

# WASHINGTON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION CORNER

July 2026

21330 St Rt 676, Suite E  
Marietta, Ohio 45750  
740-885-3325

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## SWCD STAFF

Sandy Lahmers -  
Administrator/Floodplain

Kathy Davis - Stormwater  
Coordinator

Hannah Swope - Wildlife/Forestry  
Specialist

Alexis Coffman - Education  
Specialist

Clay Hansell - Ag Specialist

## SWCD BOARD

Chuck Hicks

Michelle Schwendeman

Randy Fisher

John Hartline

Jeff Jones



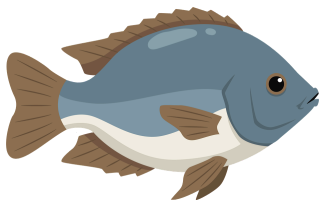
## In This Issue...

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- Education & Outreach
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- Save the Date - Annual Meeting
- Board of Supervisors Search
- Find Us at the Fair
- FSA Text Alerts
- Tick Information Workshop

## Dates To Remember...

- July
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> - Office Closed
  - 8<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Board Meeting
  - 9<sup>th</sup> - Forestry Clinic
  - 13<sup>th</sup> - Tick Workshop (Athens County)
  - 27<sup>th</sup> - Composting Workshop
- August
  - 12<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Board Meeting
- September
  - 9<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Board meeting
  - 28<sup>th</sup> - Fish Sale Due



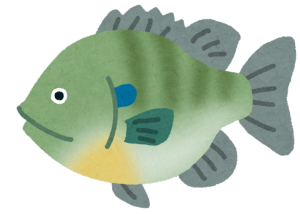


# 2026 Fish Sale

October 7th

Pick-up Hours: 9:30-10:00 A.M.

Washington SWCD Parking Lot  
21330 SR 676  
Marietta, OH 45750



Species	Price	Quantity	Subtotal
Largemouth Bass 2" to 3"	\$2.60		
Bluegill 2" to 3"	\$1.10		
Channel Catfish 4" to 5"	\$1.00		
Hybrid Bluegill 2" to 3"	\$1.10		
Red Ear Shellcracker 2" to 3"	\$1.10		
Black Crappie 3"	\$1.60		
Yellow Perch 3" to 4"	\$1.60		
White Amur 10" to 12" (recommend 10-12 per acre)	\$18.00		
Fat Head Minnows 1" to 3"	\$16.00 per Lb.		
Transport Box, Bag & O2	\$3.10		
Floating Fish Food	\$55.00		
Muckaway 4lb.	\$90.00		
<b>Total</b>		<b>Sales Tax @ 7.25%</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>			

2026 Fish Sale Order Form  
Order deadline: September 28, 2026

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

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

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

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to:  
**Washington SWCD**

PAYMENT MUST BE MADE AT TIME OF  
ORDERING THE FISH. TO ORDER, CLIP THE  
ORDER FORM FROM THIS FLYER AND  
MAIL IT ALONG WITH PAYMENT TO:

WASHINGTON SWCD  
21330 SR 676 Suite E  
Marietta, OH 45750

Additional order forms available at:  
[washingtoncountyswcd.com](http://washingtoncountyswcd.com)

NOTE: A transport box, bag, and O2 is recommended to warranty survival. While it is not mandatory to purchase this, the hatchery will not be able to replace any fish that do not survive transportation if you choose to use your own containers. Each transport box can hold up to 10 Amur, 50 catfish or perch, 5lbs. of minnows, or 100 of the other smaller species. Please call with any questions you may have. 740-885-3318

# Tips for Stocking Your Pond

Stocking your pond will not only bring you lots of fishing fun, but you will be helping to keep the algae, weeds, insects, leeches and worms under control.

## CREATING A BALANCE

Your fish stocking strategy for your pond should ensure that your predator fish will have a bountiful selection of prey, while still giving the prey fish a sporting chance to mature and reproduce. Keep in mind that catfish will have little effect on the prey to predator ratio as they will pretty much stick to themselves at the bottom of the pond.

