



CONSERVATION TRAILS

“Follow the Trail of Natural Resource Conservation”

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

Spring/Summer 2018

ODA Nutrient Management Regulation Updates

On April 10, 2018 the Ohio Department of Agriculture Division of Soil and Water Conservation held a meeting at Fisher Auditorium regarding Agriculture Pollution. ODA Representatives discussed the laws and restrictions for producers and nutrient applicators on manure application, and in what manner the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) ties into them. It was stressed to use best management practices when applying manure. This consists of manure application rates, setback requirements and considering waterways and streams before applying manure.

During the meeting, ODA Representatives discusses the pollution complaint process. Any person who wishes to make a complaint about a nuisance involving agriculture pollution may do so orally or by submitting a written letter, and may be anonymous if requested. The SWCD office may receive complaints and therefore can investigate them to determine if agriculture pollution has occurred or not. If agriculture pollution has taken place, the district will offer assistance to help correct the issue, such as developing a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP).

Weather is another big contributing factor when applying manure. To help keep track of the rain events, there's a mobile app you can download on your cell phone. Author John Barker states in an article for the Ohio State University Extension, “Ohio Nutrient Management Record Keeper (ONMRK) is a computerized recordkeeping system that syncs with your smartphone or tablet to create a simple, easy, and quick way to record all of your fertilizer and manure applications from the field. The free app works on tablets, iPads, and smartphones. It can be downloaded from the Google Play Store for Android devices and App Store for Apple devices.” The meeting was hosted by Wayne SWCD, with a donation for donuts and coffee from Westfield Group.

Special points of interest:

- 5/28 Memorial Day
- 6/12 Board Meeting 8:30 a.m.
- 6/15 Cover Crop deadline
- 7/04 Independence Day
- 7/10 Board Meeting 8:30 a.m.
- 8/14 Board Meeting 8:30 a.m.
- 9/3 Labor Day
- 9/4 Board Meeting 8:30 a.m.
- 9/8-9/13 Wayne County Fair



Spring is the season of new beginnings. Fresh buds bloom, animals awaken and the earth seems to come to life again!

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Filter Strips: Vegetated Buffers that Pack a Big Punch

Ring announcer Michael Buffer encouraged boxers to fight with his phrase “Let’s Get Ready to Rumble!” There is another buffer that enables property owners to fight – stream pollution that is. They are filter strips or buffers installed along waterways.

Since Wayne County is near the Ohio Drainage Divide, most of our waterways are considered headwater streams. These small, low flow rate streams are more susceptible to pollutants. Pollutants come in many forms and from many sources, such as, lawn or agricultural fertilizers, sediment, pet and livestock waste and pesticides. These pollutants find their way to waterways through storm water runoff.

A simple and effective way to reduce or prohibit pollutants from entering waterways is by installing filter strips. The filter strip is a grass buffer that intercepts and filters storm water runoff. The filter strips also promote infiltration and groundwater recharge. A filter strip as narrow as 30 feet, on gently sloping ground, can have a positive impact; of course, a wider strip removes even more pollutants. The buffers also act as pollinator and wildlife habitat. Trees and shrubs can be added to the buffer to provide stream shading and additional erosion control and nutrient removal. Filter strips installed on agricultural property are eligible for reimbursement for half of the installation cost and an annual payment for the area used for the buffer.

The stream buffers provide bank stabilization, fish and wildlife food and habitat and sediment and nutrient removal from storm water runoff. Heavy weight results from a 30 foot wide (light weight) strip of land.

Fish Sale

Thank you to everyone who purchased fish from us for our 2018 fish sale – we had a great sale! Our numbers for fish sold were: 240 Largemouth Bass, 182 Crappie, 596 Bluegill, 529 Hybrid Bluegill, 142 Catfish, 18 Koi, 4600 Minnow, 212 Perch, 162 Shellcracker, and 74 Amur. That is a total of 6,755 fish!! Thank you also to our supplier Fender’s Fish Hatchery. Steve Fender was also the speaker for our very successful and informative pond clinic held earlier this spring.



No-Till Rentals

No-till and conservation tillage are still strongly encouraged farming methods supported by Wayne SWCD. In an effort to promote no-till planting in Wayne County, the Wayne SWCD offers local farmers the availability to rent two pieces of equipment. The equipment includes two (10ft & 15ft) Great Plains no-till drills. Both rent for \$11 per acre. The 10-ft. planting width rents for a minimum of \$88 per delivery, and the 15 ft. rents for a minimum of \$165 per delivery. The 10 ft. should be used with a 60 hp tractor and the 15ft. a 90 hp tractor. The purpose of the rental program is to promote the use of no-till systems, therefore, the equipment may only be used with conservation tillage. The drills are handled by our No-Till Specialist Luke Nussbaum. Luke can be



