



# CONSERVATION TRAILS

“Follow the Trail of Natural Resource Conservation”

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

## Awards Presented at 66th Annual Meeting

The 2013 Conservation Farm Award was presented to Duane Marty, Pleasant Corner Farms. Duane farms with his son, Brad. The Marty’s follow a conservation plan and a comprehensive nutrient management plan on all



**Fred Myers, Supervisor presents award to Duane Marty, Pleasant Corner Farms**

the land they are farming. Conservation practices include crop rotations, mulch tillage, strip cropping, subsurface drainage, and grassed waterways. In 2012, a waste storage facility, waste transfer, heavy use area protection, and critical area seeding were completed.

Town & Country Co-op and Kidron Auction Inc. received the Conservation Outreach and Education Awards. They have been instrumental in getting Ag Plastic Recycling off the ground in Wayne County.

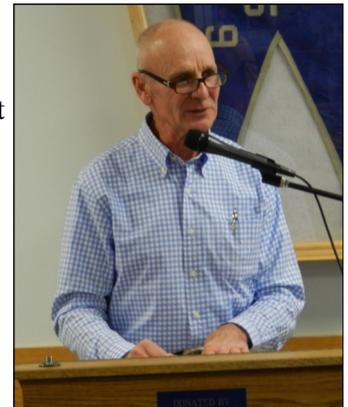
They are drop off locations for the full Super Sacks for farms in Wayne County. They also put out literature, advertise with posters and signs, and answer questions about the Ag Plastic Program.

David Maurer was presented with the Distinguished Supervisor Award. He has been a supervisor with Wayne SWCD for nine years and has represented the district at many local and state events and served on the Joint Board for the Muddy Fork logjam project.



**David Maurer**

Fred Cannon, Wayne County farmer and former Wayne County Commissioner, was the guest speaker for the evening. He presented a program on “I Never Met a Barn I Did Not Like”. Fred spoke about how he became interested in restoring old barns and talked about his research. He has worked on several barns in Wayne County, also barns in Springfield, Ohio, Holmes County, Ohio and Cumberland Island, Georgia.



**Fred Cannon**

Scott Stoller, Sterling, and Parry Cochran, Wooster, were elected as Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors.



**Fred Myers presents award to Al Holdren & Jean Bratton from Town & Country Co-op**

### Inside This Issue

### Winter 2013-14

There is More to It Than Just Buying Tree Seedlings <i>by Duane Wood</i>	2
Planting Procedure with Dibble Bar Thank You to Annual Meeting Donors	2
Long-Term Maintenance of Storm Water Practices <i>by Rob Kastner</i>	3
Applications for Conservation Stewardship	3
Receive Your Newsletter by Email Calendar	3
2014 Annual Fish Sale - Order Form	4
2014 Annual Tree Sale - Order Form	INSERT

# There's More to It Than Just Buying Tree Seedlings

By Duane Wood

It's time again for the SWCD annual tree seedling sale. I've planted a number of tree seedlings over the years and some plantings have been more successful than others. Here's some information to help you select trees for your location and maybe avoid some of the mistakes I've made along the way.

Before buying tree seedlings it pays to do some homework. A very important thing to consider is the area where you plan to plant seedlings. Make sure your tree doesn't outgrow the space where you plan to plant it. The seedlings we sell are babies at 6-24 inches tall with the potential to grow much larger. How tall with the tree get? This is especially important if you have overhead power lines. How big of a diameter (or how wide) will the tree get? If you plant a spruce too close to a building or other tree it may need to be trimmed or cut down after it becomes too big. Norway Spruce are nice trees but can grow 40-60 feet tall and have a diameter of 30 feet. I've been guilty of planting pines and spruces for a screen and sound barrier and seeing some of them removed because they grew too close to power lines. (Sorry AEP)

Match the tree species to the soil and soil conditions. Many trees like well drained to moderately well drained soil. Some trees prefer or tolerate wetter somewhat poorly drained soil. Norway Spruce and Red Oak are examples of trees that prefer well drained soil. Arborvitae is a tree that can handle a range of conditions. River Birch and Bald Cypress are trees that prefer moist to wet soils. Descriptions of the trees on the back of the tree order form include information on the soil condition preferences. If you're not sure of your soil take a look at a soil survey, check on-line, or contact the soil and water office to help you ID your soil. An example of a mistake made in this category is with Hemlock. An attempt at a Hemlock specimen tree went bad when planted in a soil with less than ideal drainage. (Hemlock likes well drained soil.)

After you buy your trees it's important to handle them properly. It's best if you can plant them as soon as possible. If it's going to be a few days keep the roots moist, and store them in a cool dark place. (If you store them in the sun in the clear bag they come in the "green house" effect will cook them.) Longer than a few days it's best to do what's called "heel them in." "To heel in stock, dig a trench with one sloping side deep enough to accommodate roots. Spread the roots in the trench; rest the trunk against the sloping side. Mulch the roots and the lower stem with soil, sand, sawdust, or sphagnum moss. Keep the mulch moist until you move the plants to a permanent location." (*Purdue University Cooperative Extension*

*Service, Planting & Transplanting Landscape Trees and Shrubs*)

When you're ready to plant it's very important to keep the roots moist. Keep them in the bag they came in as you plant, or place them in a bucket with wet moss, wet sawdust, or even water (but not in water for longer than it takes to plant them).

