

CONSERVATION NEWS

Newsletter of
the Defiance
Soil & Water
Conservation
District



In Cooperation with the Defiance County Commissioners

Winter 2011/2012

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Farm Fair 2012

The Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District and the Tinora Young Farmers recently co-hosted the 26th annual Farm Fair event at the Northtowne Mall in Defiance, Friday through Sunday, January 13, 14, and 15.

Numerous activities were held throughout the weekend, including musical entertainment by "All About Him" - refreshing acoustical music for your soul, clowning around and balloons with "Mr. Giggles", Tinora Young Farmers' Bake Sale, Youth Pedal Pull in which over 40 youngsters participated.

In addition to the numerous activities, many new and antique tractors and agriculture businesses were on display throughout the mall. We would like to thank all those who sponsored, participated and attended this year's event and look forward to seeing everyone at next year's event.



A youngster participating in the annual Pedal Pull on Saturday.



"Mr Giggles" the clown creating balloon animals for the children.

2012 Ag Appreciation Breakfast

The Defiance SWCD and the OSU Extension Office would like to invite the public to attend its 3rd Annual Agricultural Appreciation Breakfast on Tuesday, March 13 from 7:45-10:00 a.m. at the K of C Hall on Elliott Road in Defiance for just \$2.00. Ron Schlatter will be the featured speaker for the event. For questions or to RSVP call the OSU Extension office at 419-782-4771.

NW Ohio Woodland & Wildlife Family Festival

The 2012 Northwest Ohio Woodland and Wildlife Family Festival will take place on Saturday, May 19th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Auglaize Village in Defiance. Included that day will be over 35 exhibitors, food and lots of family fun. Free admission to Auglaize Village for that Saturday is included. Mark your calendars and come out to enjoy a day at Historic Auglaize Village and take part in all the activities scheduled for the day. For more information contact Bill Grimes at the Defiance SWCD Office at 419-782-8751 or by email at bgrimes@defiance-county.com.

Supervisors Sworn In

Incumbent Dan Vetter (left) and newly elected Bill Moats (center) were sworn into office by Defiance County Commissioner, Tom Kime (right), on January 18, 2012. Elected to a three-year term, Dan and Bill join Board Members Gary Mavis, Keith Schroeder, and Tom Beck in directing the Defiance SWCD's natural resource conservation programs.



The Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts was organized in 1943 to further the natural resource conservation mission of the state's 88 county-based SWCDs. As subdivisions of state



government, soil and water conservation districts have legal authority to assist landowners with a wide range of soil, water, woodland and wildlife conservation objectives. Another important goal is to provide information and education programs on natural resource conservation and management topics for county residents.

District Hosts Photo and Poster Contests

Defiance County students in grades K-12 are encouraged to submit original photographs that depict natural resource related aspects of Defiance County in the categories of conservation, education, trees and plants, wildlife and landscapes. Entries are due by close of business day Thursday, March 29, with awards presented to the first, second and third place participants in each category. Please visit the SWCD website or stop by the office for additional photo contest guidelines.



In addition, the annual poster contest is underway for grades K-12 within Defiance County. This year's theme, "Soil to Spoon" provides students the opportunity to express their understanding of natural resource conservation through artwork. Starting at the district level, winners will advance to state and potentially onto national judging.

2012 Affiliate Members

Public awareness of natural resource conservation is very important to the Defiance SWCD. We have been very fortunate to receive extraordinary support in promoting conservation through education. Affiliate members have enriched our education program immeasurably over the years with their financial support. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the following businesses this year:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Archbold Equipment Company | Midwest Community Federal Credit Union | The State Bank & Trust Company |
| Darren L. Bok Auctioneering | Nester Ag, LLC | Thomas Henry Surveying |
| Farm Credit Services | Ney Oil Company | Werlor, Inc. |
| Farmer Fabrication & Welding | Ridgeville Elevator | William Webb Construction |
| Farmers & Merchants State Bank | Sam Switzer Realty | |
| Hicksville Grain Company | Shininger Surface Drainage | |
| Jewell Grain Company | Slattery Oil Company | |
| Liechty Farm Equipment | Spartan Insurance Agency | |
| Mark Moats Ford, Inc. | Spatial Ag Systems, LLC | |
| McCalla Excavating | The Hubbard Company | |



If you do business with any of these companies, please tell them 'Thanks' for their support of locally-led conservation education in Defiance County.

