

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

WINTER / SPRING 2014

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.

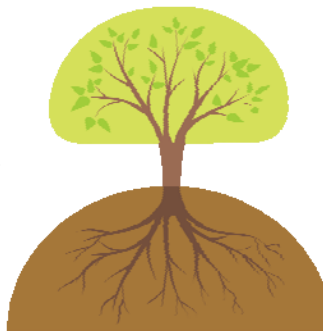


**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

RESOURCE CONSERVATIONIST'S COLUMN	2
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP	3
SEEDLING DESCRIPTIONS	4
SEEDLING ORDER FORM	5
NACD COLORING CONTEST & ENVIRONMENT	6
NEW EMPLOYEES	7
FISH SALE ORDER FORM	8

**LORAIN SWCD'S 2014 SEEDLING SALE**

The 2014 Annual Conservation Seedling Sale is now underway at the Lorain Soil & 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.



of the seedlings after pickup.

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](http://lorainswcd.com) to print an order form.

*Order pick-up date is:*

***One day only***

**Friday, April 11, 2014**

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

**Pick-up is at Grobe Fruit Farm**

**43875 Telegraph Road (SR 113)**

**Elyria**

**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.

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. The District is not responsible for survival

**Some potted larger stock in assorted sizes will be available to purchase the day of pick up.**

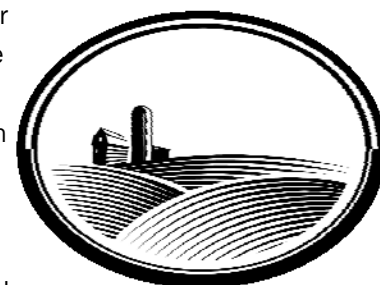
## Resource Conservationist's Column—Kevin Kaltenbach



### RESOURCE CONSERVATIONIST'S COLUMN

It's the time of year where Ohio farmers can take a deep breath and reflect on the past year. Some things that may come to mind is broken equipment that needs fixed, when to start emptying out the grain bins, or maybe some resources concerns that may have been discovered during harvest this past fall. As combines remove the crop, the land hidden beneath reveals areas that may benefit from conservation treatments to improve the health of the land and next year's crop.

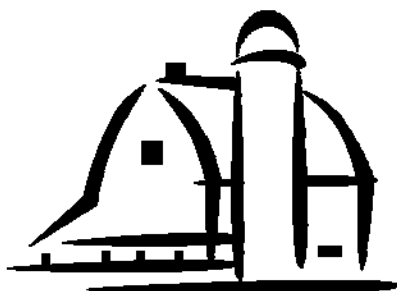
The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) works directly with the farmer to evaluate how the land may benefit from conservation treatment. They then develop a conservation plan outlining which conservation treatments, or practices, will improve the land. When the farmer harvests a field, he or she may notice things like wheel tracks, gullies, or places where the crop didn't grow well. These may indicate areas of soil compaction, soil erosion, or some other problem. Cover crops, gaining popularity among farmers, can help improve soil health, reduce compaction, tie up nutrients, and improve the amount of water soil can hold. With a conservation plan in hand, a farmer may apply for the EQIP program to help cut cost for conservation practices like cover crops, waste storage facilities, rotational grazing, and much more. The financial assistance pays a part of the cost of trying these things, which may be just what's needed to make trying something new worthwhile. When it comes to cover crops, many farmers are starting to see the proof that keeping cover on the ground actually increases profit and increases the value of farmland. Any eligible agricultural producer can apply for EQIP at anytime. Periodically, NRCS reviews applications for those that provide the most environmental benefit, a process called ranking, and selects those that provide the highest benefit for funding depending on the availability of EQIP funds.



- MORE -

After NRCS selects applications for funding, the conservationist will contact the applicant to sign an EQIP contract describing which conservation practices the farmer agrees to apply, how much NRCS will pay for with EQIP funds, and develop a schedule that the farmer agrees to for applying or installing the conservation practice. After the farmer installs or applies the practice, he or she notifies NRCS. After NRCS verifies that the farmer installed or applied the conservation practice as agreed upon, the conservationist will certify the practice and initiate the payment process. Typically, the farmer agrees to maintain the practice for a given time-period, which is the average time of the practices' effectiveness.

Agricultural producers interested in applying for EQIP and/or conservation planning assistance should contact their local NRCS office at 440-326-5806 or visit the Ohio NRCS website at [www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov) for additional information.



#### **Helpful Link:**

**Web Soil Survey (WSS) provides soil data and information produced by the National Cooperative Soil Survey.**

**<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>**

## 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, 2014.**

### 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, 2014.**

Applications can be requested by visiting our website: [lorainswcd.com](http://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.



## Evergreens

**Eastern White Pine.** Fast growing 90-100 ft. Spread 25-40 ft. A five needled pine, with soft, light green-blue needles, 4" long. Can tolerate dry, rocky soil. Grows in normal moisture conditions but can tolerate wet, swampy areas.