5 Baby Bird Cams You Do Not Want to Miss This Spring

For most of us it can be difficult to get a daily nature fix. But thanks to cutting edge technology we can see, in real time, the daily routine of wildlife caring for their young. Viewers are discovering a new connection with the natural world with these live streaming web cams. It gives us a glimpse of what’s happening in animals’ private lives. Take a break from television and tune into some of this season’s best nest cams. One of our top picks is: <https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2018/04/birds-animals-nest-cams-spring/>



Cover Crops

It's that time again! Cover crops are essential to not only prevent erosion, but to help improve soil health, productivity, and farm profitability. The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District is funding landowners to seed cover crops. Interested landowners can apply at the Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District. The [application deadline](#) for the Cover Crop Funding is **June 15, 2018!** All information needs to be in our office by that date. You can get the application at our office and with that; you will also need to provide maps (available in the FSA office) with the fields that you are applying for. It's a competitive program, so come get your application! All cover crops should be planted by November 1st. They will pay \$12 an acre with a 200 acre cap and anyone who is interested in the program can be put on a direct e-mail list or can check our website for up-to-date material as we get it. You can also call Taylor Gilmore, Nutrient Management Specialist in our office at 330-262-2836.



Storm Water Management Regulation Changes

The Ohio EPA's General Permit for Construction Activity expired on April 20th and has been replaced by a new, revised version that had been out for comment this winter. Some of the changes in this 5th generation of the permit include:

- Requiring electronic submittal of the Notice of Intent (NOI) and submittal of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) with the NOI.
- Increasing the precipitation depth in the Water Quality Volume (WQv) calculation to 0.90".
- Replacing the runoff Coefficient (C) in the WQv calculation with a Volumetric Runoff (Rv) coefficient.
- Increasing the number of acceptable WQ practices and separating them into extended detention and infiltration practices.
- Listing runoff reducing practices that can be used to reduce the WQv.
- Increasing treatment to 40% of the WQv by extended detention practices at Previously Developed Sites.
- New processes for certifying alternative practices.

The Wayne County Storm Water Management Regulations will be modified to match the new EPA regulations in the near future. If you have any questions regarding the EPA permit changes or would like to have input into the County regulation changes please contact Rob Kastner at (330) 262-2836.

Office Changes

In February, the Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) learned that due to the reorganization of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) that the Farm Service Agency (FSA), and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) will no longer be located in the Wayne County Administration Building. These agencies will be moving to a new location in the city of Wooster. The Wayne SWCD will continue to work with FSA and NRCS to provide services to the landowners of Wayne County.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

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

Wayne SWCD Staff

Kathy Burley, Secretary
Taylor Gilmore, Nutrient Management Specialist
Stacey Hiller, Administrative Assistant
Rob Kastner, Water Management Engineer
Adam Liston, District Program Administrator
Rachel Lumpcik, District Engineering Technician
Luke Nussbaum, No-Till Specialist
Kelly Riley, Education Specialist

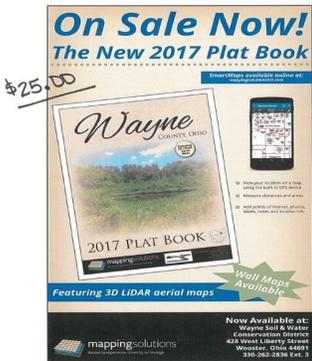


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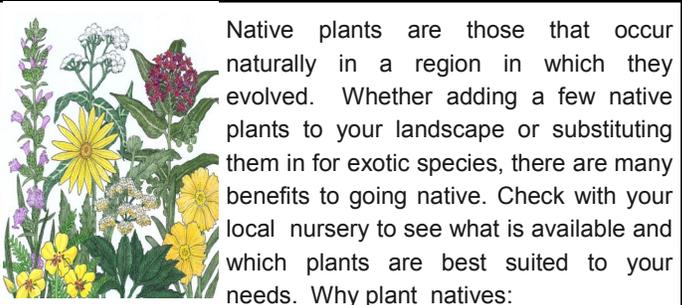
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Plat Books—While Supplies Last

Why Plant Natives?



Wayne SWCD still has the 2017 Plat Book in our office for \$25.00. Also available for your smart phone or tablet is a digital Landowner parcel map. Go to www.mappingsolutionsGIS.com to download the App for a \$75.00 fee. Great for recreation, hunting or business. Please note: the fee is through the website, not our office.



Native plants are those that occur naturally in a region in which they evolved. Whether adding a few native plants to your landscape or substituting them in for exotic species, there are many benefits to going native. Check with your local nursery to see what is available and which plants are best suited to your needs. Why plant natives:

- ◆ Good for wildlife, such as birds and butterflies
- ◆ Costs less and saves time due to lower maintenance
- ◆ Less water since natives are best suited for an Ohio climate
- ◆ No need for fertilizers or pesticides



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Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

428 W. Liberty Street
Wooster, OH 44691
330-262-2836

<http://www.wayneswcd.org>

e-mail: info@wayneswcd.org

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