

CONSERVATION SPOTLIGHT

SUMMER 2017

A NEWSLETTER OF THE
HAMILTON COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



COME SAY "HI" TO US AT OUR OPEN HOUSE.

Please join us for our Annual Meeting and Open House on Monday, August 14, 2017. This year, we have a lot to celebrate! We want to show you our new location, which has a pond, woods and enough space to actually host workshops and trainings. The exciting part is that we are actually paying less rent per sq. ft. over our last office! We also want to introduce you to several new talented staff members that have helped to round out our service team.

We will have some great displays on hand, historic pictures up for grabs, a photo booth, our silent auction that benefits our teacher scholarship program, and of course great food and beverages.

Hamilton County residents have an opportunity to vote for two members of our Board of Supervisors from 3pm – 6pm (For more information on the candidates and the voting process, see page 3 and 4). We will hold the annual meeting from 6pm – 7pm which will include our conservation awards ceremony.

So, come on over and enjoy a conservation filled celebration!

Where: 1325 East Kemper Road, #115, Cincinnati, OH 45246

When: August 14th, 2017

Voting: 3pm to 6pm

Open House: 3pm to 6pm

Annual Meeting Proceedings: 6pm to 7pm

Call the office or visit our website to RSVP. RSVP is not required, but is instrumental in planning.

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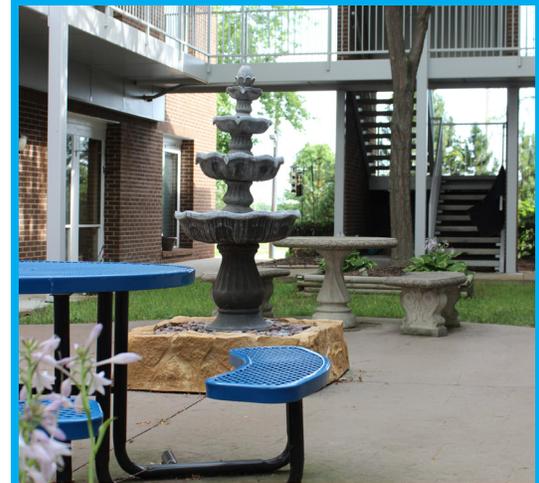
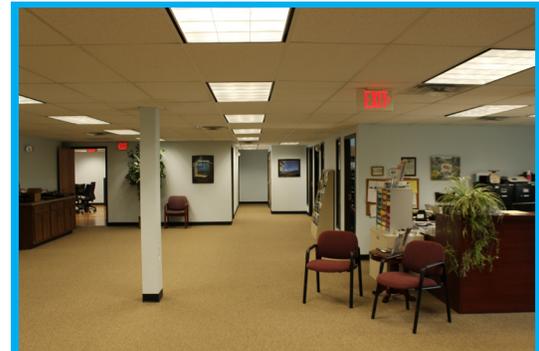
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HAMILTON COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
PROGRAMS AND ASSISTANCE

AGRICULTURE & SOIL FERTILITY | EDUCATION | URBAN STREAMS
URBANLAND & EARTHWORKS | PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMS

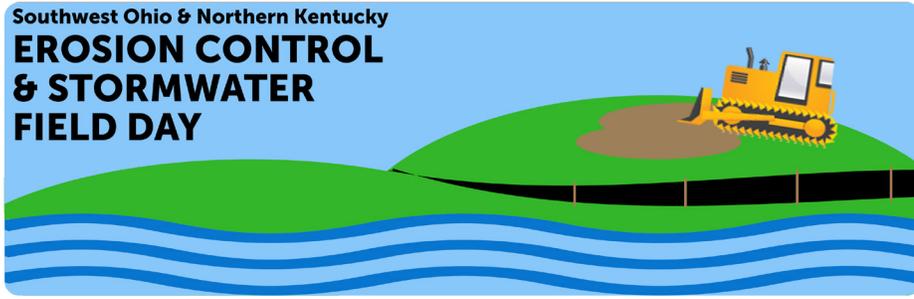
1325 EAST KEMPER ROAD, SUITE #115, CINCINNATI, OH 45246

PHONE: 513-772-7645 | FAX 513-772-7656 | WWW.HCSWCD.ORG

EDITOR: HOLLY UTRATA-HALCOMB | DESIGN: JOHN NELSON

Southwest Ohio & Northern Kentucky

EROSION CONTROL & STORMWATER FIELD DAY



Save the Date!

