

**THE LATITUDE / LONGITUDE**  
**41 21'09" N. - 82 08'55" W.**

SUMMER 2008

**LORAIN SWCD ANNUAL MEETING**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2008**  
**5:00 P.M. – HOG ROAST**  
**LORAIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain and improve the natural resources and environment in Lorain County.



The Board of Supervisors will hold their Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 13, 2008, 5:00 p.m., in the Soil and Water Barn at the Lorain County Fairgrounds. This event is casual for the entire family.

A hog roast and barbeque chicken along with side dishes will be cooked by Big Dog Catering—so

bring your appetite.

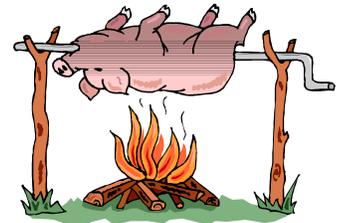
There will be a supervisor election, PowerPoint slide show, various awards, and a scholarship presentation for the evening.

Tickets are \$10.00 each while children six and under are free. Tickets are on sale now through September 11th. No tickets will

be sold at the door.

For more information, please call the office at 440-326-5800.

*Mark your calendar.*



**DISTRICT EMPLOYEE COMPLETES STATEWIDE TRAINING**

Sandy Denes, Administrative Assistant has completed Level I of The Administrative Assistants Development Program. This program is sponsored by the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Soil & Water, and the Ohio Association of Soil and Water Conservation Employees.

The training program was created to develop and strengthen communication, marketing and administrative skills. Level I consisted of six in-depth sessions with 21 participants from around the state.

Denes was awarded a certificate of completion at the All-Employees Meeting in Columbus. She is scheduled to participate in AADP Level II starting in July 2008. Sandy Denes is pictured with Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Div. of Soil & Water Chief David Hanselmann.



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

<b>ANNUAL MEETING</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE AWARD</b>	
<b>OUR SYMPATHY</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>PHASE II</b>	<b>3-</b>
	<b>4</b>
<b>RAIN GARDENS</b>	<b>4-5</b>
<b>RAIN BARRELS</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>LIGHTHOUSE PAINTING</b>	
<b>ADS</b>	<b>7</b>

## DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST'S COLUMN

BY: KARL SCHNEIDER

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST



### WITH OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

The Lorain County conservation family lost a good friend on Saturday April 12, 2008 when Wallace Wendt of Columbia Township passed away. "Doc" Wendt, as we knew him, was probably one of the most avid and dedicated conservationists that I had the pleasure of knowing and working with in my 25 years in Lorain County. He cared not only for his own property but was also active in many other endeavors including the formation of the Firelands and Western Reserve Land Conservancy. Prior to his passing he and his wife Susan, entered his 200 acre plus farm into a permanent protective easement with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy. It will be held forever "wild" in their memories.

I had the good fortune to walk and ride across his farm on many

occasions. He took a worn out piece of floodplain in the Rocky River valley and turned in into a model farm that even Aldo Leopold would be proud of. He converted old farm fields into wildlife habitat by building ponds, wetlands, planting grass, trees and anything that would stop the erosion, rebuild the soil and provide cover for wildlife. He was a veterinarian at the Cleveland Zoo and brought a number a birds and animal to the property to complete its transformation. It was a tribute to a man and his conservation legacy.

Bob Pandy and I had the good fortune to visit with "Doc" before his passing. He was the kind of person who didn't dwell on the negative. He knew what his condition was

yet he only wanted to talk "conservation". He talked of his work on the farm, the good help he had received from our office and his most important legacy, the formation of the Land Conservancy. We knew it was the last time we would see him.

"Doc was one of a kind and spent his entire life in the field of conservation. I didn't realize how long he had been a conservationist until one day recently I happened to be looking through a 1930's yearbook from John Marshall High School and came across a page about the high school conservation club. Guess who was the club president? Somebody who spent their life dedicated to making the Lorain County environment a better place.

Our sympathy to his wife Susan, his two daughters and grandchild.



## NPDES—PHASE II - IN LORAIN COUNTY

The Lorain County Stormwater Management Coordinators was formed in December 2007 to implement NPDES-Phase II for Lorain County so we can comply with Ohio EPA and the U.S. Clean Water Act of 1972. The coordinators are:

Bill Holtzman – Lorain County Engineer's Office

Nancy Funni – Lorain SWCD

Christin Brandon – Lorain County Community Development

Dan Gouch – Lorain County Watershed Coordinator

Jim Boddy – Lorain County Health District

Gerald Innes &  
Matt Mishak –  
Lorain County  
Prosecutor's Office



These coordinators have had numerous meetings and met with Ohio EPA to insure proper rules and regulations for Lorain County. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) is part of the requirements for the U.S. Clean Water Act of 1972, a structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of United States. Under the Act, the EPA has implemented pollution control programs such as setting wastewater standards for industry and has set water quality stan-

dards for all contaminants in surface water. The NPDES permit program control discharges.

