



Preble Soil & Water Conservation District

Conserving our Natural Resources

November 2022

2789 US Rt. 35 E.
West Alexandria, OH 45381
(937) 456-5159
www.prebleswcd.org

CONSERVATION COMMENTS

First Annual Big Tree Contest

Preble SWCD is excited to announce the first annual Big Tree Contest! We have selected the species Tulip Poplar (also known as Yellow Poplar or Tuliptree), and are searching for the largest specimen in Preble County. Tulip Poplars are the tallest trees in the Eastern United States, and among the widest as well. Mature trees can easily surpass 100 feet in height! Tulip Poplars are members of the Magnolia family, which is a very ancient lineage that consists of many of the first flowering plant species. In addition to the desirable lumber they produce, these trees have ecosystem value as a pioneer in disturbed environments, landscape appeal with their stunning yellow flowers, and wildlife significance with their edible seeds.



Identification features for Tulip Poplars include tall, straight trunks with furrowed gray bark, unique leaves that have pointed lobes and flattened tops, bud shape that resembles duck bills, and pointed clusters of papery seeds that will persist well into winter.

To find out how your Tulip Poplar measures up, record the circumference around the tree at 4.5 feet high, and give a rough estimate of the tree's height. Our qualified judges will visit the top scoring finalist trees to verify measurements. Your tree could even be the next State Champion certified by the Ohio Division of Forestry!

Submission forms for the contest are available at PSWCD's office, and on our website, as well a factsheet with rules and regulations. Please submit entries by Friday, December 9th. Our website also includes more identification tips and interesting facts about this incredible native species. The first place winner will receive a commemorative plaque recognizing their champion tree. May the best tree win!

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Mike Broermann
Brian Deaton
Kip Denlinger
Donald Hays
James Leedy

DISTRICT STAFF

BJ Price - District Administrator & Technician
Jason Chappel - Technician
Savannah Ballweg - District Educator & Technician
Austin Kosier- Intern

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Jeff Barnes - District Conservationist
Karen McCalister - Resource Conservationist
Brooke White - Soil Conservationist

PHEASANTS FOREVER FARM BILL BIOLOGIST

Renee Buck

IN THIS ISSUE:

Big Tree Contest
Pesticide Course
73rd Annual Meeting
Forestry Workshop
Pollinator Habitat Tips
Ohio FFA Soil Judging

Get updates on our website:
www.prebleswcd.org

Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertification Course


Save the date for our upcoming Private Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertification Class! Cooperators must renew their private pesticide applicator licenses every three years. This three hour course is approved by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, and fulfills all core and specialty requirements needed for license renewal.

Tuesday, January 24th, 2023
Eaton First Church of God

601 East Lexington Road, Eaton, OH 45320

Be sure to preregister for this course in order to receive a complimentary lunch! Lunch will not be available for walk-ins. Registration will be open through December, and can be found on prebleswcd.org or by calling our office at (937) 456-5159. **Also remember that payment for this class is in addition to the payment made to ODA for license renewal.**

Denlinger Excavating, LLC
 Footers Basements Drain Tile
 Water Ways Sewage Systems



Tom 937-533-0000
 Andy 937-533-0001


RICH EXCAVATING, INC.
 370 Bauer Road
 Somerville, Ohio 45064
 (513) 726-6741
 Fax # (513) 726-4326
 Cell # (513) 515-6183



SITE DEVELOPMENT
 LAND CLEARING
 UNDERGROUND UTILITIES
 PONDS & LAKES

E-mail: richexcavating@gmail.com **Rob Rich**

Bin Busters Soil Amendments, LLC
 Minerals and Microbials for Soil Regeneration
 Humates and Mycorrh Plus
 Increase Microbial Populations
 Improve Drainage