September 28, 2017 | 8:30am to 3:00pm
BB Riverboat's Newport Landing

Plan on joining us for an engaging day of learning about Sediment Erosion Control and Storm Water BMPs.

The day will begin in the field where attendees can look at live implementations of BMPs, while being able to interact with experts on hand. Following the field implementations, attendees will board the Belle of Cincinnati River Boat for lunch, sessions and panels on industry regulations and trends. CEUs will be offered.

Stay tuned for more information or call (513) 772-7645 with questions.



Organized by:



Attention Farmers!

Cover Crop Cost-Share

Our District received a grant from the Ohio Farm Bureau's Water Quality Initiative Program to fund a three year study on the effectiveness of Cover Crops. We evaluated soil fertility as well as the impact on water quality. Our three year study has concluded and a final report will be published soon. We can say that the third year of planting showed great success. We currently have funds left that we would like to offer to all farmers that are signed up with FSA. Cost-share of \$5.25/acre for the cost of seed and application are available for planting fields ranging in size from 25 acres to 100 acres. The deadline for application is August 15, 2017. For details and an application form, go to <http://www.hcswcd.org/soil-fertility> or call the District office for a copy.

Fall 2017 Tree & Shrub Sale

We have already received phone calls and emails from an excited few about the 2017 Tree Program. We are pleased to inform you that the Tree Program is back. This year again we are planning a tree program in partnership with the Great Parks of Hamilton County; given both of our organization's commitment to conserving our natural resources. We have a larger selection of trees and shrubs, over 20 different species. The trees will be priced at \$25 each. These native trees and shrubs will add value to your yard or garden, and help our wildlife and pollinators. There will be three pick up locations for the trees.

Residents and non-residents alike may start placing orders on Great Parks of Hamilton County's website (www.greatparks.org) starting July 1. You will also find a link to the sale on our website. The orders may be picked at the three locations across the county. It is recommended that you also purchase a soil test kit and test your soil before you plant the tree or shrub.

Great Parks of Hamilton County
Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District
Your Partner in Conservation Since 1942

2017 Native Tree & Shrub SALE

Add some native beauty to your yard!
Plants are already adapted to our Midwest weather and provide a rich habitat for local wildlife.

Order: July 1–September 13, 2017
Pickup: Saturday, September 23, 2017

Three pick-up locations available:
Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve | 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Sharon Woods | 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Woodland Mound | 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

greatparks.org

A valid Great Parks of Hamilton County Motor Vehicle Permit is required to enter the parks.

2017 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CANDIDATES



Scott P. Huber is seeking election to his third term as a Board member. He is a life-long resident of Colerain Township and volunteers in several community oriented groups in addition to the Soil & Water Conservation District. He is Treasurer of the Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio Cincinnati Chapter and chairs a local Land Surveying Scholarship fund. During the July 4th holiday, Scott can be found volunteering on the Colerain Township Fireworks crew.

For the past 23 years, Scott has been employed at a local civil engineering and land surveying firm providing residential and commercial land development services for a variety of projects, many of which are in Hamilton County. Scott has experience in dealing with the District's field staff and knows the situations they encounter on a daily basis. Scott looks forward to helping the District

continue to solve problems and provide a balanced approach to soil and water conservation.

Scott is a Registered Professional Engineer, a Registered Professional Surveyor and a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Cincinnati. During the summer, Scott teaches evening classes as an Adjunct Instructor at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College in the Civil Engineering Technologies Department.



Michael C. Miller, Professor Emeritus from Biological Sciences at the University of Cincinnati, has studied the waters of S.W. Ohio and the Ohio River for more than 40 years and has been a board member of many nonprofits working to improve water quality and minimize impacts of urban runoff. For his research and public service on rivers, he received the first Fremont Lifetime Achievement Award (2009) from Rivers Unlimited. He would like to put this expertise to work for the Hamilton County Soil and Water District. He has worked on the impacts of urbanization from hydromodification, pulsed flow from rainfall runoff, WWTP effluents, and nutrients on many primary streams to our regional rivers through research projects and by helping coordinate the monthly examination of water quality by volunteers for 10 years, now reaching 300 sites. His experiences in the

history of water management and land use practices in Hamilton County since 1970 will help interpret our future needs on the HCSWCD Board.



