



Richland Soil and Water Conservation District News

February 2019



Have Your Soil Tested

Before you plant this spring, have your soil tested. Knowing your soil's composition before planting will save you time, money and frustration. Bring in your soil sample from your garden, landscaped beds or lawn and we will send it to a certified lab to be tested. To get more information, click [here](#).

Voluntary Nutrient Management Plans

We recommend that producers follow a Nutrient Management Plan to help prevent nutrient runoff. We will work with you to create the plan. If you implement and follow the plan, you'll reap the benefits.

Reasons to have a plan in place:

- Potential to reduce fertilizer costs
- Potential to increase yields
- Maximize nutrient use efficiency and minimize nutrients leaving the field
- Potentially qualify for Environmental Quality Incentive Program funding for conservation practices
- Have an "affirmative defense" as stated in Ohio law against private civil lawsuits such as those brought by environmental groups if a nutrient management plan is created and the objectives of the plan are met.

The farming community is working together with Richland SWCD and others – to lead the way and show others the importance of doing their part to protect water quality. As land stewards, we are addressing a higher level of land management which will affect future generations. [Contact us](#) today to get started on creating a Nutrient Management Plan.

Only Rain Down the Drain....Please!!!!

Learn about the Water Cycle, Stormwater and Runoff and how you can reduce stormwater pollution in our lakes, rivers and streams in this interactive and educational video, plus quiz. Click on [Only Rain Down the Drain Interactive Demo](#).



Meet the New ODA Director

We're partnering with Morrow and Knox Soil and Water Conservation Districts for the Meet and Greet the Ohio Department of Agriculture has scheduled with Director Pelanda. This is your chance to meet the new Director in an informal setting. It will last about an hour with a brief introduction by Director Pelanda and the remaining time doing Q & A with guests. The Director want to hear the issues that



matter to Ohioians and what they think ODA and state government could do.

The Meet and Greet will be held at Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District on Friday, March 29 at 10:00 a.m. The address is 5362 US Highway 42, Suite 202, Mt. Gilead, OH 43338.

Tree Seedling Sale

Once again this year, we are partnering with Clear Fork FFA Alumni to hold the [Tree Seedling Sale](#). You may purchase seedlings on April 5 at three different locations: Clear Fork High School, Planktown Market and at the Richland County Fairgrounds. Remaining seedlings may be purchased on April 6 at the Richland County Fairgrounds.



Choose from Norway Spruce, White Pine, Douglas Fir, Arborvitae, Balsam Fir, Flowering Dogwood, Red Mulberry, Ohio Buckeye, White Oak, Sugar Maple, Persimmon, Tulip Poplar, Red Oak, Black Walnut, Scarlet Oak, Black Cherry and Dawn Redwood.

COST: \$10.00 per Bundle of 8

For further details and an order form, please visit our [website](#).

Upcoming Activities

February 25 & 26: Offices closed for staff development

March 2, 3, 9 & 10: [Maple Syrup Festival at Malabar Farm](#)

March 7: [Raising Richland Community Garden Summit](#)

March 15: [Area 2 Envirothon Application Deadline](#)

March 28: Earth Stewardship Celebration Kick-Off, Richland Public Health

March 29: ODA Director Pelanda Meet & Greet

April 4, 5 & 6: [The Vernal Poolooza Wetland Science Conference](#)

April 5 & 6: [Clear Fork Tree Seedling Sale](#)

April 19: [Fish Sale Orders Due](#)

April 26: Fish Sale Pick Up, 10:00 a.m., Richland County Fairgrounds

November 7: Annual Celebration-**Save the Date!!!!**

Other News

[Natural wonders: the power of a 40 foot tree](#)

[Even small changes make a difference in our soil and water quality](#)

[Become a soil health champion](#)

[Take the composting basics quiz](#)

[Butterflies and their host plant](#)

SWCD Staff

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Board Supervisors

Brian Alt, Chairperson

Kyle Bailey, Secretary

Fred Cooke, Treasurer

Lanny Hopkins, At Large

Dave Krichbaum, Vice Chair

Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 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.

NEW!!!

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 or an Earth Team volunteer with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, please [click here](#).

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.