"In the confrontation between stream and rock, the stream always wins... not thru strength but perseverance." -H Jackson Brown

Area 1 Employee of the Year

Bill Grimes was awarded the **2011 Area 1 SWCD Outstanding Employee Award** at the annual meeting in Findlay on Tuesday, December 13. Bill started employment as the Education Specialist at the Defiance Soil & Water Conservation District on January 24, 2005. He is responsible for all of the educational activities the District provides to the public. He has over 6 ½ years of service with the Defiance District on a part-time basis, averaging 35 hours per week. Bill's dedication to the job can be seen in all of the hard work and time that he puts into the position.

Bill understands the work and innovative ideas it takes to become a successful Education Specialist. As a retired Tinora elementary educator, he has the knowledge and experience to work with the school districts and realizes the importance of proficiency testing and making sure lessons and programs are created and conducted accordingly. He is involved in every school district throughout Defiance County, including the parochial schools and home-schooled programs; he presented programs to over 10,000 students this year. His calendar is so full that he sometimes visits 2-3 schools each day.

Bill has been instrumental in the development of the District-owned Penney Nature Center for natural resources education needs. Many class field trips as well as adult programs visit the 78-acre site that includes marshy and forested wetlands, bird nesting areas and wooded areas. It is known as the District's "outdoor classroom" and is open for all the public to enjoy.

Bill has formed a positive partnership with General Motors. GM partners with the District on several major annual events: 6th Grade School Tour, Defiance Elementary 5th Grade Water Quality Day and Earth Day at the GM Foundry.

A premier course for the education program is an annual week-long course through the Defiance College instructed by Bill. This course is for current teachers enrolled in the Masters of Education program at the college, allowing them to earn credits to retain certification status.

It is quite evident that Bill loves his job and the opportunity to continue to share his wonderful gift of knowledge to future generations. The Defiance SWCD is very fortunate to have Bill as the District Education Specialist.



Bill (right) accepting his award from Area 1 Program Specialist, Ed Crawford.

Lake Erie CREP Extended

The Ohio Lake Erie Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) has been extended by the State of Ohio for another 2 years. If you are thinking of installing a filter strip, wetland, riparian tree planting, windbreak, filter recharge area, or escarpment planting, contact Jason at the Defiance SWCD office at 419-782-8751 to find out the benefits and the payments that are available.

SWCD Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

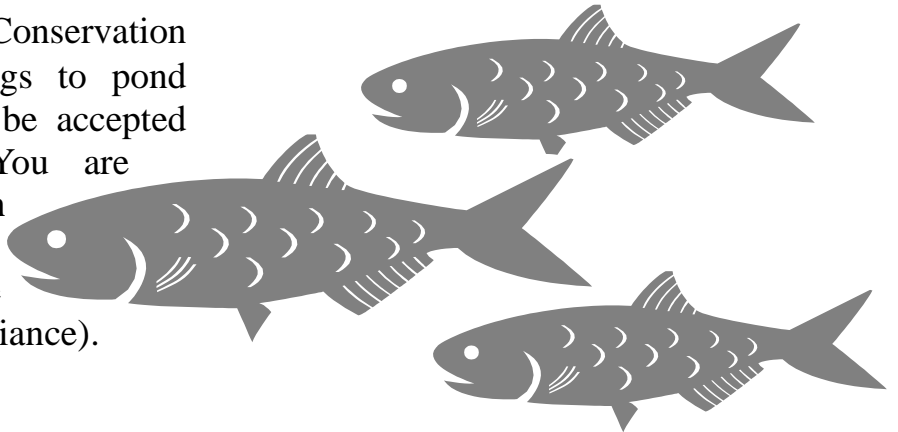
The SWCD Board of Supervisors holds its regular monthly meeting the 3rd Tuesday of each month and is open to the public. Please call the office for starting time.

The Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibit discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. The USDA and Defiance SWCD are equal opportunity providers and employers.

2012 Fish Fingerlings Sale

The Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District is offering fish fingerlings to pond owners in the area. Orders will be accepted through Friday, May 11th! You are responsible for picking up your fish on Tuesday, May 15th at 2:30 p.m. at the Defiance SWCD office (06879 Evansport Road, Defiance).

Payment must accompany order.