The six elements for Phase II are:

- Outreach – Education
- Erosion & Sediment Control
- Plan Review
- Post Construction
- Illicit Discharge
- Pollution Prevention (Good Housekeeping)

### [Lorain County Erosion and Sediment Control Rules:](#)

On May 29, 2008, the Lorain County Commissioners adopted the ESC Rules and went into effect June 28, 2008, for all of Lorain County.

These rules are to establish technically feasible and economically reasonable standards to achieve a level of management and conservation practices in order to prevent soil erosion and degradation of the waters of the State by soil sediment on land used or being developed for non-farm commercial, industrial, residential or other non-farm purposes, to establish criteria for determination of the acceptability of such management and conservation practices and or best management practices. (BMP's). These

rules apply to soil-disturbing activities on land within the unincorporated areas of Lorain County.

The definition for erosion and sediment control is: the control of soil material, both mineral and organic, during soil disturbing activity to prevent its transport out of the disturbed area by means of wind, water, ice or gravity.

Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District is named administrator for ESC Rules with cooperation of Lorain County Engineer's Office, Community Development, and Lorain County Prosecutor's Office.

You can visit our website at [www.lorainswcd.com](http://www.lorainswcd.com) for these rules.

### [Plan Reviews](#)

Lorain Soil & Water Conservation is administrator in cooperation with the engineer's office for plan reviews on new development in Lorain County.

### [Post – Construction:](#)

This section is under construction. The Stormwater Management Coordinators would like to complete this section by the end of this year.



*Continued on page 4*

## NPDES—PHASE II IN LORAIN COUNTY—CONTINUED

*Continued from page 3*

A regional effort to improve the quality of water in the rivers, streams, ponds, and lakes within the watersheds in Lorain County; help control storm water runoff and soil erosion; and its importance to provide homebuilder, developers and landowners with consistent technical, operational and practical standards for water quality runoff management. Lorain SWCD will be administrators in cooperation with the engineer's office.

### LCPIPE:

The Lorain County Public Information and Public Education Group

(LCPIPE) is a Lorain County consortium of Lorain SWCD, conservation organizations and local governments and agencies that share similar visions, missions and values. LCPIPE engages in a countywide approach to increase public awareness of storm water issues and to provide information and opportunities to protect our shared waters. In January 2008 Lorain SWCD and City of Avon Lake starting working together to form LCPIPE and have moved forward to having MOU's to county and city agencies. A LCPIPE



booth will be located in the Soil & Water barn at the Lorain County Fairgrounds. Any agency is welcome to join this group.

Our meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month starting at 1:00 p.m. in conference room of Lorain SWCD.

For more information or if you would like to join the Lorain County PIPE, you may contact Nancy Funni, District Administrator, Lorain SWCD at 440-326-5805 or Joe Reitz, Engineer Manager, City of Avon Lake at 440-930-4101.

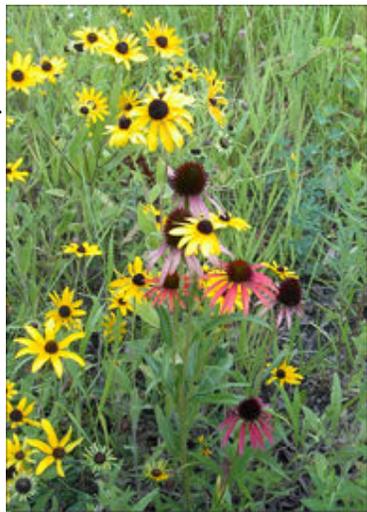
## RAIN GARDENS IN YOUR BACKYARD!



**W**hat is a Rain Garden? Its an attractive, landscape area planted with perennial native plants which don't mind getting 'wet feet.' they are beautiful gardens, built in depressions which are designed to capture and filter storm water runoff from impervious surfaces around the home, such as rooftops and driveways.

The benefits of rain gardens are multiple and include their ability to perform the following functions:

⇒ Help keep water



clean by filtering storm water runoff before it enters local waterways.

⇒ Help alleviate problems associated with flooding and drainage.

⇒ Enhance the beauty of individual yards and communities.

⇒ Provide habitat and food for wildlife including birds and butterflies.

⇒ Recharge the ground water.

