

STARK STEWARDSHIP

Stark Soil & Water Conservation District
2021 District of the Year

Fall 2022

Board of Supervisors

Ann Wolfe, Chair

Natalie Hammer, Vice
Chair

Rodney Campbell, Fiscal
Agent

Rick Horner, Secretary

Andy Wentling

District Staff

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Sarah E. Matheny

Matthew Ferrel

Jay Jordan

Megan Liggett

Rome Marinelli

Adrienne Bock

NRCS Staff

John Knapp

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: Veterans Day
(November 11th);
Thanksgiving
(November 24th and
25th); Christmas
(December 23rd and
26th)

Board Meetings: 2nd
Thursday of the month
@ 8:00 a.m.

Home Winterization

Join us to learn about winterization techniques to protect your home and lawn from harsh Ohio winters. Topics include lawn, tree, and shrub management as well as rain barrel preparation, equipment maintenance, and spring preparation.

- November 9th (5:30 p.m.) at 2650 Richville Dr. SE, Massillon — Register for the workshop by visiting starkswcd.org or calling the District at 330-451-7645.

The Time is NOW: Invasive Species Control

Fall is an exceptional opportunity to manage invasive plant species on your property. Learn how to identify them, understand their impact on ecosystems, and control them. This workshop will help you develop management strategies to successfully manage these ecological threats.

- November 17th (5:30 p.m.) at 2650 Richville Dr. SE, Massillon or online via Zoom — Register for the workshop by visiting starkswcd.org or calling the District at 330-451-7645.

Green Cleaning

Check out our green cleaning video series just in time for the new year! Topics include the advantages of green cleaning products, methods for cleaning your appliances, and instructions on how to make your own green cleaning products.

- Video series available starting January 5th at starkswcd.org and YouTube (Stark SWCD). Visit starkswcd.org or calling the District at 330-451-7645 to request a reminder email.

Symbiotic Wetlands

Learn about the services wetlands provide such as stormwater retention, flood control, recreation opportunities, and improving water quality. Then, learn how to return the favor and protect our wetlands by minimizing pollution and reducing runoff.

- January 19th (11:30 a.m.) at 2650 Richville Dr. SE, Massillon — Register for the workshop by visiting starkswcd.org or calling the District at 330-451-7645.



And the Winners are . . .

Rick Horner was re-elected to the Board of Supervisors.

Pero Dairy Farm (Randy & Kristy Pero) won the 4th Annual Healthiest Soil Contest.

Bloom Hill Farm (Judd & Shannon Allen) was named 2022 Cooperator of the Year.

Mark Frank was awarded the 2022 Contractor of the Year.

Stark Soil & Water greatly appreciates our Stark County Commissioners — Janet Weir Creighton, Richard Regula, and Bill Smith— for their continued financial support of the District.

The Ultimate Gift Givers

Flowers, shrubs, grasses, and trees are *the ultimate gifts!*

They are awe-inspiring, breath taking, over the moon amazing. During the growing season, flowers give us beautiful blooms while providing food for pollinators. Their leaves offer sustenance to caterpillars, giving them the nutrients they need to become a moth or butterfly. Trees provide shade in the summer, which helps cool our homes and roads and minimizes concentrated heat. Then, later in the season, they offer free, nutrient-rich mulch with their fallen leaves. Some plants provide us with delicious food or beneficial medicine, and some are important food sources for wildlife during winter months. Leaving plants to stand throughout the winter often results in visits from songbirds, who pluck seed from the spent flower head. Also, they provide shelter for butterflies, solitary bees, and other wildlife during harsh winter months, which may result in increased pollinators on your property. Plant roots soak up rain water, recharging ground water and lessening the amount of runoff making its way to catch basins, which reduces the wear and tear on our storm sewer system. Roots also help to hold soil in place, minimizing erosion and stabilizing the ground. Plants transpire water into the atmosphere while sequestering carbon and storing it deep in the soil. But, the biggest gift they offer is free, life-sustaining oxygen!

Plants offer so much. They are truly *the ultimate gift givers!*

Just the Basics

What is soil health?

Soil health is the continued capacity of the soil to function as a vital living ecosystem that sustains plants, animals, and humans.

With regards to crop and livestock production, soils perform several important functions:

- Retaining and cycling nutrients;
- Sequestering carbon;
- Allowing infiltration and facilitating water storage;
- Suppressing pests, diseases, and unwanted weeds;
- Supporting the production of food, feed, fiber, and fuel.

With a fully functioning healthy soil, a farmer is more likely to enjoy improved plant growth, quality, and yield, which usually leads to higher profits. Also, a more resilient production system with healthy soils as its foundation is more likely to experience robust yields even during periods of environmental stress from heavy rains and droughts. Another benefit gained from healthy soils is earlier field access after wet periods because of increased infiltration.

Given all these positives, how can you not support healthy soils? So, give the District a call at 330-451-7645 to learn how you can install best management practices on your farm to promote soil health.



Welcome Adrienne!

