

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

WINTER/ SPRING 2011

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.

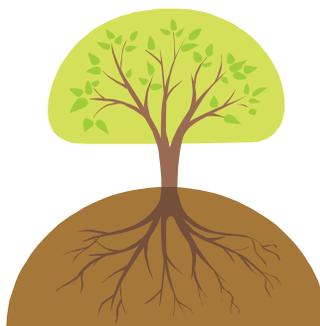


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LORAIN SWCD'S 2011 SEEDLING SALE

The 2011 Annual Conservation Seedling Sale is now underway at the Lorain Soil and Water Conservation District office. Windbreak stock can now be ordered. Reserve the items that you would like now. They will be ready for pick-up in time for spring planting. Orders are accepted on a first come, first serve basis since there are a limited number of each packet available.



Please check and inspect your order **before** you leave the pick-up point. Every effort is made to provide sound and healthy stock at pick-up. For best results and survival rates, seedlings should be planted as soon as possible after pick-up. No refunds will be made on orders not picked up. Do not call Grobe Fruit Farm. Visit our website @ lorainswcd.com to print an order form.

Order pick-up date is:

One day only

Friday, April 15, 2011

11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Pick-up is at Grobe Fruit Farm

43857 Telegraph Road (SR 113)

Elyria

The District reserves the right to make minor substitutions should an item not be available. Extra seedlings or packets will be for sale during pick-up times. All stock is inspected and offered without warranty.

Payment must accompany order.

Orders will be taken until stock sells out — so order early!

Reminder post cards will be sent out one week prior to pick-up.

Some potted larger stock (oaks, chestnuts, and various evergreens) in assorted sizes will be available to purchase the day of pick up.

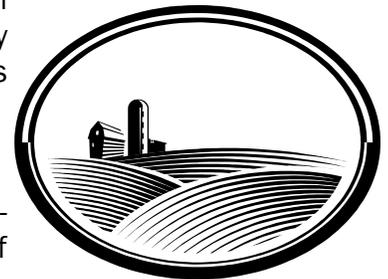
District
Conservationist's
Column



DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST'S COLUMN

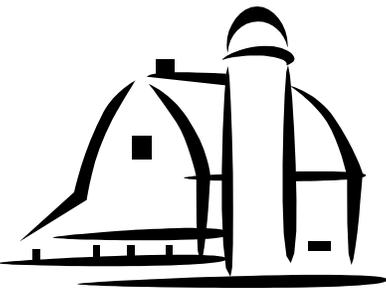
We often talk of the environmental benefit of conservation practices and how these help improve water quality and wildlife habitat, decrease soil erosion and protect the condition of our agricultural and forest lands. This all helps sustain our agricultural industry and make Lorain County a healthier place to live.

What we don't talk about much is the economic impact of conservation programs. Funding for conservation practices comes from a variety of federal, state and local cost share programs. For years these funds have been fairly limited and hard to come by. However over the last dozen years we have seen a dramatic increase in conservation dollars. (Some may question the wisdom of this with the current state of the economy, but that is a discussion for another time).



Conservation funds, while benefiting the environment, also have a local economic trickle-down effect. Conservation dollars are used for a wide variety of construction projects and involve many work components such as excavation, installing pipe, geo-textiles, rock rip-rap, fencing, waterline, wood and concrete manure structures, planting of permanent seed, cover crops. Installation involves a variety of local contractors and excavators who perform the work. Lumber yards, concrete suppliers, hardware stores, farm supply stores and coops also benefit. Landowners also benefit for payments from land retirement programs.

Since 1997 approximately one million dollars have been spent in Lorain County through a variety of NRCS-USDA conservation programs. In 2010 an additional \$325,000 was locked in for future projects and it appears that 2011 will involve about the same level of funding.



Another popular program is the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), which is administered through the Farm Service Agency with technical assistance provided through the NRCS/SWCD. 2010 CRP dollars in Lorain County amounted to \$173,000 for 180 participants on 2,000 acres removed from general farming and converted to grass or tree cover. CRP contracts are generally ten years in length and pay out annually.