**W**hy Do We Need Rain Gardens?

As development increases, there are more demands placed on our local environment. Impervious surfaces associated with development, such as rooftops, driveways and roads, are areas that shed rainwater. Construction activity on development sites usually compacts the soil, limiting the ground's capacity to absorb water. Taken together, these factors reduce the ability of our landscape to absorb and filter storm water.

*Continued on page 6*

## RAIN GARDENS—CONTINUED

Impervious surfaces can negatively affect our environment as they increase storm water runoff. Consequently they increase the chance for pollution to enter our through our storm drainage systems



including sewers and open ditches, which flow untreated to our streams and lakes. The type of pollution that results from storm water runoff is called non-point source pollution. Some of the more common non-point source pollutants include fertilizers, pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings and yard debris.

Building a rain garden or two in your own yard is probably the easiest and most cost efficient thing you can do to reduce your contribution to Stormwater pollution. By capturing rainwater from your roof, driveway and sidewalks and diverting in into a great looking rain garden where it can slowly soak into the ground, filter contaminants and keep quantities of clean water from going down the



sewer system. You'll have a great looking garden that puts water in its

place. Rain gardens can copy the natural absorption and pollutant removal abilities of a forest, meadow or prairie by absorbing runoff more efficiently as much as 30—40% more than a standard lawn.

### *Your Rain Garden!*

Installing a rain garden can be a fairly simple process, involving a shovel and bit of physical energy. The size and style of your garden will depend on a number of factors including: the size of your yard, whether you are trying to create a formal or informal looking garden, and the amount of money you want to spend. Remember, you can never have a rain garden that is too large or too small. Any size garden can contribute to solving local water quality problems and will be a beautiful addition to your property.

Rain gardens are not ponds. If properly designed, they should hold water for a maximum of 48 hours. Also rain gardens will not attract mosquitoes. Mosquitoes need standing water for 7-12 days to complete their life cycle. A properly installed rain garden should not hold water long enough for larvae

to complete their cycle. These gardens also have the advantage of attracting dragonflies, which are predators to mosquitoes.

Maintenance for rain gardens are fairly simple. That's the beauty of using native plants in your garden. Native plants are well adapted to their natural surroundings and do not require fertilizers or pesticides. If you purchase plants and do the work yourself, the cost will be about \$3—\$5 per square foot. If you hire a landscape



consultant do design, construct, select and install plants, the cost will increase to about \$10—15 per square foot.

### *Your Guide Book*

Lorain SWCD has 'Rain Garden Manuals for Homeowners' at no charge. The cost for postage is \$1.50 or you can visit our website and download the manual as well at:

[www.lorainswcd.com](http://www.lorainswcd.com)

## LORAIN COUNTY REPRESENTED IN COLUMBUS

ODNR—Division of Soil and Water Conservation asked each 88 counties in Ohio to solicit a work of art that illustrates unique or important natural, environmental, agricultural or historic features of their county. The project name was “Soil and water conservation—Keeping Ohio’s land productive and water clean!”

Patricia Manning offered to do such a painting for us. Mrs. Manning, from Huntington Township, has been painting for the past five years. This is her first acrylic

painting. She was glad to assist the District. This wonderful painting of the Lorain Harbor Lighthouse hangs on display at the Division Office in Columbus. Patricia is the wife of Dave Manning, Lorain SWCD Board Supervisor.

The District greatly appreciates the time Mrs. Manning spent on the great painting.

*Thank You!*



## USING RAIN BARRELS AT YOUR HOME

Harvesting and retaining rainwater for later use is like money in the bank. Rain barrels are on of the easiest ways to capture water from gutters and downspouts. Just a half inch of rain falling on a 1,000—square foot roof will yield 300 gallons of water. Here’s a quick idea of how much water the roof of your own house might yield. Example: for a modest house 30-36 feet, with a typical 2 foot roof overhang, a half inch of rain would yield about 408 gallons of water, which is enough to fill six standards-size rain barrels.

Keeping plants alive during



drought conditions is for the environment, too, since living root systems help reduce soil erosion and runoff of potentially harmful chemicals. Plants like rainwater, because it’s naturally soft, and free of chlorine and other chemicals. If you are on a municipal water systems, you stand to save a considerable amount of money also. You

may also find that having a rain barrel is a handy alternative to the garden hose.

When watering your plants or lawn, you use approximately seven (7) gallons of water per minute. It adds up over a period of time. If you are in a location that receives approximately 10



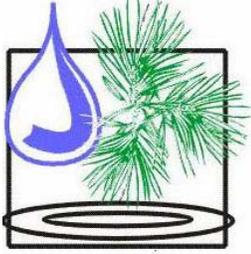
inches of rain over the course of the spring and summer, an average 1,360—square foot roof would yield 8,160 gallons of rain water.

