



The County Cooperator

Spring 2014 -Includes Annual Tree Seedlings & Pond Stocking Sales

A Publication of Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District

Jefferson SWCD Board Members

- Jodee Verhovec
Board Chair
- Stephanie Vance
Vice Chair
- Dick Franckhauser
Treasurer
- Mark Nelson
Secretary
- Ken Perkins
Public Relations

Jefferson SWCD Staff

- Irene Moore
- Wendee Zadanski
- Brandon Andresen
- Mike Sisson
- Marilyn Ford

NRCS Staff

- Beth Krupczak
- Clint Finney
- Chris Skatula



From It to rt: -Ken Perkins, board member; Dr. Thomas Graham, Jefferson County Commissioner and Mark Nelson, board member

New JSWCD Board Members Take Oath of Office

The 70th Annual Meeting of the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District (JSWCD) was held at St. Florian Hall in Wintersville on October 21, 2013. A crowd of approximately 180 attendees viewed the introduction to the PBS documentary "The Dust Bowl" by Ken Burns which depicts the history of the eight years of drought during the 1930's and the devastation caused to the people, the livestock and the land. Out of the need to conserve soil and water resources the Soil Conservation Service, now named the Natural Resources Conservation Service was created and the nation's 3,000 soil and water conservation districts were organized to serve as the locally-led conservation delivery system. The JSWCD was organized in 1944.

The fifty-one farm families who had previously received the District's Conservation Farmer were recognized. The award was first given to August DeNardi and family from Smithfield in 1962. The 2013 Conservation Farmer of the Year award was presented to Jack and Mary Lou Hamilton who farm in Smithfield Township. Todd Piergallini was awarded the District's Distinguished Service Award.

Elected by Jefferson County voters to serve 3 year terms as Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District board supervisors were Ken Perkins and Mark Nelson. They join current board members Jodee Verhovec, Stephanie Vance and Dick Franckhauser. Perkins and Nelson received the oath of office from County Commissioner Dr. Thomas Graham during their January board meeting.

MIKE SISSON HIRED AS WATERSHED COORDINATOR

The Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors has named Mike Sisson as the



new Yellow Creek Watershed Coordinator.

Mike comes to the position with experience as an environmental research technician with the University of New Orleans and the University of Southern Mississippi; a contract biologist with the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks; and as a wildlife diversity technician with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

Jodee Verhovec, JSWCD board chair, believes that

Mike's degrees in Biology and Environmental and Hazardous Materials Management will be effective in the continuation of the conservation goals set by the citizens living in the watershed with support of the JSWCD.

In a recent interview, Sisson stated that he, "has been privileged to have the opportunity to work in some of the most unique and important natural areas in America. I am grateful that the Flushing Escarpment and its premier

area—the Yellow Creek watershed—are now on that list. I look forward to meeting the folks who live in the Yellow Creek watershed, to hearing their concerns, thoughts, and ideas regarding the best ways to approach protecting the integrity of the waterway."

Sisson may be reached by calling the JSWCD office at 740-264-9790 or by email at: mssisson@jeffersoncountyoh.com

Help Available Septic Tank Repair Grant Ready

As published in the Herald-Star –Mark Law

Howeowners with a faulty septic system may have the opportunity to have the system repaired or replaced through a grant program being administered through the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District.

Wendee Zadanski, JSWCD natural resources specialist, said the district has funds remaining from a grant through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for failing septic system repair or replacement.

The district has \$73,000 to

spend by July on failing home septic systems that are causing impairment to creeks and streams in Jefferson County watersheds, Zadanski said.

The grant will cover 85 percent or 100 percent of the septic system repair or replacement project cost for those individuals successful in securing the grant funding, she said.

The district is working with the Jefferson County Health Department on the program.

Program eligibility will be dependent on household income and the condition of the septic system, Zadanski said.

The condition of the septic system will be determined through an inspection performed by the county health department. There is an inspection fee of \$148.60 for this service, regardless of whether a project is funded, she said.

The number of septic systems that can be replaced or repaired through the grant will depend on the actual costs of individual projects. Applications will be scored based on watershed and environmental factors in order to determine the order in which the projects are funded, Zadanski said.

Those interested in applying for funding may request the applica-

tion packet from the JSWCD by calling (740) 264-9790.

Applicants will need to provide proof of income and home ownership as well as photo identification, and must submit all required information to the district office, 587 Bantam Ridge Road, Wintersville, by 4:30 p.m. on March 21 or the application will not be considered.

"The district is working within a very tight time frame to spend the funding so it is important for homeowners to stay on schedule to provide time to secure bids and allow contractors time to complete the work, Zadanski said.