Thanks to the conservation-minded farmers and landowners in Lorain County who take advantage of these opportunities and help us operate a well rounded soil and water conservation program.

JOEL MCROBERTS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Joel McRoberts Memorial Scholarship was created in 1998 in memory of Joel, District Technician with the Lorain Soil and Water Conservation District for 20 years. Joel died in 1997 of leukemia. The scholarship was created at the request of his widow Connie McRoberts, of Litchfield.

The scholarship is available to any student in Lorain County who will be majoring in an agriculture or natural resources management related field at any two or four year college. They must have a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Originally, the scholarship started at \$500.00 per student and was increased to \$1,000.00 a few years later. Recently the scholarship has been expanded to include two awards annually. This now includes one for an incoming college freshman and one for any current college student with at least one year completed.

With the generosity of the individuals in Lorain County the scholarship has grown with time.

Joel McRoberts was a big supporter of agriculture and higher education. Although he never attended college, he understood the value of education and always encouraged students to further their education and better themselves.

Joel was devoted to farming and the farmers in Lorain County. He had a deep appreciation of our natural resources and their protection. This memorial scholarship is administered in his honor.



JOEL McROBERTS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is offered by the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District. The scholarship amount is \$1,000.00. High school seniors (Lorain county residents) who will enroll in an agricultural or natural resource related two or four-year course of study are eligible to apply. **Application deadline is April 30, 2011.**

JOEL McROBERTS CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is offered by the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District. The scholarship amount is \$1,000.00. Applicants (Lorain county residents) must be enrolled as a full-time student in a two or four-year course of study, in an agricultural or natural resource related field. **Application deadline is July 31, 2011.**

Applications can be requested by visiting our website: lorainswcd.com from your high school guidance counselor, from the Lorain SWCD office, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria, OH, 44035, or by calling the office at (440) 326-5800.



Pines

Austrian Pine. Graceful very hardy, rapid growing evergreen with rugged horizontal branches. Endures heat and cold, is tolerant of dust and smoke, and grows well in a variety of soils. Ideal for ornamental single specimen planting; good for Christmas trees, windbreak, and soil erosion control.



Eastern White Pine. A majestic evergreen beauty when planted as a single specimen tree, this very hardy pine grows stately and gracefully tall. Needles are soft and bluish-green in color. Bark is thin, smooth and greenish-brown, turning darker as trees mature. With adequate moisture, growth can be 12" to 18" per year. Ideal for specimen planting, shade windbreaks and appealing Christmas trees.

Spruces

Colorado Blue Spruce. Dense, conical shape with short needles, dark green to deep blue. Prefers rich, moist soil in full sun. Medium growth to 100 feet. *Note from nursery:* All Colorado Blue Spruce offered is bed run. The seed we plant is of the finest quality from dependable sources. Color in Colorado Blue Spruce is influenced by spacing and soil fertility. We make no representation as to percentage of blue trees. Bed run—green to blues.

Norway Spruce. Fast growing. Shiny green, short needles. Grows on most sites, except where soil is sour or water soaked. Full sun, grows to 100 ft.

Perennials

Daylily, Red Magic A low maintenance perennial growing to a height of 24 to 36 inches. Spread 18 to 20 inches. This variety is one of the most outstanding classic red Daylilies. Single, medium red blooms have a darker halo with a greenish-yellow throat. An early to mid season bloomer. Plant in full sun. Prefers well drained soil. To promote re-blooming and encourage

new foliage, deadhead and remove unsightly leaves after blooming or cut to the ground. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.

Munstead English Lavender. The most compact form of lavender. Very aromatic, small bright lavender-blue flower spikes. Semi-evergreen, aromatic gray foliage retains its sweet fragrance for years when cut. Height 12 to 16 inches. Spread 12 to 24 inches. Excellent dried flower, cut flower, or can be used to make a low growing hedge. Attracts butterflies.

