

FAIRFIELD FEATURES



February 2018
Volume 20 Issue 1

The Fairfield Features is published quarterly by the Fairfield Soil & Water Conservation District
831 College Avenue, Suite B, Lancaster, Ohio 43130 (740) 653-8154

FARMS PROTECTED WITH CLEAN OHIO FUNDS



Jay & Cindy Beyer

The Board of Fairfield County Commissioners in partnership with the Ohio Department of Agriculture have closed two more agricultural easements. The Beyer family of Richland Township adds another 110 acres of protection along Little Rush Creek through their participation. This brings the total of protected farmland in Richland Township to 1,345 acres.

The Kircher family has the honor of being the first protected farmland in Amanda Township. Their 49.53 acres brings the total protected in partnership with the Commissioners to 3,135 acres.

The total in the county among all partners including USDA and area land trusts comes to 4,015 acres. The Commissioners have an additional 383 acres pending protection. Thanks to

all the conservation minded partners involved to make these easements happen. We estimate at least 31 individuals play a role in making an easement happen from landowners to the State, County Commissioners, Recorder, Auditor, Map Room, Clerks, USDA-NRCS, foresters, farm operators, title companies, banks, attorneys, accountants and an SWCD employee. Thank you all for helping protect our prime and unique farmland for future generations!



Joseph & Elisabeth Kircher

SUPERVISORS SWORN IN



Tim White and Mark Boving, Fairfield SWCD Board Supervisors, were recently re-elected to another three-year term. They were both sworn into office by State Representative Tim Schaffer prior to the January 11, 2018, regular board meeting.



Spring is almost here! It's time again for the Tree & Wildlife Packet Sale. See inside for descriptions and order form.

2018 Tree & Wildlife Packet Sale

PLEASE ORDER EARLY as orders are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. All orders are subject to availability. There is no limit to the number of packets you may order; however, payment must be included with your order. **Pick-up date is Friday, April 6, 2018.** The Fairfield SWCD will not be liable for any seedlings not picked up on the original pick-up date.

All trees and shrubs are state and federally inspected. We may need to make reasonable substitutions based on availability of certain species. All trees and shrubs are bare root seedlings 6 to 18 inches in height. **Orders must be received by Friday, March 16, 2018.**

Tree Descriptions

Tree Name	Mature Height	Mature Width	Growth Rate	Light Required	Soil Moisture	Soil pH	Comments/Uses
Eastern White Cedar	20' - 60'	10' - 15'	S-M	S	M,W	A	aka American Arborvitae, well-adapted
White Pine	60' - 80'	20' - 40'	F	S	M	N,A	windbreaks, timber, wildlife
Allegheny Serviceberry	15' - 40'	15' - 40'	M	S, P	D,M	A,N	wildlife, edible fruit, autumn color
American Hazelnut	10' - 16'	8' - 15'	M-F	S,P	M	A,N,B	edible nut, wildlife, tolerant of clay soil
Bald Cypress	50' - 100'	20' - 40'	M	S	D,M,W	A	deciduous conifer, wetland species, timber, wildlife
Black Cherry	50' - 80'	30' - 60'	M	S, P	M	N,B	wildlife, timber, spring flowers, autumn color
Black Gum	30' - 50'	20' - 30'	S	S, P	M	A	ornamental, erosion control, timber, autumn color
Bottlebrush Buckeye	6' - 12'	8' - 15'	M-F	P,SH	M,W	N,B	spring flowers, butterflies, autumn color
Burr Oak	70' - 100'	70'-100'	S	S	D,M,W	A,N,B	wildlife, timber, shade, drought tolerant
Northern Pecan	80' - 120'	60' - 100'	S	S	M,W	A, N	edible nut, wildlife, provides shade, fall color
Pawpaw	15' - 30'	15' - 30'	M-F	S,P	M,W	A, N	edible fruit, wildlife
Ohio Buckeye	45' - 100'	20' - 30'	M-F	S, P, SH	M	A, N	early to leaf out in spring, interesting flowers & nuts
Redbud	25' - 30'	26' - 33'	M	S, P	M, W	B	adaptable, edible pink-magenta flowers
Red Oak	50' - 60'	50' - 60'	F	S	D,M	N	tolerates dry conditions, landscaping, timber
River Birch	40' - 60'	30' - 50'	M-F	S, P	W	A	landscaping, shade, ornamental bark
Shellbark Hickory	100'-120'	74' - 80'	M	S, P	W	A	floodplains, bottomlands, wildlife
Sugar Maple	60' - 80'	20' - 40'	S-M	S	M	N	landscaping, timber, autumn color, maple syrup
Swamp White Oak	50' - 70'	50' - 70'	S-M	S,P	M	A	adaptable, bottomlands, timber, wildlife
White Flowering Dogwood	20' - 30'	20' - 25'	S-M	S, P	M	A	spring flowers, red/burgandy autumn color
White Oak	50' - 70'	50' - 70'	S-M	S, P	D,M,W	N	timber, wildlife, long-lived, ornamental
Soil Moisture (W = wet, M = medium, D = dry)					Light (S = sun, P = part sun/shade, SH = shade)		
Soil pH (N = normal pH range 6.5 - 7.5, A - acidic 6.5 or less, B = basic/alkaline 7.5 or higher)							
Growth Rate (F = fast 12+ inches/year, M = medium 6"-12"/year, S = slow 2"-6"/year)							

For more plant information, visit: <http://forestry.ohiodnr.gov/trees>, <http://plants.usda.gov/java> or search the web for a specific plant.

