



Spring 2018

**Our Mission:**

**“To promote the wise use of our natural resources through service and education”**



**East Fork Receives Funding for Environmental Practices**

Thanks to the efforts of the East Fork Watershed Cooperative, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service recently announced that \$300,000 in funding has been allocated for agricultural conservation practices in the East Fork Little Miami River watershed. The funds are provided under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Through EQIP, agricultural producers may receive financial help with conservation practices such as cover crops, nutrient management, conservation tillage, filter strips and more. Farmers in the East Fork watershed – including those in Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Highland and Warren counties, can submit applications for funding through April 20, 2018.

This new funding opportunity started with a tour given by members of the East Fork Watershed Cooperative to the NRCS State Conservationist in September. “Our tour included stops at two existing projects that we’ve constructed together with the Clermont County Office of Environmental Quality, and a

visit to U.S. EPA’s Experimental Stream Facility,” said Jake Hahn, a technician with the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). After the tour, NRCS released an additional \$200,000 in EQIP funding, and encouraged Clermont SWCD to submit a request for further funding in 2018. This request ultimately resulted in the \$300,000 now available to watershed farmers.

“Our research suggests that agricultural conservation practices can help prevent the harmful algal blooms that are plaguing Harsha Lake. These funds are vital to promoting these practices, which can decrease nutrient

*Continued on Page 2*

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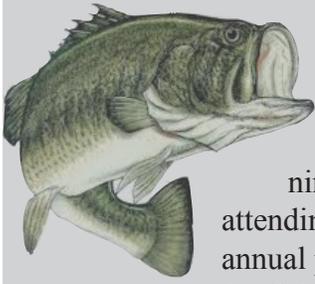
**DISTRICT STAFF**

John McManus  
Judy Krebs  
Susie Steffensen  
Becky McClatchey  
Jacob Hahn

**Save the Date for our 75th Annual Meeting**

**This event will be held at the Historic Shaw Farms on the evening of September 13th. Plans are still being developed to make sure this is one that will not be soon forgotten. Check back as we get closer to learn more about our diamond anniversary celebration.**





## **Free Pond Clinic** **April 10th**

If you own or are planning to build a pond, plan on attending the Clermont SWCD's annual pond clinic on Tuesday April 10th at 6 p.m. The clinic is free and there will be door prizes!

Last year pond owners had to address issues such as fish kills, toxic algae, and stressed ponds due to the severe winter and the summer storms in June and July. Come hear about restocking and aeration to best deal with fish survival throughout the year.

The clinic will be held in the Pattison Park Lodge at 2228 US Highway 50 just west of Owensville. The meeting will begin with some light refreshments at 6 pm. Pond management experts will be presenting on various pond topics. The evening should wrap up around 8:30 with a question and answer session. Registration required-please call: 513-732-7075 ext- 102 to register.

Subjects to be discussed:

- pond construction
- aquatic weed control
- fish stocking
- aeration
- nuisance wildlife control
- stormwater retention basins



*Continued from page 1*

runoff, rebuild soil fertility, and sustain crop production into the future,” says Chris Nietch, a research ecologist with USEPA, Office of Research and Development, who helps lead the Cooperative and was part of the September tour.

Farmers in the East Fork watershed interested in applying should contact their county NRCS office. In Clermont and Brown counties, contact Lori Lenhart at (513) 732-2181. In Clinton County, contact Josh Wilt at (937) 382-2461, and in Highland County, call Kyle Wheeler at (937) 393-1922.

## **Spring Litter Clean-Up** **Saturday, April 21st, 2018 –** **and T-shirt Design Winner**

Clermont SWCD and the Valley View Foundation are pleased to present this year's winner of the 2018 Spring Litter Clean-Up T-shirt Design Contest, Leah Decatur (see back page), an 11th grader from CNE High School! This year's contest was sponsored by the Duke Energy Foundation, the Southern Ohio Association of Realtors, and the Clermont County Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Ms. Decatur will receive a \$100 cash prize for her winning design and an additional \$100 cash prize will be awarded to the CNE school art department. Leah will be presented her award at the March 21 county commissioner meeting.

