewers and streams.
- Clean up pet waste! This should be done all year 'round, but the frigid temperatures cause the waste to decompose much slower, which means that it will remain stinky and an eyesore for much longer. Then, as the temperature warms, it will mix with the snowmelt and find its way into the storm drains and other bodies of water.



Jim Mayberry being sworn in by Judge Andrew Ballard, Court of Common Pleas, on January 12, 2018

## Year In Review:

2017 was a busy, but successful year, for the District. We reached over 15,000 people through numerous programs and activities. Here are a few of our accomplishments.

### COMMERCIAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT

98 Permits were issued and over 20 additional active permits from previous years

Nearly 700 Permits have been issued since 2009



### FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT / STORM WATER PROGRAM / COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

178 Floodplain Permits were issued

Over 100 Field Inspections & Site Investigations

Performed nearly 300 Floodplain Determinations

5 Storm Water Permits were issued and 15 inspections were performed

Attended State Floodplain Conference, Storm Water Task Force Meetings, Planning Commission Meetings and hosted a Contractors BMP Workshop



### EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH/PRESENTATIONS

Tree Sales / Science Fair Judging

Booth at the Lawrence County Fair

Judging Projects at the Lawrence County Fair

Numerous Classroom Presentations

Soils Judging Contest / Drive-It-Yourself Tour

1st Grade Coloring Contest— 557 entries from 10 schools

5th Grade Poster Contest— 232 entries from 6 schools

Area 5 Envirothon— 295 students from 17 Counties participated.

Co-hosted a Grazing School—Over 30 participants



### CONSERVATION PRACTICES

15,850 In. ft. of Fencing

1,185 sq. ft. of Heavy Use Area Protection

3,068 In. ft. of Pipeline and 6 Water Tanks

.2 ac. of Seeding and Mulching

Federal cost share programs such as EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) and CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) bring dollars into Lawrence County by providing landowners with cost share or rental rate payments on practices installed on their property. In 2017 EQIP provided \$32,500 and CRP provided \$45,711 to landowners.



### DISTRICT RENTAL EQUIPMENT

No-Till Corn Planters and Drills —850 acres

Stoltzfus 2 Ton Lime Spreader—749 tons spread

Three Point Drum Spreader—10 days usage

### 911 ADDRESSING/HOUSE NUMBERING

72 Addressing Permits

93 Sites Addressed

Over 600 Addresses checked or verified

**DEADLINE TO ORDER TREES IS FEBRUARY 21, 2018!**