2018 Tree & Wildlife Packet Order Form

	Pack of 5 12"-18"		Pack of 25 9"-16"		Pack of 100 9"-16"		
Native Evergreen Trees	# of pkts.	Cost	# of pkts.	Cost	# of pkts.	Cost	Total
Eastern White Cedar	x	\$10	x	\$20	x	\$60	
White Pine	x	\$10	x	\$20	x	\$60	
Native Deciduous Trees	12"-18"		6"-12"		6"-12"		
Allegheny Serviceberry	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
American Hazelnut	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Bald Cypress	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Black Cherry	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Black Gum	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Bottlebrush Buckeye	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Burr Oak	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Northern Pecan	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Pawpaw	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Ohio Buckeye	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Redbud	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Red Oak	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
River Birch	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Shellbark Hickory	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Sugar Maple	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Swamp White Oak	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
White Flowering Dogwood	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
White Oak	x	\$10	x	\$30	x	\$90	
Additional Items							
Wildflower Seed Packet - showy annuals, native perennials & grasses; plants up to 200 sq. ft.					x	\$4.50	
Marking Flags will be available for purchase on the day of pick up at a cost of \$10 for a bundle of 100							

Order Grand Total \$

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____
(needed if you would like to receive notice as to when you can pick up your packets - if you do not supply an e-mail, you will receive a post card in the mail)

Orders must be received by:
Friday, March 16, 2018

Send payment to: Fairfield SWCD
 831 College Ave., Suite B
 Lancaster, OH 43130

For Office Use Only:

Date Paid: _____ Receipt # _____

Check # _____ Cash

MID-WINTER WATERFOWL AND RIVER OTTER SURVEY RESULTS FOR 2018

Despite most water bodies being locked in solid ice due to extended sub-freezing temperatures during the latter half of December, SWCD Wildlife Specialist Tommy Springer and Wildlife Officer Tony Zerkle were able to locate a few patches of open water and observe several thousand ducks and geese while conducting the annual mid-winter waterfowl survey. This survey takes place during the first week of January each year and counts are taken from twelve pre-selected locations around Fairfield County. Total individuals observed from select species were: Canada geese – 2,430; Mallards – 793; Tundra swans – 2; Gadwalls – 38; Redheads (ducks) – 27; Ring-necked duck – 15; Black ducks – 63.

This year marks the third year that Fairfield County has been included in the Division of Wildlife's river otter survey program. There are five survey sites around the county, located where public roads cross streams and rivers near suitable river otter habitat. Sections of Walnut Creek, Rush Creek, Clear Creek, and the Hocking River are all part of this annual survey.

For the second year in a row, river otter activity was confirmed at a site along Walnut Creek in Liberty Township, but no river otter activity has been observed at any of the other sites since the official survey began. Fairfield County residents are encouraged to contact Fairfield SWCD Wildlife Specialist Tommy Springer to report any local river otter sightings.

SWCD BOARD SUPERVISOR RECEIVES AWARD



At the December Area 5 Winter Meeting, Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District Board Supervisor Tim White was the recipient of the 2017 Supervisor of the Year Award. Area 5 consists of 17 counties from central Ohio to the Ohio River. Tim, pictured above with SWCD Engineer/Manager Amy Boyer, is starting his fourth term as supervisor. Congratulations, Tim!

PICKAWAY-FAIRFIELD GRAZING SCHOOL BEING HELD

Tuesday, March 13, 6 - 9 p.m.
Wednesday, March 14, 6 - 9 p.m.
Saturday, March 17, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Workshop Location:
St. Paul United Methodist Church
22976 Ringgold Southern Road
Stoutsville, OH 43154

Deadline to Register: March 9, 2018
Questions? Contact Pickaway SWCD
at (740) 477-1693

Topics will include:

- What is MIG?
- Pasture Plant Growth
- Pasture Soil Fertility
- Meeting Animal Requirements on Pasture
- Economics of Grazing
- Tall Fescue Management
- Grazing for Wildlife
- Programs for Producers
- Fencing & Watering Systems
- Stockpiling
- Pasture Weed ID and Control
- Pasture Walk

Pickaway-Fairfield Grazing School Registration

Cost is \$35 (includes fee for binder and 1 individual entry; please add \$5 for each additional person)

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

Make checks payable & mail to: Pickaway SWCD, 110 Island Road, Suite D, Circleville, OH 43113

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FAIRFIELD SWCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REORGANIZE

On January 11, 2018, the Fairfield SWCD Board of Supervisors selected the following officers for 2018:

- Mark Boving - *Chair*
- Wendy LaRue - *Vice Chair*
- Matt Reese - *Secretary*
- Don Rector - *Treasurer/Fiscal Agent*
- Tim White - *Member*

The regular monthly Board meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Fairfield County Ag Center. Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings. Please contact our office for information on any changes to the schedule.

NUISANCE TRAPPER LIST UPDATES

Fairfield SWCD is looking to update our list of individuals who are interested in trapping nuisance wildlife. This list includes both commercially licensed nuisance trappers and private individuals. County residents who would like to be added to this list should contact Tommy Springer, Wildlife Specialist by phone (740) 415-3905, or email tspringer@fairfieldswcd.org.

If replying by email, please include the following information:

- Name/contact information
- Preferred contact method (phone, email, social media, etc.)
- Species of animals you're willing to trap
- Availability for in-season trapping, out of season trapping, or both

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington D.C. 20250 or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

- Mark Boving
- Wendy LaRue
- Don Rector
- Matt Reese
- Tim White

DISTRICT PERSONNEL

- Amy Boyer
- Nikki Drake
- Jonathan Ferbrache
- Christina Holt
- Chad Lucht
- Tommy Springer

NRCS PERSONNEL

- Dave Libben
- Brice Shaw

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