The other grade-level winners and all the artwork submitted by local students can be viewed on the event website: [www.springlittercleanup.com](http://www.springlittercleanup.com).

This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, **April 21, 2018**, from 9:00 a.m. – noon at various locations across Clermont County and the East Fork Little Miami River Watershed.

Volunteers are needed! You can register individually, organize a school/scout group, or bring some neighborhood friends, to participate in this fun, worthwhile event! Protective gloves and trash bags will be provided. All volunteers will be given a picnic lunch and event t-shirt as a thank you for helping out. Watch our website for locations and to register at: [www.springlittercleanup.com](http://www.springlittercleanup.com), which will be available shortly.

We'd like to extend a big thank you to our event partners: Clermont Office of Environmental Quality, Clermont County Park District, Ohio Department of Natural Resources-State Parks, US Army Corp of Engineers, and Valley View Foundation.





# 2018 Conservation Plant Sale



Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District

ORDERING PLANTS IS A BREEZE AT OUR ONLINE STORE!

Please go to: [www.clermontplantsale.com](http://www.clermontplantsale.com) to place your order

We accept cash and checks by mail or credit cards through our store.

**T**he Clermont SWCD is offering tree and shrub seedlings, as well as a few perennials and herbs at discount prices. This program offers the opportunity for individuals to develop small areas of reforestation, wildlife enhancement, or additions to home landscaping.

Most of the seedlings described in this newsletter are from 12 inches to 3 feet tall; see order form for details.

Plants will be bare rooted; we dip the plants in a root preservative to help keep the roots from drying out and wrap them in a plastic bag. Most packets will be in a bag about the size of a grocery bag and can easily be placed in your car for pick up.

For detailed descriptions and photos, please visit our website at [www.clermontplantsale.com](http://www.clermontplantsale.com)

**\*For Best Livability, Plant Immediately\***

### Planting Tips For Bare Root Seedlings...

1. Never let roots dry out **OR** leave seedlings immersed in water for long periods as they will drown.  
These are the most common causes of seedling death!
2. Make your planting hole deep enough to accommodate the roots. Plant so that the roots are free, not cramped. Trim any broken roots. **DO NOT TRIM TAP ROOT, but it is better to prune the roots with scissors than to wad or curl the roots to make them fit** in your planting hole. Plant the seedling at same depth as it was in the nursery. Ground level should be where the roots stop and the stem begins.
3. Water thoroughly. Do not fertilize at this time.
4. Mulch, mulch, mulch! Dried grass clippings, ground up leaves or commercially available organic mulches will suppress weeds and hold in moisture.
5. **WATER SEEDLINGS FAITHFULLY FOR THE FIRST 2 YEARS!**

## Jr Fair Board To Sell Annual Baskets, Planters, and Veggies April 28th

When you come by to pick up your Conservation Sale orders, stop in and visit the Junior Fair Board's Sale. A selection of vegetables, flowering baskets, planters and individual flowers will be available from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM or until the flowers are gone! The proceeds from this sale will go towards ribbons and trophies for the 2018 Clermont County Fair.

**Orders Taken : Until April 9, 2018**

**Please call Clermont SWCD for availability after this date!**

**Pick Up Date:** April 28, 2018 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

**Where:** Clermont County Fairgrounds

**Please order early to guarantee availability. Thank you!**



# 2018 Conservation Plant Sale



**Packet A** **Arborvitae (White Cedar)** **\$11.00**  
 Prefers sun THUJA OCCIDENTALIS 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

**Native To Ohio;** The narrow, pyramid shape makes it a natural choice for windbreaks. Mature size is 40-60' tall and 10-15' wide. Susceptible to deer/wildlife browsing and bagworms. Medium growth rate.

**Packet B** **Dawn Redwood** **\$11.00**  
 Prefers sun METASEQUOIA GLYPTOSTROBOIDES 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

Growing to a mature height of 100', this large tree needs a large space. Excellent landscape specimen or street tree. Very fast grower - up to 2' per year.

