

Conservation Highlights



2018 Annual Tree Sales

The Darke Soil & Water Conservation District is conducting its annual tree seedling sale through March 23rd. The 2-3 year seedlings are bare root stock and each tree is dipped into a preservative gel to keep roots moist. Our seedlings are packaged in groups of five. An assortment of trees are offered for sale to urban and rural landowners. The plant varieties are selected for their popularity and hardiness in the Darke County area. This is an economical way to work toward establishing or adding to a wildlife area, to create a windbreak, or landscaping. Prices range from \$5-\$10 in packets of 5 seedlings. We are also offering larger varieties on some evergreens. See the enclosed order form and species descriptions for more information.

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Several new species are being offered for 2018. These include Highbush Cranberry, Arrowwood, American Plum, Black Walnut, White Oak, Shagbark Hickory and Kentucky Coffeetree.



To order your trees, fertilizer tablets, rain barrels or other items, fill out the enclosed form and bring it into the office with your payment. You can also submit your tree sales order online; however, you must still mail or drop off payment to the Darke SWCD office to finalize your order. Sorry we do not accept credit cards!

Orders will not be accepted after March 23, 2018. Pick up for orders is Tuesday, April 10th through Thursday, April 12th at the Darke SWCD office- 1117 Southtowne Ct., Greenville.

“Serving Conservation Needs in Darke County Since 1955”

Darke SWCD Staff Members

- Brian Cope — Technician**
- Jared Coppess — District Administrator**
- Elizabeth Farver — Nutrient Mgmt Technician**
- Tim Rank — Technician**
- Doug Steinbrunner—Wildlife Specialist/Technician**
- Daniel Francis- Pheasants Forever Wildlife Biologist**

Darke NRCS Staff Members

- Jim Bennett — District Conservationist**
- John Bleill — Civil Engineering Technician**
- Webb Flowers—Soil Conservationist**

DARKE SWCD OFFICE HOURS

Monday — Friday
8:00 AM — 4:30 PM

Affiliate Membership Drive

February and March mark our annual affiliate membership drive. Darke SWCD seeks the support from local businesses for educational programs to be held throughout 2018.

The past support of conservation education programs from our affiliate members has been greatly appreciated. We would like to thank those who participated in 2017. If you have never contributed, please consider this worthwhile opportunity to support our adult and youth education programs. Our affiliate members are recognized at our banquet in November and in our quarterly newsletter.

Last year's youth education programs included: county land judging contest for our FFA chapters; soils presentations for 6th grade science classes; stream table and enviroscape presentation at Arcanum Library, wildlife presentation at farm day and sponsorship of Darke County teams participating in the Area IV Envirothon competition. The Envirothon involves nearly 500 students from 18 counties in southwest Ohio.

Some of our adult education programs included: home gardener workshops, tri-county pond clinic and a Soil Fertility & Nutrient Management Workshop series. The Soil Fertility & Nutrient Management workshop series has reached over 100 land owners in and around the county. Participants of this workshop pull soil samples, learn how to read a soil report and eventually develop a plan for the area where the soil sample was taken.



Various other presentations were given around the county on soil & water conservation, wildlife management, non-point source pollution, agriculture, and forestry. The board of supervisors would like to thank our affiliate members. If you are interested in supporting some of our education programs in 2018, please contact the office at 937-548-1752.

Sincerely, Gary Goettemoeller, Chairman

THANK YOU 2017 AFFILIATE MEMBERS!

**Ansonia Lumber Company
Cy Schwieterman, Inc.
Darke County Farm Bureau
Darke County Farmers Union
Darke Rural Electric
Diane Evans-State Farm Insurance
Farm Credit Mid-America
Greenville National Bank
Grow Excavating LLC
Harrod & Harrod Farms LLC
Hollinger Excavating**

**Hupman Land Care & Landscaping
Keller Feed and Grain
Menke Consulting Inc.
Mote & Associates
The Andersons Marathon LLC
North Star Hardware
Otte Ag, LLC
Park National Bank/Second National Bank
Reforestation Wildlife Services
St. Henry Tile/ Wayne Builders
Theodore Finnarn, Attorney**

Order Information

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, St: _____
 Phone #: _____
 Email: _____

Additional Information

- * Orders will not be processed until payment is received.
- * Sorry, we do not take credit cards.
- * Make checks payable to **Darke SWCD**.
- * Any orders received after March 23, 2018 will be subject to availability.
- * Extra trees will be sold on a first come, first served basis.
- * Substitutions will be made in the event of a shortage. Customer may select substitute or request a refund.
- * Immediate care is advised for these 1-3 year old bare-root seedlings. Anyone may order these seedlings.
- * Darke SWCD cannot guarantee survival after distribution.

Thank you for your order!