Donald R. Misrach founded Cobblestone Development Company in 1991, which has developed a total of 30 subdivisions (over 3,000 lots) in Ohio and Kentucky. Mr. Misrach was with The Drees Company, Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky, for 18 years prior to founding Cobblestone Development. He served as the Executive Vice President in charge of the single family homes' division & the land development division while at Drees. He was also the Corporate Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer of Drees. Mr. Misrach was President of the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati in 1990, President of the Ohio Valley Development Council in 1998 and 1999 and recipient of the Honorary Lifetime Membership award from the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati in 2011. He has served on many Association committees over the course of his professional career and as

Life Director of the National Association of Home Builders. A Graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a B.A. in Economics he is a Certified Public Accountant, and is a member of the Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission for six years (2005-2011) & Chairman of the Planning Commission in 2008. He is currently a member of the Symmes Township Board of Zoning Appeals. He hopes to bring to the HCSWCD his experience and business knowledge in the practical application of common sense regulations.

Information on the voting process and legal notice can be found on page 4.

OHIO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION ELECTION LEGAL NOTICE

The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will have an election of Supervisors of the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District to be held in accordance with Chapter 940 of the Ohio Revised Code. Residents or landowners, firms, and corporations that own land or occupy land in Hamilton County and are 18 years of age and older may vote for Supervisor. A non-resident landowner, firm or corporation must provide an affidavit of eligibility, which includes designation of a voting representative, prior to casting a ballot. There are three ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot: (1) at the annual meeting, which will take place at the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District, 1325 E. Kemper Road, Ste. 115, Cincinnati, OH 45246, on August 14, 2017 from 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm; (2) in person at the SWCD office by requesting an absentee ballot during business hours 8:00 am - 4:30 pm from July 24, 2017 to August 11, 2017 and on August 14, 2017 from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm; (3) vote absentee by mail, requesting the proper absentee request forms from the HCSWCD by August 9, 2017 at the following address: HCSWCD, 1325 E. Kemper Road, Ste. 115, Cincinnati, OH 45246 - phone number: 513-772-7645 or the District's website www.hcswcd.org. All mailed absentee ballots must be received at the District's office by Monday, August 14, 2017 at 2:00 pm. Two (2) Supervisors will be elected. Nominees are: Scott P. Huber, Michael C. Miller and Donald R. Misrach.

THE PERKS OF BEING A 4TH GRADER

Who knew being a fourth grader could have so many perks. Fourth graders all over the United States are able to visit National Parks and other Federal Sites for free! That's right I said FREE! The process is simple; all the student needs to do is visit <https://everykidinapark.gov/> and complete a series of online activities. Once the activities are complete they can print their pass and have free access to hundreds of parks for them and their family for an entire year. It can't get much easier than that. Students can complete the online activities as early as September 1st of their fourth grade year and can use the pass until August 31st.

If your fourth grader already has a jam packed summer, maybe a trip to the Ohio State Fair (July 26 to August 6) will do. Fourth graders going into fifth grade can present their fourth grade report card at the front gate and receive free admission for themselves and a chaperone. As part of the Ag is Cool Program students are encouraged to pick up learning materials at the Department of Agriculture Booth. They can even take a try at milking a life-like cow. After a day at the fair students have the opportunity to write about their experience and have a chance to win a \$500 scholarship. Visit <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/agiscool>, for more information.

WELCOME AARON HABIG



Aaron is the newest member of the Earthwork team. He assists landowners with drainage and erosion issues and is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Hamilton County Earthwork Regulations by performing site inspections.

Aaron was raised in the Cincinnati area and started his college program at the University of Cincinnati. He graduated from Warren Wilson College with a B.A. in Environmental Studies, with a concentration in Forest Management. Aaron previously

worked for Clermont SWCD, ODNR, and spent many years in the home improvement industry.

Aaron has always been interested in the outdoors and natural resource conservation. He is an Eagle Scout. Aaron and his wife enjoy travel, hiking, biking, and canoeing.

