

THE CONSERVATIONIST



Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation • Development • Self-government

September 2005

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2005 FISH FINGERLING SALE

It is once again time for the Delaware Soil & Water Conservation District's annual Fish Fingerling Sale. The District will be selling fish fingerlings to the public for use in stocking ponds. To order, simply fill out the order form on the back page of this newsletter with your selections, and mail it, along with a check or money order for the total amount, to the Soil and Water Conservation District office.

Fish pickup is scheduled from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM on Thursday, October 13, 2005 at the Delaware SWCD office. SWCD staff and representatives of Fender's Fish Hatchery of Baltic, Ohio will be on-hand to fill your order. You will need to bring adequate containers to take your fish home and release them into your pond. Five-gallon buckets or trash cans with a heavy-duty plastic liner will suffice. If you order Triploid White Amurs, please plan to have a container that holds at

least 5 gallons of water per fish.

The kinds and numbers of fish stocked in your pond will affect the overall success of the pond. Largemouth bass and Bluegills are the most common combination of fish for ponds in Ohio. Bass are predators, feeding almost exclusively on forage fish, although they will also feed on frogs, crayfish, and large insects. Bluegills are the most commonly stocked forage species. Channel catfish fingerlings may be stocked with bass and bluegills in ponds one-half acre or larger. Suggested stocking rates per pond surface acre are as follows: Bass-100; Bluegill-500; Channel Catfish-100; Minnows-500 to 1000. Also being offered for sale are Yellow Perch & Black Crappie. These species are not traditionally stocked in Ohio ponds, and we cannot recommend them for stocking. If you do stock these species, do not do so at a rate greater than 100 per acre. The stocking rates for White Amurs is dependent on the amount of weed cover existing in a pond. Please call the SWCD office for more information on stocking White Amurs.

SWCD CALENDAR	
For more info on these events, please call the District Office, (740) 368-1921.	
Sept.	
9/12	Fish Sale Begins
9/14	Olentangy Watershed Alliance Board Mtg.
9/17-24	Delaware County Fair
9/22	Little Brown Jug Day - OFFICE CLOSED, PM
9/23	FFA County Land & Soils Judging Contest
9/27	SW CD Board Mtg.
9/29	FFA County Forestry Contest
Oct.	
10/4	Friends of the Lower Olentangy Mtg.
10/6	Upper Big Walnut Creek Water Quality Partnership Mtg.
10/7	Deadline for Fish Fingerling Orders
10/9	Earth Sciences Day - Highbanks MetroPark
10/10	Columbus Day - OFFICE CLOSED
10/12	Olentangy Watershed Alliance Board Mtg.
10/13	Upper Scioto River Watershed Project Mtg.
10/18	SW CD Board Mtg.
Nov.	
11/1	Friends of the Lower Olentangy Mtg.
11/3	Upper Big Walnut Creek Water Quality Partnership Mtg.
11/5	Ohio Plants & Animals Workshop
11/9	Olentangy Watershed Alliance Board Mtg.
11/10	Upper Scioto River Watershed Project Mtg.



FSA Notes

by Don Henry, County Executive Director

Scioto River CREP Update

The Scioto River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program is funded for 70,000 acres in 31 counties. To date about 66 percent of the targeted acres are enrolled or being processed for enrollment. Therefore interested producers should contact this office soon to apply. The program provides generous financial incentives to assist producers with land adjacent to streams and water courses in safeguarding environmentally sensitive land while enhancing wildlife habitats and improving water quality.

New LDP Form Announced

The CCC-633EZ has been introduced to simplify the loan deficiency payment process by combining the old CCC-633 and CCC-709 and is effective for crop year 2005. The county office will honor CCC-709's filed for 2005 for grain delivered directly from the field. However, producers who store grain on the farm need to sign a CCC-633EZ before losing beneficial interest to initiate a request for an LDP.

Contact Delaware County Farm Service Agency at 740-363-3671 for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The 2005 SWCD Annual Banquet & Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 22. Election of Supervisors will begin at 6:00 PM.

