



Lorain County BIG TREE Contest



The Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) is excited to announce the eighth annual Lorain County BIG TREE Contest! This voluntary contest will promote the beauty and benefits provided by our county's biggest and oldest trees. This year our featured tree species is the **Sycamore** (*Platanus occidentalis*). Participants can nominate what they believe might be the largest Sycamore in Lorain county. Qualified personnel will verify the measurements of 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.

The objectives of this contest are:

- To engage residents in the recognition, management, and enhancement of our county's tree populations.
- To showcase the critical roles that trees play in sustaining healthy soil and clean water.
- To recognize that each healthy tree in our county reduces flooding and improves water quality by soaking up storm water runoff and filtering out pollutants.

BIG TREE Contest Guidelines:

- Nominated trees must be located in Lorain County.
- Only one nomination per individual tree. The first nomination received will be entered into the contest.
- The tree does not have to be on the property of the nominator; however, **permission** from the landowner must be obtained prior to nomination. The owner of the tree will receive the contest prize.
- **Nominations must be submitted to Lorain SWCD no later than Friday, July 28th – 4:30 p.m. Please e-mail jfisher@loraincounty.us or submit in person or through the mail to the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria, OH 44035.**
- The top three winners will be awarded gift certificates to Don Mould's Plantation. First place is \$100.00, second place is \$50.00 and third is \$25.00. **The winner will be announced at the Lorain SWCD Annual Meeting in September.**

Don Mould's Plantation started as a Christmas tree farm in North Ridgeville, Ohio in 1961. Half a century later, the family run business is diversified and capable of performing a wide range of services for both residential and commercial customers. There are two Garden Centers--34837 Lorain Rd., North Ridgeville, 440-327-3407 and 8676 Leavitt Rd., Amherst, 440-986-7777 both featuring complete lawn and garden supplies, quality nursery stock, and bulk materials for all of your landscaping needs!

For more information, contact Lorain SWCD at lorainswcd.com or 440-326-5808.