Grasses

Blue Fescue Grass. This is a clumping, evergreen, cool season grass. "Elijah Blue" is one of the best cultivars of Blue Fescue with soft, bright blue foliage. Prefers moist, well drained soil. It does not do well in hot, humid areas. Good color accent for rock gardens or borders. Grows to 12" height X 12" width.

Porcupine Grass. Bright green leaves with golden horizontal banding turning tan throughout the winter. Very interesting dappled effect. Stiff, upright 4 to 6 feet tall columns of banded foliage provide a pleasing effect when backlit by early morning or late afternoon light. Spread 3 feet. Branched reddish-brown flower clusters in early fall atop 6 to 8 feet tall stems. Never requires staking. Plant in full sun to partial shade. Prefers moist but well drained soil. The flowers and foliage of the Porcupine Grass create a dramatic garden accent. Extremely popular in your landscape as a specimen plant.

Shenandoah Switch Grass. Also known as Red Switch Grass. An upright, airy clump of narrow, blue-green leaves reaching a height of 4 to 5 feet. The tidy 2 to 3 feet wide cascading foliage begins to turn red in mid summer, followed by a spectacular deep burgundy color in fall. Reddish-pink plumes form in late summer on stalks that tower above the foliage. In late season the flower heads turn a vivid crimson. Tolerant of a wide range of soil, but prefers moist, sandy or clay soils. Plant in sun or part shade. Non-invasive. Wildlife habitat. Deer resistant. Don't be surprised to find a butterfly at rest in the shelter of this native grass. The intense blends of reds and maroons make a striking multi-

seasonal appearance. If soft whisperings of a tall grass in the evening breeze sounds inviting, this specimen is an unmistakable choice.

Fruit trees

Yellow Delicious Apple. This is a standard sized tree growing 25-30' in height. A big, beautiful, golden apple that ripens in late August. Trees are very vigorous and bear quite young.

Red Haven Peach. This is a standard sized tree growing 25-30' in height. The fruit is a freestone when ripe, medium-sized round, with light pubescence. The flesh is yellow, firm, medium-textured, and of excellent flavor.

1 Gallon Pots

Fire Light Spirea. An improved "Goldflame", this variety boasts deeper orange new growth which rarely turns completely green. Pink flowers most of summer and crimson fall color. 2' height with 3' spread.

Goldfinger Potentilla. Bright yellow flowers on compact mounded foliage will bloom all summer if trimmed back June/July. Good for border or foundation plantings. Grows to 2-3' height.

Butterfly Bush. This is a breakthrough miniature variety with



all the fragrant & butterfly appeal of traditional varieties. Stays under 3' tall without any pruning. Continuous bloomer from May to frost. Also attracts hummingbirds.

My Monet Weigela. Variegated foliage is green with creamy-white margins; and bright pink spring blooms. Grows well in full sun to partial shade. 12-18" height. Attracts hummingbirds & butterflies.

All descriptions for seedlings are on the Lorain SWCD website:

www.lorainswcd.com

2011 SEEDLING SALE ORDER FORM

Please print clearly.

Name _____ Phone (required) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

# of pkts	# per packet	Name	Size	Cost	Total
	5 seedlings	Eastern White Pine	10-18"	\$ 7.00	
	5 seedlings	Austrian Pine	8-16"	7.00	
	5 seedlings	Norway Spruce	16-24"	7.00	
	5 seedlings	Colorado Blue Spruce	12-18"	7.00	
	each	Munstead Eng. Lavender	3" pot	3.00	
	each	Red Magic Daylily	3" pot	3.00	
	each	Blue Fescue Grass	3" pot	3.00	
	each	Porcupine Grass	3" pot	3.00	
	each	Shenandoah Switch Grass	3" pot	3.00	
	bare root each	Yel Del Apple, 7/16" caliper	3-4' whip	12.00	
	bare root each	Red Haven Peach, 7/16" cal.	3-4' whip	12.00	
	each	Spirea, "Fire Light"	1 gal pot	7.00	
	each	Potentilla, "Goldfinger"	1 gal pot	7.00	
	each	Butterfly Bush, "Lo & Behold"	1 gal pot	10.00	
	each	Weigela, "My Monet"	1 gal pot	10.00	
				TOTAL	\$