FERTILIZER, YOUR LAWN, AND YOU

Spring will be here before you know it, which means taking care of your lawn. This is a time to be responsible when it comes to fertilizer practices.

When homeowners apply fertilizer incorrectly, excess can runoff into the nearby storm drains and into the local streams. This runoff which has excess fertilizer can cause algal blooms, in-

creased aquatic plants, affect habitat and cost you money in lost fertilizer.

There are 3 practices that can be done to save you money and prevent polluted runoff:

SOIL TEST— By getting a soil test for your lawn, the test will provide recommendations on what nutrients are needed to add to your lawn.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT

PRODUCT—After receiving the test results from the soil test, make sure to read the label on the fertilizer choosing the proper one. Why waste money on a product that is not needed?

APPLY FERTILIZER CORRECTLY—Avoid spreading in drainage areas that can enter the storm drain or street which can empty into nearby streams. If fertilizer

gets on the sidewalk or driveway, sweep it into the grass. By doing this, you'll prevent it from washing away causing pollution and wasting your money.

For more information on how to prevent stormwater pollution at home, please visit the Urban Page on our website: www.jeffersonswcd.org.

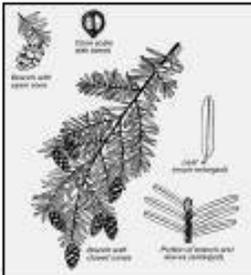


TREE AND SHRUB SEEDLINGS SALE

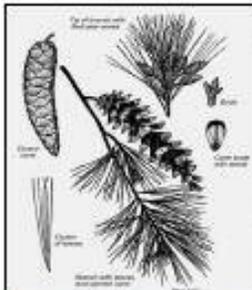
Evergreens



American Arborvitae, *Thuja occidentalis*- Survives in a variety of conditions, long lived, medium sized. Makes for great windbreaks, animal habitat, and privacy.



Eastern Hemlock, *Tsuga canadensis*- Prefers moist, shady environments, long lived, medium sized. Good for animal habitat, and cover.



Eastern White Pine, *Pinus strobes*—Occurs in a variety of conditions, prefers acidic, moist, deep soils. Good for bird nesting sites, younger trees make good windbreaks.



Norway Spruce, *Picea abies*—Prefers to be open grown, fast growing, medium sized, dense foliage. Good for wind breaks, animal habitat, privacy.

Shrubs/Small Trees



American Elderberry, *Sambucus canadensis*- Grows best in full sun, will form thickets, tolerates variety of conditions. Edible in a variety of ways, attracts many birds, many different uses for the wood, caution should be observed around livestock.



Washington Hawthorn, *Crataegus phaenopyrum*- Slow growing, can handle wet sites and shade well, flowers in spring, and produces edible berries. Also attracts small animals and birds.



Spice Bush, *Lindera benzoin*—Shrub can be long lived, prefers moist soils, but tolerates a variety of light conditions. Flowers, produces berries, used in folk remedies, wildlife uses as well. Will form thickets if left unchecked.



PawPaw, *Asimina triloba*- Quick growing, small tree, prefers shade when young but not when older, produces maroon flowers in the spring, browse resistant leaves. This tree produces large edible fruit. Can be difficult to establish but the payoff is well worth it.



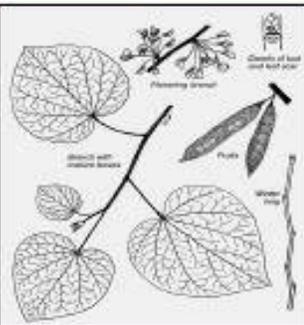
Flowering Dogwood, *Cornus florida*- Slow growing, pink to white flowers in spring, red berries in fall, prefers well drained soils, and is shade tolerant. This is an ornate tree that can add color to any area.



Persimmon, *Diospyros virginiana*- Slow growing, medium sized tree, very versatile to site conditions. Consistent edible fruit production, high wildlife use, bright yellow fall color, white flower.



Shrubs/Small Trees Continued



Eastern Redbud, *Cercis Canadensis*- Fast growing, small tree, prefers open areas and moist soils. Has a pink/purple flower, and is very showy in the spring.

