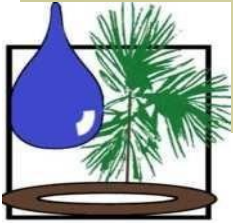


LORAIN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

www.lorainowcd.com

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 44



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

WINTER/ SPRING 2023

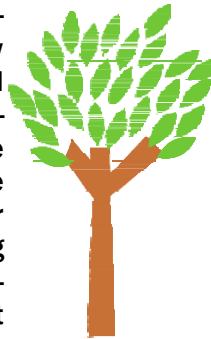
MISSION STATEMENT

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.



LORAIN SWCD'S 2023 SEEDLING SALE

The 2023 Annual Conservation Seedling Sale is now underway at the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District office. 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 served basis since there is a limited number of each packet available.



We will have a drop off box located in the foyer of the Ag center. Orders and payment can be dropped off in the yellow box. Order forms will also be available in the foyer.

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

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

Payment must accompany order.



Order pick-up date is

One Day Only:

Friday, April 14, 2023

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

Pick-up is at Grobe Fruit Farm

43875 Telegraph Road (SR 113),
Elyria

Most seedlings will easily fit in a grocery bag. 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 of the seedlings after pickup.

Please check and inspect your order before you leave the pick-up location.

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 at lorainowcd.com (News>Newsletter) to print an order form.

NRCS Wetland Reserve Easement Program (WRE)

The 2023 Application Deadline for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) Program is **2/17/2023**. The WRE program is a voluntary program in which landowners can enter into an agreement with NRCS to restore wetlands on their land. Wetland Reserve Easements provide habitat for fish and wildlife, including threatened and endangered species, improve water quality by filtering sediments and chemicals, reduce flooding, recharge groundwater, protect biological diversity, provide resilience to climate change and provide opportunities for educational, scientific and limited recreational activities. Land eligible for wetland reserve easements includes privately held farmed or converted wetland that can be successfully and cost-effectively restored. NRCS will prioritize applications based on the easement's potential for protecting and enhancing habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife. Please call your local NRCS Service Center for more information at 440-323-5648 Ext. 3.

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NACD 2023 POSTER CONTEST



The annual National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Poster Contest for 2023 is open for submissions! The 2023 theme is "One Water". This contest starts at the local SWCD level, moves on to the State, and then to the national competition. It is open to public, private and home schooled students grades K-12 and the top three posters in each grade category in the national contest win monetary prizes!

The Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District is sponsoring the local contest. Cash awards will be given for 1st (\$30.00) and 2nd (\$20.00) place in the following grade categories: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12. All winners will be sent on to the State contest and will also be featured in the Lorain SWCD Fair Barn during fair week. For more information on the competition, please contact the office at

440-326-5800. Posters must be turned into the SWCD office, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2023.

AREA II OHIO ENVIROTHON



2023 PLAT BOOK

COMING SOON!!! The 2023 Lorain County Plat book will be available at Lorain SWCD in mid February. They can be purchased at our location, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria.

\$25
Each



WELLINGTON FAA TEAM, L-R: DUSTIN ANDOLSEK, JILLIAN STANNARD, DERRICK ANDOLSEK, NATALIE CALFO AND BRANDI MCCREW (2022)

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. There are five areas of study: Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife and this year's Current Environmental Issue: Adapting to a Changing Climate. The Area 2 Envirothon will be held April 26, 2023 at the Bronson-Norwalk Conservation Club, Norwalk, Ohio. The top four teams from each area of Ohio will advance on to the state-level competition. For more information, call the SWCD office at 440-326-5800 or contact your Lorain County high school

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JOEL MCROBERTS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



The Joel McRoberts Memorial Scholarship was created in 1998 in memory of Joel, who was a District Technician with the Lorain Soil & 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.

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.

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.

With the generosity of the individuals in Lorain County, the scholarship has grown with time, expanding to include two awards annually: one for an incoming college freshman and one for any current college student with at least one year completed. If you would like to make a donation to our scholarship fund, please contact the SWCD Office.