Yes, that’s a lot of water, but its hard to pass up that much of a free thing!

Here are some simple planning tips that will prevent the most common problems with rain-saving:

*Continued on page 8*

<p><b>Jordan Trucking and Excavating</b>                  Driveways - Septic Systems                  Driveway Stone                  Backhoe &amp; Dozer Work                  47050 St. Rt. 303 • Wellington                  (440) 775-0438</p>	 <p>32200 Lorain Rd                  North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039</p> <p><b>WEST SHORE NEW HOLLAND, INC.</b></p> <p>Elyria (440) 327-3673                  Toll Free 1-800-487-2211                  Fax (440) 327-1616                  www.westshorenh.com</p>	 <p><b>Farm Credit Services                  OF MID-AMERICA</b></p> <p><b>LARRY CUCCO</b>                  Financial Services Officer</p> <p>lcucco@e-farmcredit.com • www.e-farmcredit.com                  800-454-2072 • Cell 440-812-4234 • Fax 440-774-1661                  530 S. Main St. • PO Box 209 • Oberlin, OH 44074</p>
<p><b>McMILLAN CONSTRUCTION CO.</b></p> <p>DAVE McMILLAN, Owner                  DENNIS HIBBS</p> <p>26457 State Route 58                  Wellington, Ohio 44090</p> <p>Bus. 440-647-4736                  FAX 440-647-4972</p>	<p><b>DOUG FEDAK</b>                  AVP-Branch Manager</p>  <p>116 West Herrick Ave.                  Wellington, OH 44090                  Phone: 440-647-6611 or 866-685-4446</p> <p>Fax: 440-647-6610                  Email: dfedak@agcredit.net</p>	<p><b>Beristwill</b>                  INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.                  IRA'S - Annuities                  Home - Farm - Auto - Life - Business</p> <p>35881 Grafton Eastern Road                  Grafton OH 44044                  (440) 926-3312</p> <p>173 Depot Street                  Wellington OH 44090                  (440) 647-6010</p>
<p><b>HAYNES CONSTRUCTION</b>                  DOZING • EARTHMOVING                  EXCAVATING • TILING                  We Specialize in Building                  &amp; Maintaining Ponds &amp; Lakes                  Call Mark At  <b>419-663-2457</b>                  3130 Route 18 NORWALK</p> 	<p>Consultant Forester  <b>Frank Luppino</b>                  (330) 667-2060                  6840 Vandemark Road                  Medina OH 44256</p> <p>"My Business is Helping You Grow..... Timber"                  Serving Lorain County Landowners for 20 Years</p> <p>WOODLAND MANAGEMENT      TIMBER SALES                  TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT      APPRAISALS</p> 	<p><b>HAYNES LAND IMPROVEMENT</b></p> <p>47000 St. Rte. 18                  (440) 647-6328</p> <p>NEW PONDS      WATERWAYS      BASEMENTS                  FREE ESTIMATES      LAND CLEARING                  LASER EQUIPPED      FARM DRAINAGE                  POND CLEANING      DITCH CLEANING</p>  
<p>DAY - EVENING &amp; SATURDAY HOURS</p> <p><b>DR. JACK COATES, JR.</b>                  CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN</p>  <p>229 FIFTH STREET      508 DICKSON STREET, SUITE #5                  ELYRIA, OH 44035      WELLINGTON, OH 44090                  (440) 322-9096      (440) 647-5001</p>	<p>PHONE (440) 324-3109</p>  <p><b>RICHARDS EARTHMOVING, INC.</b>                  EXCAVATING • GRADING • SEWERS                  SITE DEVELOPMENT • PONDS</p> <p>2301 WEST RIVER ROAD                  ELYRIA, OHIO 44035</p>	<p>Lorain Soil &amp; Water Conservation District</p>  <p>Agricultural Center                  42110 Russia Road                  Elyria, OH 44035-6813                  Phone: 440.326.5800                  FAX: 440.326.5807</p> <p><a href="http://www.lorainswcd.com">www.lorainswcd.com</a></p>
 <p><b>ANCHOR STORAGE II</b>                  MINI STORAGE UNITS                  LOCATION:                  16880 AVON-BELDON RD.                  GRAFTON, OHIO 44044</p> <p>MARK SZAKACS                  PRESIDENT                  Phone: 330-225-1172                  Fax: 330-220-6622</p> <p>OFFICE LOCATION:                  5855 Center Rd.                  Valley City, Ohio 44280</p>	 <p><b>QUALITY FARM                  EQUIPMENT</b></p> <p>Combines &amp; Tractors                  Kinze • Great Plains • Krause • Brillion • Wil-Rich • Stihl</p> <p>GSI • Cardinal • DMI • Bush Hog • Killbros • Yetter</p> <p><b>HOWARD A. BORN</b>                  12747 Vermilion Rd.                  Amherst, OH 44001      2 Miles North                  of Kipton, Ohio</p> <p>(440) 965-5675      (440) 965-5814 Fax                  "The Best in New and Used"</p>	 <p>Timber Management &amp; Sales                  Appraisals                  Timber Stand Improvement</p> <p><b>Mark Subanic</b>                  Consulting Forester</p> <p>James M. Subanic                  5703 Mason Rd.                  Berlin Hts., Ohio 44814</p> <p>(419) 433-7548                  (419) 419-1017                  e-mail: subanic5@accorwalk.com</p>
 <p>Where the Best Ideas are Mind</p> <p><b>John D. Reisig</b>                  President</p> <p>36235 Hedgerow Park Dr.                  North Ridgeville, OH 44039                  (440) 327-2374</p> <p><b>MindPick Software LLC</b>                  Website development/IT consulting</p> <p><a href="mailto:reisig@mindpick.com">reisig@mindpick.com</a>  <a href="http://service.mindpick.com">http://service.mindpick.com</a></p>	<p><b>AMERICAN TIMBER                  AND STEEL CORP</b></p> <p>Treated Lumber &amp; Timber Products                  Fence Posts                  Pole Barn Timbers                  Decking Products                  Manure Facility Lumber Products</p> <p><b>Steve Adelman – Vice President</b>                  4832 Plank Road – Norwalk, Ohio 44857                  1-800-551-9663      1-419-668-7537 Fax</p>	<p><b>AMANDA DENES</b>                  Organization Director                  Erie, Huron and Lorain                  Counties</p> <p>w 440.774.2211                  c 440.666.9368                  f 440.775.2921                  adenes@ofbf.org</p>  <p>530 South Main Street                  M.P.O. Box 0157                  Oberlin, OH 44074</p> <p>Visit us at <a href="http://ofbf.org">ofbf.org</a> and                  OurOhio.org</p>



