

Focus Newsletter

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Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District

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Upcoming Events

- April 15 - 18** - Bare Root Tree Sale Pick-Up
- April 15** - Monthly Board of Supervisor's Meeting, 6:30pm
- April 25** - Camp Canopy Sponsorship Application Deadline
- April 25** - College Scholarship Application Deadline
- May 2** - Powell Touch-a-Truck
- May 3** - Sunbury Fishing Derby, 9am - 12pm
- May 9** - Area 5 Envirothon
- May 20** - Monthly Board of Supervisor's Meeting, 6:30pm
- May 27** - Memorial Day Holiday, Office Closed
- June 13** - Mini Grant Application Deadline
- June 19** - Juneteenth Holiday, Office Closed
- June 20-21** - Powell Festival
- June 21** - Olentangy River Festival
- July 4** - Independence Day Holiday, Office Closed

TREE SALE REMINDERS

TREE SALE PICK-UP

Did you order trees from our annual Bare Root Tree Seedling Sale? If not, you still have time to order!

[Download the Order Form by clicking here.](#)

If you did place an order, **don't forget pick it up from our office from April 15-18, 2025 from 8:00am-4:30 pm.** When you turn into the parking lot, you will head towards the back of the building. Veer left towards the greenhouse, and you will see us out back. You will

find us in between the Sheriff's Evidence Room and the greenhouse. There will be signs to direct you as well. Arrangements can be made for after-hours pick-up if needed. Our tree selection is ordered from a Native Tree Nursery in Pennsylvania and shipped. Bare root seedlings are relatively small and orders are filled in Delaware SWCD tote bags; a large vehicle is not necessary for pick-up unless your order is above average size.

What are Bare Root Trees?

Bare root trees and shrubs are plants that have not yet been potted. Instead, they are dormant trees with no soil around their roots. Each seedlings' bare roots are dipped in a preservative gel and placed in a plastic bag. Seedlings should be planted immediately into your yard or into a permanent container while still dormant for best chance of survival.



EDUCATION UPDATES

CAMP CANOPY

Do you know a high school student who loves all things outdoors, is a nature enthusiast, or who wants to pursue forestry and wildlife careers? Encourage them to apply for our Camp Canopy sponsorship, for a week they will never forget!

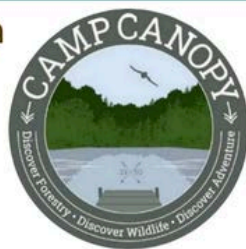
Delaware SWCD covers the cost of one high school student to attend Camp Canopy. This weeklong residential camp is the perfect mix of forestry, wildlife and adventure. By the end of the week, students will be experts on Ohio's great outdoors! More details and application can be found on our website

Application Deadline: April 25th, 2025

CAMP CANOPY SPONSORSHIP

**Sponsorship Application
Now Available**

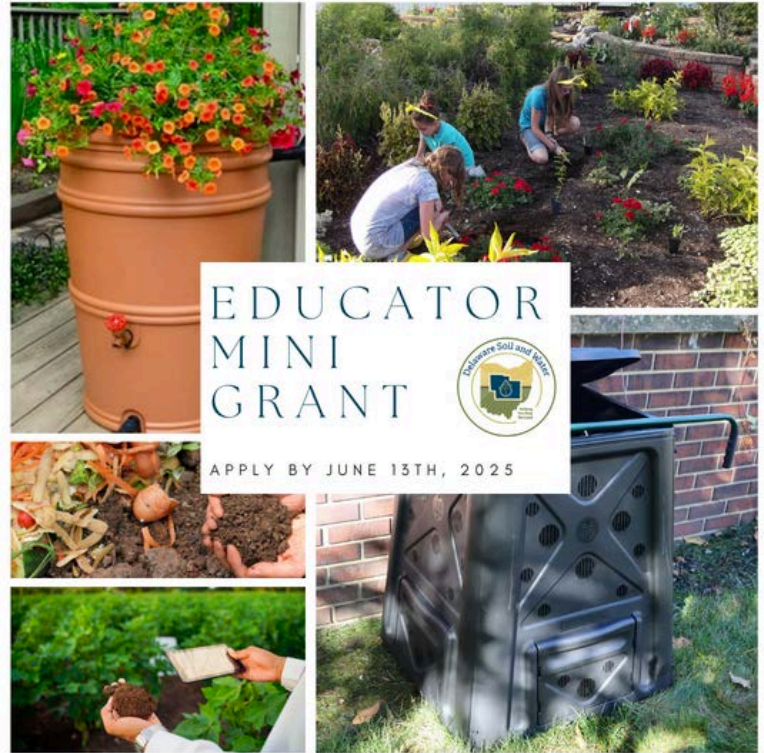
APPLY TODAY!



June 8-13, 2025

**Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum
Carrollton, Ohio**

Delaware
Soil and Water
Conservation District



EDUCATOR MINI GRANT

If you know an educator that is passionate about the outdoors, conservation, or teaching about the environment, send them our way to apply for our Educator Mini Grant!

