

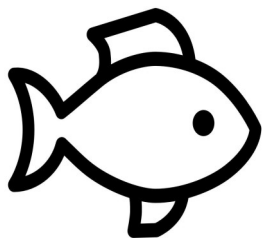


H2Ohio Update 2024-2025 program

The deadline for a P1 contract has been extended to February 1st, unless determined otherwise by ODA. A P1 contract is creating an account in MyFarms, uploading field boundaries and signing a development contract. H2Ohio Producers will need to start “writing” their Nutrient Management Plans in MyFarms or talk to their Ag Retailer about “writing” the plan for them in MyFarms. Some of the information needed in the Nutrient Management Plan: do you apply manure on your fields, do you plan on planting cover crops, what kind of equipment do you use, what is your crop rotation and yield goals. Any soil test older than 4 years will need to be updated. If you have any questions, please call our office at 419-738-4016 and ask for Molly.

Totals for 2023

Implementation totaled 21,705 acres = \$92,920	VRT totaled 10,136 acres = \$80,910
Subsurface totaled 5,678 acres = \$170,353	Poultry Manure totaled 241 acres = \$8,440
Other Manure totaled 1,148 acres = \$68,874	Small Grains totaled 4,440 acres = \$155,384
Forage totaled 194 acres = \$8,800.50	Cover Crops totaled 4,521 acres = \$113,028
TOTAL ACRES 48,063 = \$697,000 (totals rounded)	



We are happy to be selling Tilapia Fish this year—BUT they will be delivered in June not May with the rest of your order. Tilapia provide a natural way of keeping ponds clean. Tilapia like to eat algae that the Amure don't prefer. This could eliminate the need for use of chemicals to treat your pond! Also, once in the pond, Tilapia provide a simpler approach to pond management. They also produce additional fingerlings which provide food for larger fish. These fish are tropical and will not survive the winter so the vendor encourages people to fish them out in Sept/Oct. These are a very mild tasting fish and are a good addition to a healthy eating habit! If you place an order, we will call with a date and time for a June pickup for the Tilapia—all other fish will still be delivered for pick up on May 7th.

TREE SALES end March 1, 2024
see page 3 for order form



FISH SALES end April 26, 2024
See page 5 for order form



2024 Board Meetings—second Wednesday of the month @ 10:00 am

Jan 10th, Feb 14th, Mar 13th, Apr 10th, May 8th, June 12th, July 10th, Aug 14th, Sept 11th, Oct 9th, Nov 13th, Dec 11th

BECOME A BUSINESS SPONSOR!

Our office is offering a yearly business sponsor opportunity to anyone who would like to advertise their business. There are 3 ways to place a business ad, proceeds go towards the annual meeting.

- Tier 1—\$50 –placemat for annual meeting
- Tier 2—\$75—placemat and 2x in our newsletters
- Tier 3—\$100—placement and 4x in our newsletters

If you would like to become a business sponsor or have questions please call our office @ 419-738-4016 and ask for Chris or email cdavis@auglaizecounty.org Deadline is February 16th, 2024.

The Auglaize SWCD Newsletter is a publication to keep county residents informed on our SWCD program. If your address needs corrected, if you wish to be removed from our mailing list or receive your newsletter via e-mail. Contact cdavis@auglaizecounty.org or call the office at 419-738-4016.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Deadline: Feb 29, 2024

Thanks to our County Commissioners/ Administrator

John Bergman/Dave Bambauer/Doug Spencer
Erica Preston

The Auglaize SWCD Board of Supervisors and Staff would like to Thank the Commissioners/ Administrator for their continued support and dedication to conservation in our county; the financial assistance at the county level draws matching funds from the state that enables the District to continue to provide assistance to all Auglaize County residents.

Our office is offering a \$500 scholarship to any high school senior or student currently enrolled in a college or university for the fall of 2024 who resides in Auglaize County. The applicant should be pursuing a degree in a natural resource or an agricultural related field. Applications can be requested from our office or found on line at www.auglaizeswcd.org. The completed application and a copy of transcript are due no later than 4:30 pm on Friday February 29th.

