



The County Cooperator

Summer 2015 - Includes "Off The Beaten Path" Bus Tour Info and Contests!

A Publication of Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District

Annual Bus Tour Around the Corner!

Reserve your place for the fourth tour in a series of "Off the Beaten Path" journeys through Jefferson County coordinated by the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District. The chartered bus will depart from the Jefferson SWCD District office located at 500 Market Street, Steubenville.

BUS TOUR ITINERARY SEPTEMBER 12, 2015

7:30 –8:00 AM Light
Breakfast
8:00 AM Bus departs

- Travel to the Toronto Band Camp to view a project scheduled to



repair stream bank damage resulting from Hurricane Ivan (see article in this newsletter). Enviroscience, Inc. representatives will be on hand to share in the project details.

- While at the camp, a representative from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mineral Resources Management, will conduct a demonstration on the electro-fish shocking process. This method is used to collect and document the various fish populations located in a given waterbody.

• Participants will visit the Curt and Virginia Glenn farm and take a nostalgic ride around the farm fields in horse-drawn wagons, walk through and hear about the pollinator gardens, enjoy the antique farm equipment and learn how a wetland ecosystem is being protected by the landowners.

- Lunch will be enjoyed at Johnson's White Bear before traveling back to the JSWCD office.

HOLD THE DATE FOR A HORSE TRAIL RIDE

SEPTEMBER 19, 2015

JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
SPONSORED BY THE JEFFERSON SOIL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
AND THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

"SADDLE UP" AND ENJOY A DAY OF
HORSEBACK RIDING, FOOD,
GIVEAWAYS, AND OUTDOOR LEARNING.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE
AVAILABLE SOON OR YOU MAY CALL
THE JSWCD OFFICE AT 740 264-9790
OR THE OSUE OFFICE AT 740 264-2212

ANNUAL BUS TOUR (CONTINUED)

Bus will leave the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District Office (500 Market Street, Mezzanine Ste 4, Steubenville, OH 43952) at 8:00 AM and return by 4:00 PM. Limited seating is available. Cost includes bus travel cost, light breakfast, snacks, drinks, and lunch. Outdoor apparel is highly recommended. Please dress for the weather conditions. Walking will take place on some uneven terrain. Participants will receive educational giveaways and have the opportunity to win a rain barrel, Jefferson County plat book, wall map and other items.

Clip and Mail the Form Below with your check or money order to:

Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District
500 Market Street, Mezzanine Suite 4
Steubenville, OH 43952

OR

You may hand deliver the form & payment to the District Office.

Hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

*Please note that because of outside field appointments the office may not be staffed at all times. PLEASE CALL AHEAD.

Phone 740 264-9790 Fax: 740 264-6087

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS ARE \$35.00 PER PERSON.
CHILDREN age 10 and UNDER \$15.00 .

THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS UPON CANCELLATION OF A RESERVATION, HOWEVER THE TICKETS ARE TRANSFERABLE. RESERVATIONS ARE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED AND SEATING IS LIMITED.

RESERVATION DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 4, 2015

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION, CLIP, & MAIL

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____ EMAIL (if available) _____

Number of Adult Tickets _____ @ \$35.00 EA = \$ _____

Number of children age 10 & under _____ @ \$15.00 EA = \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDED \$ _____

Please include your check or money order and mail to the Jefferson SWCD at the address above.
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY AS SEATING IS LIMITED!

FARMERS' GATEWAY MARKET UPDATE

The 2015 Farmers' gateway Market season has had great success this year as local vendors supply their locally grown and raised products. Everything from meats, fruits & vegetables, desserts and floral products are available for purchase. In its 6th year, the market continues to see growth and increased popularity. Wendee Zadanski, Natural Resources Specialist at JSWCD, states the 2015 market season is shaping up to be one of the most successful since it began. "Individuals see this as an occasion to purchase fresh products and to also learn how to prepare these harvests from experienced gardeners."

In addition, several events (shown right) are taking place throughout the summer market season. A printable version is available on our website.

The market, coordinated by the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District, is held in the lower parking lot of Eastern Gateway Community College in Steubenville, on Wednesdays evenings from early summer through fall. Interested vendors can obtain a complete application packet, including the Market Rules and Seller's Agreement by calling the JSWCD office at (740) 264-9790. Check out the Farmers' gateway Market Facebook page for weekly vendor and product availability updates.

FARMERS GATEWAY MARKET EVENT SCHEDULE 2015

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SAVE THE DATE!
72ND ANNUAL MEETING
& BANQUET
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5,
2015

The 72nd Annual Meeting & Banquet is quickly approaching and around the corner. Mark your calendars as the festivities will take place on Monday, October 5th! More details of this event will be shared soon!