<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>PRICE PER FISH</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	=	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bluegill	2"-4"	75¢			
Red Ear Shellcracker	2"-4"	80¢			
Largemouth Bass	2"-3"	85¢			
Channel Catfish	4"-5"	80¢			
Yellow Perch	2"-3"	75¢			
Fat Head Minnows	1"-2"	5¢			
White Amur	8"-12"	\$13.00			
			Total	=	

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

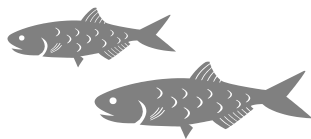
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Make checks payable to: Defiance SWCD
 Mail to: Defiance SWCD, 06879 Evansport Road - Suite C - Defiance, OH 43512

Retain this portion as a reminder that fish pick-up is **Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 2:30 p.m.**

Please bring containers with your pond water the day of pickup.

5 gallons per White Amur
 5 gallons per 25 fingerlings



Oxygen will be added to the bag for those traveling long distances.

<u>Stocking Rate for 1 Acre Pond</u>	
<u>Species</u>	<u>#/Acre</u>
Largemouth Bass	100
Bluegill	500
Channel Catfish	100
Perch	100
White Amur (depending on quantity and species of pond weeds)	5



Tree Seedling Sale 2012

(order deadline March 16, 2012)

Packets
Ordered

Packet Description

Price

Total \$

_____	25 – American Arborvitae 10”-16”.....	\$20.00	_____
_____	10 – Colorado Blue Spruce 9”-15”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – Austrian Pine 8”-12”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – Norway Spruce 10”-18”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – Eastern White Pine 8”-12”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – Red Maple 12”-18”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – Sugar Maple 12”-18”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – Swamp White Oak 12”-18”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – Pin Oak 12”-18”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – Red Bud 12”-18”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – White Flowering Dogwood 12”-18”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	10 – Common Lilac 12”-18”.....	\$ 8.00	_____
_____	Marking Flags (each).....	\$0.10	_____

Grand Total \$ _____

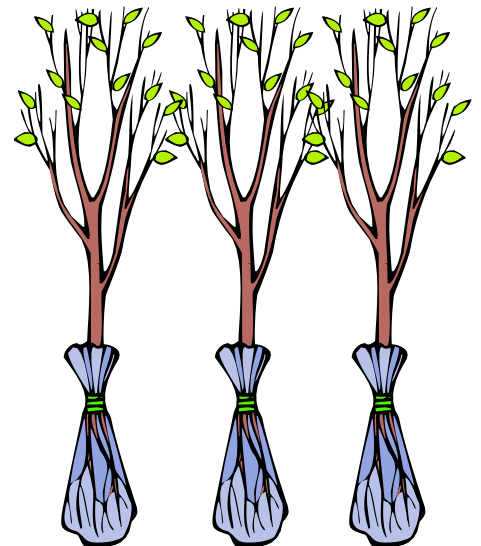
Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please make checks payable to: **Defiance SWCD**, 06879 Evansport Road, Suite C, Defiance, OH 43512. *All orders must be paid in full.* You will be notified in April when to pick up your trees.



For Office Use Only:

Order Number _____

Receipt Number _____



Seedling Descriptions

Evergreens

American Arborvitae - A pyramidal shaped tree (40-60 feet) that grows well in a wide range of soil and drainage conditions. Excellent for screens and windbreaks since it is dense and full to the ground. Recommended spacing for windbreak planting - - 6 feet.

Colorado Blue Spruce - A dense conical evergreen (80-100 feet) with stout, prickly 3/4 inch - 1 1/4 inch needles, bluish green to bright silvery blue in color, radiating around the stem to form a brush-like mass. Adaptable, it prefers rich, moist soil, full sun, but thrives in dry well-drained sites. Recommended spacing for windbreak planting - - 12 feet.

Austrian Pine - A fast growing 2 needled pine (60 feet), needles 4 - 6 inches long, sharp pointed, persisting 4 years. Outline is pyramidal, becoming more open and irregular with age. Will grow in heavy clay to light, sandy soils. Recommended spacing for windbreak planting - - 12 feet.

Norway Spruce - An extremely attractive (60 feet) pyramidal evergreen with strong weeping branches that extend all the way to the ground. Needles are shiny green 1/2 - 1 inch long and flat. One of the fastest growing of all spruces. Recommended spacing for windbreak planting - - 12 feet.