2024 Tree Order Form

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone _____

Office Use Only
Order No. _____
Check / Cash
Amount \$ _____
Receipt # _____

	Species (10 Seedlings per Packet)	Seedling Size	Number of Packets Ordered	Price/Packet	Total Price
10 Trees per Packet	White Cedar (2 yr)	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Balsam Fir (transplant)	6-12"		\$15.00	
	Douglas Fir (2 yr seedling)	18-24"		\$15.00	
	Norway Spruce (2 yr seedling)	18-24"		\$15.00	
	White Pine (2yr seedling)	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Red Maple (2 yr seedling)	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Red Oak (1 yr seedling)	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Black Willow (1 yr seedling)	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Swamp White Oak (2 yr seedling)	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Sycamore (1 yr seedling)	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Wildlife Pack (includes 2 ea listed below)	6-12"		\$15.00	
	Swamp White Oak, American Hazel Nut, Ninebark, American Plum, Red Osier Dogwood				
	Beauty Pack (includes 2 ea listed below)	12-18"		\$23.00	
	Red Bud, Serviceberry, Common Lilac, Flowering Dogwood, Black Chokeberry				
	Evergreen Transplant (includes 2 ea listed below)	8-18"		\$28.00	
	White Pine, White Spruce, White Cedar, Balsam Fir, Red Pine				
	Nut Pack (includes species listed below)	12-18"		\$27.00	
	3-Hazelnuts, 2-Northern Pecan, 2-Butternut, 3-Black Walnut				

Deadline for ordering seedlings is
March 1st, 2024

Subtotal	\$
+TAX @ 7.25%	
Total Amount Due	\$

Check payable to Auglaize SWCD, 110 Industrial Dr #G, Wapakoneta, OH 45895 must accompany order form.

Pick up dates are April 9th - 1pm to 4:30pm AND April 10th - 7am to 1pm
 Postcards will be sent with location of pickup



NRCS Conservation Program Expediting Rankings, Funding Contracts

Ohio producers interested in the popular Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Inflation Reduction Act– Environmental Quality Incentives Program – (IRA-EQIP) funding can take advantage of the ACT NOW process, which immediately approves and obligates applications when the application meets or exceeds a state-determined minimum ranking score. Applicants will experience a targeted, rapid streamlined application and contract approval process.

“This process allows us to fund promising projects immediately, rather than waiting for all applications to come in for the fiscal year,” said Ohio State Conservationist John Wilson. “I urge producers and landowners to take advantage of this flexibility.”

EQIP and IRA-EQIP provide financial and technical resources to producers and landowners to improve their operations, commodity production and environmental benefits. Financial assistance is now available through the following categories:

General: Conservation opportunities exist in cropland, forestry, pasture operations, seasonal high tunnels, socially disadvantaged producers, conservation activity plans, on-farm energy, and organic/those transitioning to organic. Producers transitioning to organic self-certify that they agree to develop and work toward implementing an Organic Systems Plan (OSP), as required by the USDA National Organic Program (NOP).

Special projects are also available to address water quality, forestry management, improving pollinator populations and wildlife habitat, pasture improvements, and more.

IRA-EQIP, Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW), Urban Agriculture, Northern Bobwhite in Grasslands Priority Area, Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB) Special Project, Oak Management Special Project, Mississippi River Basin Initiative, and National Water Quality Initiative.

Historically underserved producers are eligible for advance payments for all EQIP practices. This option provides historically underserved producers with funding up-front, for at least 50% of the payment rate for each practice. Historically underserved producers include producers who are beginning, socially disadvantaged, veteran, or limited resource.

Learn more about EQIP and EQIP-IRA as well as other program information on the [Ohio NRCS EQIP website](#).



Conservation Stewardship Program Funding Available to Ohio Landowners, Producers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Ohio Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting applications from landowners interested in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) to build on existing conservation efforts to increase operational efficiencies and environmental benefits as well as reduce overall input costs. This year, Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding is providing additional financial opportunities for select conservation practices and enhancements to increase direct climate mitigation benefits.

Ohio NRCS is increasing the minimum annual payment for agricultural producers participating in CSP from \$1,500 to \$4,000 starting in fiscal year 2024. The increase addresses challenges faced by small scale, underserved, and urban producers and improves equity in the program by making participation more financially beneficial for smaller operations. The new minimum payment is available for new and renewed CSP contracts, and applications for the program.

Additionally, producers and landowners can take advantage of the ACT NOW process, which immediately approves and obligates applications when the application meets or exceeds a state-determined minimum ranking score. Applicants will experience a targeted, rapid streamlined application and contract approval process.

“Participating in this program allows landowners to build on their conservation efforts,” Ohio State Conservationist John Wilson said. “Increasing the minimum payment to CSP participants regardless of the size of their operation helps to make participation worthwhile for a larger number of producers.”

CSP offers technical and financial assistance to help agricultural and forest producers take their conservation efforts to the next level. The program is designed to compensate agricultural and forest producers who agree to increase their level of conservation by adopting additional conservation activities and maintaining their baseline level of conservation.

