

LORAIN SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

**THE LATITUDE / LONGITUDE**  
**41° 21' 09" N. - 82° 08' 55" W.**

SUMMER/FALL 2016

**LORAIN SWCD ANNUAL MEETING:**

**IN COOPERATION WITH  
LORAIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU  
AT NEW RUSSIA TWP HALL—  
THE LODGE, OBERLIN**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve the natural resources and environment in Lorain County.



The Board of Supervisors will hold their annual meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2016, in cooperation with the Lorain County Farm Bureau.

The election of two supervisors will take place from 6:00-7:00 p.m. with

dinner at 7:00 p.m. There will be a brief business meeting, various awards, and scholarship presentations during the evening.

Tickets are \$13.00 each, with dinner provided by Bread-N-Brew. Tickets are on sale now through September 1, 2016.

Use order form on the back page. **No** tickets will be sold at the door.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us!



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**SUPERVISOR ELECTION**

An election of two supervisors to the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be conducted at the annual meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at the New Russia Township Hall -The Lodge from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. There are three candidates vying for two seats on the Board: William Schlechter, Scott Justin & John Hadgis. The highest vote earners among them will be elected. Absentee ballots will be available from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. starting on August 18, 2016, and continuing until 4:30 p.m. on the day of the election. You may request your ballot in person, in writing, or by calling the District office at 440-326-5800.

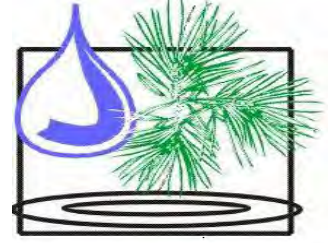
**STRAW BLOWER FOR RENT**

The Lorain SWCD has a straw blower for rent that will make covering your new lawn or ditch seeding much easier. Minimum rental fee is \$50 per four hour meter hours. The blower uses 40-45 bales of straw per acre. The trailer requires a 2" ball hitch for pulling. Call the office to schedule a rental time.

**FALL FISH SALE:**  
**Info & order form - pg. 3**



## LORAIN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



### CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the Lorain SWCD poster contest winners sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)! Connor Zanny from Liberty Elementary in North Ridgeville was the 1st place winner in the 2nd-3rd grade category. Taylor Phillips, Haley Schrull, Jyere Alston, Katelyn Truxall and Mikayla Jackson from McKinley Elementary school in Elyria were the 1st, 2nd and Honorable Mention winners respectively in the 4th-5th grade category. Micaela Nelsen and Paige Bartolotta from Keystone High School were the 1st and 2nd place winners in the 11th-12th grade category from LaGrange.

We would also like to extend our congratulations to Jessica Novotny from Avon High School who was the recipient of the Joel McRoberts Memorial Scholarship. She will be attending The Ohio State University in the fall to study Environmental Science. A winner of the Joel McRoberts Continuing Education Scholarship has not yet been named.

We had two teams participating in the High School Area II Envirothon this past spring! Thank you to Shannon Thome, Wellington High School FFA Advisor and her students for representing Lorain County. Brianna Walter, Jason Diedrick, Corey Diedrick, Baily Wise, and Hannah Downs demonstrated their knowledge of aquatics, soil, forestry, wildlife, and environmental issues! The Keystone Tree Huggers also represented Lorain County and consisted of Cole Goldsmith, Bailey Seman, Jeremy Lance, Dakota McDevitt and Ashley Gaughan. Thank you to Mary Szczepanik and Tracy Abfall for advising these Keystone students in the conservation field!



Pictured: Bailey Wise, Brianna Walter, Jason Diedrick, Corey Diedrick, and Hannah Downs from the Wellington Future Farmers of America.

**BIG TREE CONTEST WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT LORAIN SWCD ANNUAL MEETING ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH!**



We received over a dozen nominations for our Lorain County Big Tree Contest. The featured tree species this year was the White Oak family. Karl Schneider and Caroline Cicerchi have been measuring each nominated tree using the ODNR Division of Forestry's Big Tree Program procedures. Each tree will receive a score based on trunk circumference, crown spread, and total height to determine the winner. Next year's Big Tree Contest will feature the Red Oak family. More information on the contest will be featured in our Winter/Spring newsletter!



**COME SEE US AT THE LORAIN COUNTY-FAIR!!**



Stop by and see our booth located in the Soil Conservation Red Barn #28.

## FALL FISH SALE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2016, 10:00-11:30 A.M.—AG CENTER PARKING LOT — 42110 RUSSIA RD, ELYRIA

The truck from Fender’s Fish Hatchery of Baltic, Ohio, will be here at 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. to distribute orders. Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Hybrid Bluegill, Channel Catfish, Redear Shellcrackers, Yellow Perch, Fathead Minnows, Triploid White Amur, and Japanese Koi are available.

