

DARKE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

May 17, 2017

Main Topics:

Educational Canoe Float – June 9th

- Partnership with Miami SWCD, Darke & Miami Co Parks, and City of Greenville
- We are back on the Scenic Stillwater River this year, but will be departing from the Stillwater Beach Campground and taking out at Maple Ridge Preserve in Miami County off St Rt 185
- Ask that registrants arrive no later than 8:45am to ensure we shove off by 9am
 - o Registration is a must, cost of \$5.00 (includes lunch).
- Experience the beauty of one of the scenic Stillwater River!

Rain Barrel Decorating Contest

- Busy year for schools, we had 3 enter, but only 1 completed the project.....but want an entry we received from Mississinawa Valley!
- Theme was “A Celebration of Pollinators”
- Contest winner & possibly in the running for best decorated rain barrel in the history of the contest, Ms. Ashley Austerman’s Art Class
- Hope to have this barrel out in the community to promote rain barrel use and it will be on display at the Great Darke Co Fair!
- Pictures will be available on our website soon, www.darkeswcd.com

Scholarship Awarded

- 1 -\$500 scholarship awarded to outstanding graduating senior pursuing an ag or natural resources related degree at an Ohio college or university.
- Brenna Loxley from Arcanum is enrolled at **THE** Ohio State University and pursuing a degree in Agriscience Education

Food Plot Seed Available

- Seed supplied courtesy of Darke County Pheasants Forever
- Free to those interested, just ask for a location & sketch of where the seed will be planted
- Available in 4 & 8 lb bags (1/2 ac & 1ac)
- Mix of sorghum, millet, sunflower & buckwheat. Excellent blend of food and winter cover for pheasants & quail

Other Topic:

Tips Summer Manure Application & Stockpiling

- Print off 24-hr weather forecast before application and keep with your application records
 - o Do not apply if ½” or more of rain is forecast in the next 24 hrs – BMP
 - Law in WLEB, but a best management practice for rest of the state
 - o We urge livestock producers to visit weather.gov for the 24 hr forecast, we have a link on our website
- Follow appropriate setbacks, can be found at www.darkeswcd.com under Ag Pollution Abatement tab
 - o Many of these setbacks disappear or are greatly reduced with incorporation or injection
- Know your soil nutrient levels and what you are applying, use soil sampling and manure analysis to best utilize manure.
- Be a good neighbor, try and avoid holidays when spreading, especially this time of year (Memorial Day, 4th of July, the big outdoor grilling season parties). Just a recommendation to not upset your neighbors.
- The application of manure isn’t a bad thing, yes it may smell, but when done correctly it is a great use of a waste resource!