YUMMY GRAHAMS

Ingredients:	15 Graham Cracker Sheets	1 C. Butter
	3/4 C. Chopped Pecans or Walnuts	1/2 C. Chocolate Chips
	1-3/4 C. Packed Brown Sugar	1/2 C. White Chips

Break each graham cracker into 4 crackers and place on a jelly roll pan. Sprinkle nuts over graham crackers. Bring brown sugar and butter to a boil over medium heat. Boil 2 minutes. Pour brown sugar mixture evenly over the graham crackers in pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes. Quickly remove graham crackers to wax paper, using a spatula, and let cool completely. Melt chips and drizzle over cooled bars. Repeat with other chips. Enjoy!

Submitted by Sue Cunningham, Delaware SWCD Board of Supervisors Member

Natural Resources Park Is Coming

Come to the Delaware County Fair to get a sneak preview of the Natural Resources Park. It is no longer a vision; it's really going to happen. Last year, the Natural Resources Park was just a possibility being considered by the SWCD and the Delaware County Fair Board. But, it has been decided that this park should be developed, and that process is now underway.

At the fair you will see the concept drawing of the park and be able to walk through the green space just south of the pig & lamb barn to experience what this park will become. Pathways, bridges, a stream, pond, wetland, learning center and other areas will be marked so that you can visualize what the finished product will look like. An opportunity to sign up to assist with the development and maintenance of the park will also be available.

An advisory committee has been busy designing this site which will feature natural resource conservation practices that can be used to beautify and diversify the yard around buildings where people live, work, go to school or worship. In addition to being a pleasant place to visit and learn about natural resources during the fair, the Natural Resources Park will be available for use by schools, garden clubs and other groups throughout the year.

So, come take a walk and relax in the "park to be" at this year's Delaware County Fair.

Conservation Educators Selected

Providing people with opportunities to have meaningful learning experiences with their outdoor environment is the first step in helping them understand how they can become better stewards of the land. The SWCD selected two individuals to be the Conservation Educators of 2004-05 who are working hard at this and sharing with others their striving for a land ethic. Beth MacLehose is the Conservation Education Secondary Teacher and Dick Phillips is the Conservation Education Volunteer.

Beth, a classroom teacher in elementary, middle and high school for 16 years, is in her 5th year at Delaware Dempsey Middle School where she teaches special education classes. It takes unique skills to find ways to connect kids who have special needs with their environment, but she has and uses those skills. Beth planned the first ever Youth Service Day this spring which had Dempsey students on the school campus picking up trash, erecting bird nesting boxes and removing cattails from the wetland. She received a grant to purchase wetland resources and involve students in creating a field guide for the wetland. This summer she participated in the Science Ambassador Program where she interacted with scientists and other U.S. educators and developed science-related lesson plans to benefit any student. Beth attends lots of educator workshops to learn new ways to enhance environmental education for her students.

Dick Phillips taught chemistry and physics at Big Walnut High School for more than 30 years. He is now retired, but he doesn't spend much time in a rocking chair. You are more apt to find him volunteering his time and energy using the book of life to educate others in the outdoor classroom. He is an avid outdoorsman that continues to spread that contagion to others. Dick has been very active with bird habitat enhancement in the county and beyond exemplified by his erecting Eagle and Osprey nest platforms and nest boxes for Kestrel, Wood Duck, Blue Bird, Tree Swallow and Purple Martin. He assists scout groups and others develop nest box trails and install nest boxes in neighborhoods.

Many thanks to Beth and Dick for their good work of giving people experiences that cultivate environmental ethics, and modeling what Aldo Leopold said about conservation education: "the objective is to teach the student to see the land, understand what he (she) sees, and enjoy what he (she) understands."

2005 Fish Fingerling & White Amur Sale

Name _____ Phone (H) _____

Address _____ Phone (W) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

<u>Species</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price (ea.)</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Largemouth Bass	2" - 4"	\$ 0.60		\$
Bluegill	2" - 4"	\$ 0.60		\$
Channel Catfish	4" - 6"	\$ 0.60		\$
Black Crappie	2" - 4"	\$ 0.85		\$
Yellow Perch	2" - 4"	\$ 0.60		\$
Fathead Minnows	1"	\$ 0.06		\$
Triploid White Amur	10" - 14"	\$ 11.00		\$
TOTAL ORDER:				\$

Payment is required at the time of order - Thank you!
Make check payable to Delaware SWCD. Send to 557-A Sunbury Road, Delaware, OH 43015.
Deadline for orders is Friday, October 7, 2005.



Delaware SWCD
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 (740) 368-1921, ext. 4
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