**LORAIN SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

42110 Russia Road  
Elyria Ohio 44035  
Phone: 440-326-5800

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

Robert Ternes Jr.— Chairman  
John Born— Vice-Chairman  
David Conrad— Secretary  
David Manning— Treasurer  
John Forthofer— Member

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISORS

Ron Baumann  
Neil Breyley  
Dan Buttler  
Alan Pitts

DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Nancy Funni— District Administrator  
Sandy Denes—Administrative Assistant  
Robert Kamenik— District Technician  
Bob Pandy— District Technician  
Marshall Simms— District Technician  
Tom Zacharyasz— District Technician

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

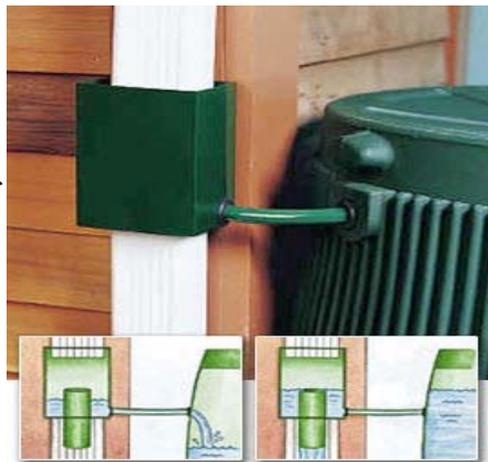
Karl Schneider— District Conservationist  
Dale Barr— Soil Conservationist Technician

LORAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Betty Blair , Ted Kalo, Lori Kokski

*Continued from page 6*

- ⇒ Use a tight—fitting, light blocking lid to keep children and animals out of the water and stop the development of algae.
- ⇒ Add a screen to keep leaves and other debris out of the water.
- ⇒ Use an overflow device to direct excess water away from your home’s foundation when the tank is full.
- ⇒ Monitor the rain barrel to ensure intakes and overflows aren’t blocked.
- ⇒ **Important:** Water stored in this system in **NOT** potable unless treated properly, and should **NOT** be used drinking



water.

There are many shapes and sizes of rain barrels. You can purchase these barrels at many mass retail and garden centers or make your own.

Eaton Township Stormwater Committee coordinated rain barrel project as a means of public

education and awareness on how rain barrels can help control some of the storm water issues in Eaton Township. Cole Musial from Avon Lake Boy Scout Troop #334 installed a rain barrel at Schild’s IGA in Eaton Township. *Thank you for your assistance!*