[Joel McRoberts Memorial Scholarship:](#)

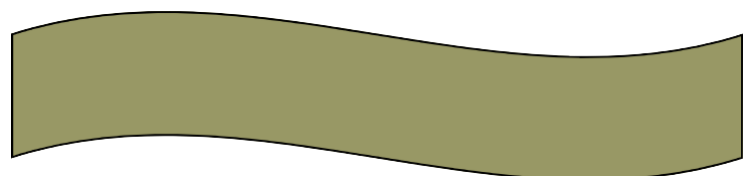
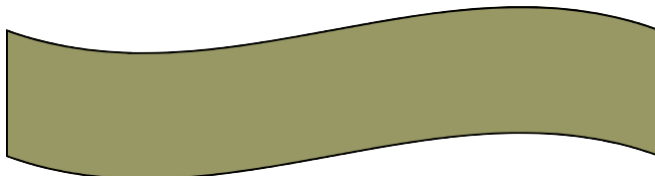
This scholarship is offered by the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District. The scholarship amount is \$1,000.00. High school seniors (Lorain County residents) who will enroll in an agricultural or natural resource related two or four-year course of study are eligible to apply. Application deadline is Friday, April 21, 2023.

[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 Friday, July 28, 2023.

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

This year's winner for the Joel McRoberts Scholarship is Jared Bradford of Wellington. Jared has a agricultural background with his family farming a small 150 acre farm. He is attending Mount Union enrolled in the Civil Engineering program. Jared is the son of Jeremy and Jennifer Bradford. Congratulations to Jared!



Donate to the Joel McRoberts Memorial Scholarship Fund!

Would you like to help a young student on their college journey to an agricultural or natural resources related field? Donations can be made anytime of the year for the Joel McRoberts Memorial Scholarship Fund. To make your donation, send or drop off a check or cash donation to the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria, OH 44035. We appreciate support of any size and all donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your support!!

EVERGREENS

Norway Spruce: Excellent tree for wind-break and wildlife cover. Although not immune to deer damage, deer generally leave this evergreen alone. This fast-growing spruce grows best on well-drained soils and will tolerate a lot of shade. It will retain its dense drooping branches as the tree matures. Grows to 50 ft.

White Pine: A tall, stately tree with an attractive conical shape and branches nearly to the ground in open stands. Adapts to a variety of sites, but prefers moderately moist, sandy loam soils. Grows to 80-100 ft.

HARDWOOD SPECIES

Shagbark Hickory: Narrow, upright growth. Height to 90 ft. Fall colors are yellow and golden brown tones. Known for its sweet edible nuts and shredding bark. Nut production should start in 25 to 30 years.

Swamp White Oak: Grows to 70 ft. A fairly fast growing, medium-sized tree that may reach a diameter of 3 ft. The acorns are one of favored fall foods for deer, turkey, and many other wildlife species.

Persimmon: A small to medium sized tree whose fruit is valuable to both humans and wildlife. One of the hardest of North American woods. Grows 25 to 40 ft. in height. Male and female flowers are borne on separate plants, so plant several trees near each other.



Burr Oak: Massive, slow-growing. Adaptable to moist & dry sites. One of the most picturesque of the oaks. Grows 70-90 ft. tall with an 80 ft. spread. Produces large acorns (up to 1.5") that are nearly covered by a rough, frilled cap and relished by many species of wildlife.

American Chestnut Hybrid: A fast growing hybrid reaching a height of 80 to 100 ft. Spread 30 to 40 ft. Best planted in full sun in well drained soil. Although both male and female flowers can be produced on the same tree, they need another American Chestnut for good pollination and nut production.

Tulip Poplar:

Tulip poplar thrives in deep, rich, well-drained but moist soil and full sun. Quickly grows tall and straight up to 90 ft. with a 35- to 50-ft. spread.



Sweet Gum: Large tree with a mature height of 90 ft. and a 60 ft. spread. Does best in deep moist soils. Beautiful orange and red fall colors. Commonly used for windbreaks, erosion control, reforestation, and wetland restoration.



