

**THE LATITUDE / LONGITUDE**  
**41<sup>0</sup> 21'09" N. - 82<sup>0</sup> 08'55" W.**

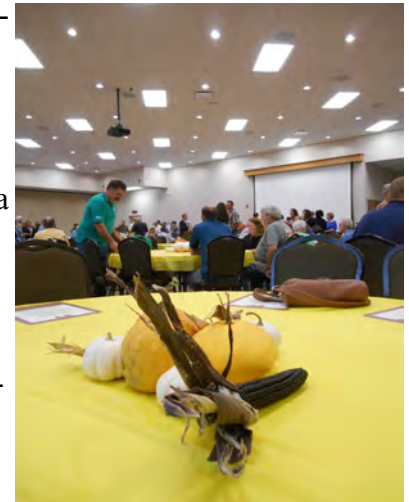
**SUMMER/FALL 2017**

**LORAIN SWCD ANNUAL MEETING:**  
**IN COOPERATION WITH**  
**LORAIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU**

**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 Thursday, September 7, 2017, in cooperation with the Lorain County Farm Bureau. The meeting will be held at The Lodge of New Russia Township. The election of two supervisors will take place from 6:00-7:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m. There will be a brief business meeting, various awards, and scholarship presentations during the evening. Tickets are \$13.00 each, with dinner provided by Bread-N-Brew. Tickets are on sale now through September 1, 2017. To purchase, use order form on the back page; no tickets will be sold at the door. Mark your calendar and plan to join us!



**Board Elections**

An election of two supervisors to the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be conducted at the annual meeting on Thursday, September 7, 2017 at the New Russia Township Hall-The Lodge from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. There are four candidates vying for two seats on the Board: Roger Nikiforow, Robert Pandy, Jessica Duplaga, and Nicholas Ziegler. The highest vote earners among them will be elected. Absentee ballots will be available from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. starting on August 17, 2017, and continuing until 4:30 p.m. on the day of the election. You may request your ballot in person, in writing, or by calling the District office at 440-326-5800.

**STRAW BLOWER FOR RENT**

The Lorain SWCD has a straw blower for rent that will make covering your new lawn or ditch seeding much easier. Minimum rental fee is \$50 per four hour meter hours. The blower uses 40-45 bales of straw per acre. The trailer requires a 2" ball hitch for pulling. Call the office to schedule a rental time.



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**FALL FISH SALE:**

**Information & order form on page 3**

## LORAIN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



### CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the Lorain SWCD poster contest winners sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)! T.J. Logan from Firelands Elementary in Oberlin was the 1st place winner and Javier Taylor from Prospect Elementary in Elyria was the 2nd place winner in the K-1 grade category. Allison Koris of Liberty Elementary, North Ridgeville was the 1st place winner, with Marisa Slack winning 2nd place in the 2-3 grade category. Mercedes Murphy was the 1st place winner in the 11-12 grade category from LaGrange.

We would also like to extend our congratulations to Maggie Lieb from Avon High School who was the recipient of the Joel McRoberts Memorial Scholarship. Maggie will be attending The Ohio State University ATI in the fall to study Ag Education. A winner of the Joel McRoberts Continuing Education Scholarship has not yet been named.

### Area II Envirothon

We had one team participate in the High School Area II Envirothon this past spring! Thank you to Shannon Thome, Wellington High School FFA Advisor and her students for representing Lorain County. Bailey Wise, Dylan Andolsek, Hannah Downs, Kinsey Grose, Savannah McKee, and Caleb Kiser demonstrated their knowledge of aquatics, soil, forestry, wildlife, and environmental issues!



Pictured L-R: Bailey Wise, Hannah Downs, Dylan Andolsek, Savannah McKee, Caleb Kiser

**Big Tree Contest winners to be announced at the Lorain SWCD Annual Meeting: Thursday, September 7!**



We received nearly a dozen nominations for our Lorain SWCD Big Tree Contest. The featured tree species this year was the Red Oak family. George Anders has been measuring each nominated tree using the ODNR Division of Forestry's Big Tree Program procedures. Each tree will receive a score based on trunk circumference, crown spread, and total height to determine the winner. Next year's Big Tree Contest will feature the Maple family. More information on the contest will be featured in our Winter/Spring newsletter! Thank you to all who participated in this year's contest!