When you have properly stocked your pond, your fish population tends to keep itself in check. When you first stock your pond it is recommended to add some fathead minnows to feed the predator fish while the prey fish get established. In proper conditions, minnows can be a snack for your fish that will replenish themselves.

## FISH TYPES

When stocking your pond, selecting fish of similar size will also help the population grow together. The number of fish you add to your population will ultimately depend on the surface area of your lake or pond.

<u>STOCKING COMBINATION</u>	<u>NUMBER OF FISH TO STOCK PER ACRE</u>			
	BASS	BLUEGILL	REDEAR	CATFISH
Bass - Bluegill	100	500	0	0
Bass - Bluegill - Catfish	100	500	0	100
Bass - Redear	100	0	500	0
Bass - Bluegill - Redear	100	350	150	0
Bass - Bluegill - Redear - Catfish	100	350	150	100

When stocking your pond with fish, make sure you take stock of any fish you may already have in the pond.

## BEST TIME TO STOCK

Spring or fall is the ideal time for stocking fish in your pond. Temperatures are mild and oxygen levels are high, so the stress factors affecting your fish will be at their lowest. Once acclimated to your pond, they will be primed to flourish.

## ACCLIMATING FISH

Acclimating fish is simple just place the transportation bag in a shaded area of the pond and let float for 15-20 minutes. This allows your fish to slowly adjust to water temperatures in your pond. Next open the bag and let the fish swim out on their own. If you are adding fish to a pond where fish are already present, release minnows at one end of the pond to attract larger fish and release the smaller fish at the opposite end so they have a chance to find shelter.

## HABITAT

Keep in mind when stocking fish in your pond, adding habitat will increase the area for the smaller prey fish and minnows to hide and safely reproduce. Weeds and other structures already in your pond will provide some cover. Habitat structures can be constructed from many different natural and man-made materials. Easily obtained materials such as discarded Christmas trees can be banded together, weighted and sunk, although trees such as oak, hickory, and cedar work best due to their resistance to decay. Man-made materials such as PVC pipe, field tile, concrete block, and wooden pallets can also be fashioned into fish attracting devices.

## MAINTENANCE

To keep the population of both predator and prey fish healthy, make sure your water is well oxygenated when you are stocking fish in your pond. An aeration system and use of beneficial bacteria, will increase the amount of dissolved oxygen in the water, and prevent harmful stratification from occurring.

Try to catch some of the fish in your pond each season and record how many of each type you are pulling out of the pond while inspecting them for healthy color, weight, and size. Occasionally checking up on your fish will decrease the frequency and severity of population issues, while making your pond an enjoyable addition to your home with fun activities for the entire family.

# Sign-up Now for the Cover Crop Program.....Payment Rates have Increased!!!



Applications can be accepted through July 8<sup>th</sup> for the 2026 cover crop program. **Important reminders:**

- Cover crop of your choice may be planted following NRCS standards and specifications in regards to planting dates and seeding rates
- Only certified seed may be used (you may have bin run seed tested)
- No restrictions on destroying cover crop (may be harvested, grazed or destroyed)
- Notify SWCD & FSA offices within 5 days of planting
- Submit seed invoices for payment
- Payment rates are \$20 per acre: MWCD payment level remains at \$12/acre but the SWCD board of supervisors have voted to pay an additional \$8/acre.

Local producers are beginning to notice the benefits of planting cover crops to decrease weed pressure in the spring, reduce erosion of topsoil, as well as improve organic matter numbers on soil tests, all of which are increasingly important, given the current small profit margins in grain cropping. So why not add \$20/acre into your rotation and reap all the other benefits as well? Stop by the office and get signed up!

