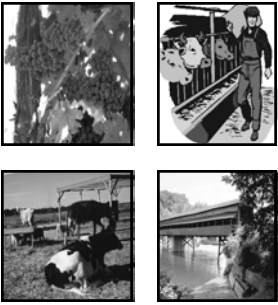


Conservation Almanac

Website: www.ashtabulaswcd.org

E-mail: ashtswcd@suite224.net



Stretching Farm Dollars with EQIP Cost Incentives

The USDA NRCS will shortly announce this year's sign up for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This program offers many incentives to agricultural producers for improvements on the farm. Several practices offered show especially quick returns on the investment.

Nutrient Management. Last year the incentives for Nutrient Management were \$5.00 per acre and Precision Farming at \$10 per acre as a 3 year incentive. If your soil has not been tested, this is a great opportunity to find what is needed to improve crop yield. Grid sampling offers additional benefits to isolate and balance out nutrient and yield variability within fields.

Grazing Practices. Yearly incentives are also offered to assist producers wanting to use forage more efficiently. Incentives are provided when the grazing system includes a 3-4 day rotation of animals to encourage forage re-growth and higher efficiency. Incentives are provided for fencing, water supply, pipelines and other practices as a part of an overall system. Letting the cows do the work is much more efficient than green chopping or baling hay. The photos below show recovery of orchard grass when grazed to 1 inch vs. 3.5 inches.

6th day Orchardgrass Recovery in a 1" Continuous Vs. 3.5" Rotational Grazing System



A higher level of production can be realized with both of these incentives.

Information on these and other practices is available by contacting the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Orwell at 888-217-3947 or 440-437-5888. Information on the program is also provided on the NRCS web site at www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov.

Inside this issue:

Rain Garden	2
Reorganization of Board	3
Scrap Tire Collection	2



Special Points of Interest

April 09 Board Meeting

April 10 Seedling Pick up
8:00 am to 4:30 pm

April 11 Seedling Pick up
8:00am to 10:00 am

May 14 Board Meeting

Looking for that Special Gift?

If you are having a difficult time coming up with a gift idea for that someone who has just about everything, here are some suggestions:

For the boater and swimming pool/pond owners, a United States Coast Guard approved life ring buoy with 100' of nylon rope for \$45.00.

The nature lover would enjoy the Wildflower seed packets, Bird & Butterfly seed packets or Perennial seed pack at \$3.50 per packet. Each 1 oz packet covers 250 square feet of ground. Hummingbird wildflower seed packets sell for \$3.00 per

1/2 oz packet and covers 75 square feet. These packets contain varieties of annuals, biennials, and perennials.

We have Backyard Booklets which cover, butterflies, blue birds, bird feeding, humming birds, bats, squirrels, woodpeckers, bird homes and more. We also have books on creating your own water garden. These booklets sell for \$2.50 each.

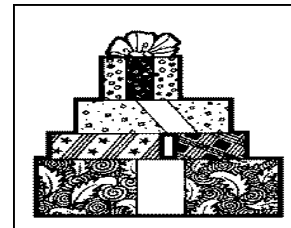
Bluebird and bat boxes are available for \$13.00 each. We also have the Original Birdhouse Book that has step-by-step plans for 26 birdhouses, feeders and baths. Rain gauges are also available for \$3.50.

Any agriculture landowner with a pit needs to have a Danger, Manure Holding

Pit sign. These signs sell for \$6.00 each.

For \$5.00 you may purchase a woodland measuring stick which may be used to measure the volume of a tree, log and woodlot density as well as cordwood volume.

These items are available at our office, 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, year round.



Reminder

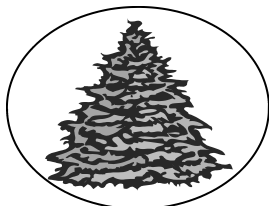
Pick up dates for seedlings are as follows:

Friday, April 10 8:00a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 11 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

We are not responsible for packets not picked up on time. There are no refunds and items left on the following Monday will become a donation. Any unspoken for seedlings may be purchased on Monday, April 13.

There will be no phone calls or post cards sent as reminders.



2009 Regional Envirothon

The 2009 Regional Area Envirothon will be held on Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at Camp Asbury in Hiram (Portage County).

Teams from Ashtabula County high schools are invited to take part in this year's environmental competition sponsored by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation and the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

This year's theme is "Biodiversity in a Changing World." Teams of 5 members compete in five categories: Aquatics, Wildlife, Soils, Forestry and Environmental Issues.

