

CONQUEST

"Capture your students love of learning about the environment"

Spring Issue 2022

Kelly's Corner

Hello Wayne County Educators! It is good to be back and in person at the schools, and at events and conferences. Take the good with the bad, and we can learn and move forward with what life throw's at us! For those of you that are new or might not know me, I am the Conservation Education Specialist at Wayne Soil and Water. I offer a variety of **FREE education programs** that correlate to the ODE science standards and can fit into your class schedule. I am available Monday through Thursday for programs. I can adjust or modify to meet your needs and am flexible with scheduling. Please email me at kriley@wayneoh.org or call the office at 330-263-5376 to set something up. The website also has a list of all of the programs and contests ongoing as well. Please check that out at <https://www.wayneswcd.org/home/education>. I look forward to visiting your class. I have also enclosed a list of the programs I offer with this e-newsletter, called **Consider Conservation**. Be sure to check out the info on the Annual Poster Contest, the Envirothon Contest for HS students, and much more! Contact me for more details and please... Bring on Spring! ~ Kelly



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Conservation Poster Contest

Our annual poster contest is in full swing, and any Wayne County student K-12 may submit an entry! Do you know of an artistic child or have time for students to learn more about soils this year? Then, have them make a poster! All ages are encouraged to express their creative and artistic skills while learning about conservation. Educating young people helps to ensure the next generation will be wise stewards of our natural resources. The rules and guidelines are those of the NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts). The 2022 Stewardship Theme is: **"HEALTHY SOIL HEALTHY LIFE"**. Posters must have this displayed as the title! For more information go to the following link: <https://www.nacdnet.org/conservation-education-hub/> and our [website](#) has all of the details and forms as well!



Posters are DUE at our office by April 29th at 4:30pm



Nature Makes You Happy - click to watch the YouTube Video!

A new study from [BBC Earth](#) and the University of California has revealed that watching nature documentaries can make you happier, so we're on a mission to bring real happiness to as many people as possible by improving their connection to nature.



Of Course, I had to include at least one link to watch nature!

Check out <https://explore.org/livecams/explore-all-cams>

[EXPLORE.org](#) -YES there is an APP for it on your phones! Get it! Eagles, puppies, giraffes, elephants, And birds—whatever you fancy! Watch all you want & be happy!



Spring means Planting... Trees, shrubs, flowers...oh my!

Spring is a time for planting and on the subject of TREES, I am always wondering and trying to figure out WHAT TREE IS THAT??? Of course it is more of a challenge when the tree's don't have any leaves on them, but it can be fun for kids to learn to ID them and put their skills to test! So, check out this valuable and fun website with lots of helpful clues at <https://tree.oplin.org/>. You can ID trees by leaf, fruit or name. It's great! And finally, we all know trees are under attack by many forces, weather and such, but did you ever hear of a gall, scale or a sap feeder as a tree pest? Well, if you are wanting to investigate the health of a Tree or Shrub, you can look up [Pest Lists by Tree Species](#) at this UK website. And of course, arborday.org has a host of valuable resources too, and with your membership, you can receive 10 free trees if you like.



DID YOU KNOW?

Ohio ranks 2nd in Eggs & 7th in Soybeans!

(Fun fact, just 1 acre of soybeans can make 82,368 crayons !)

Ohio is also ranked #1 in SWISS Cheese production! For more stats, visit <https://farmflavor.com/ohio-agriculture/>

PS. IOWA is #1 in Eggs, if you were wondering...

Looking for a video and lesson on climate change? Check out the [short video](#) and lesson on Climate.gov— and get the discussion going!

Important Dates and Links:

- ◆ 3/25 Envirothon Registration Due
- ◆ April is Ohio Native Plant Month!
- ◆ 4/7 Tree Sale Pick up at Fairgrounds
- ◆ 4/13 & 5/11 Guided Tree Walk at Secrest Arboretum, OARDC <http://secrest.osu.edu>
- ◆ 4/22 Earth Day ~ Earthday.org
- ◆ 4/23—[Scarlet Gray & Green Fair](#) at the OARDC in Wooster
- ◆ 4/23-24 [Wayne County Home & Garden Show](#) @ WC Fairgrounds
- ◆ 4/29 Arbor Day ~ Arborday.org
- ◆ 4/30 Save the Frogs! Day Savethefrogs.com
- ◆ 5/14 World Migratory Bird Day –WMBD! www.migratorybirdday.org/
- ◆ 5/20 World Bee Day www.worldbeeday.org/en/

Envirothon Competition for HS Teams!

The Envirothon is an annual competition that has proven to be an exciting and useful tool for incorporating environmental education into high school classrooms. The teams consist of five dedicated students, who compete **first** at the Area II Envirothon, which includes 17 counties in Northeastern Ohio. The winners from the top four teams in each Area advance to the State Envirothon. The top team from each State advances to the National Conservation Foundation Envirothon Competition. This year the National Envirothon Competition is hosted by OHIO and will be held at Miami University!

To [take the Envirothon challenge](#) in 2022, you will need a team of 5 high school students with an advisor. The team will **first** compete in the [2022 Area 2 Envirothon](#), co-hosted by Mahoning and Columbiana Soil & Water Conservation Districts at Kent State University – Salem on April 28th. **PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION - MARCH 25th to Wayne SWCD** via KELLY RILEY... Teams **MUST** have a [REGISTRATION FORM](#) Complete and [RELEASE FORM](#) for all members. [Visit our website for all of the details as well!](#)

Have you heard of Light Pollution?

Most of us are familiar with air, water, & land pollution, but did you know that **light can also be a pollutant**? The inappropriate or excessive use of artificial light – known as light pollution, can have serious environmental consequences for humans, wildlife, and our climate. Components of light pollution include: Glare, Skyglow, Light trespass, and Clutter. To learn more, visit darksky.org

The Good news is, we can do something about this pollution! **Education, awareness and ACTION!** (click to view video link) **13%** of residential electricity use in the U.S. is for outdoor lighting! 1. Light only what you need. 2. Use Energy Efficient bulbs. 3. Shield lights & direct them down. 4. Only use light when you need it. *You will save money and animals!*