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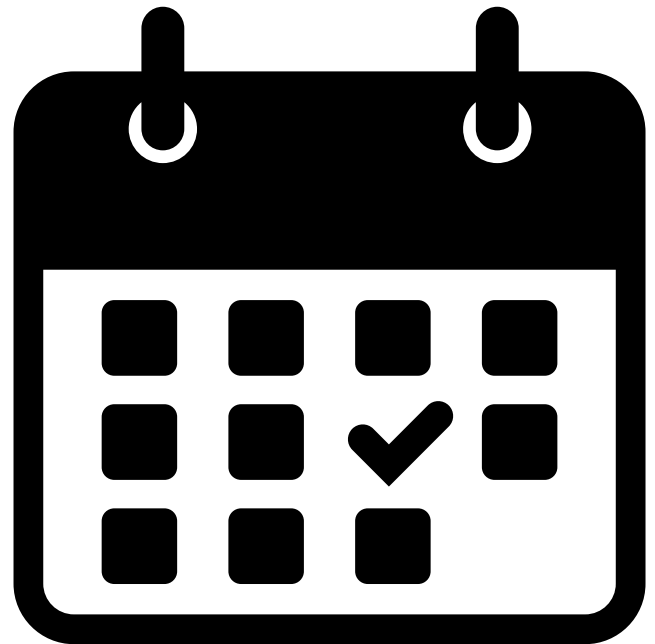
## Conservation Calendar

The District will be putting together a Conservation Calendar for Washington County and we need your help! We are looking for photos to use for each month's cover photo. Do you have a fun photo you have snapped recently? Send it to us! We will be accepting entries until August 7th, 2026.

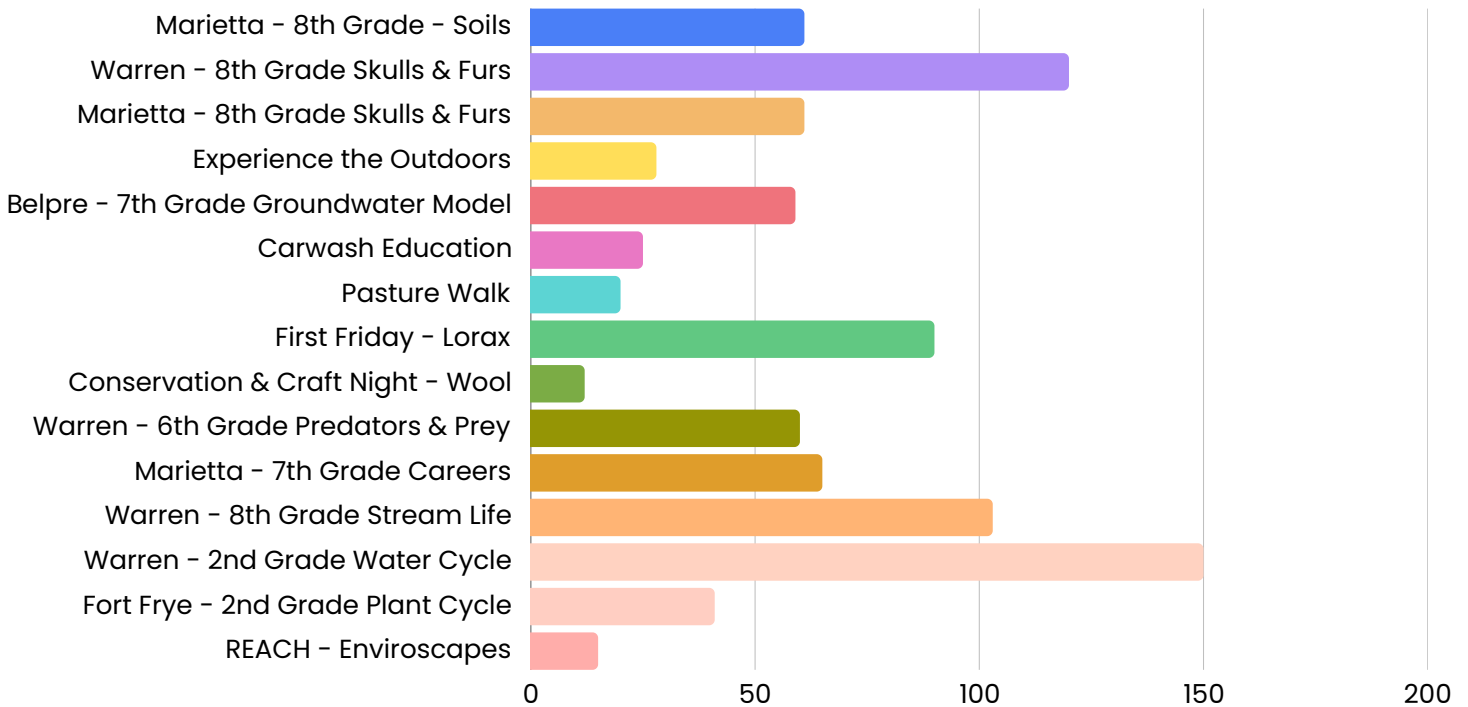
Prizes will be award for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Voting will happen during Waterford Fair and Washington County Fair.