Learn more about the CSP application process and eligible land use resource concerns on the [Ohio NRCS Conservation Stewardship Program](#) webpage.

2024 Fish Sale

The following are suggested stocking rates per acre for a new or un-stocked pond. These rates apply to surface area and should be adjusted to fit your pond size: Largemouth Bass 100, Bluegill 500, Yellow Perch 100, Channel Catfish 200, Minnows 1,000 and White Amur 10.

The District is working with Remlinger Fish Farm this year. The fish will be delivered to our office in cardboard boxes. Inside the box the fish will be contained in a sealed bag with water and oxygen. All fish are sold by the box.

**Please return the order form and payment by Friday April 26, 2024 to
Auglaize SWCD ~ 110 Industrial Dr #G ~ Wapakoneta, OH 45895**

Fish (except Tilapia) pick up **TUESDAY** May 7th 2024 from 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. at the SWCD Office.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Number of Boxes	Species	Size	Quantity per Box	Price per Box	Total
_____	Bluegill	2" - 4"	25	\$29.00	\$ _____
_____	Bluegill	4" - 6"	20	\$48.00	\$ _____
_____	Hybrid Bluegill	2" - 4"	25	\$29.00	\$ _____
_____	Hybrid Bluegill	4" - 6"	20	\$48.00	\$ _____
_____	Redear Shellcracker	2" - 4"	25	\$40.00	\$ _____
_____	Redear Shellcracker	4" - 6"	20	\$56.00	\$ _____
_____	Black Crappie	2" - 4"	25	\$46.00	\$ _____
_____	Channel Catfish	4" - 6"	25	\$31.00	\$ _____
_____	Jumbo Yellow Perch	4" - 6"	25	\$55.00	\$ _____
_____	Jumbo Yellow Perch	6" - 8"	10	\$43.00	\$ _____
_____	Jumbo Yellow Perch	8" - 10"	5	\$43.00	\$ _____
_____	Large Mouth Bass	2" - 4"	25	\$48.00	\$ _____
_____	Large Mouth Bass	4" - 6"	20	\$57.00	\$ _____
_____	Large Mouth Bass	6" - 8"	10	\$53.00	\$ _____
_____	Large Mouth Bass	8" - 10"	5	\$54.00	\$ _____
_____	White Amur	8" - 12"	2	\$37.00	\$ _____
_____	Black Fathead Minnow	1" - 3"	50	\$50.00	\$ _____
_____	Pond Maid Sludge Remover	4#		\$ 63.00	\$ _____
_____	Pond Maid Sludge Remover	10#		\$165.00	\$ _____
_____	Pond Maid Sludge Remover	25#		\$340.00	\$ _____
_____	Pond Maid Pond Bacteria	10#		\$165.00	\$ _____
_____	Pond Maid Pond Bacteria	25#		\$340.00	\$ _____
_____	Tilapia (Delivered in JUNE)	5" - 10"	4#	\$ 84.00	\$ _____

**Tilapia will be delivered
in June – date/time TBD**

Subtotal \$ _____
+TAX @ 7.25% \$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

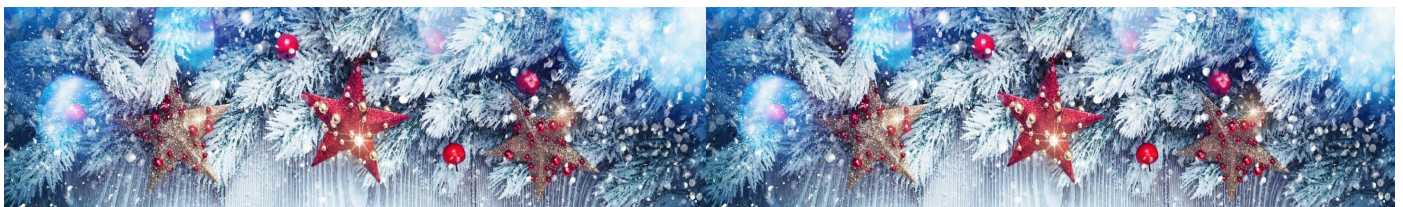
INTERESTED IN A GRASSED WATERWAY?

The Conservation Reserve Program is a cost-share program for grassed waterways based on component rates. To be eligible for the CRP Program; Farm Service Agency (FSA) will check cropping history, land ownership eligibility, when you would like to construct the waterway and if a contractor is lined up. Check with FSA at 419-738-3918 for the current cost-share percentage.

