



Richland Soil and Water Conservation District News

June 2019

Guide Helps New Landowner, Home Buyer and Home Builders Navigate Process

A comment we often get from individuals who apply for a stormwater permit the first time, is that they didn't realize they had to get a permit. If you're buying a home, land or building for the first time you may not know where to turn so that you can make informed decisions, know what permits to obtain or sequence to follow in the process.

In order to help with this challenge, we have partnered with a number of local agencies to come up with a solution to help make the process easier. If you find yourself considering purchasing land, a new home or are thinking of building a new home, we encourage you to consult the [New Landowner, Home Buyer or Home Builder Guide for Richland County](#) first. It's a great resource to refer to that provides questions to ask and who to turn to for answers. We are always available to answer [questions](#), too, but this will help you get started. Please share with others who you feel will benefit.

Manure & You Workshop

Tuesday, August 20, 2019

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Buckeye Community Center

79 Noble Road East

Shiloh, OH 44878



Topics:

- Comparison of manure vs. commercial fertilizer value
- How to properly take soil and manure samples to assure accurate test results and how to read test results
- Review current Tri-State Fertilizer recommendations and learn how to calculate the correct amount of nutrients to apply to fields
- What are the benefits of a Nutrient Management Plan and how producers can create a Nutrient Management Plan that works for their farms
- Review NRCS-590 Standard plus proper manure application and temporary storage of manure
- Local Producer Q & A Panel
- Earn Certified Crop Adviser & Certified Livestock Manager Continuing Ed Units

Cost: \$10.00 per person, includes pizza lunch

Register by **Tuesday, August 13.** [Click here](#) for a registration form.

Speakers: Jason Hartschuh, OSU Extension, Clark Hutson, Ohio Department of Agriculture, Terry Mescher, Ohio Department of Agriculture, Matt Wallace, Richland SWCD, Jason Ruhl, USDA-NRCS, Ashland and Richland Counties.

Local Producer Q & A Panel: Carl Ayers, Dairy/Grain Producer; John Adams, Beef/Grain Producer, Christopher Winslow, Ohio Sea Grant

CCA and CLAM credits will be available

Partners: [USDA-NRCS, Ashland and Richland Counties](#) and

Sponsors: [Centerra Co-Op](#), [East of Chicago](#), [FCBank](#), [Fackler Kubota Tractor](#), [Farm Credit Mid-America](#). [OSU Extension-Crawford County](#), [Putt Farms](#)

If you are interested in being a sponsor or putting up an informational table at the Manure & You workshop, please contact [Theresa](#).

What is This???



We were asked what the yellow plant is that popped up in many fields this spring. So we reached out to Emilee Hardesty from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and this is what she shared.

"The common yellow plant in the ag fields is Cressleaf Groundsel. US Fish and Wildlife call it Butterweed. I never really noticed it before 2012, but it has certainly come on strong since then. It is in the aster family not the mustard family. It looks similar to common mustard from afar, but there are many different characteristics."

Emilee provided a few links if you are interested in additional information:

[Weed of the Month: Cressleaf Groundsel or Butterweed](#)

[Cressleaf Groundsel](#)

Thanks, Emilee, now we know!

Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) and the Ohio Agribusiness Association are announcing the expansion of the [Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan Development](#) to all 4R Certified Nutrient Dealers in the Western Lake Erie Basin.



Started as a pilot program with two 4R certified Nutrient Retail providers, the Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan Development Program is a partnership with the Ohio Agribusiness Association, in which producers are reimbursed for nutrient management plans. The Voluntary Nutrient Management Plans will help to ensure that the 4R principles are put into place.

"The pilot program was a great success and is one more way to encourage farmers to practice the 4R principles on their farms," said Director Pelanda. "We are proud to expand this program that helps farmers implement Nutrient Management Plans that work towards our common goals of soil and water conservation."

"Our members understand how important our role is helping farmers practice proper nutrient stewardship and the 4R's," said Chris Henney, President and CEO of the Ohio Agribusiness Association. "We're excited to be part of these programs and stand ready to help Northwest Ohio farmers."

Producers located in the Western Lake Erie Basin are encouraged to contact their local 4R Nutrient Certified dealers to learn more and sign up for the program.