Interested in sponsoring a month for your business? Give us a call and we can send information to you.

Contact Alexis Coffman  
740-885-3289  
acoffman@wcgov.org



## Education & Outreach



The Month of May was filled with Education & Outreach! Everyone was all hands on deck to provide students as well as adults education in our County. Have an event or activity coming up, let us know if we can help!



## Conservation Poster Contest

And the winners are.....

- K-1st Grade
  1. Lexi McNish
  2. Charlotte Paxton
- 2nd - 3rd Grade
  1. Kaleb Coffman
  2. Wade Roark

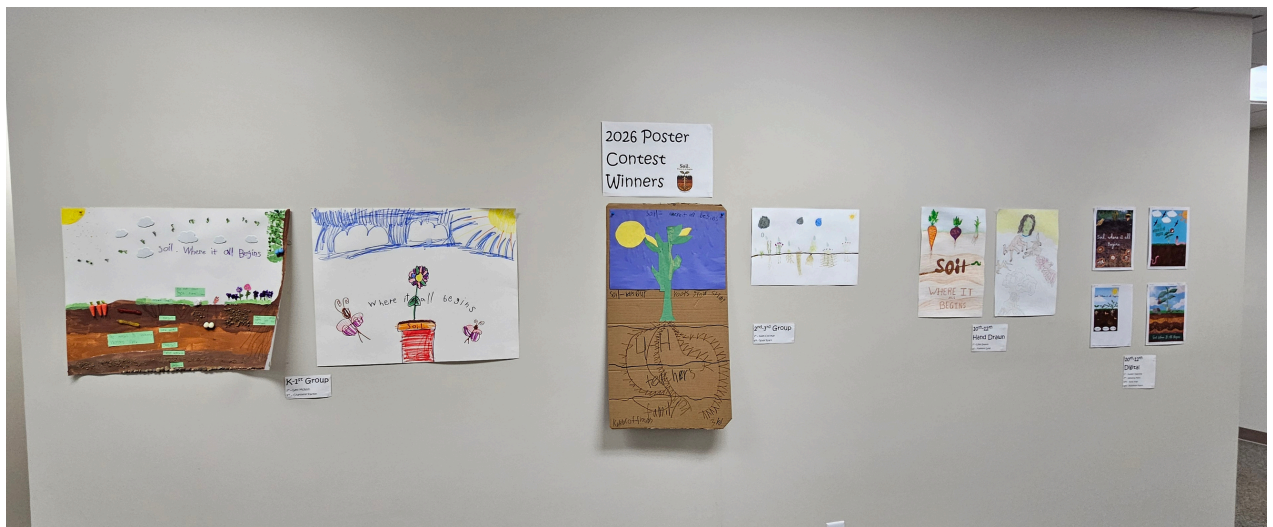
10th-12 Grade - Hand Drawn

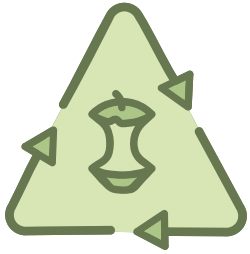
1. Libby Swaney
2. Madelynn Lang

10th-12th Grade - Digital

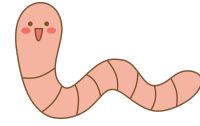
1. Kazden Valentine
  2. Samantha Myers
- HM. Keira Yoak  
HM. McKensie Mason

Thanks to everyone who participated this year! The posters are displayed at the Office. Stop by anytime during our normal business hours to see them.