Board of Supervisors
Steve Johns, Chairman
Denny Benson, Vice-Chairman
Kaniz Siddiqui, Secretary
Scott P. Huber, Treasurer
John Mangan, Program Chairman

District Staff
Holly Utrata-Halcomb, Administrator
Susan Juriga, Administrative Assistant
John Nelson, Public Relations Specialist
Chey Alberto, Urban Conservationist
James Gleason, Earthwork Technician
Sarah Kitsinis, Earthwork Technician
Aaron Habig, Earthwork Technician
Gwen Z. Roth, Education Specialist
Sara Fehring, Education Assistant
Adam Lehmann, Stream Specialist
Carrie Gibbons, Program Assistant

NRCS
John Williams, District Conservationist
Michaela Mullikin, Soil Conservationist

2017 FALL COVER CROP & SOIL TEST KIT SALE

After selling cover crop seed for 5 years, we can definitively say that the benefits are real! The seeds have a three-fold value in improving soil quality. There will be an increase in soil fertility and attracting pollinators, as well as being beneficial to the environment.

Cover crops are plants not planted for harvest, but to boost soil fertility and reduce erosion during the fall to early spring months. Our cover crop mix includes Flax, Phacelia, Tillage Radish, Oats, Austrian Winter Pea and Cow Pea. All seeds are untreated, non-GMO and the micron inoculant is OMRI certified for organic use.

Think of cover crops as providing a feast for your soil biota. The macro and microorganisms work night and day to convert the nutrients in your soil to an available form. They also condition the soil by creating more pore space for air and water circulation. If your soil lacks organic matter the soil will be dry, powdery and compacted. cover crop acts like a pro-biotic for your soil.

When natural methods are used to improve soil health and increase yields, the requirement

for fertilizer and other chemicals is far less. This reduction in chemicals is good for our water quality, wildlife and the environment at large. The District is only selling the seed on a pre-order basis. The orders must be placed before July 28, 2017 and be picked up at the District from August 14 – 17, 2017. The District also encourages residents to test for soil fertility of by using a soil test kit sold by the District year round.



Deadline for orders: July 28, 2017.

Orders must be picked up at our office on the following days:

August 14 to 17, 8am – 5pm

Orders may also be placed on the District Website.

ORDER FORM

Fall Cover
(Plant between Aug. 15 & Oct. 1)

1/2lb	1lb	5lb	10lb	total
x\$3	x\$5	x\$20	x\$30	

Soil Test Kit

HC Resident	Non-Resident	total
x\$5	x\$15	

Grand Total	\$
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Application Rate:

1/2 lb. = 50 – 80 ft. sq. | 1 lb.= 150 – 200 ft. sq.

5 lb. = 750 – 1,000 ft. sq.

10 lb. = 1,500 ft. sq. – 4,000 ft. sq.

Name:.....

Phone:.....

Email:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Hamilton County Resident?

... Yes ... No

Mail completed forms and checks to:

HCSWCD

1325 E. Kemper Rd. #115

Cincinnati, OH 45246

All orders must be prepaid.

Order forms must reach us by July 28.

Follow us on social media!

WEBSITE



NEWSLETTER



TWITTER



FACEBOOK



Hamilton County
Soil & Water
Conservation District
1325 E. Kemper Rd. #115
Cincinnati, OH 45246
(513) 772-7645
www.hcswcd.org

Native Tree & Shrub Sale - July 1 to September 13 (See page 2)

Board Meeting - July 11th, 2pm @District Office

Kids Outdoor Expo - July 14th, 9:30am to 3pm
@Winton Woods Harbor

Deadline for Cover Crop Sale - July 28 (See page 5)

Paddlefest Finish Line Festival - August 5th, 9:30am to 2pm
@Gilday Riverside Park

Board Meeting - August 8th, 2pm @District Office

Open House, Annual Meeting and Election, August 14,
3pm to 7pm @ District Office (See page 1, 3 &4)

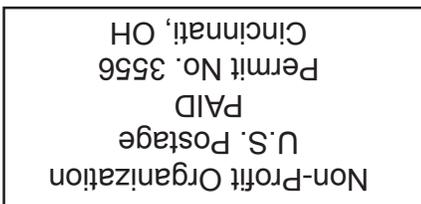
2017 Erosion Control & Stormwater Field Day - September 28
(See page 2)

Check out our website for upcoming public events and library
programs this summer.

Mission Statement: A public organization committed to assisting the citizens of Hamilton County through education, technical assistance and leadership to be stewards of our soil and water resources.

All District programs are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Hamilton County Soil and Water
Conservation District
1325 E. Kemper Rd. #115
Cincinnati, OH 45246-3411