

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District News

August 2020

Local Food Grower & Producer List

Now more than ever, people want to know where their food is coming from, how it's grown and how to get it. Richland SWCD, along with [Destination Mansfield](#), [North End Community Improvement Collaborative](#), [OSU Extension - Richland County](#), [Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development](#) and [Richland County Farm Bureau](#) are supporting a Food Grower and Producer [List](#) for Richland County consumers to find locally grown produce, raised meat, dairy farm products, etc. If you are a local producer, please complete a brief [questionnaire](#) to be added to the list. Please contact [Theresa](#) with questions.



How Can You Reduce Your Stormwater Footprint?



First, answer the following questions to determine your stormwater footprint.

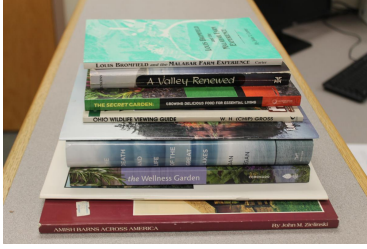
1. Do you have a lot of impervious area with stormwater running off those spaces into your storm drain, natural waterway, or detention/retention facility?
2. Do you have anything to slow or collect that rainwater runoff from those impervious areas? (Impervious area is a space where rainwater cannot soak into the ground such as a roof, driveway, or parking lot.)
3. During a rainstorm have you seen water running off those hard surfaces and into a storm drain, a gutter or maybe even from your yard into your neighbor's property?

If you answered "yes" to any of those questions you have a stormwater footprint. The goal is to have as small a stormwater footprint as possible and to do this, we have a few suggestions.

- Install a rain barrel at one or several of your downspouts. We sell rain barrels and diverter valves here at the District for \$70.00.
- Create and maintain a rain garden that your downspouts flow into or towards. We can assist with helping you evaluate and design a rain garden for your property.
- Other suggestions are installing a buffer strip (an area with permanent vegetation used to control water quality), planting grass, plants, flowers, and trees can help absorb runoff. They would also assist in reducing downstream flooding and help to remove pollutants from our natural waterways, lakes, streams, rivers, and oceans.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more information about reducing your [stormwater](#) footprint, please [contact](#) us.

Lending Library



There are many books available about conservation, natural resources, wildlife, agriculture, etc... We have started a lending library with the help of Win and Jayne Meek. If you are interested in borrowing a book, please [let us](#) know.

Here is the list:

- The Wellness Garden – Grow, Eat and Walk Your Way to Better Health by Shawna Coronado
- The Secret Garden: Growing Delicious Food for Essential Living
- Louis Bromfield and the Malabar Farm Experience by John Carter
- The Farm for Me Louis Bromfield and Malabar Farm
- The Story of Soil and Water Conservation in Ohio
- A Valley Renewed The History of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District by Hal Jenkins
- The Death and Life of the Great Lakes by Dan Egan
- Amish Barns Across America by John M. Zielinski
- Ohio Wildlife Viewing Guide by W.H. (Chip) Gross. Illustrations by John A. Ruthven

Walking Arboretum on B&O Trail

The Mansfield Shade Tree Commission is adding a “walking arboretum” to the B&O Trail! It is a great way to learn about the various tree types as you visit from North Lake Park to the swamp area south of Millsboro Road. [Learn more.](#)



More details to come as the project progresses or follow the project on Facebook at [Richland County Parks](#) or Mansfield [Shade Tree Commission](#).

First Rain Garden Planted

Check out these [photos](#) of the rain garden planting! After a little over 2 months of discussion and planning, we worked with our first landowners to put it in. The landowners used native plants and want to eliminate a flooding issue in the garage. They opted to put in a rain garden to eliminate flooding in the garage and have a nice garden with native plants. Thank you to the landowners, Technicians Jordan Keller and Dan Herrold and volunteers Brayden and Greg!

Make Changes to Live More Sustainably

Ask yourself, "What can I do to make a

greater impact on my environment"? Read the [article](#) by Samantha Hearn, Belmont County Soil and Water Conservation District about steps to be more sustainable by focusing on Energy, Water, Reduce/Reuse/Recycle and Food.



Volunteer Update

The weather was beautiful for the [Pollinator Festival](#) at Gorman Nature Center. We were there with help from [volunteers](#) Linda Collins, Barb Keller and Don Karger. Other volunteers were there to help with the event or as visitors. We gave away pollinator posters, milkweed seed packets, bee and butterfly kits and pollinator information. Thank you to everyone who helped and stopped by.



To learn more about volunteering at Richland SWCD, please visit our [volunteer](#) page on the website or contact [Theresa](#).

Stopping the Spread of Invasive Species

A single multiflora rose plant can produce half a million seeds that stay viable for 20 years. Julie Giess wrote an [article](#) with ways you can participate in stopping the spread including an app you can download from the Great Lakes Early Detection Network (GLEDN) (Photo from NH Extension)



Important Dates

September 23: [Absentee voting](#) begins for Board Supervisor Election

October 1: Richland County-wide Common Milkweed Seed Pod Collection begins

October 9: [Fish Orders Due](#)

October 16: Fish Order Pick Up

October 20: Rain Barrel Workshop, 12 noon, Richland SWCD [Facebook](#) page

SWCD Staff

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Board Supervisors

Brian Alt, Chairperson
Fred Cooke, Treasurer
Aaron Dearth, At Large
Lanny Hopkins, Secretary
Dave Krichbaum, Vice Chair

Board meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at the Longview Center, 1495 W. Longview Avenue, Mansfield, OH 44906. The meetings are open to the public. Call to confirm meeting date, time and attendance. If you plan to attend a board meeting, please contact Erica Thomas, District Administrator, in advance so that enough meeting packets will be prepared.

To be more efficient in answering and managing phone calls, we are using an automated answering system. If you call our main number at 419-747-8686 you will be given the opportunity to connect with a staff member or partnering office. Individual phone numbers and email addresses are provided on the left. If you have any questions, please [let us know](#).

RICHLAND SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1495 W. Longview Avenue, Suite 205B, Mansfield, OH 44906
419.747.8686 | www.RichlandSWCD.net

See what's happening on our social sites:



For information on varied volunteer opportunities within our office, including scanning and archiving historical photos and documents, engaging young people in the District, becoming a Precipitation Monitor, Lake Monitor, Stream Quality Monitor, Office Assistant, Photographer, help with Special Events or be an Earth Team volunteer with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, please [click here](#). **Congratulations to volunteers for being awarded the 2018 NRCS National and Northeast Regional Earth Team Chief's Field Office awards!**

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Programs and assistance of the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District are available without regard to race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, age, national origin, ancestry, disability or veteran status.

