



Summer 2018

**Our Mission:**

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

**Tips for Creating a Pollinator Friendly Lawn**

If dandelions, clovers or other perennial weeds are growing in your lawn, you may want to think twice before using herbicides.

While flowering weeds may be unsightly to you, they’re food to butterflies, bees and other pollinators. Most plants need help with pollination, and it’s estimated that pollinators are responsible for bringing us one out of every three bites of food.



One of the most helpful things property owners can do to help pollinators is to avoid the use of herbicides. There can be a beauty to a lawn that has a mix of plants – even clover and dandelions. The flowers add splashes of color through the year. Also, you’ll be able to enjoy the sound of insects through the summer, rather than the silence that the use of insecticides can bring.

If you decide to spray, there are still steps you can take to protect pollinators:

- Mow the weeds down first to remove the flowers
- Spot treat the weeds instead of spraying the entire yard

- Maintain a high mowing height for grass – the recommendation for tall fescue is 3-4 inches. Mowing higher will promote deeper root systems, shade weed seeds so they don’t sprout, and increase stress resistance and decrease injury from pests.

- Reduce the amount of grass to mow by establishing plots of pollinator-friendly plants – plants native to our area are pollinator favorites – plant a mix of bushes, perennial flowers and grasses.

- Insecticides kill the bad AND the good insects – please avoid if possible.

- If you must use pesticides, wait until June to apply; the blooming time for some species will be past. Also, early-season pollinators are still recovering from winter stress in March and April.

- If using insecticides, use granular formulations which fall to the ground and avoid direct contamination of flowering portions of blooming plants.

To learn more about how you can help pollinators, visit the Pollinator Partnership web site at [www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org), or contact the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District at (513) 732-7075.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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## Natural Resources Day at the Fair

### -Kid Friendly Activities-

Join Clermont SWCD along with the Ohio Division of Wildlife, Ohio Division of Watercraft, Ohio Division of Parks, National Wild Turkey Federation, Clermont County parks, and others during the third Natural Resources Day which will be held at the Clermont County Fair. Archery, BB-guns, reptiles, and other hands on exhibits will be on display. The event will be held at the Lykins Pavilion on Tuesday, July 24th, 2018. Meet with representatives from local conservation clubs, Ohio Trappers Association and local sportsmen clubs. Representatives will be available to discuss natural resource related issues and how you can improve wildlife habitat on your property.

*Interactive stream table displayed by Clermont SWCD during last year's event to demonstrate how streams function and the influence people have on them.*



## Call for SWCD Supervisor Candidates

Clermont SWCD is seeking candidates for its Board of Supervisors. Two supervisors will be elected at the Annual Meeting which will be held on September 13.

Board Supervisors guide the district, its staff, and cooperating agencies in efforts to implement conservation programs in the county that address management and conservation of soil, water and related resources. Board members should have a sincere interest in conservation and must have the enthusiasm, dedication and the time to serve as an elected official. This is a volunteer position, but supervisors can be reimbursed for mileage & expenses (registration, lodging, meals, etc.) related to events involving soil & water professionals.

### **What a potential supervisor needs to know:**

- \* Candidate must be over 18 years old and a resident of Clermont County
- \* This is a volunteer position and runs in 3 year terms
- \* Board meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00 AM and normally run 1 ½ to 2 hours.
- \* Attendance at occasional outside meetings, events or trainings is required

If you are interested in becoming a Board Supervisor for Clermont SWCD, please contact John McManus, District Administrator at (513) 732-7075 Ext: 103.

## 2018 Ohio River Sweep

On Saturday, June 16th thousands of volunteers from Pittsburgh, PA to Cairo, IL will do their part to clean up the 3,000 miles of Ohio River shoreline.

In Clermont County volunteers can report to Chilo Lock #34 Park (rough terrain – adults or teens only!), Neville, Indian Mound Campground or the riverfront Bandstand in New Richmond.