Eastern White Pine - Pyramidal in youth, this (75-100 feet) shade tolerant tree forms a graceful plume like crown at maturity. Fast growing in a wide range of soil types. Needles occur in 5's, 3 - 5 inches long, soft, rich green to bluish green. Recommended spacing for windbreak planting - - 12 feet.

Hardwoods

Red Maple - A fast growing tree with the crown being rounded to oval in shape (40-60 feet). Widely adaptable in all soils and prefers full sun but will also grow in full shade. The leaves are shiny green on top and pale green on the bottom. In the fall, the foliage turns a spectacular crimson orange, which remains on the tree for a long time.

Sugar Maple - Mature trees (80-100 feet) with short trunk, dividing into several sub-trunks. Long slender branches sweep downward and then curve gracefully upward. A 10 year old tree is typically about 15 feet tall. The fall color is often spectacular, ranging from bright yellow through orange to fluorescent red-orange. The sugar maple can grow comfortably in any type of soil, except sand.

Swamp White Oak - A medium sized tree (65-80 feet) with dark green leaves and a whitish gray bark. It can survive in a variety of habitats. It grows rapidly and can live for 350 years. The acorns that fall from the tree are eaten by squirrels, chipmunks and deer. The Swamp White Oak is valued for its timber products such as furniture, flooring and cabinet making.

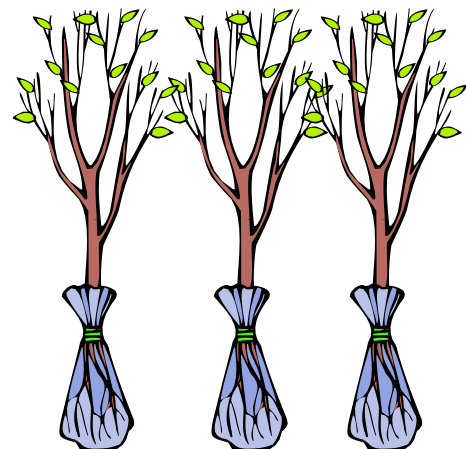
Pin Oak - Pyramidal through early maturity (60-70 feet), its form turns more oval in older age. Fast growing, tolerates wet soils and likes full sun. Glossy dark green leaves turn russet, bronze or red. Upper branches are upright, middle ones horizontal and its lower limbs slant gracefully towards the ground. Widely used as a street and landscape tree. The acorns are eaten by wild turkeys, whitetail deer, squirrels and ducks.

Red Bud - Medium growth rate and has a rounded, vase shape (20-30 feet). Full sun or light shade. Rosy pink flowers appear in April. Reddish-purple leaves change to dark green, then to yellow. Provides winter food for birds and can be used for nesting sites and nesting materials.

Shrubs

White Flowering Dogwood - An excellent landscape choice (25 feet) for all four seasons. Medium growth rate that does well in full sun or partial shade with moist, acidic, well-drained soil. Flowers are showy in the spring, leaves turn red-purple in the fall and the glossy red fruits attract winter songbirds, chipmunks, foxes, squirrels, rabbits and deer.

Common Lilac - A moderate growing shrub (8-15 feet) with a spread of 6-12 feet. It forms an upright shrub with an irregular outline that has no lower branches with age. The leaves are simple, oval, 2-5 inches long and dark green. The flowers are lilac purple colored and very fragrant. They bloom from early to mid-May



Winter Word Puzzle

Now that wintry conditions are upon us, many of us will be spending more time indoors. Complete the word puzzle and mail it back to the SWCD office by February 29, 2012. An entry will be randomly drawn and awarded a 3 pack of CFL Energy Efficient Light Bulbs and a Defiance SWCD prize pack. The winner will be notified, and can pick up their prize at the SWCD office. Thanks for reading and Good Luck!