**Austrian Pine.** Grows 50-60 ft. Spread 20-40 ft. Stiff, dark green needles 3-6 inches long. Dense, pyramidal growth. Ordinary to poor soil. A vigorous dense grower with extremely dark green color.

**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.

**Colorado Blue Spruce.** Seed from San Juan National Forest. Grows to 100 ft. One of the most tolerant spruces as it withstands wind, heat, cold, drought & crowding; best in full sun. Short, stiff, bluish-green needles. Ordinary soil.

## Deciduous Trees & Shrubs:

**Sugar Maple.** Growth rate is medium to fast with mature height of 80-100 ft. It produces small red flowers in early spring and leaves turn a brilliant red in fall. Tolerates most soils; excellent shade ornamental; wildlife habitat.

**Swamp White Oak.** Prefers rich, deep, moist to wet, poorly-drained acidic soils but adapts to dry and average soils. Can grow to 60 ft. with a 60 ft. spread and is very drought tolerant.

**Washington Hawthorn.** A broad oval to round thorny tree. Bears white flowers at **No longer available** orange to scarlet to purple. May reach 20

ft. tall by 15 ft. wide when planted in open areas.

### **Tulip Poplar.**

A fast growing tree with bright green leaves that resemble tulip flowers in profile and turn golden yellow in fall. Greenish-yellow flowers are carried high in the tree. Stems are aromatic. Likes full sun. Grows to 70-90 ft. with a 40 ft. spread.

**White Flowering Dogwood.** Showy white blossoms in spring along with attractive fall foliage and red berries in fall make this a desirable ornamental species. Grows to 25 ft. in height with a 25 ft. spread.

**Sgt. Crabapple.** A dwarf broad growing tree with fragrant white flowers that are followed by small bright red fruit (enjoyed by birds). Green summer foliage. Reaches 8 ft. tall by 15 ft. wide as an individual specimen, but is often planted in groups of three or more to accentuate its horizontal growth habit.

**Butterfly Bush.** Called summer lilac due to its similar fragrant flowers that bloom all summer. Is a fast growing shrub that matures to 10-15' if not cut back.

**Common Lilac.** Grows 8-15 ft/ in height; 6-12 ft. in width. Broad oval leaves and bears flowers that are 4-8 inches long, usually in pairs. Flowers are extremely fragrant in early to mid May. Comes in a variety of colors.

**Shadblow Serviceberry.** Tall shrub/small tree which typically grows 15-30 ft. tall. Bears white flowers in spring which give way to small, round, green berries which turn red and finally mature to a dark purplish-black in early summer. Edible berries resemble blueberries in size and color and are used in jams, jellies and pies. Fall leaf color is often yellow and gold.



**American Elderberry.** Fast growing shrub with whitish flowers in late spring early summer. Bears a purple-black fruit in August. Makes excellent wine and jam.



## Perennials

**Purple Coneflower.** Grows to a height of 24-36" with a spread of 12-18". The large, daisy-like flowers grow on sturdy stems ranging in height from 3-5'. The flower petals range in color from purple to lavender. Blooms all summer and into autumn. Plant in full sun or partial shade. Prefers well drained fertile soil, but is drought tolerant and adaptable to heat, poor soils and high humidity. Maintenance free. A butterfly favorite.

**Red Magic Daylily.** A low maintenance perennial growing to a height of 24-36". Spread 18-20". 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 or half day sun. Prefers well drained soil. Attracts butterflies & hummingbirds.

# 2014 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	10-20"	7.00	
	5 seedlings	Austrian Pine	12-18"	7.00	
	5 seedlings	Norway Spruce	16-24"	7.00	
	5 seedlings	Colorado Blue Spruce	1-2"	7.00	
	5 seedlings	Common Lilac	12-18"	9.00	
	5 seedlings	Tulip Poplar	12-18"	9.00	
	5 seedlings	Sugar Maple	12-18"	9.00	
	5 seedlings	Swamp White Oak	12-18"	9.00	
	5 seedlings	Washington Hawthorn	12-18"	9.00	
	5 seedlings (1 of each:)	<u>Flowering tree/shrub packet:</u> Wh. Fl. Dogwood, Sgt. Crab, Butterfly Bush, Am Elderberry	12-18"	10.00	
	each	Purple Coneflower	3" pot	3.50	
	each	Red Magic Daylily	3" pot	3.50	
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>

Also available for purchase the day of pick-up: Bluebird & wren houses, bat boxes, single & double squirrel feeders, jar & glass-sided bird feeders & 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## NACD POSTER CONTEST

The Lorain SWCD is participating in a poster contest sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) which aims to promote a better understanding of the connection between natural resources and humans, in a fun and creative way that engages public, private and home school students. Participants are required to submit a poster (8.5" x 11" or 22" x 28") depicting the theme, "Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil". Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect. The contest is



open to grades K-12 with separate judging in each of the following age groups: K-1; 2-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12. The first place prize for the local competition is \$30, second place is \$20. The evaluation criteria includes: conservation message depicting the correct theme, visual effectiveness, originality and universal appeal. Posters must be received in the Lorain SWCD office, 42110 Russia Road, Elyria no later than 4:00 p.m. on April 4, 2014. All winners of the local contest will be sent on to the state contest and featured in the Lorain SWCD barn at the Lorain County Fair. If you have any questions, contact Laurie Conrad at the District office at 326-5800.

