



Conservation Notes

Spring 2010

"Local leadership for soil and water conservation"

Newsletter for the



Medina County Soil & Water Conservation District

2009 Annual Report—Despite reduced funding in 2009 and reduced hours, we were still able to conduct conservation business throughout the county. Listed are some of our agricultural and educational activities we accomplished. You can view the entire report, including a financial statement by going to our website: www.medinaswcd.org.

<u>Agriculture</u>	
◆ Agrichemical Handling Facility	1
◆ All weather Use Pads	2
◆ Animal Waste Storage Structure	2
◆ Conservation Plans	2815 acres
◆ Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans	1
◆ Forest Stand Improvement	60 acres
◆ Grassed waterways	10,604 feet
◆ Grazing system	
Pipeline	640 feet
Watering facility	1
◆ Landowner visits for drainage, erosion, flooding, soils, streams	47
◆ Land with conservation applied to improve water quality	3314 acres
◆ Livestock complaints	4
◆ Milkhouse irrigation system	1
◆ Pest Management	28 acres
◆ Pond plans	22
◆ Pond sealing	2
◆ Water Control Structure	1

Adult Education
Assisted All 17 Townships with Stormwater Water Quality volume design, Floodplain setback requirements. **Phase 2 communities:** Brunswick City and Brunswick Hills Township, Wadsworth City, Medina City, Hinckley and Wadsworth townships. Worked with Brunswick, Medina, Hinckley and Wadsworth schools, conducted rain barrel and rain garden workshops, worked with Brunswick and Medina Kiwanis and Leadership Medina County. Held a coloring contest on Earth Day. **Conducted**—Naturalizing Your Pond clinic, Equine Pasture field day, Officials Ag tour, Elected Officials luncheon, and Dam Safety meeting. **Participation**—Home & Flower Show, Medina County Fair, Leadership Medina County, Fall Foliage Tour, Earth Day. **Displays**—24 throughout county.

Youth education
Classroom presentations—Black River, Buckeye, Cloverleaf, Medina City, Brunswick, and Wadsworth schools. **Teacher Workshops**—IDEA Institute—Reading the Landscape. **Contests**—Recycle Projects and Hay Show at Fair; Big Tree—Black Cherry Tree; Earth Day Coloring Contest, Area 2 Envirothon Contest—14 teams from Black River, Brunswick, Buckeye, Cloverleaf, Highland, and Medina County Career Center. **Communication**—Newsletters—TEACH 2 times for schools; Conservation Notes—3 times; newspaper articles—4. **Judged** soil and water projects for Wadsworth High School science fair.

 <p>2010 Fish Sale</p> <p>The fourth annual fish sale is now in progress. By looking at the table you can determine the number of fish you will need for your pond. Orders must be received by April 16 and payment must accompany order. Pick up will be at the District office April 22 2:00 to 3:30pm. You need to bring buckets of your pond water for each species ordered.</p>	Fish stocking recommendations for new or renovated ponds				<p>* Stocking rates are recommended if the primary vegetation is milfoil, marsh grasses, pondweeds, or naiad. If the vegetation is primarily coontail or elodea, the stocking rates above should be doubled.</p> <p>** Red Ear Shellcrackers are good for parasite control for swimmers and swimmers ear swimmer's itch.</p> 
	Species	# to stock/acre	White Tripliod Amur		
	Bass	100	* % of Pond Covered by Plants	# to stock per acre	
	Bluegill	500	10-20	Stocking not recommended	
	Catfish	50	20-40	5	
	Minnows	1,000	40-60	10	
	Perch	100	Over 60	20	
	Shellcracker**	100			

2010 Fish Fingerling Order Form

Orders must be received by April 16, 2010 Pick up will be April 22 2-3:30 pm at District Office

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Daytime Phone Number (required) _____

Send order and check to the Medina County SWCD, 6090 Wedgewood Rd., Medina, OH 44256

