

Wayne SWCD
428 W. Liberty St.
Wooster, OH 44691
P: (330)-263-5376
www.wayneswcd.org
Located in the lower
level of the County
Administration Bldg.
kriley@wayneoh.org

CONQUEST

“Capture your students love of learning about the environment”

Spring Issue 2021

Kelly's Corner ~ Hang in There!

Who knew a year ago what we were in for? A lot can be said, the challenges and the triumphs, and so many changes. But one thing that has not changed is your commitment to education and your students! That being said, I am sure you are still looking for resources and tools—then let me help you! First, take advantage of my Southern Ohio SWCDs Educators collaborative efforts as they put together FREE online lessons, activities, and videos to support Ohio educators all on one site. Please register and check out this wonderful online resource! Visit <https://site.google.com/view/swcd>. I highly recommend these wonderful lessons and videos! Another great link to outdoor activities is Camp Nuhop's site; and honestly... there is so much amazing stuff on here, that it can be incorporated into your classroom lesson or help with at home or virtual learning... either way, it is certainly worth checking out! The link is <https://sites.google.com/nuhop.org/at-home-outdoor-education/home>. If you need a refresher on my list of programs- **CONSIDER CONSERVATION** - click on that link or view anytime on the [Wayne SWCD Educator's website](#). NOW, the good news is **I CAN COME INTO YOUR SCHOOL!** That is right. I have had the Covid-19 Vaccination! It may be some time before we get back to whatever “normal” is, but if you want some programs or if I can help in any way, please contact me. I can't wait to get back into the schools! ~K

Poster Contest ~ All Grades



Get you inner art on! Calling all students! Our annual poster contest is for any student in Wayne county grades Kindergarten through twelve (K-12). The goal is to educate students how conservation helps to ensure their generation will be wise stewards of our natural resources. The rules and guidelines are followed by the NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts) rules. The 2021 Stewardship Theme is: **"Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities."** Posters must have this displayed as

the title! For more information go to the following link: www.nacdnet.org - click on the Conservation Education Hub tab- and look for contests, or visit <https://www.wayneswcd.org/home/education/poster-contest> for more details. Posters are due to the Wayne SWCD office by 4:30 pm April 30th. NEW this year... we are accepting e-mailed digital photo's of the posters. The poster must also have a signed submission form - (available online). Teachers are welcome to drop off poster entries to our office by April 30th or can submit the top five (5) best posters of their class by e-mail to kriley@wayneoh.org. Wayne SWCD gives cash awards for our local contest winners and displays the winners at our building during the fair.

SW Ohio Educator Resources

SW Ohio Education Site

The Soil & Water Conservation Districts of SW Ohio have partnered to bring area teachers and educators FREE online lessons and activities to support Ohio educators!

Access lessons aligned to Ohio Learning Standards for grades K-12. Import into your google classroom or simply click on the lessons and begin! Plus find out how to bring live virtual presentations and discussions to your classroom from our professional educators.

Contact your county educator to find out more about this incredible FREE resource!
<https://sites.google.com/view/swcd>

Butler SWCD—Lynn White, 513-795-8686, white@butlercountyohio.org
Clermont SWCD—Kat Zales, 513-752-7075 x5, zales@clermontcountyohio.gov
Hamilton County SWCD—Gwen Roth, 513-772-7945 x13, Gwen.Roth@hamilton-co.org
Hamilton County SWCD—Sara Felling, 513-772-7945 x25, Sara.Felling@hamilton-co.org
Warren County SWCD—Melissa Proffitt, 513-695-3086, melissa.proffitt@co.warren.oh.us

Important Dates:

- March 19th—Wayne SWCD Tree Order Deadline
- March 23rd—[National Ag Day](#)
- April 1st—Kick off to [Ohio's Native Plant Month](#)
- April 8th—Last day to order Fish at Wayne SWCD
- April 13th—Fish Pick-up
- April 15th Tree Seedling Pick-up @ WC Fairgrounds
- [April 22nd—Earth Day](#)
- [April 30th—Arbor Day](#)
- April 30th—Poster Entries Due to Wayne SWCD

Did you Know?