In addition, petition forms are available for those who are interested in becoming one of the JSWCD's Board of Supervisors! Any person that is 18 years or older and resides in the county can petition to be a supervisor candidate by obtaining at least 10 valid signatures on the JSWCD Candidate Nomination Petition Form. This form is available from the district office. The form must be returned to the JSWCD office by August 31, 2015.

TORONTO BAND CAMP PROJECT

The remnants 2004 Hurricane Ivan in 2004 made it's mark on the Ohio Valley. Substantial waters rushed through towns & villages causing much damage and destruction. Toronto Band Camp off of Knox Township Road 285 was one of the areas to feel its effects. The floods from the Hurricane caused its dam to be damaged. Since then the area has suffered from stream bank erosion, along with other issues. JSWCD has teamed up with EnviroScience, Inc and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) to help tackle the occurring problem. This project is funded through the OEPA's S.W.I.F. (Surface Water Improvement Fund) grant. The stream bank stabilization project is currently in the design phase and awaiting permits. As of right now, construction is set to begin in the Fall.



CEDAR LICK BRIDGE PROJECT COMPLETED!



The Cedar Lick Bridge Project located on Wayne Twp Rd 166 has been concluded! Over the past months, JSWCD has been in partnership U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)-Division of Wildlife, Enterprise Pipeline, Access Midstream, JDO Engineering, D&L Unlimited and the Jefferson County Commissioners to complete this project. The bridge will be beneficial & improve the water quality as vehicles will no longer be driving through the stream. In addition, it will help protect the Eastern Hellbenders that are located downstream of this crossing. JSWCD wants to thank all the parties involved for their assistance in building this bridge to help better serve both the community and environment.

Top: Project site before bridge construction. Bottom: After the bridge is constructed.



YOUTH EDUCATION REPORT



The Indian Creek Gold Envirothon team in the soil pits during the competition!

program serves to educate the 5th graders of Jefferson County about the natural resources that surround them. This year was another huge success as approximately 600 students total were in attendance throughout the week. Many school districts in the county participated including Steubenville City Schools, Buckeye Local, Toronto Karaffa Elementary & Indian Creek, along with Bishop John King Mussio Elementary & Jefferson County Christian School. Several local organizations and state agencies took part in this week-long educational event, including beekeepers Joe & Cindy Rodak, Justin Law from Ohio Division of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Forestry, Jamey Emmert and Kenneth Fry, along with Jefferson County Wildlife Officer Craig Porter and Columbiana County Wildlife Officer Jesse Janosik from ODNr Division of Wildlife, and Louise Holliday & Dorene Unterzuber from the JB Green Team. In addition, JSWCD Vice Chairman, Stephanie Vance, and District Administrator, Irene Moore, also gave presentations. Stephanie Vance, who is also a professor at Eastern Gateway Community College stated, "The Fernwood Outdoor Days program is always a great opportunity to educate our youth on our local environment. I enjoy teaching and the impact it can make, and it's a privilege to be a part of this outdoor learning program."

Last, but not least, JSWCD held its two-day stream monitoring program on June 1st & 2nd at Short Creek in Rayland. Eighth grade students from Genny Rogers-Varkony & Jennifer Pannepucci's science class of Buckeye Local Junior High School participated in various activities. Stream monitoring serves as an important environmental service. By learning some of the techniques involved, a person can identify a sick stream from a healthy one. Part of monitoring streams include calculating water velocity, pH levels, water depth, stream width and temperature. Irene Moore, District Administrator, & Wendee Zadanski, Natural Resource Specialist at JSWCD, gave the students an orientation on how to properly collect & locate macroinvertebrates. The specimens are collected using a net and then picked out and placed into trays. The specimens collected are kept and donated for research and educational purposes. Students also had the chance to measure sediment levels using turbidity tubes. The groups were assisted by JSWCD Water Quality Coordinator, Brandon Andresen. A turbidity tube helps determine water quality levels. What is turbidity? It's the cloudiness of the water that occurs due to a variety of suspended materials and can be caused by both organic and inorganic specimens. In September, there will be another stream monitoring session at Bishop John King Mussio Junior High to be conducted in Cross Creek.



8th Grade students collecting macroinvertebrate organisms from Short Creek.

For JSWCD, springtime means one thing: Youth Education! The District always enjoys this time of year for the simple reason of being able to have an impact on future generations. Here is an overview of our program events that recently took place!

The Ohio Area III Envirothon took place on May 6th as teams battled it out in the hands-on competition. It was hosted by Belmont Soil and Water Conservation District at the Zion Christian Retreat & Nature Center in Flushing, Ohio. Teams from all 16 Area III counties competed in five categories: Forestry, Wildlife, Aquatics, Soils and a Current Environmental Issue. A total of 5 teams represented Jefferson County: Indian Creek Gold, Indian Creek Red & Edison 1, along with Tree Toppers and Wildlife Warriors from Buckeye Local. Although none of the teams from Jefferson County moved on to the state Envirothon, a lot of hard work and dedication was still displayed. A job well done to all the students!

