

STARK STEWARDSHIP

Stark Soil & Water Conservation District

Spring 2022

2021 District of the Year

Board of Supervisors

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Rome Marinelli

USDA-NRCS Staff

Sandy Chenal
Tim Scott

2650 Richville Dr. SE,
Suite 100
Massillon, 44646
330.451.7645

starkswcd.org

Monday to Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closed: Memorial Day
(May 30th), Juneteenth
(June 20th), July 4th

Board Meetings: 2nd
Thursdays at 8:00 a.m.

Drones on the Landscape

Learn how drones can help you with planting cover crops, frost seeding, inventorying your property, scouting for crop issues, and even spraying.

This program is presented in partnership with Davey Resource Group.

- May 11th (6:00 p.m.) Zoom (free) - Register for the workshop by visiting starkswcd.org or calling the District at 330-451-7645.

So You Moved to the Country: Do Your Part, Be Septic Smart!

So you moved to the country and have a septic system. Now what? Together we will explore how a septic system works, why it is an essential component of your home, the environmental impacts of a failing system, and what maintenance is required to ensure it lasts a long time. New and existing septic system owners are welcome to attend. By the end of this workshop, you will be Septic Smart!

This program is presented in partnership with Stark County Health Department.

- May 25th (6:00 p.m.) Zoom (free) - Register for the workshop by visiting starkswcd.org or calling the District at 330-451-7645.

Natural Lawns

Do you want a healthy, low maintenance lawn? Join us for tips and advice to help naturalize your lawn while protecting the environment.

- June 16th (1:00 p.m.) Zoom (free) - Register for the workshop by visiting starkswcd.org or calling the District at 330-451-7645.

Giving Wildlife Habitat an Edge

Join us at Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center for a workshop with The Ohio State University Wildlife Ecologist Dr. Gabe Karns. He will discuss the best ways to manage edge habitat and why transmission Right-of-Ways (ROW) can be a beneficial wildlife habitat. After the talk, participants will explore a ROW that has been established with a diverse mix of perennial pollinator species.

- June 28th (5:30 p.m.) at Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center (16146 Daniel St. NE, Minerva) – Register for the workshop by visiting starkswcd.org or calling the District at 330-451-7645.

Eastern Ohio Grazing Council

Interested in improving your grazing operation? Go on pasture walks with Eastern Ohio Grazing Council on the 4th Thursday of the month.

More information can be found at facebook.com/EasternOhioGrazingCouncil/



2022 Native Plant Sale

Perennials for Pollinators

Orders are credit/debit only and can be made online only by visiting:

www.StarkSWCD.org/2022NativePlantSale

All plants are 1 gallon containers and \$12.00 each

Order deadline is June 13th 2022

Order pickup is Thursday June 23rd & Friday 24th 2022 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Pickup location is at the Stark SWCD office: 2650 Richville Drive SW, Massillon, OH 44646

	Name	Height	Light Req	Soil Req	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Benefits
SHADE	Eastern Columbine	1-3'	Shade-part	Moist-dry	Red & yellow	Spring	
	Poke Milkweed	3-5'	Shade-part	Moist-avg	White-pink	Summer	
	Blue Mistflower	1-2'	Shade-part	Moist-dry	Blue-purple	Summer-fall	
	Zig-zag Goldenrod	1-3'	Shade-part	Moist-avg	Yellow	Fall	
PART	Golden Alexander	2-3'	Part-shade	Moist-dry	Yellow	Spring	
	Spotted Joe Pye Weed	4-5'	Full-part	Wet-avg	Purple-pink	Summer	
	Bluestem Goldenrod	1-3'	Full-part	Avg-dry	Yellow	Fall	
	Smooth Blue Aster	2-4'	Full-part	Avg-dry	Lavender-blue	Fall	
WET/CLAY	Dense Blazing Star	3-4'	Full	Wet-avg	Purple	Summer	
	Rose Milkweed	4'	Full	Moist	Rose-pink	Summer	
	Queen of the Prairie	4-5'	Full	Wet-avg	Pink	Summer	
	White Turtlehead	3-4'	Full-part	Wet-avg	White-cream	Late summer	
SUN	Purple Coneflower	2-3'	Full-part	Avg-dry	Purple	Summer	
	Foxglove Beardtongue	2-3'	Full	Moist-avg	White	Late spring	
	Butterfly Weed	3'	Full	Avg-dry	Orange	Summer	
	Hoary Vervain	2-3'	Full	Avg-dry	Purple	Summer	

Butterfly/moth host plant | Pollinator magnet | Hummingbird favorite
 Landscape value/aesthetics | Colorful fall foliage | Water loving

Questions?

Call: 330-451-7645 | Email: Infosw@starkswcd.org

Visit: 2650 Richville Drive SW, Massillon, OH 44646 | Hours: M—F 8:00 a.m.— 4:30 p.m.