"In step 1, the dibble is inserted to the full length of the blade straight down into the mineral soil. Pull back on the handle (towards the body, not away from the body!) to open the planting hole, careful not to "rock" the dibble back and forth. The seedling is carefully inserted in to the planting hole in step 2 (Lantz, 1996). The hole should be deep and wide enough that the roots are not twisted, J-, or U-shaped. The suggested depth for the seedling is 1 inch to 3 inches deeper than when the seedling was in the nursery (South Carolina Forestry Commission, 2000). Step 3 entails reinserting the dibble 2 to 4 inches in front of the seedling at a depth equal to half the length of the blade. Push the handle forward, closing the top of the planting hole in order to hold the seedling in place. Next, push the dibble into the soil the full length of the blade (step 4) and pull back on the top of the handle to close the planting hole (step 5). Finally, remove the dibble and pack the soil carefully with your heel, as shown in step 6 (Lantz, 1996)." (Auburn University, Forestry)

Make sure the roots are not longer than the hole is deep. If they are you can trim the bottom of the roots to the correct length but you want to avoid trimming if possible. The seedling needs all the roots it can get. J rooting is when a tree is inserted into the hole and roots curl back towards the top of the hole. J rooted trees will grow shallow roots and be more likely to suffer during dry soil conditions.

After your tree seedling is planted your work isn't done. Weeds and other competing vegetation need to be controlled around the seedling to keep them from competing for light and moisture. This can be done by pulling or mowing, or extremely careful use of herbicides like Roundup. During dry periods seedlings may also need to be watered.

If you don't do your homework that's alright, we'll be happy to sell you more seedlings next year.

On-line Soil Info

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>

Ohio Trees Index

<http://ohiodnr.com/forestry/treeindex/tabid/5361/Default.aspx>

## Thank You to Annual Meeting Donors

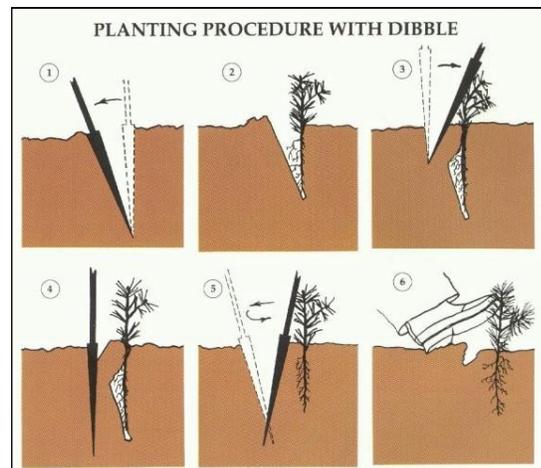
The Wayne SWCD would like to thank the following donors for their contribution to our Annual Meeting.

### Donors

Apple Creek Banking Company - Farm Credit Service  
First National Bank - Lowe & Young Inc.

### Door Prizes

Applebee's - Broken Rocks Bakery & Café - Cinemark - Green Thumb  
JM Smucker - Longhorn - Omaha Bob's Barbeque - Pat Catan's  
Pine Tree Barn - Rural King - The Faithful Little Cupcake  
Today's Kitchen Store - Wal-Mart



# Long-Term Maintenance of Storm Water Practices

By Rob Kastner

Anything that we use every day and desire to have for a long time requires maintenance. Our vehicles for example, provided we perform the required maintenance, can last 10, 15 or even 20 years. In that context, consider how important it is to maintain a storm water practice that must function in perpetuity. Common storm water practices include wet and dry extended detention basins, dry swales and bioretention cells. Regular maintenance of these practices will not only allow them to perform properly, they will also reduce the chance of extensive and costly repairs in the future.

Extended detention basin maintenance includes monthly mowing of the embankment, annual removal of woody vegetation on the embankment, monthly removal of debris at the outlet structure and removal of sediment and debris from the forebay and main basin done every 3 to 7 years and 15 to 20 years, respectively. Dry swales require periodic removal of sediment and debris, repairing and reseeding gullies as needed and annual fertilizing and monthly mowing to maintain a vigorous stand of grass. Bioretention cell maintenance includes the periodic removal of weeds and pruning of the plants, annual replacement of mulch, replacement of dead plants and the removal and replacement of the planting soil every 2 to 10 years or as needed when excessive ponding is observed.



The roots of woody vegetation in a storm water basin embankment can cause piping and ultimately failure of the embankment. Accumulated debris and sediment, which inhibits the function of the outlet structure or reduces the effective volume of the storm water practice, can lead to bypassing storm water over or around the practice causing structural damage to the practice itself and harm to the waterway downstream that it was designed to protect.