Lake Erie CREP Program

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program or CREP, is a federal and state conservation partnership designed to address agriculture-related environmental concerns. Participants receive financial incentives from USDA to voluntarily enroll environmentally sensitive cropland or pastureland in contracts for 15 years. In return

for annual rental payments that average about \$154 per acre and financial incentives, participants convert the land to native grasses, trees and other conservation vegetation. Enrollment is on a continuous basis, as funding permits. Eligible land must be in the portion of the Lake Erie Watershed and must meet basic eligibility criteria for USDA's Conservation Reserve Program.

BONUS!!!

- An additional \$200 per acre incentive will be provided for all newly enrolled filter strip and riparian area practices through **August 23, 2019**.

Benefits of Conservation Buffers:

- Buffers provide another line of defense to filter surface water before it enters streams and water sources that contribute to nutrient loading to Lake Erie
- Streambanks without buffers tend to be less stable and have higher erosion rates
- Conservation buffers are a visual demonstration of your commitment to land stewardship

Cost Share Program Available for Western Lake Erie Basin Farmers



The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) has announced a new Ohio Working Lands program funded by SB 299 to assist Western Lake Erie Basin farmers with improving water quality. In Richland County, these programs apply to farmers located in the Upper Sandusky Watershed.

The Small Grains program is a voluntary program that encourages producers in the Western Lake Erie Basin Watershed to plant small grains such as wheat, barley, oats or cereal rye on eligible cropland. This program promotes the planting of small grains not only for the conservation benefits, but to provide livestock producers with a longer time period to land apply manure and nutrients. As the “working lands” name implies participants can plant and harvest small grains, land apply manure, and plant a cover crop to receive a cost-share payment to help offset operating costs. Livestock producers are encouraged to work with neighboring grain farmers that are able to utilize manure as a source of nutrients for their crops.

Remember, Only Rain Down the Drain

When mowing the yard, do not blow grass clippings into the street or onto paved surfaces as the grass clippings will likely enter a storm drain, which will end up in our rivers, lakes, and streams. This is also very unsafe for motorized vehicles as it makes the paved surface very slippery. Learn more about how you can help keep our waterways clean



through [Only Rain Down the Drain](#).

Volunteers

Everywhere we go, the first topic of conversation has focused on the amount of rain we've been getting. In addition to impacting farmers, our lake and stream monitors haven't been able to get out as much as they would like. The sunshine we had over the weekend was very welcome and we hope for more. As you probably guessed, Precipitation Monitor Volunteers have stayed busy due to all of the rain. To find out what they've been reporting, go to the [Water Data Map](#).

Soil Testing



Instead of being frustrated because attempts at growing your favorite flower or vegetable have been in vain, get your soil tested. 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](#).

Upcoming Activities

July 4 & 5: Offices closed in observance of July 4

August 4 to 10: [Richland County Fair Nature Park Events](#): Volunteers needed to help staff our booth Thursday and Friday from 3 to 5:00 p.m. and 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Please contact [Theresa](#) if you can help.

August 3 & 4: [Pollinator Festival at Gorman Nature Center](#)

August 20: [Manure & You Workshop](#)

October 4: Fish orders due

October 11: Fish pick up

November 7: Annual Celebration

Other News

[Best place to wash vehicles](#)

[Naturalist on Duty series](#)

[2017 Agriculture Census for Richland County](#)

[Mansfield in Bloom: Young leads tree planting efforts](#)

[What to do if you can't plant a cash crop](#)

[USDA confirms silage corn can be planted on prevent plant acres](#)

SWCD Staff

Erica Thomas, District Administrator

419-747-8684

thomas.eric@richlandswcd.net

Dan Herrold, MS4/Urban Technician

419-747-8077

herrold.dan@richlandswcd.net

Jordan Keller, Urban Technician

419-774-5238

keller.jordan@richlandswcd.net

Theresa Sutter, Community Relations Coordinator

419-747-8685

sutter.theresa@richlandswcd.net

Matt Wallace, Agriculture Technician

419-747-8687

wallace.matt@richlandswcd.net

NRCS Staff

Jason Ruhl, District Conservationist

419-747-8691

jason.ruhl@oh.usda.gov

Derek Benner, Wildlife Biologist

567-280-6058

dbenner@pheasantsforever.org

Board Supervisors

Brian Alt, Chairperson

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, 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.