**On pick-up day, you will need to bring a container filled with your pond water to pick up your order**— approximately 5 gallons of water for each 100 fingerling size fish. We suggest using a trash can with a new plastic liner—then adding the pond water so the top of the bag can be tied shut for transportation. Remember, the Amur are 10-12” long and need a suitable container.

Other stocking recommendations are 100 Largemouth Bass and 500 Bluegill per surface acre of pond area. Channel Catfish can also be stocked in ponds that are a 1/2 acre or larger. Though they will not reproduce in a pond, they do provide excellent fishing. A 4-6” long Catfish stocked this fall will double in size by next spring.

**New** this season are Japanese Koi! These fish have become popular in the last 10 years for farm pond use. The reason for stocking Koi have ranged from vegetation control to cosmetic purposes. Koi will eat aquatic vegetation such as duckweed and watermill, while adding a little color to your pond. Recommended stocking rate is no more than 5 Koi per acre. Also added this season is pond conditioner - a once a year treatment that adds a natural green color while lowering fertility levels in your pond.

### FISH SALE ORDER FORM

Fingerling-size fish for stocking your ponds.

**Order deadline date: Friday, September 30, 2016**

**Order pick-up date: Tuesday, October 4, 2016**

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Mail and return with payment to:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Lorain SWCD

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

42110 Russia Road, Elyria, OH 44035

Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_ County where Amur are stocked: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Species</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Total</u>
Largemouth Bass	2-4"	\$0.90	_____	_____
Bluegill	3-5"	\$0.80	_____	_____
**Hybrid Bluegill	3-5"	\$0.80	_____	_____
Channel Catfish	4-6"	\$0.80	_____	_____
Redear Shellcracker	2-4"	\$0.90	_____	_____
Yellow Perch	4-6"	\$0.85	_____	_____
Fathead Minnow	per 100	\$7.00	_____	_____
**Japanese Koi	6-8"	\$12.00	_____	_____
Triploid White Amur	6-8"	\$13.00	_____	_____
**Nature’s Pond Conditioner 1 bottle per 1/4 acre		\$90.00	_____	_____
<b>**New to our order form!</b>			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>





## IN MEMORIAM

Bob Pitts, former supervisor for the Lorain Soil and Water Conservation District, passed away, March 14, 2016. Bob Pitts was one of the most influential conservationists in the history of Lorain County. He was a board member with the Lorain Soil and Water Conservation District (LSWCD) for 30 years and served on the Board of the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts for eight years. For a two-year period (1983-84) he was president of that organization traveling the state and nation promoting soil and water conservation efforts including conservation tillage and water quality.

Pitts was the first SWCD supervisor to serve in that capacity on the state level. Closer to home, Bob was a local pioneer in the use of no-till farming as a method to control soil erosion and improve water quality. He began farming in Brighton Township in 1956 and by the 1980s was farming almost exclusively using no-till methods. He promoted this tirelessly and traveled the state advocating the benefits. Bob served actively as a local LSWCD supervisor and promoted the concept of voluntary conservation through conservation districts.

The Lorain SWCD broke ground on many new programs during his tenure. In recent years, Pitts was inducted into the Ohio SWCD Hall of Fame. An honor of which he was extremely proud. Bob's core beliefs included: family, community, country, faith, and agriculture. He had been handicapped for many years from a farming accident but did not let that slow him down. He will be missed by his wife Doris, son Alan, daughter, Elaine, in-laws and grand-children, and all that knew him.

The Lorain Soil and Water Conservation District and all of the local conservation family and agricultural community will miss him. Lorain County is a better place because of him. The Board of Supervisors has requested donations can be made to the Joel McRoberts Scholarship Fund in Bob Pitt's name.

