

LOGAN SWCD/NRCS  
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Hours: Tues-Fri 7:00 AM-5:45 PM

### LOGAN SWCD SUPERVISORS

•Eric Johnson •Tim Lyden  
•Frank Phelps •Joe Ramsey  
•Renee Winner

### LOGAN SWCD STAFF

Jason Bell - District Technician  
Lorre Culp - Secretary  
Barb Kuck - Education Coordinator  
Deb Roberts - District Administrator  
Steve Searson - District Technician

Mike Retterer - Pheasants Forever  
Farm Bill Biologist

### NRCS STAFF

Bob Stoll - NRCS District Conservationist

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

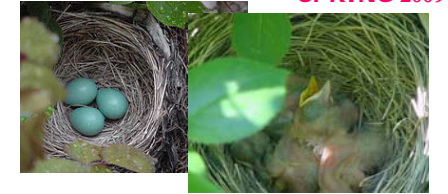
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U S POSTAGE  
BELLEFONTAINE, OH  
PERMIT NO. 324



# FOCUS ON CONSERVATION LOGAN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

SPRING 2009

"It is the goal of Logan Soil & Water Conservation District to promote stewardship of soil, water and other natural resources."



## CLEAN OHIO AGRICULTURE EASEMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM

The Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (AEPP) is a statewide program administered by the Ohio Department of Agriculture that preserves farmland through the purchase of permanent agricultural easements. AEPP receives funding from the Clean Ohio Fund, a bond initiative approved by Ohio voters in 2000.

Any Ohio landowner may apply to AEPP, provided their property is at least 40 acres in size, enrolled in CAUV and an agricultural district.

Landowners must apply to the AEPP through a Local Sponsor (i.e. Board of County Commissioners, Board of Township Trustees), or a qualified non-profit organization authorized to hold agricultural conservation easements. The Ohio legislature requires applications to be submitted by the local government unit or qualified conservation organization on behalf of the landowner in order for the nominated property to be considered for agricultural easement purchase. Local sponsors must access the online application by creating a user account and following the online application instructions. Landowners may not apply directly to AEPP.

The 2009 online application is due at 5:00 PM on May 11, 2009. A printed copy of the completed online application and attachment must be received by the office of farmland preservation by this deadline. At that time, the AEPP database will be locked and no more entries will be allowed.

For more information you can contact Logan SWCD at (937)593-2946, Matt Wilson, Logan County Land Trust at (937)666-5002 or the Ohio Department of Agriculture (614)728-6210.

ALL SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE DISABILITY, POLITICAL BELIEFS, MARITAL STATUS OR HANDICAP

### DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 21 LOGAN SWCD BOARD MEETING-  
7:00 PM -LOGAN SWCD OFFICE

MAY 5 AREA IV ENVIROTHON-HONDA OF  
AMERICA -EAST LIBERTY PLANT

MAY 10 MOTHER'S DAY

MAY 19 LOGAN SWCD BOARD MEETING-  
7:00 PM-LOGAN SWCD OFFICE

MAY 25 MEMORIAL DAY -OFFICE CLOSED

JUNE 16 LOGAN SWCD BOARD MEETING -  
7:00 PM -LOGAN SWCD OFFICE

JUNE 21 FATHER'S DAY

JULY 3 OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE  
DAY-LOGAN SWCD OFFICE CLOSED

JULY 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY



[www.co.logan.oh.us/soilandwater/](http://www.co.logan.oh.us/soilandwater/)

If you would prefer to receive the Logan SWCD newsletter electronically, please e-mail:

[deb.roberts@oh.nacdnet.net](mailto:deb.roberts@oh.nacdnet.net)

or to view our newsletter, visit our web site at:

[www.co.logan.oh.us/soilandwater/](http://www.co.logan.oh.us/soilandwater/)

## OHIO FENCE LAW CHANGES

Ohio's 103 year old fence law was revised this past summer by the Ohio General Assembly with the passage of House Bill 323 ( HB 323). It became effective on September 30.

For more information about House Bill 323, you may visit this web site:

[www.legislature.state.oh.us/analysis.cfm?ID=127\\_HB\\_323&ACT=As%20Enrolled&hf-analyses127/08-hb323-127.htm](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/analysis.cfm?ID=127_HB_323&ACT=As%20Enrolled&hf-analyses127/08-hb323-127.htm). If you prefer a hard copy of the bill or do not have access to the internet, please feel free to contact your State Representative or State Senator.



## FOCUS ON CONSERVATION

### LOGAN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

#### 2008 HIGHLIGHTS

The Logan Soil and Water Conservation District is a local government organization responsible for the promotion and development of natural resources within Logan County. We provide assistance and education to landowners both privately and through the classroom with planning and application of conservation practices on their land. Logan SWCD and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) provide technical assistance for federal programs administered by the Farm Service Agency.

District Technicians designed, surveyed and laid out a total of 36 grassed waterways equaling approximately 27,197 feet of waterways constructed in Logan County in 2008. The cost estimates of the waterways were \$218,650.00 with an estimated 4,793 tons of soil saved.

There are currently 7 active petition ditches on our list: Lower Green Joint Ditch, Stiles Ditch, McKees Creek, O. S. Black Ditch, Spellman Ditch, Mayor Painter Ditch.

Two Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans were completed involving approximately (250) animal units and approximately (181 acres).