Phil Price
 937-456-6442

Sand & Gravel Hauling
 Leach Fields
 Footers
 Basements

Septic Tanks
 Drainage Tile
 Grading
 Waterways




Marcus EXCAVATING
 FREE ESTIMATES

Robert Marcus
 Eaton, Ohio (937) 456-6048
 Cell Phone (937) 533-1773

Member **FDIC**  **the TWIN VALLEY bank** NMLS: 441291

2 E. Dayton St.
 PO Box 8
 West Alexandria, OH 45381

Sara Sorrell
 VP Ag & Commercial Lending/ NMLS #947573
 ssorrell@twinvalleybank.com
 PH (937) 839-4628

agData SOLUTIONS

5096 US Rt. 127 South
 Eaton, OH 45320
 937-286-0407
 agdatasolutions@gmail.com
 www.agdatasolutions.com

Don Garrett

Certified Crop Advisor
 Technical Service Provider for NRCS
 CNMP and NMP Certified-Ohio

Farm Works Software
 Sales and Support 

www.wallaceheating.com



• Geothermal Specialist
 • Residential/ Commercial Sales & Service
 • Commercial Refrigeration

Thomas L. Wallace, President
 Cell (765) 977-8378
 111 Melody Lane, P.O. Box 3
 New Paris, OH 45347

Toll Free 1-800-597-1111
 New Paris (937) 437-1111
 Richmond (765) 962-1111
 Eaton (937) 456-7777
 Fax (937) 437-1516

DAKOTA SHEPARD
 AG LOAN OFFICER

dshepard@merchantsbankofindiana.com
 merchantsbankofindiana.com

765.598.5756 (office)
 765.598.5688 (fax)

701 East Main Street
 Richmond, IN 47374



CYSI SCHWIETERMAN INC.  Since 1946 Drainage Solutions is Our Business

www.cys-inc.com

DOUG SCHWIETERMAN
 4240 St. Rt. 49
 Arcanum, OH 45304

Office: 937-548-3965
 Mobile: 419-953-5727
 Email: doug@cys-inc.com

Systematic Drainage • Excavating • Waterways
 Sewage Systems • Conservation Projects



www.brubakergrain.com

2918 Quaker Trace Road
 West Alexandria, OH 45381
 Phone: 937-839-4636

4850 Hamilton Eaton Road
 Hamilton, OH 45013
 Phone: 513-726-4931

307 W. Center Street
 Farmersville, OH 45325
 Phone: 937-696-2028

412 S. Franklin Street
 Eaton, OH 45320
 Phone: 937-336-5735



DENLINGER FARM DRAINAGE INC.

SINCE 1949

"COMPLETE FARM DRAINAGE SERVICE"

Dan Denlinger
 cell (937)603-0610

Simon Denlinger
 cell (937)467-8235

8133 State Route 722 · Arcanum OH 45304

Schenck Land Improvement Contractors LLC



Mike Schenck

Pond Building my Specialty since 1976

513-424-0183
 513-594-2562



PIONEER BRAND - PRODUCTS

Kemp Agricultural Services, LLC
 Independent Sales Representative for Pioneer brand products

959 Georgetown - Verona Rd.
 West Manchester, OH 45382

Chad.Kemp@plantpioneer.com

(937) 533-0714 Chad
 (937) 533-0716 Keith



Williamson Construction & Excavating, Inc.

11697 U.S. Rt. 127 North
 West Manchester, Ohio 45382

937-678-5921
 Fax 937-678-6907

QUALITY LAND APPLICATION

Application and sales of chicken manure, ag lime, gypsum and other bio-solids.
 Variable rate application available.

Caleb Sink
 CLM No. 489

Phone: 937-657-5822
 Fax: 937-456-7305
 caleb.sink@privategarden.org

Sink, Incorporated
 3081 Winerline Road
 Eaton, Ohio 45320

Member **FDIC**  **Somerville Bank**
 Your Local, Loyal, Lifetime Bank

600 S. Barron Street
 Eaton, Ohio 45320

Office: (937) 456-5588
 Cell: (937) 623-0835
 E-mail: pferriell@somervillenb.com

Pete Ferriell
 Vice President
 Agricultural Specialist

QUALITY TILE AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

Our name says it all!

See: Bill, Chuck or Jonathon
 Featuring Hancor Tile and Infiltrator Leaching Systems

723 Yost Rd.
 West Alexandria, OH 45381


456-4672 • 456-4673
 Fax 456-1523

MILLER LAND APPLICATION INC

AG DRAINAGE DIVISION
 1987 QUAKER TRACE RD

JASON MILLER
 MANAGER
 JASONMILLER78@YAHOO.COM

937-603-3370




SCHENCK Accounting LLC

Quickbooks • Taxes • 513.424.0183

Advertising Doesn't Cost, it Pays!