Something as simple as providing a healthy stand of grass on the berm and embankment of a storm water basin can allow it to safely convey occasional overflows. Whereas, overflows can erode bare or sparsely vegetated areas, which can lead to the formation of gullies and ultimately a breach of the embankment if left unchecked.

The owner of a storm water practice is provided with an Inspection, Operation & Maintenance schedule and list of tasks from the design engineer when the practice is constructed. If you are the owner of an existing practice and do not have an Inspection, O & M schedule, please contact our office and we can provide one for you. In the time it takes to change your air filter, check your oil and inflate your tires, you can perform the routine inspection and maintenance tasks on your storm water practice and avoid costly repairs down the road.



## Applications for Conservation Stewardship Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is opening the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) for new enrollments for federal fiscal year 2014. Starting today through January 17, 2014, producers interested in participating in the program can submit applications to NRCS.

"Through the Conservation Stewardship Program, farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners are going the extra mile to conserve our nation's resources," NRCS Chief Jason Weller said. "Through their conservation actions, they are ensuring that their operations are more productive and sustainable over the long run."

The CSP is an important Farm Bill conservation program that helps established conservation stewards with taking their level of natural resource management to the next level to improve both their agricultural production and provide valuable conservation benefits such as cleaner and more abundant water, as well as healthier soils and better wildlife habitat.

CSP is now in its fifth year and so far, NRCS has partnered with producers to enroll more than 59 million acres across the nation. The program emphasizes conservation performance - producers earn higher payments for higher performance. In CSP, producers install conservation enhancements to make positive changes in soil quality, soil

erosion, water quality, water quantity, air quality, plant resources, animal resources and energy.

A CSP self-screening checklist is available to help producers determine if the program is suitable for their operation. The checklist highlights basic information about CSP eligibility requirements, stewardship threshold requirements and payment types. Learn more about CSP by visiting the [NRCS website](#) or a [local NRCS field office](#).

### Receive Your Newsletter by Email

If you would like to switch from the mailed newsletter to the emailed newsletter, email us at [info@wayneswcd.org](mailto:info@wayneswcd.org). We will email the next Newsletter to you. Thanks for helping us conserve!

#### Calendar

- Jan. 14 **Board Meeting** 7:00 pm
- Feb. 11 **Board Meeting** 7:00 pm
- Feb. 21 **Deadline for Tree Sales**

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 John Knapp, District Conservationist  
 Jeff Lefever, Civil Engineering Technician  
 Ray Rummell, Conservation Specialist

Wayne SWCD Staff  
 Sarah Beck, Administrative Assistant  
 Mark Duncan, Nutrient Management Specialist  
 Steve Grimes, No-Till Specialist  
 Rob Kastner, Water Management Engineer  
 Adam Liston, District Engineering Technician  
 Debbie Pettijohn, Secretary  
 Kelly Riley, Education Specialist  
 Duane Wood, District Program Administrator

# Tree Order Form Inside

## SWCD Sponsors Annual Fish Sale



The Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District will begin taking orders for our annual fish sale. The fish will be purchased from Fender's Fish Hatchery in Baltic. The types of fish which are available include fingerling size largemouth bass, channel catfish, white amur, perch, minnow, bluegill, crappie and redear shellcracker. White amur (grass carp) are an excellent alternative to chemical control of weeds in ponds.

Orders for the fish will be taken until **Friday, April 11th**. Pickup date will be **Tuesday, April 15th from 9:00-10:00 a.m. at the Wayne County Fairgrounds**. Orders must be picked up at the specified time. At the pickup, you will need to bring a container filled with your own pond water, 5 to 10 gallons of water per 100 fish is required. Line the container with a new plastic liner before adding water. The White Amur must be placed in a container with a lid or a liner large enough to be tied at the top. Only 2 Amur to each 5 gallons of water. If you have any questions concerning stocking rates, please contact our office at 330-262-2836. Send order to Wayne SWCD, 428 W. Liberty St., Wooster, OH 44691.

Keep this section for reference

----- Clip Here -----

Return this section with payment

	No.	Species	Size	Price	Total
Name _____	_____	Largemouth Bass	2-4"	.85	_____
	_____	Bluegill	2-4"	.75	_____
Address _____	_____	Channel Catfish	4-5"	.75	_____
	_____	White Amur	8-12"	13.00	_____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	_____	Perch	4-5"	.80	_____
	_____	Minnow	1-2"	.07	_____
Daytime Phone _____	_____	Redear Shellcracker	2-4"	.85	_____
	_____	Black Crappie	2-4"	.85	_____
Email _____	_____	<b>Total</b>			_____

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

### Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

428 W. Liberty Street  
 Wooster, OH 44691  
  
 330-262-2836  
 fax 330-262-7422  
<http://www.wayneswcd.org>  
 e-mail - [info@wayneswcd.org](mailto:info@wayneswcd.org)

Non-Profit Org.  
 US Postage Paid  
 Permit No. 150  
 Wooster, OH 44691

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Board of Supervisors  
 David Maurer, Chairman  
 Matt Peart, V. Chairman  
 Fred Myers, Fiscal Agent  
 John Redick, Secretary  
 Scott Stoller, Public Relations Chair.