APPEARANCE	E	N	E	R	G	Y	E	E	T	S	L	I	G	H	T	I	N	G
BULB	E	Y	T	E	S	T	V	F	N	Y	L	R	E	G	N	A	D	L
CFL	V	A	P	O	R	I	I	F	E	T	A	A	J	N	P	F	I	R
CHEMICALS	I	O	P	M	A	L	S	I	C	E	T	M	C	S	G	N	A	T
DANGER	T	F	F	Q	M	A	N	C	S	F	P	H	E	I	V	G	E	N
DECORATIVE	A	I	T	F	R	U	E	I	E	A	K	F	T	E	M	L	T	T
DISPOSAL	R	L	C	R	I	Q	P	E	D	S	I	U	N	L	O	E	H	Y
EDISON	O	A	I	F	A	C	X	N	N	L	B	T	A	I	C	G	H	S
EFFICIENCY	C	M	R	I	S	D	E	C	A	E	I	N	V	H	I	H	U	C
ELECTRIC	E	E	T	X	O	S	I	Y	C	O	D	A	N	L	B	O	Q	N
ENERGY	D	N	C	T	U	O	D	T	N	F	R	O	H	D	D	U	O	V
ENVIRONMENT	H	T	E	U	R	I	T	E	I	T	L	S	R	R	R	S	L	V
EXPENSIVE	V	B	L	R	C	L	I	L	L	O	A	O	A	E	I	E	F	B
FILAMENT	W	L	E	E	E	W	L	U	G	L	N	Z	T	D	B	H	C	N
FIXTURE	M	E	R	C	U	R	Y	Y	F	K	A	A	E	M	S	O	W	B
FLASHLIGHT	G	N	I	L	C	Y	C	E	R	H	W	W	L	A	X	L	K	N
FLORESCENT	E	N	V	I	R	O	N	M	E	N	T	Q	G	I	C	D	N	T
GAS	E	G	E	T	N	E	C	S	E	R	O	L	F	J	N	V	U	T
HAZARDOUS	E	G	A	T	T	A	W	F	Q	A	L	A	S	O	P	S	I	D
HOUSEHOLD	L	B	P	B	A	P	P	E	A	R	A	N	C	E	Y	E	O	J
INCANDESCENT																		
INVENTION																		
LAMP																		
LANDFILL																		
LED																		
LIFESPAN																		
LIGHTING																		
MERCURY																		
OFFICE																		
QUALITY																		
RECYCLING																		



SAFETY
SOIL
SOURCE
TECHNOLOGY
TRADITIONAL

TUBE
ULTRAVIOLET
VAPOR
WATER
WATTAGE

Name: _____

Phone Number _____

Congratulations

The Fall Issue of "Conservation News" prize giveaway was awarded to Dana Puckett from rural Sherwood. Dana received a pair of binoculars, a Defiance SWCD snack bowl and flashlight for completing and sending in the word puzzle. It's that simple - - just complete the puzzle above and send it in for your chance to win this edition's prize.

Dana's name was drawn from the several hundred submitted by newsletter readers from across the area. We thank everyone for their participation and wish everyone good luck in future puzzles.



CONSERVATION NEWS

Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District

06879 Evansport Rd., Defiance , Ohio 43512

Phone 419-782-8751 Fax 419-782-1791

Website: www.defiance-county.com

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Jason Roehrig
Jen English
Nicole Grindley
Bill Grimes (part-time)
Kevin Hancock
Ed Walters
Dave Sines (part-time)

NRCS Personnel

Steve Snyder
Lori Shank
Mike Boff

Upper Maumee Watershed Partnership Update



The Blue Green Algal Blooms are all the craze these days. From being a health risk to humans, pets, and habitats as well as invading our lakes. Education is very important when embarking on this topic. What better way to help with the problem than to be educated on what is causing the problem. It all depends on who you ask and talk to for the answers.

The Upper Maumee Watershed Partnership took it upon themselves to organize a panel of experts to help clear up any misconceptions that have been established by those who make opinions without any factual information to back up their findings.

The event was held on November 3rd at Defiance College in the Schomburg Auditorium. There were nearly 90 in attendance for the event. Those in attendance included city, county, and state officials. There was also a great turn out of high school and college students as well as citizens from the community. The panel was comprised of Donn Werling a historian of the Maumee River, Bill Cody Phycologist, John Kaiser of Grand Lake St. Mary's Watershed, Amy Jo Klei who is the Lake Erie Coordinator for the Ohio EPA, and Eugene Braig of Ohio Sea Grant.

Nicole Grindley, the Upper Maumee Watershed Coordinator introduced each panel member after which they did a short presentation on their specialty area. At the conclusion of the panel session the floor was opened up for a time of questions and answers. The two hour meeting was deemed a huge success.

If you would like to receive more information from that evening, please feel free to contact Nicole Grindley via email at ngrindley@defiance-county.com.