For Office Use Only

Date Paid: _____
 Amount Paid: _____
 Cash/ Check #: _____

2018 ANNUAL TREE SALES



**Orders & Payment Due By
March 23, 2018**

**Tree pick up dates:
April 10th-12th 8am-4:30pm
at Darke SWCD Office**

Send form, along with payment to:
Darke SWCD
 1117 Southtowne Ct
 Greenville, OH 45331
 Questions? Call 937.548.1715 ext. 3

Species	Price/ pack	# of packs	Total
*Each pack contains five trees			
Austrian Pine	\$5		
Scotch Pine	\$5		
Norway Spruce	\$5		
Colorado Blue Spruce	\$5		
American Arborvitae	\$7		
American Hazelnut	\$7		
Common Lilac	\$7		
Highbush Cranberry	\$7		
Arrowwood	\$7		
Eastern Redbud	\$7		
White Flowering Dogwood	\$7		
American Plum	\$7		
Pawpaw	\$7		
Black Walnut	\$7		
Pin Oak	\$7		
White Oak	\$7		
Shagbark Hickory	\$7		
Kentucky Coffeetree	\$7		
Red Maple	\$7		
Sugar Maple	\$7		
Tulip Poplar	\$7		
Sassafras	\$7		
Colorado Blue Spruce (18"-24")	\$10		
Norway Spruce (18"-24")	\$10		
Other Items For Sale			
Marking Flags- each	\$0.08		
Starter Fertilizer Tablets- (10 pk)	\$3		
Tree Protection Tubes (1 foot)	\$1		
Rain Barrel & Kit	\$40		
Bluebird House	\$18		
All prices include sales tax.			Total

TREE & SHRUB DESCRIPTIONS

EVERGREENS

AUSTRIAN PINE Has a bold texture, fullness of foliage, dark-green needles and is adaptable to urban conditions. Adapts to a wide variety of environmental conditions. May grow 60 feet tall by 40 feet wide, with a medium growth rate.

SCOTCH PINE Grown in urban areas as an ornamental evergreen tree, in rural areas for erosion control and for Christmas trees. May grow 50 feet tall by 30 feet wide, with a slow to moderate growth rate.

NORWAY SPRUCE Grown in urban areas as an ornamental tree, commonly used as a windbreak. Adaptable to harsh conditions and prefers acidic soils. May grow 80 feet tall by 40 feet wide, with a rapid growth rate.

COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE Display of blue or blue-silver needles. Prefers moist (not wet), acidic soils. Drought resistant once established. May grow 50 feet tall by 25 feet wide, with a slow to moderate growth rate.

AMERICAN ARBORVITAE Has scale-like leaves that are soft. Popular evergreen consumed by deer and other mammals during winter. Provides cover for mammals and birds year-round. Prefers moist, alkaline soils in partial to full sun. May grow 30 feet tall by 10 feet wide, with a medium growth rate.

SHRUBS

AMERICAN HAZELNUT Large shrub known for its tasty nuts for humans and wildlife. Member of the Birch family. Prefers reasonable well-drained soils. Best nut production occurs in full sun. May grow 15 feet tall by 15 feet wide, with a medium to rapid growth rate.

COMMON LILAC Old-fashioned, long-lived and best known for its fragrant flowers. Extremely hardy and thrives with little care. May grow 20 feet tall by 10 feet wide, with a medium growth rate.

HIGHBUSH CRANBERRY Has an outer row of showy flowers and red fruits. Prefers moist to wet, acidic soils. May grow 12 feet tall by 12 feet wide, with a moderate growth rate. * *NEW FOR 2018*

ARROWWOOD By mid-to late summer, its blue-black berries adorn its canopy to the delight of birds. Prefers moist, well-drained soils but adapts to poor, rocky, clay soils. May grow 10 feet tall by 15 feet wide, with a moderate growth rate. * *NEW FOR 2018*

DECIDUOUS TREES

EASTERN REDBUD Showy, lavender-pink flowers that typically open in April. Prefers moist, well-drained, alkaline soils but is adaptable. May grow 30 feet tall by 10 feet wide, with a moderate growth rate.

WHITE FLOWERING DOGWOOD Showy early spring flowers, red fruits and crimson foliage in autumn, and large floral buds and checkered bark in winter. Prefers evenly moist, well-drained acidic soils. May grow 15 feet tall by 20 feet wide, with a slow growth rate.

AMERICAN PLUM Its fruits are sweet when fully ripe, and make excellent jelly or jam. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. May grow 25 feet tall by 20 feet wide, with a moderate growth rate. * *NEW FOR 2018*

PAWPAW This small tree is easily recognized by its large, tropical-looking foliage and prized for its delicious fruits that mature in late summer. Needs partial shade for establishment. Prefers moist, well drained soils. May grow 25 feet tall by 15 feet wide, with a moderate growth rate.