Allegheny Serviceberry: A multi-stemmed small tree reaching up to 25 feet tall. It produces large white flowers in spring and bluish-purple fruit in summer. Grows best in light shade in slightly acidic soils. Reaches a height of 30 to 40 ft. with a spread of 15 to 20 ft.

SHRUBS

Cranberry Viburnum: A deciduous shrub, grows 8-12 ft. tall and wide, with white flowers clusters in May. Bright red berries in early September persist through winter, providing necessary food for birds.

Button Bush: Mature size 7 to 12 ft. tall and wide. Definitely a wetland shrub. Thrives in wet, swampy conditions, low lying areas, around bogs and ponds.



A pollinator favorite!

False Indigo: Found in moist ground along streams, rocky banks, and low, wet woods. Flowers are 2 to 6" long with dense clusters of blue-purple flowers. Bees, butterflies and other wildlife are attracted to the flowers.

American Hazelnut: A multi-stemmed shrub/small tree. Medium-fast growth rate. 10-15 ft. in height with a spread of 10-12 ft. Edible nuts mature September-October.

**NATIVE WILDFLOWERS**

Northern Blue
Flag Iris



Indian Grass



Dense Blazing
Star



Purple
Coneflower



Nodding Wild
Onion



Shubby St.
John's Wort



Wild Bergamot



Cardinal Flower



Bottle Gentian



Maidenhair Fern
(One quart size)

Visit our [website](#) for detailed descriptions of bloom periods, size, and preferred habitat of our native perennial wildflowers.

2023 SEEDLING SALE ORDER FORM

Page 5

Name _____ Phone (required) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

PLACE YOUR ORDERS EARLY! Orders will be taken until stock sells out. Checks made payable to:

Lorain SWCD. Return this form with payment to: 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria OH 44035

Trees & Shrubs

5 Seedlings Per Bundle (unless otherwise noted)

	Size	Qty	Cost	Total
Cranberry Viburnum	12-18"		10.00	
Button Bush			10.00	
American Hazelnut	18-24"		10.00	
Hickory Shagbark	6-10"		10.00	
Allegheny Serviceberry	12-18"		10.00	
Swamp White Oak	5-10"		10.00	
Tulip Poplar			10.00	
American Elm	12-15 ft.			
Honeylocust	12-15 ft.			
Norway Spruce			8.00	
Burr Oak	1-0		8.00	
False Indigo	1-0		8.00	
Persimmon			8.00	
Sweetgum	1-0		8.00	
White Pine	1-0		8.00	

Total A

Total A +

Total B +

Total C +

Subtotal +

Sales tax (6.50%) +

Total

=

Native Perennial Wildflowers

2.5" potted plants (unless noted otherwise)

	Qty	Cost	Total
Northern Blue Flag			
Indian Grass		3.50	
Dense Blazing Star			
Purple Coneflower		3.50	
Nodding Wild Onion		3.50	
Shrubby St. John's Wort			
Wild Bergamot			
Cardinal Flower		3.50	
Bottle Gentian		3.50	
Maidenhair Fern		6.00	
1 quart size			
		Total	
		B	

Miscellaneous Items

	Qty	Cost	Total
Northeast Annual & Perennial Wildflower Mix (1 Ounce Packet)		5.00	
Wildlife Food Plot Mix (Whitetail 365) 1 bag plants 0.5 acre (25# bag)		55.00	
Garden Cover Crop Mix 1lb Packet Available for pickup in August		7.00	
Marker Flags .15 each 25/\$3.50, 50/\$6.00			
		Total	
		C	

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date _____ Rec. No. _____

Check No. _____ Cash _____

WELCOME RETURNING AND NEW BOARD MEMBER



Returning Board Supervisor, Will Schlechter (R)
welcomes new Board Member, Ian Wilkshire (L)

The Lorain SWCD welcomed returning Board Supervisor, William Schlechter at their first official Board meeting of the new year on January 17, 2023. Will was elected to another three-year term after voting was held last fall at our Annual Meeting. Ian Wilkshire will begin serving his three year term beginning with the January meeting. He will be serving his term alongside fellow Supervisors Will Schlechter, Jessica Doehr, Roger Nikiforow and Angela Schriver. As Supervisors, they will help oversee the operations of the District.

