

# Richland Soil and Water Conservation District News June 2020

## MWCD Cover Crop Program

The deadline to apply to the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District Cover Crop program is this **Saturday, June 27**. Last year, the program assisted in getting cover crops on over 206 acres of Richland County farmland and resulted in 87 tons of soil from eroding into our streams, kept 139 pounds of phosphorous on the land and 255 pounds of nitrogen out of waterways. [Read more.](#)



## Rain Barrel Sale



A rain barrel is a container that is used to collect and store rainwater. Water collected in a rain barrel can be used in gardens, landscaping, and lawns.

We are selling Rain Barrels for \$70. To learn more and buy a barrel, please click [here](#).

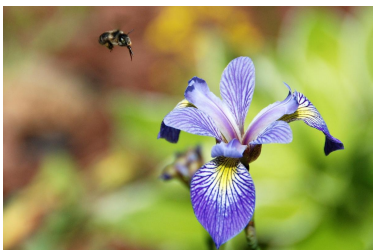
Mark your calendar for the [Rain Garden and Barrel Workshop](#) on October 20.

## Earth Stewardship Celebration

We are in our 24th year of the Earth Stewardship Celebration and encourage individuals and groups to participate in cleaning up, planting and beautifying an area. Volunteers and Richland SWCD have been working on cleaning up the flower bed at the Longview Center. For details on how to enter a project go [here](#) or if you have an idea for a project, contact [Theresa](#).



## Native Plant Sale Update



Thank you to everyone who purchased plants in our first Native Plant Sale. We had approximately 23 customers and sold 167 plants. We hope to have the sale again next year. In the meantime, enjoy your plants and keep native plants in mind for flower and [rain gardens](#).

## Volunteers

Thank you to Linda Collins for providing stream monitor training to Ohio Bird Sanctuary Junior Naturalists. Junior Naturalists will be monitoring an area at the Sanctuary and Linda will enter their data on the [Water Data Map](#). Lake and Precipitation Monitor volunteer data is also found on the Water Data Map. To learn more about volunteering at Richland SWCD, please visit our [volunteer](#) page on the website or contact [Theresa](#).



## Neighbor Drainage Situations



Learn how three neighbors worked together to resolve a drainage issue and invited Richland SWCD to be part of the discussion. Matt Wallace, District Technician, and Erica Thomas, District Administrator, met with the group.

To provide you with some background, one neighbor has a farm and the other two neighbors are home and landowners. Two neighbors have lived in their homes several years and the third built a home with driveway a few years ago. [Read more.](#)

## How We Test for an MS4 Illicit Discharge

First, let us explain an outfall and an illicit discharge.

An outfall is a pipe, open ditch or conveyance that transports stormwater from a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) to a creek, river or lake. An illicit discharge is any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) that is not composed entirely of stormwater with some exceptions as defined by the EPA. [Read more.](#)

## USDA Expands Farmers.Gov

New self-service features on [farmers.gov](#) will help farmers and ranchers manage their conservation activities online and request

assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). [Read more.](#)



## Board Supervisor Candidates Being Sought



If you are interested in becoming a Board Supervisor candidate, please contact Lanny Hopkins at 419-565-8177. A brief description of a Board Supervisor's role is found [here](#).

## Important Dates

**June 22 to 28:** [National Pollinator Week](#)

**June 27:** [Richland County Solid Waste Household Hazardous Waste Event](#)

**July 3:** Office closed in observance of July Fourth

**July 9:** Manure & You Nutrient Management Workshop - **Postponed**  
tentatively to January 14, 2021

---

### SWCD Staff

**Erica Thomas, District Administrator**  
419-747-8684  
[thomas.ERICA@richlandswcd.net](mailto:thomas.ERICA@richlandswcd.net)

**Dan Herrold, MS4/Urban Technician**  
419-747-8077  
[herrold.DAN@richlandswcd.net](mailto:herrold.DAN@richlandswcd.net)

**Jordan Keller, Urban Technician**  
419-747-8688  
[keller.JORDAN@richlandswcd.net](mailto:keller.JORDAN@richlandswcd.net)

**Theresa Sutter, Community Relations Coordinator**  
419-747-8685  
[sutter.THERESA@richlandswcd.net](mailto:sutter.THERESA@richlandswcd.net)

**Matt Wallace, Agriculture Technician**  
419-747-8687  
[wallace.MATT@richlandswcd.net](mailto:wallace.MATT@richlandswcd.net)

### NRCS Staff

**Jason Ruhl, District Conservationist**

### 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.

### **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



419-747-8691  
[jason.ruhl@oh.usda.gov](mailto:jason.ruhl@oh.usda.gov)

addresses are provided on the left. If you  
have any questions, please [let us know](#).

**Derek Benner, Wildlife Biologist**  
567-280-6058  
[dbenner@pheasantsforever.org](mailto:dbenner@pheasantsforever.org)

---

RICHLAND SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
1495 W. Longview Avenue, Suite 205B, Mansfield, OH 44906  
419.747.8686 | [www.RichlandSWCD.net](http://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.