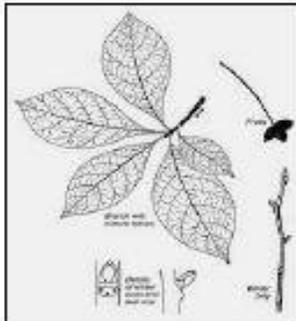


American Plum, *Prunus Americana*- Fast growing, small tree/ large shrub, tolerates wide variety of soils and sites, prefers being open grown. Pale pink flowers in spring, medium sized edible fruit, very good animal habitat and food sources, can form

Large Trees



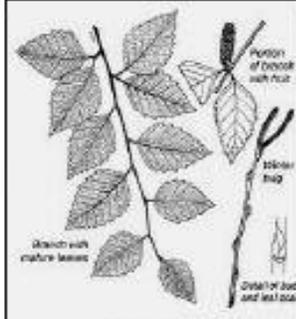
Black Walnut, *Juglans nigra*- Medium to large tree, tolerates occasional flooding or drought, does not tolerate shade. Edible nut, highly valued timber species.



Black gum, *Nyssa sylvatica*- Medium sized, long lived, slow growing, prefers acidic soil, shade intolerant. Has food value to birds, the fall foliage is spectacular, deep blue fruit.



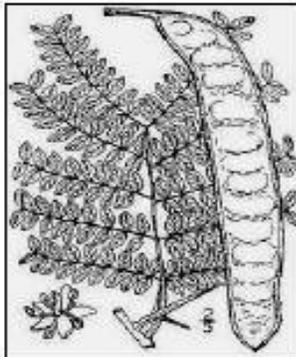
Kentucky Coffeetree, *Gymnocladus dioica*- Medium to large tree, slow growing, prefers rich soils, somewhat shade tolerant. Produces large pods that contain seeds that when roasted were used as a coffee substitute by settlers.



River Birch, *Betula nigra* – Medium sized, fast growing tree, prefers wet sites, but tolerates many. The papery looking bark and weeping lower branches cause this tree to be widely planted for its aesthetics.



Sugar Maple, *Acer saccharum*- Medium sized, fast growing, prefers well drained soil, and tolerates shady conditions. Many species of wildlife will utilize this tree, Prized in parts for syrup production, and timber production.

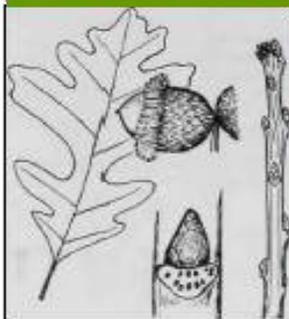


Honey Locust (thorn less), *Gleditsia triacanthos var. Inermis*- Medium sized, quick growing, tolerant of most situations. This variety is thorn less and provides a much nicer version to plant around a house. Seeds are used by squirrels, deer and some birds.



American chestnut, *Castanea dentata*- Can grow very large, and grows quickly, tolerant of shade, and drought, but sensitive to wet sites. What we are offering is pure American chestnut that has been propagated from trees found still growing in the United States. The wood is very rot resistant. The nuts are very good to eat and utilized by wildlife when available. While they might succumb to **blight** after several years the opportunity to plant this important part of history is something not to be missed.

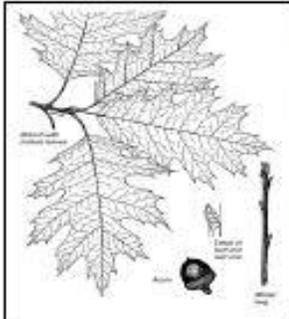
Large Trees Continued



Bur Oak, *Quercus macrocarpa*- Medium to large tree, fast growing and long lived, tolerates a wide variety of sites. This tree is attractive to wildlife for its nut production it can also provide excellent shade for a



Chestnut Oak, *Quercus prinus*- Medium sized tree, fast growing, and long lived, does best on well drained sites but tolerates many areas. Fall color is crimson or gold, nut production is important to wildlife, grows in similar conditions and leaves resemble the American chestnut but is



Red Oak, *Quercus rubra*- Medium to large tree, Long lived and Fast growing, somewhat tolerant to shade and drought but not flooding. Widely grown and can be an important timber species, this can be an important source of food for deer.



Shumard Oak, *Quercus shumardii* – Large tree, grows quickly, prefers wet sites, and open grown. This tree produces large acorns regularly, eaten by many wildlife species, has red fall leaves.



White Oak, *Quercus Alba* – Can get to massive proportions, long lived, grows best in the open with moist but not wet soils, resistant to drought. Acorn production is variable but will occasionally have a bumper crop, commonly seen throughout the Midwest, utilized by wildlife as a food source.



Shagbark Hickory, *Carya ovata*- Medium sized, Long lived and slow growing, moderately shade tolerant, prefers well drained sites. The wood is prized for wood working, and flavoring food when burned, the nuts are eaten by several species and make for great habitat for bats who in turn keep bug populations at bay.