My name is Adrienne Bock, and I am the new Outreach Technician at Stark Soil & Water Conservation District. I am a native of Columbiana County and grew up on a small dairy farm near Salem. I developed an interest in natural resource careers after competing in the Envirothon contest while attending United High School. I recently moved to Stark County after graduating from the University of Mount Union with a B.S. in Environmental Science, and my past work experience includes interning with OSU Extension Mahoning County and Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center. My position focuses on storm water education and outreach to our local communities, and I am excited to share my knowledge of storm water and natural resources with all of you!

So, if your organization is interested in what you can do to keep our waterways clean and healthy, please contact Adrienne at ajbock@starkcountyohio.gov or call 330-451-7650.

2022 Stark SWCD Fall Shrub Sale

Orders can be made at the Stark SWCD office (2650 Richville Drive SE, Massillon, OH 44646) Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., or by mail (see below) or reserved online by visiting www.StarkSWCD.org. Online submittals must be paid in person or by mail. All shrubs are in 3 gallon containers and \$30.00 ea.

Payments must use exact cash or check. Checks can be made out to Stark SWCD.

Order deadline is 4:00 p.m. Monday, November 14th 2022

Order pickup is Wednesday, November 16th, & Thursday, November 17th, 2022
from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at Stark SWCD office.

Questions? Give us a call: 330-451-7645 M-F 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Common Name (<i>Scientific</i>)	Height	Light Req	Soil Req	Bloom Color	Bloom Time	Benefits
Arrowwood Viburnum (<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>)	6-8'	Full to shade	Wet to dry	White	Spring	Butterfly/moth host plant, colorful fall foliage, hedge, pollinator magnet, wildlife value
Black Chokeberry (<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>)	3-6'	Full to part	Moist to avg	White	Spring	Butterfly/moth host plant, colorful fall foliage, hedge, pollinator magnet, wet soil tolerant, wildlife value
Buttonbush (<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>)	5-8'	Full to part	Wet to avg	Cream	Summer	Deer tolerant, pollinator magnet, wet soil tolerant
Carolina Allspice (<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>)	4-6'	Full to shade	Moist to avg	Red-maroon	Spring	Colorful fall foliage, deer tolerant
Common Elderberry (<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>)	6-12'	Full to shade	Wet to avg	Cream	Spring	Fast growing, pollinator magnet, wet soil tolerant, wildlife value
Ninebark (<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>)	4-6'	Full to part	Moist to dry	White	Spring	Fast growing, hedge, pollinator magnet
Red Osier Dogwood (<i>Cornus sericea</i>)	6-9'	Full	Wet to avg	White	Spring	Butterfly/moth host plant, colorful fall foliage, hedge, pollinator magnet, wet soil tolerant, wildlife value, winter interest
Winterberry Holly (<i>Ilex verticillata</i>)	6-12'	Full to part	Avg to dry	Cream	Summer	Butterfly/moth host plant, colorful fall foliage, wet soil tolerant, wildlife value, winter interest

Mail completed form with payment (exact cash or check) **to be received by November 14, 2022**

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Indicate quantity of desired species below (i.e. 1, 2, 3, etc.)

Qty	Shrub	Qty	Shrub	Qty	Shrub	Qty	Shrub
	Arrowwood Viburnum		Black Chokeberry		Buttonbush		Carolina Allspice
	Common Elderberry		Ninebark		Red Osier Dogwood		Winterberry Holly

Total number of shrubs _____ x \$30.00 = _____ Subtotal

Subtotal x 1.065 (6.50% sales tax) = \$ _____ **Grand Total (amount due to Stark SWCD by 11/14/22)**

Checks should be made out to Stark SWCD.



2650 Richville Dr. Suite 100
Massillon, Ohio 44646
330.451.7645 (SOIL)
www.starkswcd.org
Facebook: StarkSWCD
Twitter: @Stark_SWCD



Ohio Stormwater Awareness Week

Ohio Stormwater Awareness Week, held each October, raises awareness of the importance of protecting stormwater year-round. Stark Soil & Water Conservation District participated this year, encouraging county residents to take the initiative to keep our stormwater clean.

Stormwater is the flow of water resulting from precipitation, such as rainfall or snow melt. When not managed properly, stormwater easily picks up pollutants, becoming a health risk to people and the environment as it enters our watersheds.

Our actions on land directly impact stormwater quality and pollution levels so it is critical that we all become stormwater stewards. For example, one important step you can take is keeping storm drains clear and free from litter, lawn clippings, leaves, and other debris, ensuring only rain goes down the storm drain. Also, make sure hazardous waste and chemicals are properly disposed so they stay out of creeks, streams, ponds, and other waterways. Pick up after your pets and throw it in the trash. Pet waste can add E. coli and other harmful bacteria to waterways. Utilize native flowers, shrubs, and trees in your yard to increase the uptake of stormwater, reducing the amount of runoff that can become polluted. Finally, grab your waterproof boots and participate in a stream trash cleanup to help restore beauty and functionality to a creek.

These actions can make a big difference. Let's work together to protect stormwater in Stark County!

If you would like to learn more about what you can do to keep clean water clean, please contact the District at 330-451-7645.

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."