Grant items being offered include rain barrels, compost bins, native wildflower seed for your outdoor classroom, bug kits, and more! Visit our website for more details and application.

Application Deadline: June 13th, 2025

EDUCATION UPDATES

DELAWARE SWCD SCHOLARSHIP

Now Accepting Applications!

PLEASE REVIEW REQUIREMENTS AT soilandwater.co.delaware.oh.us/scholarships-and-sponsorships/



Requirements:

- Applicant must be entering their first year as a part-time or full-time student at a two or four-year accredited college, technical school or university
- Or, student must be entering their first year of Graduate school
- Applicant must be pursuing a degree in agriculture, natural resources, or similar environmental studies discipline

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Do you have a high school student entering college next year who's interested in studying natural resources, environmental science, or agriculture? If so, they might be the perfect candidate for our scholarship! Each year, we provide a \$500 scholarship to one student entering their first year at a two or four-year college, technical school, or university (undergraduate or graduate school). More details and application can be found on our website.

Application Deadline: April 25th, 2025

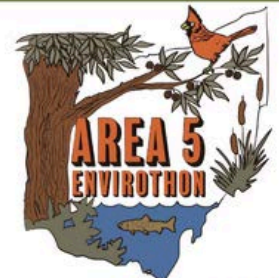
AREA 5 ENVIROTHON

Delaware SWCD and Franklin SWCD are hosting this year's Area 5 Envirothon at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, on May 9, 2025. The Area 5 Envirothon is a regional environmental competition for high school students. Students' knowledge of aquatic ecology, wildlife, forestry, and soils will be tested.

Please reach out to Erin Fisher, efisher@co.delaware.oh.us, if interested in having a team this year or in future years, as Delaware SWCD will register and pay the cost for your team.

LOCAL ENVIROTHON

Team Registration Now Open!



Hosted by
Franklin SWCD & Delaware SWCD

May 9, 2025
Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park

LEARN MORE AT
soilandwater.co.delaware.oh.us/envirothon/

area5envirothon.org

RAIN IS YOUR RESOURCE

Celebrate Ohio Native Plant Month and Earth Month with Backyard Conservation Practices

Rain is Your Resource – Soak it in!

The rainy season – and Spring – are upon us! Help rain work in harmony with your land by managing the natural resources available to you in your yard.

Rain barrels, rain gardens, and rain-loving native plants are all great avenues for capturing rain. Capturing rain is also a great way to reduce soil erosion, and prevent dirt from washing into our waterways, where it can harm wildlife. Celebrate Earth Month and Ohio Native Plant Month by adopting one of these practices in your own backyard!

Rain Barrels

Rain barrels are a tried-and-true method for conserving water, with very little effort! Use a rain barrel to collect and store water that runs off your roof and would normally be directed to the street or yard. You can use the collected rainwater to water your lawn, gardens, or even wash your car. It's a great way to save money and reduce your water usage. Your plants and flowers will love it!

Rain-Loving Native Plants

We encourage the use of native plants for many reasons, one being that they evolved with our soils and climate, so they are better suited for them. Their deep roots keep soil in place, transport nutrients, and absorb more water than non-natives. Many natives thrive in wet conditions. Nurseries that specialize in natives can tell you which plants like rain more than others. Often times, rain-loving plants can be utilized in place of a rain garden. Feeling ambitious? [Click here to find resources on building a rain garden to capture even more water from your roof.](#)

By choosing native over non-native plants, you are joining in on the effort to restore balance to our natural world. [Click here for a list of local nurseries that sell native plants.](#)



EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS



Shaun Havens

Shaun started with the district last month, and he has hit the ground running with our drainage maintenance team. Shaun is no stranger to drainage maintenance, having served 20 years with the Delaware County Engineer's Office prior to coming to us. His institutional knowledge of our county will no doubt be a benefit to the work that we do.

In Shaun's free time he enjoys golfing, bowling, and hanging out with his family. Shaun is a lifelong Delaware resident.



Sully Fisher

Sully also started last month with the district, and his hard work ethic have already proved to be a big help to our team! Prior to working with us, Sully worked at Alum Creek Lake with the US Army Corps of Engineers, through the Student Conservation Association. He also graduated from the Delaware Area Career Center's Wildlife Resources Management Program.

Sully (pictured right) not only enjoys fishing frisbees out of water, but he also likes fishing in the creek in his backyard, rabbit hunting, and off-roading.

APRIL – OHIO NATIVE PLANT MONTH

Check out OhioNativePlantMonth.org for
more information!

SWAMP WHITE OAK

One of the best hardwoods
for wet soils but adapts to
dry and average soils



EASTERN REDBUD

Smaller ornamental tree
with small pink flowers in
the spring



PURPLE CONEFLOWER

Perennial flower that
spread easily and attracts
many pollinators



NORTHERN SPICEBUSH

Shrub that blooms with
yellow flowers in the early
spring and red berry-like
fruit in the fall