After the above information is determined and you are still interested in a CRP Grassed waterway, here are the additional steps needed:

1. SWCD/NRCS staff will visit the site to verify needs and feasibility. If there is no erosion present, a waterway cannot move forward at this time – see additional info at the bottom.
2. Once erosion is verified, SWCD/NRCS staff will survey and start design on the waterway(s). This may involve several visits, especially if underground utilities are present.
3. Upon finishing the waterway engineering plan, the landowner will be given two copies. Additional copies may be purchased.
4. The Conservation Plan and contract will be written by NRCS and FSA based on the components of the engineering plan. FSA will contact the landowner to schedule an appointment to have the conservation plan and other applicable papers reviewed and signed if the waterway is considered eligible for the CRP Program and the landowner has agreed to the cost estimate and sign an application with FSA.
5. Once the contract is signed and the site passes an archaeological study. SWCD/NRCS will schedule to meet with the contractor/landowner to review the plan, usually on site. Contractor or landowner will need to contact SWCD/NRCS a few days prior to construction to request construction layout points.
6. SWCD/NRCS will follow-up on construction and approve the waterway(s) to be seeded when all standards have been met. After completion, the appropriate NRCS or SWCD technician will approve the construction.
7. Your contract will have a deadline for completion, one year from time you sign. Tile can be installed any time of year; most opt to do it over winter in advance of any grading to allow tile trenches to settle. Seeding dates are March 15 to May 31 and August 1 to September 15.
8. Landowner submits bills to FSA and signs the FSA-848A (Cost Share Performance Certification). Bills are compared to construction quantities and reviewed by FSA, SWCD and NRCS. Payment is then issued by FSA.
9. Landowner is responsible for maintaining the waterway(s) for the contracted life of 10 years to receive annual rental payments, with potential to renew at expiration depending on program changes and the waterway condition.

If the area is not eligible for CRP, you can apply for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) with NRCS or the SWCD staff could design a plan for you without cost-share.




Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program Application



If you are interested in applying for the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program for 2024, sponsored locally by our office, we ask you contact us to start filling out the application by February 23rd, 2024. We may not know the results of the application for six months. The biggest decision you need to make prior to application is how much money you require to have an ag easement on your property. The program will never pay more than \$2,000 an acre per applicant farm and maximums are based on funding distribution for Auglaize County. Please contact our office if you have an interest in applying or questions about the program.

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HEALTHY COOKING
FOR One or Two PEOPLE

Whether you are a senior citizen or college student, cooking for one or two can be easy and fun. Although finding the motivation to cook for yourself can sometimes be difficult, it is well worth it.

While throwing a boxed convenience food in the microwave can seem like a simple answer, it can take a toll on physical and mental health as well as waistline. Fast food tends to be low in nutrition and high in fat, sugar, sodium and calories and therefore not as good for the body.

When planning what to prepare, it helps to keep a few things in mind: what foods do you like, what foods need to be used up in the fridge, what's your schedule and do you have more time on weekends to prepare? Selecting canned food without extra salt, sugar or additives can also be a good choice when fresh food is not available.

No time to cook you say? Then, cook once and eat twice! By cooking a larger meal, you can then re-use or freeze leftovers for the next week. For example, if you cook chicken, vegetables and rice one evening for dinner, just cook twice the amount of chicken and use it the next day for on a salad, sandwich or soup. This cuts down on the number of times you need to cook new meals from scratch and helps you stay on track with healthy eating by staying away from processed foods.

Planning and preparing healthy meals can bring a sense of accomplishment. Additionally, taking the time to eat well can bring much enjoyment; a fit body, good health and reduced risk of many diseases. Make eating an exciting part of your day!

~info from OSU Extension



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Permit #81
Wapakoneta OH 45895
U.S. Postage Pd
Nonprofit Org

419-738-4016
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
110 Industrial Drive, Suite G
Auglaize Soil and Water Conservation District

Auglaize Soil and Water Conservation District

110 Industrial Drive #G Wapakoneta, Oh 45895 419-738-4016

www.auglaizeswcd.org and www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov

Auglaize SWCD Mission:
Provide leadership, technical assistance, education and conservation of natural resources in Auglaize County.

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 to 4:30 Mon thru Fri

**Board Meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00am.
Please call or check our website to verify date and time.**



NRCS / SWCD STAFF & BOARD MEMBERS

Jenelle Ott, NRCS District Conservationist
Christine Davis, District Administrator
Doug Schmerge, District Technician 3

Dan Braden, Design Technician
Shawn Rose, District Technician 2
Molly Hamp, Special Program Technician

Board Supervisors: Lou Brown, Debbie Brown, Denver Davis, Lee Turner, Sandy Zwiebel

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