BLACK WALNUT Native to the greater Midwest. Prefers deep, moist, rich, well-drained soils. May grow 70 feet tall by 70 feet wide, with a rapid growth rate. * *NEW FOR 2018*

PIN OAK Favorite oak to use as a shade tree, symmetrical with russet fall color. Thrives in partial to full sun. Prefers moist, acidic soils. May grow 70 feet tall by 40 feet wide, with a moderate to rapid growth rate.

WHITE OAK Native to eastern US. Fall color is reddish-brown to reddish-purple. Thrives in full sun. Prefers well-drained, acidic soils. May grow 70 feet tall by 70 feet wide, with a slow to moderate growth rate. * *NEW FOR 2018*

SHAGBARK HICKORY Native to most of the Eastern US. Has superior drought tolerance. Prefers deep, moist, rich, well-drained soils. May grow 100 feet tall by 40 feet wide, with a moderate growth rate. * *NEW FOR 2018*

KENTUCKY COFFEETREE Easily recognized in summer by its huge compound leaves and in winter by its bold outline. Prefers deep, moist, alkaline soils. May grow 80 feet tall by 50 feet wide, with a slow growth rate. * *NEW FOR 2018*

RED MAPLE Popular shade tree with brilliant red fall color. Commonly found along creeks and bottomlands. Prefers moist to wet, acidic soils. May grow 70 feet tall by 40 feet wide, with a medium to rapid growth rate.

SUGAR MAPLE Favorite shade tree with reliable fall color. Valued for its hard, dense, difficult-to-split wood. Can be used for maple sugaring. Prefers full to partial sun and well-drained soils. May grow 80 feet tall by 40 feet wide, with a slow growth rate.

TULIP POPLAR Named for its showy flowers and the silhouette of its large leaves, both of which a tulip. Has a straight trunk. Prefers evenly moist, well-drained, slightly acidic soils. May grow 80 feet tall by 40 feet wide, with a rapid growth rate.

SASSAFRAS Native, forms thickets by root sprouts several feet away from parent plant. Can make tea by boiling the bark of roots. Thrives in partial to full sun. Prefers moist, well-drained, acidic soils. May grow 50 feet tall by 30 feet wide, with a rapid growth rate.

The Darke County Chapter of Pheasants

Forever will give out 1 tree seedling to plant with every order. If you would like to get involved with the Chapter, please contact President Todd Barga at 419-336-5481.



Ohio Farmers Reminded of Winter Manure Application BMPs

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio – With the winter season upon us, the Ohio Department of Agriculture Division of Soil and Water Conservation would like to remind producers and nutrient applicators of laws and restrictions on manure application.

Signed into law by Governor John R. Kasich in July 2015, Ohio Senate Bill 1 clarifies and enhances the restrictions on manure application within the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB).

Application restrictions in the WLEB include:

- On snow-covered or frozen soil;
- When the top 2 inches of the soil are saturated from precipitation;
- When the local weather forecast for the application area contains greater than fifty percent chance of precipitation exceeding one-half inch in a 24-hour period.
 - Applicators are responsible for checking and keeping forecast information before application.
 - Any source of weather prediction is acceptable.

Restrictions do not apply if:

- The manure is injected into the ground;
- Manure is incorporated with 24 hours of surface application, using a tillage tool operated at a minimum of 3-4 inches deep;
- The manure is applied onto a growing crop;
- The chief of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation has provided written consent for an emergency application. Contact the division in case of an emergency.

Producers in the Grand Lake St. Marys watershed are also reminded of the manure application ban that starts on December 15th. Producers and manure applicators shall not apply manure between December 15th and March 1st. Producers are also banned from surface applying manure on frozen ground or ground covered with more than 1” of snow outside of the December 15th and March 1st dates.

Producers in other areas of the state are reminded to use best management practices when applying manure and follow USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide Standard 590. For more information about manure application, producers and applicators can contact the ODA Division of Soil and Water Conservation at 614-265-6610 or dswc@agri.ohio.gov.

Thank you Darke County Commissioners!

Matt Aultman, Mike Rhoades and Mike Stegall

The Darke Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors and Staff would like to thank the Darke County Commissioners for their financial support and dedication to soil and water conservation. The annual financial assistance from the county is matched by funds from the state which enables the District to continue to provide assistance to all Darke County landowners.

THANK YOU!

2018 Rain Barrel Contest

The Darke SWCD is asking county schools to participate in our 7th Annual Rain Barrel Decorating Contest. This year's theme is "Classic Movie Posters". The school's rain barrel needs to encompass the theme for 2018 within the paint scheme.

Darke SWCD is asking our schools to get creative by choosing one or more classic movies and decorate a barrel. Barrels should at least have a painted front; feel free to utilize the entire barrel space. We ask the schools to not put their school name on the design, simply identify the movie(s), and school name and student names on top of the barrel.