The annual Fernwood State Forest Outdoor took place during the week of May 11th. This



ODNR Division of Forestry's Justin Law, showing 5th grade students the Emerald Ash Borer that is killing the Ash tree.

Photos from all these events are available on our website at www.jeffersonswcd.org.

ENTRIES FOR BIG TREE CONTEST NOW BEING ACCEPTED

The Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry is sponsoring the **Annual "Big Tree Contest."** Ohio's Big Tree Program is a voluntary endeavor to locate, measure, record and appreciate the largest tree species in the state.

The residents of Jefferson County are encouraged to search for the **biggest BUCKEYE TREE** (the tree species selected by the JSWCD board of supervisors) in the county. The state tree can be found in many different environments including yards, cemeteries, lakes, and parks! Its lightweight wood is used in the production of artificial limbs, and the holding of a "buckeye nut" in one's pocket is considered good luck. These trees found in the open may reach 60 feet tall by 30 feet wide. As a member of the Horsechestnut Family, it is related to other Horsechestnuts and Buckeyes, including man-made hybrids between the species. It's because of this that Buckeye trees can easily be mistaken for Horsechestnuts. The two photos to the right show the difference between the leaves and what to look for on a Buckeye.

The winning tree's landowner and/or nominator will be recognized at the JSWCD's Annual Meeting and Banquet in October. **Please Note** that trees growing on federal, state or local government land are not eligible.

For more information on these magnificent trees, along with a colorful identification guide, check out the **Division of Forestry website** at www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry and click on the **"Index of Ohio Trees"** link.

We encourage everyone to submit **multiple entries**. Entry forms are available at our office located at 500 Market Street, Mezzanine Suite 4, Steubenville. They can also be found on our website at jeffersonswcd.org and clicking "Big Tree Contest" tab under "Events". Entries **must be received no later than 4:30 PM** on Friday, September 18, 2015.



Buckeye Tree Leaf



Horsechestnut Tree Leaf

WANT A CHANCE AT NATIONAL RECOGNITION AND CASH PRIZES? CHECK OUT OUR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST!

Want to win a cash prize for having great photography skills? Now is your chance as Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District (JSWCD) is now accepting entries for the 2015 Annual Photo Contest. This competition provides the opportunity to showcase the natural beauty that exists in Jefferson County.

There will be two categories for this year's photo contest: "Bike and Walking Trail Nature Photo" and "Pollinators". It is a very common notion to only think of bees when it comes to pollination. But in fact, they are only 1 of over 200,000 species of animals to act as pollinators including butterflies, ants & bats to name a few. Do you know what types of pollinators you have in your community? For additional information on pollinators visit: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/pollinators>

Photos taken anywhere in Jefferson County are eligible to be entered. However, the photographer does not have to be from the county. Only amateur photographers are eligible. The photo prints must be 8 x 10 inches in size. Digital photos must be submitted as prints also. There are **NO ENTRY FEES**. Each photographer is allowed to submit up to three (3) prints each. Please note that black and white photos will be accepted in each of the three categories as there is no separate category for these photos. Multiple entries can be submitted to the same category. Just note that an entry form must be submitted with each photo, keeping in mind the **TOTAL** photo limit is three. The judging criteria will be based on technical excellence (sharpness, lighting, composition, exposure), originality/creativity, and interest (Photo features a recognizable center of interest in relationship to the category). There will be two rounds of judging. Winners will be announced at the JSWCD Annual Meeting in October at St. Florian Hall. First place in each category will get a \$50.00 cash award prize.

To get more information and obtain an entry form, visit the JSWCD website at www.jeffersonswcd.org, or call (740) 264-9790. Forms are also available at the District Office. Photos entries must be submitted to the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District Office by Friday, September 18th, at 4:30 PM.



Photo taken by Matt Bell



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**JEFFERSON SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**
500 Market Street
Mezzanine Suite 4
Steubenville, Ohio 43952



Phone: 740-264-9790
Fax: 740-264-6087
E-mail: imoore@jeffersoncountyoh.com

We are online!
www.jeffersonswcd.org

MISSION STATEMENT

“To promote wise land-use management through technical and educational services in order to help people conserve and enhance the natural resource base for a better quality of life.”



"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) & JSWCD prohibit discrimination in all programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

OTHER INFORMATION

Please remember that Jefferson County **Plat Books are available** for purchase at \$20 each. The publication includes a map legend, aerials and landownership maps, a Jefferson County Road map, city maps, county road index, landowner index and many other features. **Wall maps are also available** at \$40 each. You can stop in person or call to reserve your copy.