Description	Size	Cost Each	# ordered	Total
Large mouth Bass	2-4"	.75		\$
Bluegill	2-4"	.65		\$
Channel Catfish	4-6"	.70		\$
Yellow Perch	2-4"	.65		\$
Minnows	1"	.06		\$
Red Ear Shellcracker	2-4"	.80		\$
White Amur	9-12"	13.00		\$
Grand Total	Make check payable and mail to Medina County SWCD			\$

Medina County Soil & Water
Conservation District
6090 Wedgewood Road
Medina OH 44256

Fish Sale order form on page 1

Non-Profit
Organization

U.S. Postage
PAID

Medina, Ohio
Permit 62

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Rocky River & Black River Watershed landowner buffer

Annual payments for 15 years to landowners are still possible by USDA Farm Service Agency for buffer strips, tree plantings and wetland re-establishments along or near streams, ditches and wetlands under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Upon program eligibility and application approval, payments are determined by soil type and practices selected.

Once approved, practices are installed and verified and then landowners and/or operators will receive payments between \$50 and \$191 per acre per year. Plus there are cost share dollars to install seedings or seedlings. Certain bonus payments are possible.

For further info, contact Robin Smith at FSA 330-722-2628 ext 100 or the Medina SWCD.

Big tree contest

For the last seven years, the Medina County Soil and Water Conservation District along with the Medina County Gazette has sponsored a big tree contest for Medina County. Winning trees have been the white oak, shagbark hickory, sycamore, beach, black walnut, ash and the black cherry. We have had a total of 183 entrees over the years. It has been a wonderful opportunity for the staff to meet the proud stewards of these county champions. We would like to thank all of those who entered the big tree contest over the last seven years.

The Eastern Cottonwood (*populus deltoides*) is this year's tree. The cottonwood lives primarily in floodplains and river bottoms, but can also be planted in the driest of soils and survive. Its mature bark is extremely thick and has triangular leaves that flutter in the wind.

The tree must be located in Medina County but does not have to be owned by the nominator but permission must be obtained from landowner. Qualified District personnel will measure the tree and the decision of the District will be final. Nominations will be accepted through the close of business on May 28, 2010.

For more information on the Eastern Cottonwood or any Ohio tree, log onto the State forestry website, www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry.

For an entry form or questions please give Jim or Beth a call at the office (330) 722-2628 ext 3 or you can download an entry form from our website. www.medinaswcd.org.

Drainage

You, as a landowner, need to identify natural water runoff patterns and routes in order to determine if the drainage on your property is natural or is caused by your neighbor. Water will always seek its path of least resistance taking soil with it.

The SWCD office can assist landowners who voluntarily wish to improve drainage and erosion problems on their property. We will recommend cost effective alternatives for your concerns. Call us at 330.722.2628 x 3 to make an appointment.

Mailing lists . . .

We are continuing to update our mailing lists. Please help! You can email us at jkuthe@medinaco.org to receive by email. We continue to face reduced funding issues but we still want our conservation word to get out to the public. Thank you for your cooperation.

Rain Barrel Workshop (in conjunction with Earth Day)

April 17 10-3pm

Buffalo Creek Retreat, Seville
(8708 Hubbard Valley Road)

\$60

This pre-paid workshop will be conducted hourly and will include full instructions, assistance, and materials for one complete barrel. You choose a time best suited to your schedule.

You must register before April 9 at the Medina SWCD office, 6090 Wedgewood Road, Medina. Call our office for more details 330.722.2628 x 3.

Seedling sale still in progress

You can still place your seedling order thru March 31. You can choose from a variety of evergreens, hardwoods, shrubs, or potted evergreens, plus a variety of miscellaneous items. Order forms can be found on our website, www.medinaswcd.org, we can mail you an order form, or stop in the office. Pick up dates are April 16 (8-6) & April 17 (8-12) at Geig's Orchard on State Route 3.

Have questions, be sure to visit us in the office and we will try to answer all your questions about seedlings.

2010 Soil Stewardship Week is April 25 thru May 2. The theme is "*healthy habitats*". All living things on this planet are dependent on our soils so lets do all we can to keep it where it belongs, healthy, and viable.