**Come see us at the Lorain County Fair!**

Stop by and see our booth located in the Soil Conservation Red Barn #28.



# FALL FISH SALE



**Tuesday, October 3, 2017 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Agricultural Center Parking Lot  
42110 Russia Rd, Elyria**

The truck from Fender's Fish Hatchery of Baltic, Ohio will be here at 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. to distribute orders. Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Hybrid Bluegill, Channel Catfish, Redear Shellcracker, Yellow Perch, Fathead Minnows, Triploid White Amur, and Japanese Koi are available. We will also have pond conditioner - a once-a-year treatment that adds a natural green color, while lowering fertility levels in your pond.

**On pick-up day, you will need to bring a container filled with your pond water to pick up your order**—approximately 5 gallons of water for each 100 fingerling size fish. We suggest using a trash can with a **new plastic liner**—then adding the pond water so the top of the bag can be tied shut for transportation. Remember, the Amur are 8-10" long and need a suitable container.

Some stocking recommendations are 100 Largemouth Bass and 500 Bluegill per surface acre of pond area. Channel Catfish can also be stocked in ponds that are a 1/2 acre or larger; though they will not reproduce in a pond, they do provide excellent fishing. A 4-6" long Catfish stocked this fall will double in size by next spring.

If you have pond stocking questions, please contact the experts at Fender's Fish Hatchery at (740) 622-0681.

## FISH SALE ORDER FORM

**Mail and return with payment to:** Lorain SWCD  
42110 Russia Rd.  
Elyria, OH 44035

**Order deadline date:** Friday, September 29, 2017  
**Order pick-up date:** Tuesday, October 3, 2017  
**From:** 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_ County where Amur are stocked: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Species</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Total</u>
Largemouth Bass	2-3"	\$0.90	_____	_____
Bluegill	2-4"	\$0.80	_____	_____
Hybrid Bluegill	2-4"	\$0.85	_____	_____
Channel Catfish	4-5"	\$0.80	_____	_____
Redear Shellcracker	2-4"	\$0.90	_____	_____
Yellow Perch	2-3"	\$0.85	_____	_____
Fathead Minnow	per 100	\$7.00	_____	_____
Japanese Koi	6-8"	\$12.00	_____	_____
Triploid White Amur	8-10"	\$13.00	_____	_____
Nature's Pond Conditioner	1 bottle per 1/4 acre	\$90.00	_____	_____

**TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_





## Karl Schneider & Bob Pandy Retire!

Lorain Soil & Water bid farewell to Karl Schneider and Bob Pandy this past spring. Karl was our Natural Resource Coordinator and Bob Pandy worked for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Schneider retired in June 2011 as District Conservationist with the NRCS after 35 years of service and shortly thereafter began working part-time with Lorain Soil & Water. We will miss them both and wish them all the best in their retirement!



Bob Pandy (left) and Karl Schneider (right) enjoying a small retirement celebration held in the District office.



George Anders

Join us in welcoming our newest employee, George Anders! George started back in February of this year training under Karl Schneider, and will be working one day a week handling a variety of natural resource concerns, including drainage issues. George worked for Sherwin Williams for 16 years and also owned his own business for many years until he sold it. He is also the Zoning Inspector for Eaton Township. George and his wife, Deborah, have two adult children and one grandchild.



Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District has a Facebook; stay up to date on programs by liking our page!

### Election Legal Notice

The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of Supervisors of the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District to be held in accordance with Chapter 1515 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Residents or landowners, firms, and corporations that own land or occupy land in Lorain County and are 18 years of age and older may vote for Supervisor. A non-resident landowner, firm, or corporation must provide an affidavit of eligibility, which includes designation of a voting representative, prior to casting a ballot.