**Packet C** **White Oak** **\$11.00**  
 Full to partial sun QUERCUS ALBA 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

**Native Species;** Large shade tree at maturity; 50-80' tall by 50-80' wide. An important hardwood timber tree, it tolerates drought & clay soils. Slow growth rate and needs plenty of room. Hard to transplant due to large taproot.

**Packet D** **Paper (Canoe) Birch** **\$11.00**  
 Sun or Part Shade BETULA PAPYRIFERA 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

The white bark of this birch peels horizontally to reveal a pinkish-orange inner bark. Grows to 50-70' tall by 25-50' wide and prefers moist soils. Showy bright yellow leaves in the Fall. Fast growing, up to 2' per year under ideal conditions.

**Packet E** **Tulip Poplar** **\$11.00**  
 Prefers sun LIRIODENDRON TULIPIFERA 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

**Native Species;** Bright yellow fall color and pyramidal shape makes this an attractive shade tree. Fast growing with distinctive tulip shaped leaves. Can reach a height of 90 feet at maturity. **Flowers provide nectar for hummingbirds in the spring, and seeds are enjoyed by birds and mammals alike.**

**Packet F** **White Flowering Dogwood** **\$11.00**  
 Shade to full sun CORNUS FLORIDA 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

**Native Species;** small tree with spectacular white flowers in early spring. Tolerates shade as well as full sun. Excellent as a landscaping tree. Red fruits are an important food for many birds and other wildlife species. Height & spread: 15-25 ft.

**Packet G** **Eastern Redbud** **\$11.00**  
 Prefers partial shade CERCIS CANADENSIS 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

**Native Species;** brilliant purple flowers in early spring. Very effective in mass plantings / naturalized settings. Large, dark green heart-shaped leaves turn bright yellow in fall. **Northern bobwhite and songbirds eat** the seeds and this tree provides nesting sites and cover for both birds and small mammals. Grows to 25 feet.

**Packet H** **Prairie Crabapple** **\$11.00**  
 Sun MALUS IOENSIS 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

A small apple tree in most respects (20-30' at maturity), Prairie Crabapple has a dense, irregular form. Exfoliating bark and large, white or pink flowers make this an attractive tree. Susceptible to rust but if the foliage has escaped premature defoliation from fungus disease, it can develop a deep crimson color in fall.

**Wildlife:** Recognized by pollination ecologists as attracting large numbers of native bees, honey and bumblebees. Crabapple thickets provide nesting sites, shelter, and food for large and small birds.

**Packet I** **Redosier Dogwood** **\$11.00**  
 Sun/Part Shade CORNUS SERICEA 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

**Native Species;** Loose and rounded bush with many stems reaches 7-10'. **Fruit and twigs are used by several species of wildlife, such as robins, cedar waxwings, rabbits, and deer.** Provides cover for a large number of wildlife species. Great for windbreaks and hedges. Excellent for use along banks for erosion control and general landscaping. Dark, blood-red bark provides winter color. Prefers moist soil.

**Packet J** **American Hazelnut** **\$11.00**  
 Shade to full sun CORYLUS AMERICANA 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

**Native Species;** this large, fast growing thicket forming shrub has a mature height of 10-18 feet and is perfect for naturalizing or as a screen or windbreak. Great for riparian borders, as the **roots are natural biofilters.** Leaves turn orange to red-purple in the fall. American Hazelnut shrubs are used for wildlife plantings and the nuts are prized by cooks throughout Europe and the US. Nuts also known as filberts.

**Packet K** **Allegheny Serviceberry** **\$11.00**  
 Sun to part sun AMELANCHIER LAEVIS 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

**Native Species;** Showy April white flowers are frequented by **butterflies and pollinators.** Edible fruit in June for wildlife (and humans!). Brilliant orange color in the Fall; this shrub can also be grown as a small tree. **Outstanding plant for pollinators,** landscapes, natural areas, and hedges. Grows to 15-40 feet.