Place Your Ad Here



COOMBS EXCAVATING & DRAINAGE INC.

Collinsville, OH. 513-726-6124

FOR YOUR DRAINAGE, WATERWAY & EXCAVATING NEEDS

Richard L. Coombs
 5037 Hamilton Eaton Road
 Collinsville, OH 45004
 Phone: 513-726-6124
 Fax: 513-726-4816
 Cell: 513-623-7072
 Email: RC3156@aol.com

No job too small! Fully Insured

TAYLOR CONSTRUCTION
 RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL EXCAVATION
 Foundations • Rough & Finish Grade • Utilities

Terry Taylor
 Owner-Operator
 Eaton, Ohio 45320

5700 Dixon Road
 937-456-4759
 Cell 937-533-0945



Agri Services
 "A FARMER WORKING FOR FARMERS"

JOHN CAMPBELL
 2832 WILKINSON ROAD
 EATON, OH 45320
 456-5782

Tile Work
 Bull Dozer Work



Nationwide
 is on your side

Jordan Agency
 937-548-1606
 jordam4@nationwide.com

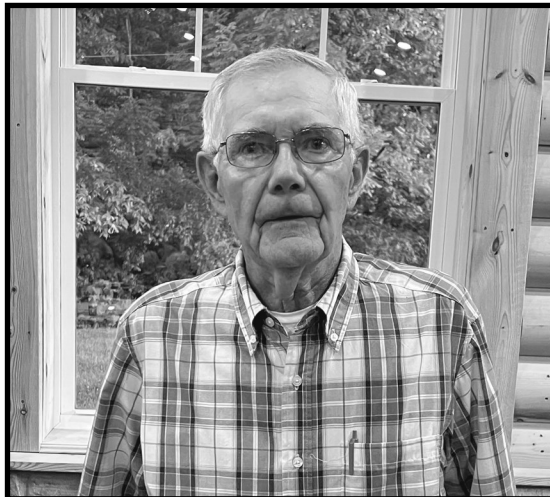
73rd Annual Meeting Highlights

On September 1st, 2022 the Preble Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held the 73rd Annual Meeting at Wilderness Ridge Retreat Center located southwest of Camden. The Meeting began at 5:30 p.m. at the Lodge, with voting for Board Supervisor candidate. At 6:00 p.m., the Wilderness Ridge staff served a dinner of country ham, mashed potatoes, vegetable medley, and salad. Emily Mullen of Mullen Family Dairy and Creamery joined us as this year's guest speaker. Emily shared the story of how their family farm has changed over the past century, and her journey keeping the dairy alive in the face of obstacles. Ms. Mullen sets a great example for the next generation of farmers, and her passion made for an engaging presentation.

Following the presentation, the meeting continued with the awards ceremony. Nathan Leis was declared the 2022 Outstanding Cooperator in recognition of his strong commitment to sustainable agriculture. Former District Board Member Donn Kolb was inducted into the Conservation Hall of Fame in honor of his lifelong dedication to conservation. National Trail graduate Abigail Whitesell was announced the 2022 PSWCD scholarship recipient, which she will use towards her studies in Pre-Veterinary Medicine at Wilmington College. District staff also received accolades, as District Administrator BJ Price was recognized for his 15 years of service with the District. We are very grateful to our generous sponsors LCNB, Mid-America Farm Credit, Brubaker Grain and Chemical, Preble County Solid Waste District, Tupperware Distributor Stefanie Price, Preble County Historical Society, Stockslager's Greenhouse and Garden Center, Eaton's Hometowne Furniture, Saluke Farm, Bales Funeral Home, Quiet Harmony Elk Ranch, and Preble Memory Gardens Funeral Center for providing amazing door prizes for our guests. The event concluded with the announcement of Chairman Donald Hays' reelection. Thank you to all of our guests for joining us in celebrating a great year of conservation!