There are three ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot: (1) at the Annual Meeting, which will take place at The Lodge of New Russia Township on September 7, 2017, with voting from 6-7:00 p.m.; (2) at the SWCD office until 4:30 p.m. on September 7, 2017; or (3) vote absentee starting **August 17, 2017**, by requesting the proper absentee request forms from the SWCD office at the following address: **Lorain SWCD, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria, OH 44035, 440-326-5800.**

Two (2) Supervisors will be elected. Nominees are:

1. Roger Nikiforow
2. Robert Pandy
3. Jessica Duplaga
4. Nicholas Ziegler



## MEET THE CANDIDATES!



**Roger Nikiforow** resides in Brighton Township with his wife of ten years, Amanda Meszaros. Nikiforow is a teacher at Ontario High School in Ontario, Ohio and is also the owner of Capra Lane Farm. He farms with a focus on hay, alfalfa, and raising dairy goats, honeybees, horses, chickens, and hogs. He has taught conservation of natural resources through a program at Findley State Park for 20 years. Nikiforow practices conservation of soil and water on his dairy goat farm. He is a volunteer with the Lo. Co. Lake Erie Watershed Field Tile Water Quality Assessment team.



**Robert Pandy** owns a small farm in Pittsfield Township and is retired from the Lorain SWCD where he was the District Technician. Pandy has designed and implemented several conservation practices throughout the years, both personally and professionally.



**Jessica Duplaga** lives on the family farm in LaGrange Township raising Registered Limousin beef cattle. She has her own business, J.D.'s Mums and More, growing Chrysanthemums and pumpkins. Jessica has been involved in numerous conservation practices including the installation of a manure barn, waterways, and drain tiles.



**Nicholas Ziegler** is a fifth generation farmer having spent his childhood helping out on the family pig farm. Along with his cousin, Kurk, they started their own aquaponics farm so they could grow fresh produce year round. It also fit the bill for his desire to grow in a sustainable and environmentally conscious fashion. Their business is called Lettuce Heads and is located in Wellington.

### Milkweed Madness!

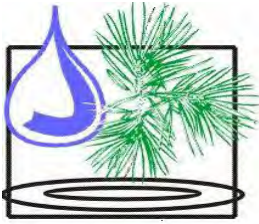
The District office planted two new pollinator gardens on the property this past May! Native wildflower seeds including coreopsis, broad-leaved purple coneflower, black-eyed susan, smooth blue aster, and various species of milkweed were planted in each garden; stop by the Lorain County Agricultural Center and view them! The week of June 19-25th was National Pollinator Week and to celebrate, the office distributed dozens of milkweed seed packets, butterfly species guides, and several other pollinator brochures.



If you are interested in planting a pollinator habitat, the District office has common milkweed seeds with planting guides available upon request, free of charge! The seeds were a result of the state-wide Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative (OPHI) milkweed collection that took place in the fall of 2016. Over 2,500 gallons of seeds were collected and re-distributed to help boost the Monarch butterfly populations.

When planting pollinator gardens, consider the following:

- Use native wildflower species (low maintenance and watering needs!).
- Pick species with different flowering times from early spring through late fall.
- Limit your pesticide use, read labels carefully. If necessary, apply pesticides at night when pollinators are less active.



# LORAIN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

42110 Russia Road, Elyria OH 44035

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US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ELYRIA OH  
PERMIT 22

### DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

Will Schlechter, Chairman  
Jessica Duplaga, Vice-Chairman  
John Hadgis, Secretary  
John Grills, Treasurer  
Lawry Babitt, Member

### Associate Members

Ron Baumann  
Neil Breyley  
Dan Buttler  
John Forthofer  
David Manning  
Alan Pitts

### DISTRICT PERSONNEL

George Anders, Soil & Water Technician  
Caroline Cicerchi, Urban Erosion & Stormwater Specialist  
Lynne Parsh, Administrative Assistant

### NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Derrick Harmon, Lorain/Medina District Conservationist  
Drew DeMatteo, Soil Conservationist

### LORAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ted Kalo, Lori Kokoski, Matt Lundy

## Lorain SWCD Annual Meeting:

In cooperation with Lorain County Farm Bureau

Thursday, September 7, 2017

The Lodge of New Russia Township

46300 Butternut Ridge Rd., Oberlin

Supervisor Election: 6:00-7:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m.



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ x \$13.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**For reservations:** Please return this form to Lorain SWCD, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria, OH 44035 or call the SWCD office at 440-326-5800. The deadline is **Friday, Sept. 1, 2017.**