## NE OHIO AREA II ENVIROTHON

The Envirothon is an outdoor academic competition in which teams of high school students test their knowledge of soils, wildlife, aquatic ecology, forestry and current environmental issues. Each team consists of five students, all from the same high school. They work cooperatively with each other to answer questions at five test stations. The tests are graded and the top four teams are recognized. This year the focus is "Sustainable Agriculture/Locally Grown." The Huron SWCD is hosting this year's Envirothon on April 30, 2014 at Bronson-Norwalk Conservation League, 295 Townline Road 151, Norwalk, OH 44857. The top four Envirothon teams will receive t-shirts and will move on to the state competition. This year the State Envirothon will be held at Salt Fork State Park in Guernsey County June 9-10, 2014. Information packets have been sent to all Lorain County high school counselors. This is a rewarding experience for both students and teachers! If you have any questions, please call the Lorain SWCD office at 440-326-5800.



### Welcome John!

The Lorain SWCD welcomed their newest supervisor at his first official board meeting on November 27, 2013. John Grills was appointed to fulfill the vacancy created by the resignation of 20-year Board member Dave Conrad. John will be serving his term alongside fellow supervisors John Born, Will Schlechter, Bob Ternes and Dean Rollin. As a supervisor, John will help oversee the operations of the District.

## District Hires Urban Erosion & Stormwater Specialist & Secretary

### New Urban Erosion & Stormwater Specialist at the District:

Tom Jones was hired in September by the District to facilitate the Erosion and Sediment Control Rules that were adopted by the County in 2009. Tom works with Lorain County communities, developers, builders and homeowners to provide technical assistance in implementing erosion and sediment control requirements on construction sites.

Tom has a Civil Engineering degree from the University of Akron and has many years of experience in different fields of engineering. He started his career working with his dad designing and constructing ponds and lakes and eventually moved into

residential and commercial development. He is also a licensed Professional Land Surveyor.

Tom has been married to his wife Denise for 21 years and has two teenage sons who keep him busy with sports and working on cars. They recently built a new home outside the city of Wadsworth in Guilford Township and have been truly enjoying the benefits of the country.



### New part-time secretary:

The District has recently employed Laurie Conrad as a secretary. She will work in cooperation with long-time employee Sandy Denes.

Laurie and her husband Dave live in Penfield Township where they operate a 200 plus Holstein dairy farm. Laurie is a retired school counselor from Elyria City Schools. She is excited about the educational aspect of the SWCD office. Conrad will be working Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday in this role.

She can be reached at the Lorain SWCD office between 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 440-326-5800.



## FISH SALE

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

**THURSDAY**

**MAY 8, 2014**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**AG CENTER PARKING LOT**

**42110 RUSSIA ROAD**

The truck from Fender's Fish Hatchery of Baltic, Ohio, will be here for delivery on Thursday, May 8, 2014, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.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:**

**Monday, May 5, 2014**

**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

PRSR STD  
 US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 ELYRIA OH  
 PERMIT 22

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

John Born , Chairman  
 Robert Ternes, Jr., Vice-Chairman &  
 Treasurer  
 Will Schlechter, Secretary  
 Dean Rollin  
 John Grills

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Ron Baumann  
 Neil Breyley  
 Dan Buttler  
 David Conrad  
 Alan Pitts

DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Laurie Conrad, Secretary  
 Sandy Denes, Administrative Assistant  
 Tom Jones, Urban Erosion & Stormwater Specialist  
 Robert Pandy, District Technician  
 Karl Schneider, Natural Resources Coordinator

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Kevin Kaltenbach, Resource Conservationist  
 Derrick Harmon, District Conservationist for Cuyahoga, Lorain & Medina County  
 Dale Barr, Soil Conservationist Technician

LORAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ted Kalo, Lori Kokoski, Tom Williams

**FISH SALE ORDER FORM**

**Order deadline date: Monday, May 5, 2014**

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 "	\$0.90	_____	_____
Bluegill	2-4 "	\$0.80	_____	_____
Channel Catfish	4-6 "	\$0.80	_____	_____
Redear Sunfish (Shellcracker)	2-4 "	\$0.90	_____	_____
Yellow Perch	4-6 "	\$0.85	_____	_____
Flathead Minnow	per 100	\$7.00	_____	_____
Triploid White Amur	10-12 "	\$14.00	_____	_____

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