

THE CONSERVATIONIST



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

September 2006

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Fish Fingerling Order Form

2006 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 12, 2006 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.

September

9/16-23	Delaware County Fair
9/21	Little Brown Jug Day - OFFICE CLOSED PM
9/19-21	Farm Science Review
9/26	SWCD Board Mtg.

October

10/3	Friends of the Lower Olentangy Mtg.
10/5	Upper Big Walnut Creek Water Quality Partnership Mtg.
10/9	Columbus Day - OFFICE CLOSED
10/11	Olentangy Watershed Alliance Board Mtg.
10/12	Upper Scioto River Watershed Project Mtg.
10/17	SWCD Board Mtg.
10/29	Daylight Savings Time Ends

November

11/21	SWCD Annual Banquet & Meeting
11/23	Thanksgiving Day - OFFICE CLOSED
11/24	OFFICE CLOSED

Delaware SWCD Mission

To provide progressive leadership, support, and assistance to the public through grassroots programs that promote natural resources conservation and stewardship.

Big Walnut Watershed Farms Provide Important Data

Farmers using conservation practices in the Big Walnut Watershed may soon be getting a call from Karen Kelley. Kelley is the new conservation specialist working for the Delaware NRCS office. Selected as one of twelve national benchmark watersheds, the Big Walnut encompasses portions of Delaware, Knox and Licking Counties. "This is part of a program that was started back in 2003. We call it CEAP which stands for Conservation Effects Assessment Project. It's purpose is to get actual numbers on the environmental benefits of conservation farming and whether those programs should be continued," said Kelley. Additionally the program examines alternative methods that will benefit both local and national environmental and conservation goals.

"I can't say enough about what an important role farmers play in preserving our natural resources by conservation farming. We need them not only to provide our food and other daily necessities but also their feedback about their farming operations is, in a sense, a case study that gives us scientifically credible data for these USDA programs." Currently in the Big Walnut Watershed are several testing stations that measure water quality, quantity, soil quality, and ecosystem effects of conservation practices. With these reports and the survey information provided by the farming operators some very valuable reports can be generated.

Protecting the environment is especially important to Ms. Kelley, who is also the director of the Marion County Park District. "I put in 20 hours a week for the park district and 20 hours for the NRCS office. The jobs go hand in hand because both are involved in providing wildlife habitat, wetlands and clear streams. I also enjoy the environmental education that both offices provide to the general public and landowners. Agriculture and natural resources can make very beneficial partnerships and that is why the CEAP program is so important. It gathers the data to prove the effectiveness of conservation farming."

More information on the CEAP project or other conservation farming programs please contact the NRCS office at (740) 368-1821.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The 2006 SWCD Annual Banquet & Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 21. Election of Supervisors will begin at 6:00 PM.

WITCHES BREW

Ingredients: 1/2 C. Lizard Eyes (Cheerios)	1/2 C. Blood Drops (Red Hots)
1/2 C. Chicken Toenails (Candy Corn)	1/2 C. Colored Flies (M&Ms)
1/2 C. Butterfly Wings (Fritos)	1/2 C. Cat Eyes (Blanched Almonds)
1/2 C. Ants (Raisins)	1/2 C. Earthworms (Cheese Curlys)
1/2 C. Cobwebs (Crispix Cereal)	1/2 C. Snake Eyes (Salted Peanuts)
1/2 C. Bat Bones (Shoestring Potatoes)	1/2 C. Lizard Tails (Pretzel Sticks)
1/2 C. Cat Claws (Sunflower Seeds)	

Combine all ingredients, mix well. Store in tightly covered container. Makes 6 1/2 cups. Kids will love reading this recipe as well as eating the finished product.



EXCITING NEWS!!***The Ohio Envirothon is coming to Delaware County!******What is the Envirothon?***

The Envirothon is a highly interactive environmental competition for high school students designed to stimulate, reinforce and enhance interest in the environment and natural resources. A competitive outdoor team event for high school students, the Envirothon offers a unique and enjoyable learning experience. A team consists of 5 students, all from the same high school. An adult advisor (or advisors) must accompany the team, but is not permitted to assist the team during the competition.

The Envirothon tests students' knowledge of soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatic ecology and current environmental issues. In addition, the Envirothon encourages cooperative decision-making and team building. While each student on an Envirothon team is challenged to contribute his or her personal best, the score that counts at the end of an Envirothon is the team score.

Five "Area Envirothons" are conducted around Ohio late each spring. The top four teams from each of these Area competitions progress to the Ohio Envirothon in June, which is held in a different part of Ohio each year. The top-scoring team in the Ohio Envirothon is eligible to compete in the Canon (National) Envirothon, hosted by a different state every year.

In 2006, more than 300 high school teams participated in the five Ohio Area Envirothons; more than 2,000 students participated in county, regional, and area-wide Envirothons.

Who conducts the Envirothon?

In Ohio, the Envirothon is sponsored by the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (OFSWCD) in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). Natural resource and environmental specialists from throughout Ohio devise the Envirothon questions and staff the various test stations.

Delaware County is honored to be the host site for the 2007 Ohio Envirothon with the Delaware and Franklin SWCDs as co-hosts.

We need your help!!

Teams must pay a registration fee to be eligible for competition in the Ohio Envirothon. The competition itself is a 3-day event, and students and their advisors will be housed at Ohio Wesleyan University. Costs incurred for staging the event include housing, meals, transportation, meeting space, and materials. To keep the registration cost to a minimum, and to encourage these young people to participate, the Envirothon Committee seeks donations from businesses, organizations, and individuals to support students who diligently study environmental issues.

We are asking for your support of these Ohio youth by contributing to the Ohio Envirothon fund. Your donation is greatly appreciated. Contributors will be listed on the program, acknowledged in news releases for the event, and will be recognized at the Ohio Envirothon awards luncheon.

If you would like to contribute, please send a check, payable to "OFSWCD-Envirothon" with 2007 Ohio Envirothon on the memo line, to Jeanne Russell, 2045 Morse Road B-3, Columbus, Ohio 43229-6605. All donations to the Envirothon are tax deductible.

For more information, please contact Bret Bacon at (740) 368-1921, ext. 4 or bret-bacon@delawareswcd.org. Please join us in supporting this worthwhile event right in our own backyard!



2006 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 6, 2006.



Delaware Soil & Water
 Conservation District
 557-A Sunbury Rd.
 Delaware, OH 43015
 (740) 368-1921, ext. 4
 Fax: (740) 369-8321
dswcd@delawareswcd.org

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SWCD SUPERVISORS
 Ted Colflesh
 Sue Cunningham
 Mary Fleming
 Steve Sheets
 Jim Sherman