## Composting Workshop



Turn your kitchen scraps, yard waste and paper products into rich compost! The District is partnering with OSU Extension's Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator, T.J. Wells to provide a Composting Workshop. The workshop will be **FREE** with refreshments provided.



**When:** July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 6:00pm

**Where:** Washington County Career Center  
21740 ST. RT. 676  
Marietta, OH 45750

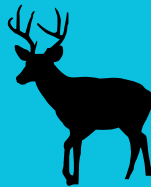
RSVP to Alexis Coffman at  
[acoffman@wcgov.org](mailto:acoffman@wcgov.org) or 740-885-3289



**THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**  
EXTENSION



## Forestry Workshop



Join the Ohio River Valley Woodland Owner Group (ORVWOG) to learn how to maximize habitat for game species and other wildlife. Those in attendance will learn about many habitat management techniques such as creating early successional habitat, white oak management, invasive species control, and timber stand improvement methods. Whether you are interested in learning how to create deer bedding and browse, turkey poult brood rearing areas, or the benefits of prescribed fire, this presentation will help woodland owners and wildlife enthusiasts alike in reaching your goals. This event will take place on Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026; 6-8 PM with a lite dinner at 5:30 PM. Location is the Washington County Career Center, 21740 St. Rt. 676 Marietta, OH 45750. This event is **free** however, registration is required by July 2<sup>nd</sup>. To register, please call Hannah Swope at 740-885-3318.

### Other upcoming ORVWOG events:

**September 22nd, 2026** - Timber Stand Improvement with in-the-field live demonstrations.  
Noble County

**November TBA** - Meet Your Resources, come meet your local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service staff, local contractors, and many more.  
Monroe County



# Save the Date!

Mark your calendar's for the District's Annual Meeting

**When:** October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

**Where:** K of C Hall, Marietta, OH 45750

**Who:** Anyone from Washington County can attend. In the Fall newsletter will be more information and how to RSVP for the night.

Be on the look out for our booth at Waterford Fair, Washington County Fair and Barlow Fair!



## Seeking Supervisor Candidates

The Soil & Water District is governed by a board of 5 supervisors. Each member is elected at the annual meeting in the fall to a three year term. Terms are staggered so that not all supervisors are elected at the same time. This year there is one position up for election and the District is required to have two candidates on the ballot. In order to have a ballot ready for the election, the process starts now.

Duties of a supervisor include, but are not limited to:

- Attending 12 monthly meetings
- Attending special/emergency meetings
- Attending field days, events, etc. sponsored by the District if available
- Attending state meetings/trainings, if available
- Governing the technical, educational and financial operations of the District
- Hiring/overseeing the employees of the District

If you are interested in finding out more information and/or becoming a candidate for supervisor, please contact Sandy at the office at 740-885-3313.





### FSA Text Alerts

Don't miss the next FSA deadline! Sign up for their reminder text service.

Text  
To: 372669  
Message:  
OHWashington



## Combatting Tick Borne Pathogens in the Cow Herd

The program will cover current strategies to reduce the impact of tick borne disease in the cow herd. University experts and veterinarians will be on hand to answer questions as well.

**When:** July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 6pm

**Where:** Federal Valley Resource Center 8225 St. Rt. 329 Stewart, OH 45778

RSVP to Garth Ruff at [ruff.72@osu.edu](mailto:ruff.72@osu.edu)



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## Agriculture Word Scramble

GNRIFAM

VHTAESR

TAORIIRING

COPSR

LOSI

RTLRFIEIEZ

WPOGLNI

COMTOSP

YROAGMNO

YIDEL

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