**Packet L** **Black Chokeberry** **\$11.00**  
 Full to Part Sun ARONIA MELANOCARPA 3/pkt.  
 18-24" bare root

**Native Species;** Small shrub (reaching 3-6 feet at maturity) White flowers in the spring are followed by handsome purplish black fruits later in the year. Glossy green foliage turns wine-red in the fall. Because of suckering and its tolerance to wet soils, this species is used in mass plantings, naturalized gardens, for erosion control, in windbreaks, and in landscapes **with excessively wet soils.** Berries are consumed by **24 different species of wildlife, but less preferred by deer.**

## PERENNIALS / HERBS

**Packet G1 Lavender ‘Hidcote Blue’ \$3.25 ea.**  
Full Sun *LAVANDULA ANGUSTIFOLIA* 3” pots

**HERB, Pollinator Plant;** Purple-blue flowers and fragrant gray foliage. ‘Hidcote’ is a compact mounded form typically growing to 20” tall. May be kept dense with regular pruning. Well-drained soils are required, particularly in winter. Root rot attacks plants grown in poorly drained soils - drought tolerant.

A famous English Lavender, its blooms are distilled to provide one of the purest true lavender scents. To dry flowers, pick when showing color but before fully open.

**Packet G2 Purple Coneflower \$3.25 ea.**  
Sun or Part Sun *ECHINACEA PURPUREA* 3” pots

**Pollinator Plant - Native:** The most popular of wildflowers, this member of the sunflower family can grow to 3’ tall and 10” wide. An **excellent nectar source** for bees and butterflies, including Monarchs. Easy to grow in any soil, the coneflower is easily divided and makes a beautiful cut flower.

**Packet G3 New England Aster \$3.25 ea.**  
Full / Partial Sun *ASTER NOVAE-ANGLIAE* 3” pots

**Pollinator Plant -** Gorgeous blue-purple blooms late Aug. – Oct. provide a critical fall nectar source for pollinators, especially Monarchs. Deer resistant, these plants can reach 3 to 6 feet, but pinching back before mid-July will form more compact plants. Will self seed under favorable conditions.

**Packet G4 Bee Balm ‘Claire Grace’ \$3.25 ea.**  
Sun *MONARDA FISTULOSA* 3” pots

**Pollinator Plant:** ‘Claire Grace’ is a naturally occurring selection of *Monarda fistulosa*. Compared to the straight species, ‘Claire Grace’ has a sturdier habit, slightly darker purple flowers, better resistance to powdery mildew, and more attractive, glossy, green foliage. Bee Balm flowers are a favorite of butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. A member of the mint family, the fresh leaves can be used to brew a tasty, minty tea, and the seed heads are excellent in dried arrangements. Size to four foot.

**Packet G5 Wild Geranium \$3.25 ea.**  
Prefers shade, sun *GERANIUM MACULATUM* 3” pots

**Pollinator Plant - Native:** Wild Geranium is one of the easier woodland species to cultivate. Native to much of eastern North America, it never disappoints. It has lovely dissected leaves, beautiful pinkish-purple flowers, and readily spreads, forming stunning patches that everything from bees to butterflies can’t resist. Mostly found in woodlands in the wild, it does just as well in full sun. Grows to 12-18 inches.

## ANNUALS FOR POLLINATORS

**Packet G6 ZINNIA \$2.50 ea.**  
Sun PROFUSION SERIES MIX 3” pots

**Pollinator Plant:** Single flower zinnias attract and benefit pollinators, typically bees and butterflies. Their bright colors draw pollinators to a garden. Monarch butterflies in particular love zinnias, pollinating them and using them for food. This is a hardy plant that blooms...profusely!

**Packet G7 TORENIA \$2.50 ea.**  
Sun/Part Shade DUTCHESS SERIES MIX 3” pots

**Pollinator Plant:** This Series is very compact (10-12”) and more tolerant of shade. Flowers cover the plant from spring until frost in shades pink, blue, lavender, white, yellow and bicolor. The unusual flowers are trumpet shaped ending with flaring lips.

**Packet G8 SALVIA \$2.50 ea.**  
Sun VISTA RED 3” pots

**Pollinator Plant:** Compact (8-12” tall), heat-tolerant and vigorous plants are perfect for landscapes. Dense spikes of brilliant red, tubular flowers bloom continuously throughout the warm summer months. The long, tubular blooms are highly attractive to hummingbirds. Cut off dead flowers to encourage continual blooms.