The event starts at 9:00 am and ends around noon. Volunteers will be asked to sign a waiver and will receive free t-shirts, gloves and trash bags. There will be refreshments available after the event, with most communities hosting a cookout. The Ohio River Sweep will be held rain or shine but canceled if the weather is dangerous (lightning, etc.).

Participants are asked to wear old, comfortable clothes and closed toe shoes. If you have questions please contact Becky Ploucha, Valley View Foundation, at [ors.clermont@gmail.com](mailto:ors.clermont@gmail.com) or at 513-218-4094.

### Calendar

Monthly Board Meeting	June 13 8am
Ohio River Sweep	June 16
Rain Garden Workshop	June 25
Holiday (Office Closed)	July 4
Monthly Board Meeting	July 11 8am
Monthly Board Meeting	Aug. 8 8am
Holiday (Office Closed)	Sept. 3
75 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting	Sept. 13

## Rain Garden Workshop to be Offered to Landscape Professionals

This unique workshop for all Greater Cincinnati landscaping professionals will further their knowledge and skills on rain gardens, helping them offer custom solutions to both their residential & commercial clients. All aspects of designing & constructing, including details on siting, sizing, soil amendments, plant selection will be covered.

Date: Monday, June 25, 2018

Cost: \$25 (includes lunch and refreshments)

Register at: <http://www.savelocalwaters.org/>

Meeting Location:  
Sanitation District No. 1  
1045 Eaton Dr  
Ft. Wright, KY 41017



## Another Successful Year Spring Cleaning

The 2018 Spring Litter Clean-Up was another successful event with 438 volunteers cleaning up 12 sites and removing nearly 3 tons of trash from our waterways and parks across Clermont County and the East Fork Little Miami River watershed!

A big thank you to our event sponsors: the Duke Energy Foundation, the Southern Ohio Association of Realtors (SOAR), the Clermont County Convention and Visitor's Bureau and the Buckeye United Fly Fishers (BUFF).

Thank you also to our partners: the Clermont County Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ), Clermont County Park District, Ohio State University Extension, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) – Division of Parks & Division of Watercraft, Highland SWCD, Harsha Lake U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

Save the Date! Next year's event will be held on Saturday, April 20th, 2019.

## Clermont SWCD Awarded Grant Funding

Clermont SWCD is proud to report that we are the recipient of a watershed management grant from the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The grant will provide nearly \$40,000 in the coming year to help with projects in the East Fork Little Miami River watershed, and may be renewed for two more years.

The district will consider various projects to address water quality of urban stormwater runoff and hazardous alga blooms (HAB's) that have affected Harsha Lake at East Fork State Park the last few years. A portion of the funding will be dedicated to Brown, Clinton and Highland SWCDs for activities in their portions of the watershed. Check our web site or follow us on Facebook to follow our progress.



*Trash removed from our waterways.*



*East Fork State Park*

*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  
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Phone: 513-732-7075  
www.clermontswcd.org  
<http://www.facebook.com/clermontswcd>  
<http://www.twitter.com/clermontswcd>

## Come Celebrate with Us September 13<sup>th</sup>

75 years! Celebrate the 1943 founding of Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District at **Shaw Farms in Milford on Thursday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 8:00 PM**. We are excited to have activities for the entire family! Enjoy hayrides, a fresh water fish tank from Newport Aquarium, children's activities and much more. Come sing along and dance to music provided by Full Moon Ranch, an acoustic trio playing Americana/Folk music ... and many old time favorites. Come browse our collection of old photos and see who you know! We will have beer & wine



*Gene Derrickson Presenting the Outstanding Farmer Award to Mr. and Mrs. John Hardin in 1966.*

produced in Clermont County, as well as a buffet dinner.

We are currently looking for sponsors for this historic event. If you or someone you know has benefited from services provided by Clermont SWCD, or is an advocate for conservation, please consider making a donation. Ticket prices will be dependent on donations received.

For more information, please check our website periodically at [clermontswcd.org](http://clermontswcd.org), or follow us on Facebook. We love all our faithful attendees and welcome all newcomers, so come see what we are all about and have a fun evening!



*1963 Annual Meeting.  
Does anybody know any of these attendees?*