Participating schools will cover the cost of all supplies to decorate their barrel. The rain barrel and connector kit will be donated to each school to be used as a fundraiser or educational display. Once barrels have been completed, Darke SWCD will display them around Greenville and at the Fair to promote rain barrel use.

The winners of the rain barrel decorating contest will be decided by a panel of county residents determined by the Darke SWCD. This panel will rank the barrels on design, creativity, theme use and ability to follow guidelines. The panel will choose a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner, these winners will be awarded a cash prize. More information can be found at www.darkeswcd.com.

Darke SWCD Board Reorganization & Meeting Notice

Reorganization took place at the January 8, 2018 meeting of the board of supervisors for the Darke Soil and Water Conservation District. Serving as Chairman for 2018 will be Gary Goettemoeller, Wayne Township. Other officers elected were Tom Harrod, Allen Township, as Vice Chair; Monty Stump, Greenville Township, as Treasurer; Bill Roll, Wabash Township, as Secretary; and Kevin Jones from Adams Township, as Publicity.

Other roles for members of the board are nominating committee chair, which will be Monty Stump. The Stillwater Watershed Project representatives will be Tom Harrod, Bill Roll and Gary Goettemoeller.

For 2018, the Darke SWCD board of supervisors will hold their monthly board meetings on the first Monday of each month at 8:00 a.m. The meetings will be held at the Darke SWCD office, 1117 Southtowne Court, Greenville. Special board meetings may be scheduled throughout the year. If a special board meeting is necessary, the location, date and time will be posted on the office door and www.darkeswcd.com. Meetings are subject to rescheduling; therefore, please call 937-548-1752 to verify meeting date and time. If you are interested in receiving meeting notices, please contact the office to be placed on a phone or email notification list.

For additional information or if you would like notice of board meeting date/location/etc. changes please contact the district office at 937-548-1752 or email jared.coppess@darkeswcd.com. The Darke SWCD office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

62nd Annual Meeting & Banquet Recap

The 62nd Annual Meeting and Banquet was held on November 20, 2017 at the Greenville VFW. The featured speaker was David Marrison, Associate Professor and Extension Educator for OSU Extension in Ashtabula County. Marrison presented some of the challenges he believes farmers will be facing in 2018. Some of the key areas he covered were tax reform, farm bill, farm stress and succession planning. Marrison will be coming back to Darke County for a “Farm Transition and Succession” meeting on February 27, 2018. Contact the Darke County OSU Extension office at 937-548-5215 for more information.

The main focus of the Annual Meeting and Banquet is to recognize important partners and achievements in conservation from 2017. Darke SWCD recognized McGlinch Family Farms as the Cooperator of the Year. The McGlinch Family also received the 2017 Conservation Family Farm award at the Farm Science Review in 2017. McGlinch Family Farms has installed numerous conservation practices, including, but not limited to, waterways, cover crops and no-till.



2017 Darke SWCD Cooperator of the Year - McGlinch Family Farms



County Soils Contest Winner - Versailles FFA

On display throughout the banquet was the rain barrel contest winner from Mississinawa Valley. The theme for 2017 contest was “A Celebration of Pollinators”. Other winners from Darke SWCD educational programs included the county soils contest winners: Versailles FFA – 1st place rural team, Ansonia FFA – 1st place urban team, and Greenville for the Area IV Envirothon.

The Annual Meeting and Banquet is always held in conjunction with our supervisor election. This year there were three candidates for two open seats. Kevin Jones, Adams Twp., and Bill Roll, Wabash Twp., were elected to serve a three-year term on the Darke SWCD Board.

Darke SWCD would like to thank everyone who attended the banquet and hope you will join us again in 2018. It's never too early to mark your calendar, so reserve Monday, November 19, 2018 for the 63rd Annual Meeting and Banquet.



Darke SWCD

1117 South Towne Court
Greenville, OH 45331
Phone: 937.548.1715, Ext. 3

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in Darke County since 1955**



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Conservation Highlights

JANUARY 2018

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Maple Syrup Festival & Waffle Breakfast <i>Darke Co. Parks- Shawnee Prairie Preserve</i>	March 3 8:00am-12:00pm
Tree Orders & Payment Due	March 23
Tree Pickup- Darke SWCD Office	April 10-12
Spring Soil Sampling	April 20
Scholarship Applications Due	April 20
Area IV Envirothon-Possum Creek MetroPark, Montgomery Co.	April 24
Rain Barrel Contest Submission Deadline	April 27
Educational Canoe Float	June TBD
State Envirothon Competition- Cedarville University	June 11-12

VISIT US ONLINE:
www.darkeswcd.com
Follow us on Facebook & Twitter