## RAIN STATION™ RAIN BARREL \$80.00

The use of rain barrels lowers municipal water demands and saves energy at water treatment facilities by reducing water pollution and storm water runoff.

### FEATURES

- 50 gallon capacity
- Large opening lid with locking feature
- Lid can be reversed to act as a planter
- FlexiFit™ diverter and all parts included for installation. FlexiFit™ diverter returns rainwater to downspout when barrel is full - no spillover
- 10 Year UV Resistance



AVAILABLE IN TERRA COTTA OR GRANITE-  
PLEASE SPECIFY  
**LIMITED QUANTITIES**

# 2018 CONSERVATION PLANT SALE ORDER FORM

To pay by **credit card**, please order online at *clermontplantsale.com*

Pkt.	Description	Plants/Pkt.	Plant Size	Price/pkt.	#of Pkts.	Total Cost	Pkt.
A	Arborvitae (White Cedar)	3	18-24"	\$11.00			A
B	Dawn Redwood	3	18-24"	\$11.00			B
C	White Oak	3	18-24"	\$11.00			C
D	Paper (Canoe) Birch	3	18-24"	\$11.00			D
E	Tulip Poplar	3	18-24"	\$11.00			E
F	White Flowering Dogwood	3	18-24"	\$11.00			F
G	Eastern Redbud	3	18-24"	\$11.00			G
H	Prairie Crabapple	3	18-24"	\$11.00			H

## SHRUBS

I	Red Osier Dogwood	3	18-24"	\$11.00			I
J	American Hazelnut	3	18-24"	\$11.00			J
K	Allegheny Serviceberry	3	18-24"	\$11.00			K
L	Black Chokeberry	3	18-24"	\$11.00			L

## HERBS & PERENNIALS

G-1	Lavendar 'Hidcote Blue'	1	3" pot	\$3.25			G-1
G-2	Purple Coneflower	1	3" pot	\$3.25			G-2
G-3	New England Aster	1	3" pot	\$3.25			G-3
G-4	Bee Balm 'Claire Grace'	1	3" pot	\$3.25			G-4
G-5	Wild Geranium	1	3" pot	\$3.25			G-5

## ANNUALS FOR POLLINATORS

G-6	Zinna <i>Profusion Series</i>	1	3" pot	\$2.50			G-6
G-7	Torenia <i>Dutchess Series</i>	1	3" pot	\$2.50			G-7
G-8	Salvia <i>Vista Red</i>	1	3" pot	\$2.50			G-8

## RAIN BARRELS

RB	Rain Barrel - Please circle color Terracotta or Granite	1		\$80.00			RB
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Donations to Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District. **Thank You!!**  
All proceeds and donations go towards conservation education and outreach programs.

**Total Due:**

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ email address: Mailing list for next year's sale!

To pay by **check**, make check payable to: **Clermont SWCD** and mail to:  
PO Box 549, Owensville, OH 45160-0549

*Please make arrangements to pick up your order April 28th, as we cannot ship or hold orders.*

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

**ORDER DEADLINE IS APRIL 9TH - To order after this date, please call for availability.**

## 75 Years of Pond Construction and Management

As many of you know, ponds are not natural in Clermont County. All the ponds that you see have been constructed throughout the years for many different purposes. Today there are over 5,000 ponds that dot our landscape. Why are there so many and how has SWCD helped residents plan, install and maintain these features?



*Construction of a core trench to prevent seepage under dam of a pond.*

In 1943, when Clermont SWCD began helping landowners with soil problems, ponds were installed to remove livestock from creeks and provide a source of water during drought. Beginning in the 1940's ponds were designed and constructed throughout the county by Soil Conservation Service (now NRCS) and SWCD for this purpose; 207 were installed by 1954. Hundreds were constructed throughout the 1950's to 1980 with over 500 more constructed.

Cheaper means of getting livestock water, such as public waterlines that were crisscrossing the county caused a shift in funding away from ponds. The district now designs livestock watering facilities from some of these ponds, but most water comes from public water systems.