FISH SALE 2014

Fish will be provided by Fender's Fish Hatchery in Baltic, OH. These fish are intended for stocking ponds and lakes, the minimum pond size suggested for stocking is 1/4 acre with a minimum depth of 8ft. The following are suggested stocking rates per acre for a new or un-stocked pond. These rates should be adjusted to fit your pond size. Largemouth Bass 100, Bluegill 100, Yellow Perch 100, Channel Catfish 200, Minnows 1000 and White Amur 10. **At pick-up you will need to bring a container filled half way up with your own pond water, line container with a plastic liner then fill with water, make sure you can tie it shut.**

Number of fish per 5 gal. bucket is 100 except for the White Amur which only 2 will fit, or 1000 Minnows per 5 gal. bucket. There are NO Refunds. Please have someone pick up the fish for you if you are unavailable.

A NOTE OF THANKS

to Sherry Finney and Charles Cleaver for their dedication of service as Jefferson SWCD board members. On behalf of the board and staff we extend our appreciation for all of their efforts to help to conserve the natural resources of the county.

ORDER DEADLINE

Friday March 28, 2014

FISH PICK-UP

Thursday, April 3rd, 2014

At the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District Office
587 Bantam Ridge Road, Winterville, Ohio 43953

Orders must be picked up between 1-2pm!!!

Any fish not picked up between 1 and 2pm on April 3rd will be considered a donation.

TREE AND SHRUB SEEDLING SALE

SPECIAL GIFT TO THE FIRST 20 CUSTOMERS WHO PLACE A PAID ORDER WILL RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY OHIO TREES & WILDLIFE POCKET GUIDE

The Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District 's (JSWCD) annual Tree & Shrub Seedling Sale is underway and will continue through March. The objective of the program is to provide low cost planting material to landowners to enhance the environment for future generations.

Species should be selected based on soil type at the planting site. Landowners can get planting advice from their local SWCD office or a private forestry consultant.

Order early for the best selection. Payment must accompany order. Orders may be placed through the month of March, or until supplies are exhausted. Seedlings and plants can be picked up on April 21 & 22, 2014 from 10am-5:30pm.

For more information on the Tree and Shrub Seedling Sale contact JSWCD at (740) 264-9790. **Orders not picked up during the dates and times listed will be considered a donation to the SWCD office unless previously arranged.**

Limited quantities available. Orders are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Seedlings and plants are quality stock. Jefferson SWCD offers no guarantee of survival due to weather and planting conditions not under our control

TREE & SHRUB ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Item (All come in packs of 5)	Cost	Qty	Total
Arborvitae	\$5		
Eastern Hemlock	\$10		
White Pine	\$5		
Norway Spruce	\$5		
American Elderberry	\$6		
Spice Bush	\$7		
Flowering Dogwood	\$5		
Washington Hawthorn	\$6		
Pawpaw	\$12		
Persimmon	\$5		
Eastern Redbud	\$5		
American Plum	\$6		
Black Walnut	\$5		
Black Gum	\$7		
Kentucky Coffeetree	\$8		
River Birch	\$6		
Sugar Maple	\$7		
Honey Locust (thornless)	\$6		
American Chestnut	\$12		
Bur Oak	\$6		
Chestnut Oak	\$5		
Red Oak	\$5		
Shumard Oak	\$6		
White Oak	\$7		
Shagbark Hickory	\$7		
	Total Due		

Return Order with payment to:
 Jefferson SWCD
 587 Bantam Ridge Road
 Wintersville, Ohio 43953

JEFFERSON SWCD FISH SALE

Description	Quantity	Price	Total	Name: _____
Largemouth Bass 2-3"		\$.85/each		Address: _____
Bluegill 2-4"		\$.75/each		City _____
Catfish 4-5"		\$.75/each		State _____ Zip _____
Perch 2-3"		\$.80/each		Phone # _____
Crappie 2-4"		\$.85/each		Email _____
Shell Cracker (Red Ear) 2-4"		\$.85/each		Return Order with payment to:
Flathead Minnow 1-2"		\$.07/each		Jefferson SWCD
White Amur 8-11"		\$14.00/each		587 Bantam Ridge Road
	TOTAL	=	\$	Wintersville, OH 43953

Fish Order Deadline is Friday March 28, 2014

ORDER DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2014
 Payment must accompany order
 Available for pick-up April 21-22, 2014

EASTERN OHIO GRAZING COUNCIL PROMOTES CONSERVATION USING FORAGE MANAGEMENT

If you are a livestock producer in search of ways to enhance or improve your grazing operation, the Eastern Ohio Grazing Council is a great place to start!