The following conservation programs have provided funding for technical assistance and financial assistance for the implementation of conservation practices. Logan SWCD and NRCS provide technical assistance. The Farm Service Agency administers the government programs with the exception of CSP and EQIP.

Eight Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) applications were approved in 2008, bringing \$225,053.00 of funding for Logan County. There were 3 Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) contracts, 1 -60 acre Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) contract, and 2 Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) contracts.

By providing technical support for the Farm Service Agency's Conservation programs, Logan SWCD assisted with \$964,921.00 of annual payments and cost share made to Logan County producers in 2008.

Logan SWCD has a very active education program in all the schools in Logan County. This past year we presented 437 classroom presentations reaching out to 11,291 students. Topics presented include soil, water, forestry, wildlife and agriculture. We also hosted 21 days of fieldtrips including river trips, land labs and wetlands where students monitored water quality, and explored and discovered wildlife in Logan County.

A Passport to Fishing program was held in the summer at Camp Myeerah with 38 children in attendance. Our Ag Festival program is in its 12<sup>th</sup> year at each of the nine elementary schools. Ag Festival continues to target grades 2 – 4 and reaches 4,655 students with the assistance of 179 volunteers and a total of 224 presentations. Our education program is funded almost solely from grants and local donations.

Logan SWCD conducted their first Education Ag Tour. A group of 40 classroom teachers, active farmers and local urban residents traveled to Delaware, Knox, Coshocton and Muskingum counties on a well designed 2 day education ag tour in June. Tour stops included Price Farm Organics, Kenyon College highlighting locally grown products utilized at the college, the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Roscoe Village for a candlelight tour. After staying overnight at the Coshocton Village Inn and Suites, the group toured the Water's Family Swine Farm in Coshocton County and The Wild's.

Logan SWCD held their 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting October 26<sup>th</sup> at Camp Wesley in conjunction with a Forestry Field Day. Individuals who attended were served chili, hotdogs, hot chocolate and apple cider. Attendees enjoyed a bee keeping display, wood carving, forestry consulting and an antique ax display, a maple syrup display and the Ohio Bluebird display.

The Mad River Dulcimer Society performed. There were several demonstrations including Forestry Management Practices, Emerald Ash Borer and Firewood Movement, Proper Pruning Techniques, Native Plants and Their Uses, Right Tree, Right Place, Right Function, and a portable sawmill demonstration. Children enjoyed the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Archery Trailer, The Ohio Raptors program and made pine cones at the Logan SWCD Soils Tent. Smokey Bear also made an appearance. The Bellefontaine Shade Tree Commission helped sponsor the Forestry Field Day.

For more information about Logan SWCD and programs, please visit our web site at: <http://www.co.logan.oh.us/soilandwater/>



## LOGAN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### PUT THEM IN THE GROUND AND WATCH THEM GROW?....NOT EXACTLY

*Steve McGinnis, ODNR Division of Forestry Service Forester*

Now that the entire country seems to be going "green" many landowners in Ohio may feel motivated to do their part by planting trees on their property. Being a forester I am always excited to hear of people's intentions to reforest Ohio with tree seedlings, what ever their motivation might be. However, there are a few factors that should be taken into account before you attempt to create a wooded area for future generations to enjoy. As is the case with most time consuming projects, proper planning will save you time and aggravation in the long run. Seedling species, site preparation, time of planting, and seedling protection should all factor into your reforestation plan.

Tree species selection is a great place to start your planting process. Knowing the soil types and characteristics of the ground that you intend to reforest will assist you in narrowing down the list of tree species that are suitable for your planting venture. The success of your planting will rely heavily on choosing the right tree for the right place. The Ohio Division of Forestry's web site ([www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry)) contains an index of over 100 native and non-native Ohio trees. By clicking on the tree's common name you are given a comprehensive description of the species, the areas in Ohio where it is best suited to grow, sunlight requirements, growth rates, and many other helpful facts that can assist you in choosing the tree seedlings that are right for your planting. Other specific questions that you may have can always be answered by your Ohio Division of Forestry, Service Forester.

The timing of planting bare root seedling is fairly critical to its survival. For best results I recommend planting seedlings in early spring, no later than May 1. Whether you plan on planting by hand or employing the use of a mechanical planter, site vegetation by marking the rows in which the trees are to be planted, often times mowing those rows, then spraying the new growth with herbicide. This is preferably done in the fall, but can be done in the spring prior to when seedlings are planted. Keep in mind planting depth is also vital to the seedling's survival. It is important not to plant too deep or too shallow, but at the root collar line, with the soil firmly packed down around the tree roots.

After the trees are in the ground it is often necessary to protect them from wildlife predation. For years landowners have tried a variety of things to discourage deer, rabbit, and even mice populations from turning their beautifully constructed plantations into a quick lunch. Some of the most recent tactics I have come across include noise making objects such as aluminum pie pans, soap on a rope, scattering of human hair, bud caps, construction of fences, and spraying animal controlling chemicals. In my opinion one of the most effective ways to keep wildlife from ruining your hard work in to install tree shelters or tree tubes. Although with large plantings this method can be costly, they really will help you accomplish your goal of raising healthy trees.

If you choose to utilize any of these suggestions while planting trees on your property, I can promise you that you will be happier with your end result. For more information about reforestation or planting tree seedlings please contact your local Ohio Division of Forestry Service Forester or visit the Division's web site ([www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry)).