CREATING MORE HUNTING ACCESS IN STARK COUNTY

If you have been around the farming and wildlife community, you've probably heard the terms CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) or EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program). Both Federal programs have been instrumental in conserving land as well as putting conservation practices on the ground. Hopefully, another program will become equally well-known — Ohio Landowner Hunter Access Program (OLHAP). This new program started last year in Ohio and aims to bring hunting access to high population centers that have limited public access. OLHAP offers a win-win solution. Landowners through a written agreement with Ohio Department of Natural Resources, allow the public to hunt on their land in return for an annual payment of \$2.00/acre for agricultural lands and \$30.00/acre for perennial wildlife cover such as wetlands, grasslands, brushlands, and forest. Hunters agree to hold the landowner harmless for liability, have a permit, follow program rules, and hunt! If we want more hunters and conservationists, who provide millions of dollars of conservation funding, we need to build access and create opportunities. For more information, contact the OLHAP Coordinator for Northeast Ohio at 330-245-3027 or <https://ohiodnr.gov/static/documents/wildlife/hunting-trapping/OLHAPflyer.pdf>

LET YOUR SOILS BREATHE

Without a doubt, tractors and implements are only going to get larger and heavier. Also, it's likely precipitation amounts will only increase. Unlike coffee and milk, heavy equipment and wet fields don't mix well. When used on wet soils, heavy equipment reduces or collapses pore spaces in the soil that may last for years. This reduces the soil's ability to absorb water, which can cause stunting of roots and drought stress. Therefore, monitoring soil moisture is critical to avoiding soil compaction. Dry soils can sustain high axle loads and reduce the effects of compaction compared to wet soils. Additionally, green cover crops can help soak up moisture and have a field fit to plant compared to a bare field. So, before you climb into the tractor cab, make sure the field is fit to be worked or you may be living with a mistake for years.

For assistance minimizing compaction, contact Jay Jordan, Natural Resources Technician, at 330-451-7643 or jmjordan@starkcountyohio.gov.

FROM THE DRAINAGE DESK

Here are some common questions the District receives concerning neighbor to neighbor drainage issues.

Can my neighbor send or drain water onto my property?

Generally, this is allowable as long as water continues to follow its naturally established flow and it is being reasonably used. The law supporting this rule is found in Ohio Revised Code Chapters 6131, 6133, 6135 and 6137. In a nutshell, the law states that everyone has the right to make reasonable use of the water on their property but protects citizens from unreasonable use of water. If the natural flow/drainage of an area is restricted, impeded or otherwise altered in such a way that causes property damages, the property owner causing the issue may be held potentially liable for any damages done. Find more information on Ohio drainage laws at starkswcd.org

Can I block water coming onto my property?

The answer is *no*. Impeding, blocking, or otherwise altering the natural flow of water to the point in which it is *unreasonable* is prohibited and may be subject to liabilities for damages to upstream or downstream properties.

Can storm water from a neighbor's gutters be directed to my property?

Maybe. Start with your community's ordinances. Some communities require downspouts to be tied into storm sewer systems and not drain onto lawns. If no such restriction exists, then the answer is *yes*. Both you and your neighbor (s) are able to outlet your downspouts anywhere on your property. However, each property owner is responsible to make sure they do not cause an unreasonable amount of water to be shed onto surrounding properties.

For assistance with drainage, contact Rome Marinelli, Drainage Specialist, at 330-451-7644 or rpmarinelli@starkcountyohio.gov



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330.451.7645 (SOIL)
www.starkswcd.org
Facebook: StarkSWCD
Twitter: @Stark_SWCD



Putting Rain Water to Work for You

We've all heard the saying, "April showers, bring May flowers," but not all of this rain water goes to watering plants. Spring in Northeast Ohio is typically an exceptionally wet time of year, which is a great opportunity to think about where all of that water goes. Roofs, driveways, sidewalks, and other impervious surfaces cause water to runoff into nearby storm drains and eventually into neighboring water bodies. As water moves along its path, it picks up pollutants such as car oils, trash, pet waste, and road salt, which eventually ends up in our lakes, rivers, and streams. This is where rain barrels can help.

Rain barrels are storage containers that connect to the downspouts of your home and collect rain water that runs off of your roof. This collected water can be used to water lawns, gardens, and flowers/plants where it is soaked into the ground instead of running off into our storm sewer systems. The ability to capture and store rain water can be especially beneficial in the summer months, which tend to be drier. As more impervious surfaces are built in Stark County, it is important to think about how we can slow the flow of rain water, and rain barrels are a great way to do this.

Stark SWCD has available rain barrels for \$31.95 or rain barrels with diverter kits for \$69.23 (tax included in all prices). Please call us at 330-451-7645 to place an order .

Help Us Save Money!

Request this newsletter electronically and help reduce our postage and printing expenses.

Send an email to jsweedon@starkcountyohio.gov with the message, "Want to save you money" or "Please put me on your electronic mailing list" or "Spend your money on other stuff."

Much appreciated.