MILLION GALLONS AN ACRE-- Tuesday, Oct. 20, 53 - Times Star

## Drought Troubles? Build Pond, Clermont Soil Expert Advises

Fishing lakes also became popular during this time with 19 reported lakes in 1970 including the colorful named Bob and John's Ding-a-ling Lake. Eventually larger lakes were installed in the county for flood control and other purposes including Stonelick Lake in 1950 and Harsha Lake (East Fork Lake) in 1978.

Many of these ponds are still on the landscape today, with many landowners still seeking assistance from SWCD for continuing maintenance. In 1958, SWCD began partnering with other organizations and professional pond care specialists to educate pond owners at pond management clinics. These clinics were held every two years or so into the 1980's. In 1992 after a few years absence, SWCD began their annual pond clinic that is still popular today.

The purpose of a pond today has changed from when we started constructing them for drought purposes, but ponds are still desired for other reasons and each year more are constructed. Most ponds constructed today are for recreational or storm water control. If you own or maintain a pond built through the drought program, most likely it may not meet the needs of today. Most of these ponds have outlived their life expectancy and will need to be rehabbed as per the pond owner's desires.

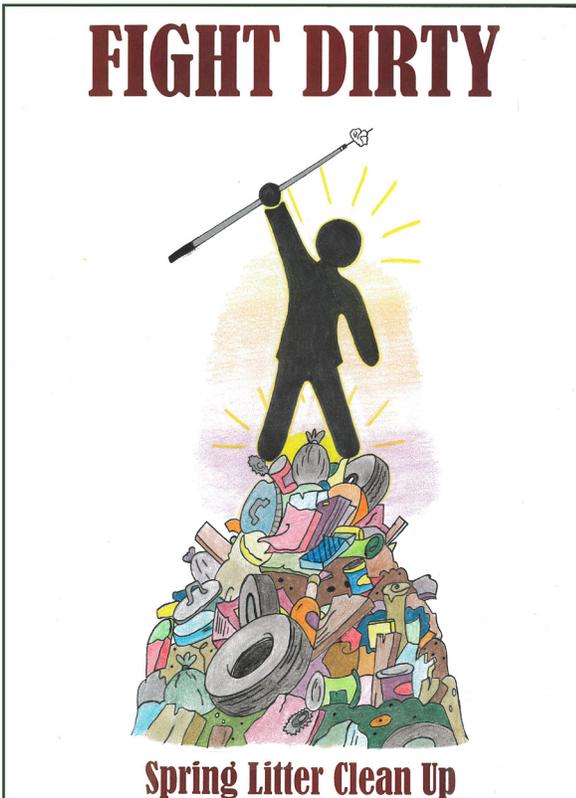
To find out more, join us at our next pond clinic (see page 2) on April 10th. Learn how to combat nature that is always affecting a pond and learn new techniques and stocking recommendations to maximize your pond potential.

**There are 440 locally elected Board Supervisors that provide the leadership to our 88 soil and water districts across Ohio (5 per county). This locally led conservation effort follows the same framework as when SWCD's were first formed. Clermont SWCD is currently celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> year.**

*If your address is incorrect or you would like to be added / removed from our mailing list, please contact us at (513) 732-7075.*

All NRCS / SWCD programs and services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status.

Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District  
 P.O. Box 549  
 1000 Locust Street, Owensville, Ohio 45160  
 Phone: 513-732-7075  
[www.clermontswcd.org](http://www.clermontswcd.org)  
<http://www.facebook.com/clermontswcd>  
<http://www.twitter.com/clermontswcd>



*Leah Decatur's Winning Design*

### Calendar

Small Farm Conference, Wilmington	Mar. 10-11
Monthly Board Meeting	Mar. 14 8am
Conservation Sale Order Deadline	Apr. 9
Pond Clinic	Apr. 10
Monthly Board Meeting	Apr. 11 8am
Perennial School (OSU Extension)	Apr. 12
Rain Barrel Art Auction, Cincy Zoo	Apr. 19
Spring Litter Cleanup	Apr. 21
Conservation Sale Pickup	Apr. 28
Monthly Board Meeting	May 9 8am
Office Closed (Holiday)	May 28
Monthly Board Meeting	June 13 8am
Ohio River Sweep	June 16