Cash prizes go to the top four teams. These top four teams will then go to the state competition that will be held June 7-9 at Kenyon College in Gambier Ohio in Knox County.

The state winning team will then go to the national competition that will be held at the University of North Carolina in Asheville, NC August 2-8.

Ashtabula County Solid Waste Management District

Supported and funded by the Ashtabula County Commissioners



SCRAP TIRE COLLECTION NO OTHER MATERIALS ACCEPTED

Ashtabula County Fairgrounds

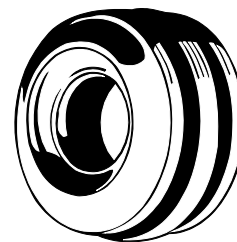
April 25, 2009

From 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Ashtabula County residents only.

No Commercial businesses.

2 Free Tires



TIRES: PASSENGER OR PICKUP TIRES—NO RIMS. Maximum 10 per vehicle. \$1 per tire. \$5 and up for over size tires (ex.-semi, agricultural tires) For more information call 576-3777

WESTERN RESERVE FARM COOPERATIVE
P.O. BOX 1030 ANDOVER OH. 44003
(440) 293-6144

Your full service farm stop
Fertilizer, Seeds, Chemicals, Lime, and Custom Application

YOU CAN ADVERTISE HERE
CALL (440) 576-4946 for more information

CUNNINGHAM FARM DRAINAGE

Tom Cunningham
1348 Dodgeville Road
Rome Oh 44085
New Lyme (440) 294-2286

SAWYER LOGGING INC

"Local buyer of Standing Timber Since 1970"
Manufacture of Hardwood Lumber Products
(888) 980-9663
PO Box 274 Windsor Ohio 44099

W.M.G. WOOD & MORE, INC.

GAZEBOS "The Wood People" FIREWOOD
• Painesville • Mentor • Windsor • Madison
RAILROAD **1-888-980-WOOD (9663)** STORAGE
TIES **wmgwood.com** BARNs



CASEY P. O'BRIEN, Attorney
PETERSEN & IBOLD
Attorneys at Law
43 N. Maple Street
Orwell, Ohio 44076
(440) 437-5295

YOU CAN ADVERTISE HERE
Call (440) 576-4946 for more information

 **Farm Credit Services**
OF MID-AMERICA

Specializing in Financing for:

Homesites Ag Related business Construction
Homes Equipment Real Estate
Farm Land Operating

Call one of our Loan Officers!
440-437-5800 or 800-638-9390

300 North Maple St. (St. Rt. 45)
Orwell, Ohio 44076

YOU CAN ADVERTISE HERE
CALL (440) 576-4946 for more information

BRITTON FARM DRAINAGE

• Farm Drainage • Land Clearing • Excavation • Gas Line
Installation • Straw • Dewatering • Highway Underdrain
(440) 293-7972 (440) 862-2132 Cell
Gary Britton • Tim Britton
1852 Dodgeville Road Jefferson, Oh 44047

ORWELL PRINTING COMPANY

SERVING YOUR PRINTING AND OFFICE SUPPLY NEEDS
112 Parker Court PO Box 51 Chardon, OH 44024
(440) 285-2233 FAX (440) 285-8487
E-mail imaging@orwellprinting.com

EASTON SERVICE INC.

dba **CULLIGAN WATER CONDITIONING**
1427 Rte. 322 East Orwell Oh 44076
PROBLEM WATER EXPERTS
Tim Gargas or Lawrence Easton (440) 422-3200
(800) 297-8238

**All Ashtabula Soil and Water Conservation District and
Natural Resource Conservation Service programs and
services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without
regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age,
marital status, or handicap.**

Board Reorganizes

The District's Board of Supervisors reorganized its membership at the January 11, 2007 board meeting. Board members were elected to the following positions:

- Chairman - Robin Boggs
- Vice Chairman - Robert Wilson
- Secretary - Ron Smoker
- Treasurer/Fiscal Agent - Loren Ring
- Dr. Paul Mechling - Member

The board meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month to discuss the district finances and current events.

These monthly meetings are open to the public, and we cor-

dially invite you to attend. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and are held at the District office at 39 Wall Street in Jefferson, Ohio.

The board of supervisors donate their time and energy to reorganizing our Districts priorities toward the effective management of Ashtabula County's soil, water and related resources.