US Cities are losing 36 Million Trees a YEAR...
WHY? Hurricanes, tornadoes, fires, insects, disease, and yes... urban development.

But we CAN help!

[Read how here...](#)

Kelly's Fun Links

How's MY Waterway?

Just enter your address or Zip Code... and **WALA!** Lots of information about your waters!

<https://mywaterway.epa.gov/>



How much is MY Tree

Worth?

Just enter your Zip Code then the tree species and diameter...and **WALA!** The many values of our precious natural resource are shown on this site!

<http://>

www.treebenefits.com/calculator/

Addicting! MUST

Watch!

I had to add one link with many species of birds - my favorite—BIRD CAMS!

<https://>

www.allaboutbirds.org/cams/



Who doesn't love to

Color?

Ohio State Symbols Coloring Book is a Free PDF to download that includes simple facts.

<https://ohiodnr.gov/static/documents/department/Ohio-StateSymbols-Coloring.pdf>



The Science of...

From Free Lesson Plans to YouTube Videos... The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission has wonderful educational resources that I just had to share!

Please explore at <http://outdoornebraska.gov/onlineeducation/>

ENJOY!

Caring for our Watersheds

Attention Teachers and Students in grades 9-12! Caring for our Watersheds is a unique contest that allows students to be creative and solve real world problems. Students are asked to submit a proposal that answers the questions: “**What can you do to improve your watershed?**” CFW is both an environmental proposal contest and a project funding opportunity for high school students. The program promotes watershed awareness and stewardship, values student ideas and offers support when turning theoretical ideas into action. Caring For Our Watersheds fits in perfectly with your STEAM curricula and is very compatible with project-based learning (PBL). It is also a wonderful addition to your remote learning curricula. Students will compete for over \$6,000 in rewards, participating schools and clubs are eligible for over \$11,000 in rewards, and students who implement their ideas are eligible for additional funding. The deadline for 2021 has ended, but NOW is the time to start planning for 2022! Get a team, get into action and start rollin’! ALL of the information is available online! Go to <https://caringforourwatersheds.com/usa/ohio/> OR [click here for the 2021 Flyer](#) for ideas. You can also contact me to schedule the Enviroscape Model (a watershed model) to come to your classroom and do a program!



Great WILDLIFE Resources! Bookmark this Link! Field Guides & more!

<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-ODNR/wildlife/documents-publications/backyard-wildlife-documents>

DID YOU KNOW ?

WOOD FROGS... spend the winter frozen solid in a frog-cicle!

They have a black mask over their eyes. They also make calls that sound like a “quack”.

Each Spring, Wood Frogs, Chorus Frogs, Spring Peepers Leopard Frogs, American Toads, Gray Treefrogs, Green Frogs, and American Bullfrogs along with many species of Salamanders migrate to special breeding grounds called Vernal Pools, or small seasonal wetlands. For a complete **1st grade lesson**, or to learn more about the calls and these wonderful amphibians, [click here](#) or on the wood frog above!



That stinks...but wait...



Photo credit: Bryan Padron

Being a dog owner, property owner, wildlife lover, and educator, I thought this might be the right time to share some information about one of our famous spring time mammals we all take **fright** at seeing, but yet know so little about. Yes, the striped **SKUNK!** Most folks just want to know how to get rid of the skunks if they have them near their homes or on their property. Deterrents range from predator urine, any type of solution that has ammonia in it, moth balls, or spices like cayenne pepper and Tabasco. Of course, there is the option of trapping. And that is why I am including this [LINK](#) with wonderful resources and educational information about skunks. The site is called www.wildlifeanimalcontrol.com/skunks.html and there are links to Ohio Wildlife Animal Control companies on it as well. *My motto: Be kind!*

Skunks can also be fun to teach about. They have a well known adaptation; their defense mechanism...a foul scent spray! They usually do not discharge the spray unless threatened. Their anal glands hold a small amount of liquid—just enough for five or six discharges. The spray can shoot nearly 10 feet, and it can take up to 10 days for more spray to be created, and during this time a skunk would be easy prey. Skunks are den dwelling, and prefer a diet of insects, grubs, plants, fruits and like to forage and dig. They are nocturnal, and their main predator are owls. *Like so many other animals, they get a bad rap for their survival trait!*