2022 Outstanding Cooperator Nathan Leis



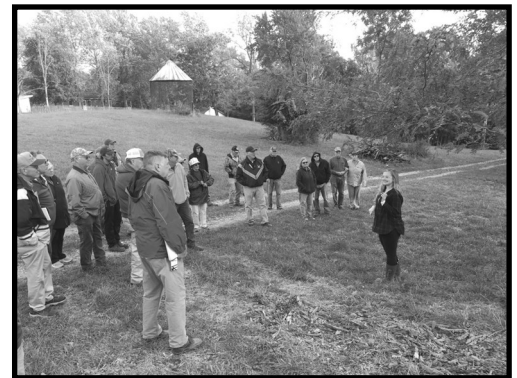
2022 Hall of Fame Inductee Donn Kolb



Chairman Donald Hays

Forestry Utilization Workshop Review

Preble SWCD was delighted with the high turn-out for the Forestry Utilization workshop on September 27th. Over fifty participants gathered at Price Farm to learn more about local woodlands, and how they can best utilize and manage their forests. Highlights included BJ Price's live sawmill demonstration with cedar logs, and a plant identification hike with District Educator Savannah Ballweg. ODNR Service Foresters Justin Law and Dan Bartlett shared valuable input on forest management for a variety of landowner objectives, and provided resources for responsible and informed harvesting. PSWCD hopes to expand this annual workshop in the years to come! Those with forestry related questions can direct them to PSWCD at (937)456-5159 or email at sballweg@prebleswcd.org, as well as District Forester Justin Law at (614) 212-3286.



BJ's Philosophy Box

"Never meet your heroes..." -Unknown

Preble Soil & Water Conservation District
2789 US Rt. 35 E.
West Alexandria, OH 45381

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #342
Eaton, OH 45320

Return Service Requested

To be removed from our mailing list or add someone new, call (937) 456-5159 or email sballweg@prebleswcd.org.

Dates to Remember:

November 24th & 25th - Thanksgiving (Office Closed)
December 14th - Board Meeting 7 a.m.
December 26th - Christmas Observed (Office Closed)
January 2nd- New Years Day Observed (Office Closed)
January 16th- Martin Luther King Jr Day (Office Closed)
January 18th - Board Meeting 7 a.m.

*All programs and services of the Preble SWCD are offered on a nondiscrimination basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or handicap.
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender*

Pollinator Habitat Tips

As the weather grows chillier and drearier, planting for pollinator habitat may not be the first thing on your mind! However, this is the perfect time of year to seed for select species. Some seeds require the cold of winter in order to properly germinate in the following spring. This process is called cold stratification. Several pollinator-friendly species require cold stratifying, including Milkweeds, Coneflowers, Ironweed, and Blazing Star, among many others. Planting these species in late fall will give you better success than a spring planting, and requires less effort than using artificial methods to simulate winter for those seeds.



Milkweed seed packets remain available at the SWCD office through the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative. Stop in today for free seeds to ensure a brighter future for Monarch butterflies! This program is made possible by the kind donations of local cooperators. Also be sure to stay tuned for this coming spring's PSWCD Plant Sale, where native pollinator-friendly flowers will be available.

Ohio FFA Soil Judging Contest



All five Preble County school districts gathered in Eaton on September 15th for Preble's FFA Soil Judging Contest. We are grateful to Scott Robertson for allowing the contest to be held at his property. Competitors did an excellent job of putting their abilities to the test in a diverse variety of soil pits. Top scoring teams

progressed to the District 5 competition in Fort Loramie on September 28th, which included the Agricultural Soils teams from National Trail MVCTC, Tri-County North MVCTC, Twin Valley South MVCTC, and Eaton MVCTC, and Urban Soils teams from Eaton MVCTC, Twin Valley South MVCTC, and National Trail MVCTC.

We are very proud of the two Preble County teams that progressed to the state competition in Lockbourne on October 8th. National Trail MVCTC placed 13th in the State Agricultural Soil competition, and Eaton MVCTC also ranked in at 13th place in the Urban Soils competition. Kudos to all of the students and educators who weren't afraid to get their hands dirty to participate in this great learning experience!