EIGHTH ANNUAL BIG TREE CONTEST



We are kicking off our Eighth Annual Big Tree Contest starting right now! This year we are looking for Lorain County's biggest Sycamore (*Platanus Occidentalis*) tree. Each tree will receive a score based on trunk circumference, crown spread, and total height to determine the winner. This contest is sponsored by Don Mould's Plantation. Please visit our website at www.lorainswcd.com or our Facebook page for contest rules.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

Thank you to Bill Forthofer for serving as a member of the Lorain SWCD Board of Supervisors from 2020-2022. Your service was greatly appreciated and you will be missed!



SIXTH ANNUAL PHOTOCONTEST

STAY TUNED for upcoming information on our Sixth Annual Photo Contest. Details will be announced on our website, www.lorainswcd.com and on our Facebook page! Prize to be announced at a later date.



2022 Winner: Sharon Hamrick
Category: Backyard Conservation



2022 Big Tree Winner—City of Avon
Species: Beech

WILDLIFE FOOD PLOT MIX & GARDEN COVER CROPS

WILDLIFE FOOD PLOT MIX

Create Food Plots for Wildlife! Whitetail 365 is exactly what its name implies. It's a perfect Throw & Go mix for any situation on any farm. It can be planted anytime from early spring through late fall. The combination of oats, rye, and peas ensures that something is always growing and providing forage for deer year-round. It can



be grown on the toughest ground in the toughest conditions. Mix components: A blend of legumes and annual grasses including 2 varieties of peas, annual ryegrass, and oats. 1 Bag (25lbs) Plants 0.5 Acres .

GARDEN COVER CROPS

Garden cover crop seeds: (1 lb packet) - Garden Cover Crop Mixes help to reduce erosion and compaction, and increase water permeation in the garden. They also hold minerals normally leached from your soil over the winter. Densely planted cover crops will suppress perennial and winter annual weed growth. The top growth and roots add organic matter to the garden soil. The cover crop's root system also opens passageways that help improve air and water movement and supports microbial life. This microbial life works synergistically with the roots, bacteria and fungi to improve soil health. Mix contains untreated seeds suitable for organic gardeners, plant in August through October first, with no soil prep. Covers 200 sq. ft., winter kills. These will be available for pick up early to mid August.

SPRING FISH SALE

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

ORDERS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED:

THURSDAY MAY 4, 2023
10:00 AM—11:30 AM
AG CENTER PARKING LOT
42110 RUSSIA ROAD

ORDER DEADLINE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

Remember to enclose payment with your order (see last page for order form.)

Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Hybrid Bluegill, Channel Catfish, Red ear Shellcracker, Fathead Minnows, Japanese Koi, Triploid White Amur and Yellow Perch are all 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 is needed. We suggest using a trash

can with a new, **unscented plastic liner**—then add 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 in the fall of 1987, you may need to replace your Amur. The life expectancy is in the 10 to 12 year range. Recommended 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.

Stocking recommendation for Largemouth Bass is 100 and for Bluegill 500 per surface acre of pond area. Yellow Perch and Redear Sunfish (Shellcracker) can be stocked at 100 per surface acre of pond as well.

Channel Catfish can be stocked in

ponds that are half an acre or larger. Catfish will not reproduce in a pond, however, they 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.

Japanese Koi will eat aquatic vegetation such as duckweed and water meal, while adding a little color to your pond. The recommended stocking rate is no more than 5 Koi per acre.

Nature's Pond Conditioner is a once-a-year treatment that adds a natural green color, while lowering fertility levels in your pond.

We have also included in the fish sale, the opportunity to purchase Steve Fender's book, titled "Pond Management" 2018 Edition for purchase at \$20.00 each.

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

Ian Wilkshire, Member

Bob Pandy

Jeff Riddell

# Ordered	\$ Total
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
SUB TOTAL	\$ _____
TAX 6.50%	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____