Also available for purchase the day of pick-up: Bluebird & wren houses, bat boxes, single & double squirrel feeders, jar & glass-sided bird feeders, Ohio Landscape Plants booklet & tree flags.

Orders will be taken until stock sells out

Return this form with payment to:

SO ORDER EARLY

Lorain SWCD

OFFICE USE ONLY

42110 Russia Road

Date _____ Rec. No. _____

Elyria OH 44035-6813

Check No. _____ Cash _____

STRAW BLOWER FOR RENT

Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District has received a grant from the 2009 Great Lakes Basin Commission for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. We were able to purchase a commercial Tailgate Straw-Mulcher to rent to landowners in Lorain County. The mulcher is designed for all mid to large-scale commercial and residential jobs with a capacity of shooting up to seven tons of straw per hour and shooting up to 35 feet out. The blower/mulcher is mounted on a trailer for easy transportation. Call the District office for more information on rental 440-326-5800.



CREP (CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM)

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR WET FIELDS: If you have a wet crop field along a ditch or river that seems to lose money every year, you may want to consider enrolling in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). CREP is a fifteen year program and involves planting trees for reforestation and habitat purposes. There are four levels of payments under this program. First is the annual rental payment which is based on the soil type and is generally at least \$170 per acre per year; second is a one-time signing incentive payment of \$100 per acre; third is the cost-sharing to plant trees which runs at 90% of state average cost; and last is the CREP one-time bonus of \$500 per acre.

The primary criteria to qualify is that the area must be cropland and planted 4 out of 6 years from 2002-2007.

If this sounds like a good deal to you then give us a call and we'll see if you qualify.

*The Lorain Soil and Water Conservation District sincerely thanks the
Lorain County Commissioners for their funding support,
the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts,
the Ohio Soil and Water Commission, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources,
as well as the residents of Lorain County.*

Lorain County PIPE Banner Commitment to Cleaner Water

Lorain County Public Information, Public Education (PIPE) is displaying a banner commitment to cleaner water through a OEEF grant.

The project is a watershed awareness and nonpoint source pollution education campaign targeting residents and homeowners in the Lake Erie Basin.

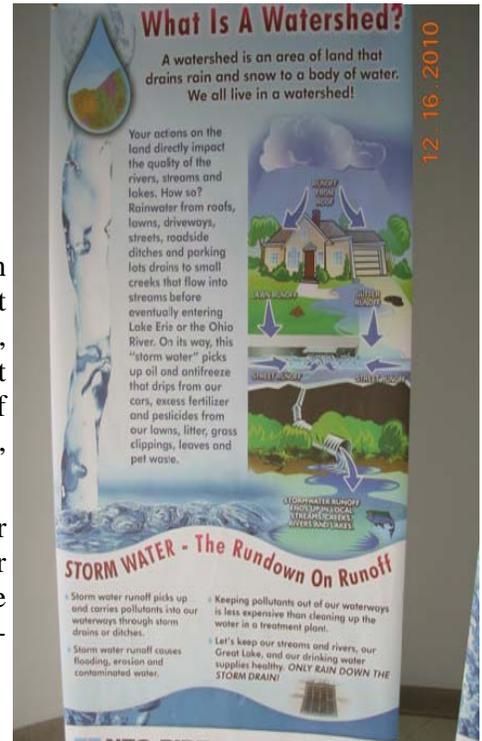
Six sets of collapsible banner displays have been created and are being unveiled to deliver a unified, regional message empowering residents to practice healthy household and backyard habits that improve water quality and reduce storm water pollution. Banner topics essentially “bring it home” for residents by providing information regarding:

- What is a Watershed

- Black River-get it back on track
- Clean Stormwater starts at home
- Steer clear of pollutants
- It’s not hard to have a healthy yard
- Slow it down, spread it out

The banners are on display at Lorain Soil and Water Conservation District (Lorain SWCD), 42110 Russia Road, Elyria, Ohio; contact Nancy Funni at 440-326-5805 or Joe Reitz, City of Avon Lake, 150 Avon Belden Road, Avon Lake, Ohio; at 440-930-4101.

You may use these banners for your storm water awareness program or event. There is no charge for the usage, just call Nancy or Joe to reserve a banner for your event.



FISH SALE

We are taking orders for fingerling-size fish for stocking your ponds.

TUESDAY

MAY 10, 2011

10:00 AM–11:30 AM

AG CENTER PARKING LOT

42110 RUSSIA ROAD

The truck from Fender’s Fish Hatchery of Baltic, Ohio, will be here for delivery on Tuesday, May 10, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. to distribute orders.

Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Channel Catfish, Yellow Perch, Redear Sunfish (Shellcrackers), Flathead Minnows, and Triploid White Amur are available.

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 put in the pond water so the top of the bag can be tied shut for transportation. Remember, the Amur are 10-12” long and need a suitable container.

Triploid White Amur are stocked to control leafy pond vegetation. Algae is not a preferred food. Since the Amur were first stocked in Ohio the fall of 1987, you may need to replace your Amur. The life expectancy is in the 10 to 12 year range. Recommend stocking rates for the Amur are 2 to 5, per surface acre of water, based on how much weed cover is in the pond at its worst point over the summer.

Other stocking recommendations are 100 Largemouth Bass and 500 Bluegill per surface acre of pond

area. Yellow Perch and Redear Sunfish (Shellcrackers) can be stocked at the same rate as Largemouth Bass. Channel Catfish can also be stocked in ponds that are 1/2 acre or larger. Though they will not reproduce in a pond, they do provide excellent fishing. The stocking rate is 50 per surface acre of pond area. A 4–6” long Catfish stocked this spring will double in size by next spring.

Order Deadline:

Friday, May 6, 2011

Remember to enclose payment with your order. Thanks!

Order form

on back page.





LORAIN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

42110 Russia Road, Elyria Ohio 44035
 Phone: 440-326-5800 Fax: 440-326-5807
 www.lorainswcd.com

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

Robert Ternes, Jr., Chairman
 John Born, Vice-Chairman
 David Conrad, Treasurer
 John Forthofer
 Will Schlechter

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Ron Baumann
 Neil Breyley
 Dan Buttler
 David Manning
 Alan Pitts

DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Nancy Funni, District Administrator
 Sandy Denes, Administrative Assistant
 Marshall Simms, District Technician

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Karl Schneider, District Conservationist
 Ryan Kemper, Soil Conservationist
 Dale Barr, Soil Conservationist Technician

LORAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ted Kalo, Lori Kokski, Tom Williams

FISH SALE ORDER FORM

Order deadline date: Friday, May 6, 2011

Name : _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone # (required): _____

County where Amur are stocked: _____

Mail and return with payment to:

Lorain SWCD

42110 Russia Rd., Elyria, OH 44035

<u>Species</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u># ordered</u>	<u>\$ Total</u>
Largemouth Bass	2-4 "	\$0.85	_____	_____
Bluegill	2-4 "	\$0.75	_____	_____
Channel Catfish	4-6 "	\$0.80	_____	_____
Redear Sunfish (Shellcracker)	2-4 "	\$0.90	_____	_____
Yellow Perch	4-6 "	\$0.75	_____	_____
Flathead Minnow	per 100	\$7.00	_____	_____
Triploid White Amur	10-12 "	\$13.00	_____	_____

TOTAL \$ _____