### ELECTION LEGAL NOTICE

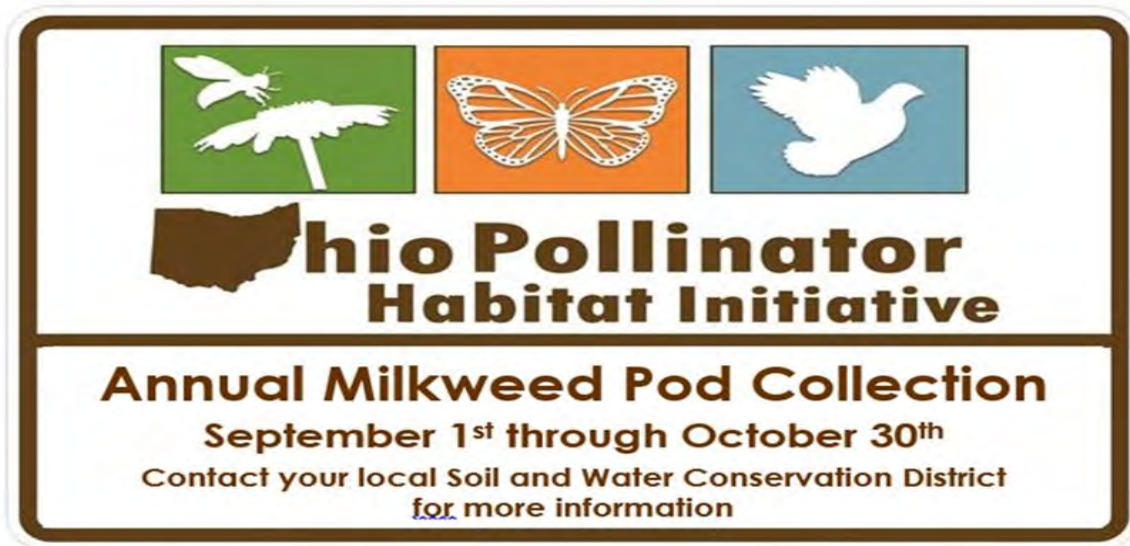
The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of Supervisors of the Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District to be held in accordance with Chapter 1515 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Residents or landowners, firms, and corporations that own land or occupy land in Lorain County and are 18 years of age and older may vote for Supervisor. A non-resident landowner, firm, or corporation must provide an affidavit of eligibility, which includes designation of a voting representative, prior to casting a ballot.

There are three ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot: (1) at the annual meeting, which will take place at New Russia Twp. hall on September 8, 2016, with voting from 6-7:00 p.m.; (2) at the SWCD office until 4:30 p.m. on September 8, 2016; or (3) vote absentee starting August 18, 2016, by requesting the proper absentee request forms from the SWCD office at the following address: *Lorain SWCD, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria OH 44035, 440-326-5800.*

Two (2) Supervisors will be elected. Nominees are:

1. John Hadgis
2. Scott Justin
3. Will Schlechter



Planting Milkweed for Monarchs is vital! Milkweed is the sole host plant for Monarch butterflies. This particular plant is lacking on the landscape and has had a direct effect on Monarch populations. Please join us in our effort to replenish this essential plant in Ohio by collecting milkweed pods in your area. The District office will be collecting Milkweed Pods beginning September 1st through October 30th.

Milkweed exudes a thick white sap from any cut or broken surface. They flower from June to August and consist of a large cluster of individual flowers on a stalk. Milkweed may live as little as 2 to 3 years or as long as 25 years. It is considered a weed in many areas, resulting in frequent, sometimes large-scale attempts to get rid of it.

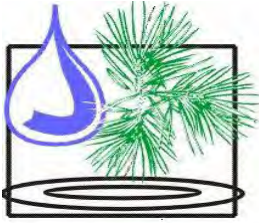
To collect the seed pods from a milkweed plant it is best to pick them when they are dry, gray, or brown in color. If the center seam pops with gentle pressure, they can be picked. It is best to collect pods into paper bags or paper grocery sacks. Avoid using plastic bags because they attract moisture. Store seeds in a cool, dry area until you can deliver to the closest pod collection area, Lorain SWCD office, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria. When collecting Milkweed pods, wear appropriate clothing for the outdoors. It is recommended that you wear disposable gloves when picking and handling pods. For more information or questions, feel free to give us a call at (440) 326-5800.



**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

Lorain Soil & Water Conservation

District has a Facebook page!



**LORAIN SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

42110 Russia Road, Elyria OH 44035  
PH: 440-326-5800 Fax: 440-326-5807  
www.lorainswcd.com

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ELYRIA OH  
PERMIT 22

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

Will Schlechter, Chairman  
Lawry Babitt, Vice-Chairman  
Jessica Duplaga, Secretary  
Robert Ternes, Jr., Treasurer  
John Grills, Member

Associate Members

Ron Baumann  
Neil Breyley  
Dan Buttler  
John Forthofer  
David Manning  
Alan Pitts

DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Caroline Cicerchi, Urban Erosion & Stormwater Specialist  
Lynne Parsh, Secretary  
Karl Schneider, Natural Resources Coordinator

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Derrick Harmon, Lorain/Medina District Conservationist  
Rocemi Morales, Resource Conservationist  
Drew DeMatteo, Soil Conservationist  
Bob Pandy, WWE

LORAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ted Kalo, Lori Kokoski, Matt Lundy



**Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District**

**Annual Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 8, 2016**

**In cooperation with Lorain County Farm Bureau  
New Russia Twp. Hall-The Lodge, 46300 Butternut  
Ridge Rd., Oberlin**

**Supervisor Election: 6:00—7:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m.**

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Reservations** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$13.00 each = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**For reservations: Please return this form to Lorain SWCD, 42110 Russia Rd., Elyria, OH 44035 or call the SWCD office at 440-326-5800 — Deadline is Thursday, Sept. 1, 2016.**