The council, comprised of local producers, and assisted by the Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Harrison, Jefferson, Mahoning, Stark and Tuscarawas counties, offers assistance to landowners wanting to learn more about grazing

and pastureland management.

The EOGC plans workshops and pasture walks to answer grazing related questions, share grazing ideas and encourage livestock producers to become more sustainable, both economically and environmentally.

The events are an opportunity to interact with knowledgeable presenters, conservation staff and fellow grazers. Pasture walks are rotated to different counties monthly,

and are scheduled for the fourth Thursday of each month, starting at 6 p.m.

The EOGC invites producers to attend any of its monthly activities.

On March 27th, the group will host a Winter Grazing Workshops focusing on solar and alternative watering systems at the Carrollton Ponderosa beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room. Pasture walks are scheduled to begin in the spring, and will

focus on a variety of topics, including alternative forages, cover crops and soil health, forestry and invasive species management, riparian buffers and more.

For more information, or to receive pasture walk and workshop information, please contact 740-264-9790 or 330-627-9852 or visit the Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/EasternOhioGrazingCouncil>

Farmer's Gateway Market an Opportunity for Local Growers



Photo courtesy of Pamela Dunn

As spring approaches and planting time nears, local farmers and growers are encouraged to keep the Farmers' gateway Market in mind as a selling opportunity this year.

According to Irene Moore, District Administrator for the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District, 'Coordination of the market is an effort to accommodate local farmers, growers and consumers who have other commitments during the traditional workday.'

The Wednesday evening Farmers' gateway Market, now entering its fifth year, continues to encourage in-

creased participation of area farmers and growers, as well as consumers in search of fresh foods.

The market has grown to nearly twenty vendors during the peak season. Items sold during the 2013 market season included produce such as lettuce and other fresh greens, herbs, peppers, garlic, tomatoes, and more.

Last year's market also included meats, plants, honey, herbal soaps, artisan baked goods and a variety of other items.

JSWCD Natural Resources Specialist Wendee Zadanski said that 'a key feature of the Farmers' gateway Market is that items for sale are grown, produced or raised in the local area. Visitors to the market should keep in mind that fruit and vegetable selection varies as the local growing season progresses. For a listing of vegetables and dates they are typically available in Ohio, customers can visit:

<http://www.ohioproud.org/docs/produceavailability.pdf>

The market, coordinated by the JSWCD, is held in the lower parking lot of Eastern Gateway Community College in Steubenville, on Wednesdays from early summer through fall.

The 2014 market dates and selling hours will be announced within the next few weeks.

Only food items and agriculturally-based items not for human consumption such as plants, cut flowers, corn-stalks, etc. are permitted to be sold at the market. 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.

NEW AND UPDATED PLAT BOOK

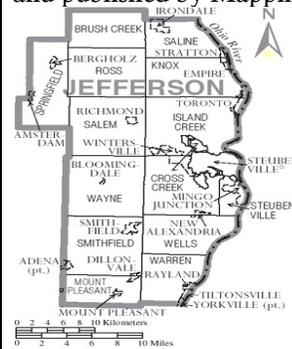
An updated Jefferson County Plat Book will be made available by mid-April 2014 sponsored by the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District and published by Mapping

Solutions.

The publication will include a map legend, aerials and land-ownership maps, a Jefferson County road map, city maps, county road index, landowner index and many other features.

This publication is a useful tool for farmers and landowners, realtors, hunters, logging and forestry professionals, surveyors, and business owners to name a few.

Cost for the Jefferson County Plat book is \$20.00. Please contact our office to reserve your copy.



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**JEFFERSON SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

587 Bantam Ridge Road
STE A
Winterville, OH 43953

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

We are online!
www.jeffersonswcd.org

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WIN CASH FOR YOUR PHOTOS.....Images of Jefferson County's Natural Resources

The 2014 JSWCD annual photo contest encourages photographers to capture the images of natural resources in Jefferson County. The entries will be divided into 3 groups or category focuses:

- Trees and/or Forestry
- Lakes, Pond, Wetlands and/or Streams

- Birds, Reptiles, and/or Amphibians

Photographers are encouraged to be creative while using the county's natural resources amenities as their subjects. The rules are simple, the prizes are cash, and all you need to do is capture the natural beauty around you.

While the photographer need not reside in the

For additional information call the JSWCD office at (740) 264-9790 or send an email to:

imoore@jeffersoncountyoh.com

The deadline for photo submission is Friday, October 3, 2014.

A NOTE OF THANKS

to Franciscan University student Margaret Morris for offering her journalism talents to make this a great publication! Best wishes, Margaret, as you graduate and pursue your career.

