



October 2020

Conservation Spotlight

We hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather and the changing of the seasons. Our office is now open and ready to serve the community. We have initiated a few minor changes to help keep visitors and staff healthy. Masks are required, and we will ask you a few simple questions before allowing you to enter the office.



This year was supposed to be our big 75th Anniversary Celebration; however due to COVID-19, we have decided to push this celebration back a year. We hope you will join us this year for our virtual annual meeting. Additional details can be found below. Like always, stay safe, stay healthy, and we wish you a frightful Halloween and bountiful Thanksgiving. We hope to see you soon.

Virtual Annual Meeting



This year because of COVID-19, we have decided to host a VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING! We have partnered with Franklin SWCD and Cuyahoga SWCD to bring you a match up like none other.

The meeting will be live on Zoom's webinar platform and can be accessed from anywhere in the world with an internet connection. The proceedings will involve presentations, videos, and updates of all the groundbreaking work being done in conservation. To learn more about this joint annual meeting and to register, **click here**.

River Clean Up

Join us on Make a Difference Day, the largest day of volunteering, and help clean up the Great Miami River. We will once again be leading the clean up efforts at Heritage Park, in Colerain Township. This is a great opportunity to volunteer and spend the morning outdoors while following social distance protocols. Registration is recommended. Additional information can be found **here**. We look forward to seeing you on October 24th!

Clean Sweep of the Great Miami

Saturday, October 24

9 am—12 noon

Heritage Park

Colerain Twp in Hamilton County

11405 East Miami River Rd, Cincinnati 45252

Great Miami River Cleanup is a fun, rewarding community beautification project for individuals, clubs, companies, schools, scouts, churches and other groups.

Free T-shirt

Free bottled water

Garbage bags & gloves will be provided

Register Online:

www.GreatMiamiRiverCleanup.org

Or Contact:

Sara Fehring

772-7645



Milkweed Seed Pod Collection



Pollinator species, such as the monarch, are experiencing population declines across the United States. To help foster the creation of monarch and other pollinator habitats, the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative (OPHI) is partnering with the State of Ohio's Soil & Water Conservation Districts in a Statewide Milkweed Pod Collection.

During September and October, everyone is encouraged to collect common Milkweed pods from established plants. Pods can be dropped off at the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District by October 30th. Visit our **website** for additional information.

Caring For our Watersheds

CFW asks students to submit a proposal that answers the question: **"What can you do to improve your watershed?"**

Students can work independently, or as a team of no more than four to research their local watershed, identify an environmental concern, and come up with a realistic solution.

Ten finalists/teams will get up to \$1,000 to implement their projects and then make a 5-minute verbal presentations at a final competition on Saturday, April 24, 2021 (this event may move to a virtual event depending on health regulations at the time).



endangered species, wetlands and many more topics. To learn more about this opportunity, visit their website by clicking [here](#).

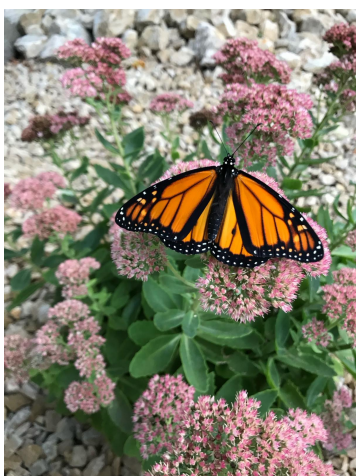
CHAT WITH A BIOLOGIST!

The Division of Wildlife can help you with your lessons by chatting with you and your students on a variety of topics. Whether it's birds, pollinators, wildlife management, fish management, wetlands, endangered species, fish and wildlife law enforcement, or just about anything related to wildlife, we can drop in on your student chats and answer questions. Our biologists, as well as our wildlife officers, land managers, and education specialists are glad to help you with your online education efforts.

To request a presenter, please send an email to odfw@education.state.oh.us with the following information:

- Topic: Please try to be as specific as possible in your requests. This helps us find the right person for your chat.
- Date and Time Requested: Please give us no less than 14 business days notice. We cannot accommodate requests with less notice at this time.
- Length of Discussion Time Requested, i.e. half hour, one hour, etc.
- Platform to be used, i.e. Zoom, Google Meets, WebEx, Skype, etc.
- Age/grade level of the class.
- Contact information of the adult that is organizing the chat, including email and phone number.

The Division of Wildlife reserves the right to decline requests based on availability of speakers and requested topics. But we will do our best to accommodate all requests. Requests that do not include all of the above information may be declined. For further information, please contact the Education Coordinator at 1 800 WILDLIFE (46-5443, 614 265-6318), or odfw@education.state.oh.us



Bee a Friend to Pollinators!

For the last several decades, the monarch's population numbers have decreased, and many scientists believe this is due to a lack of milkweed plants as well as habitat fragmentation and weather phenomena. In December, scientists will do their annual count of the overwintering population, and we will know more about the monarch's overall population health. **Click here** to read more about what you can do to help monarchs.

Home Owner Association Webinar Series

THE HOME OWNER ASSOCIATION WEBINAR SERIES

There is a growing interest in green practices and infrastructure in communities around our country. The green practices we embrace now can be crucial in making our communities sustainable and livable for our future generations. For a Home Owner Association (HOA), green infrastructure and practices can become a divisive topic.

If you are a leader at your HOA or just a homeowner that lives in an HOA, then these webinars are for you. You don't even have to live in an HOA to attend. If you want to learn more about green practices, this webinar is for you too. Our webinar series is designed to demystify green practices and infrastructure. Our expert panelists will give you all the resources you need to understand the issues and make decisions that will best benefit your community.

The webinars will be conducted on the following Tuesdays from 6pm to 7pm.

November 10 - Detention/Retention Basin Maintenance and Retrofits

Adam Lehmann, Stream Specialist, Hamilton County Soil & Water
Chey Alberto, Urban Conservationist, Hamilton County Soil & Water
Ben Poole, EI, Project Engineer, Hamilton County Planning + Development

November 17 - Composting and Rain Barrels

Jenny Lohmann, Community Outreach Coordinator, Hamilton County Recycling & Solid Waste
Melissa Proffitt, Education & Communications Specialist, Warren County Soil & Water

December 1 - Solar and Geothermal Energy

Jason Brown, Senior Sales & Applications Engineer, Employee-Owner, Melink Corporation

December 8 - Rain Gardens & Sustainable Landscaping

Craig Frye, Environmental Scientist, Sanitation District 1
Elizabeth Fet, Environmental Scientist/Aquatic Biologist, Sanitation District 1

THE WEBINARS ARE FREE, BUT REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY.
WEBINARS WILL BE CONDUCTED ON THE ZOOM WEBINAR PLATFORM

Register At:
[SaveLocalWaters.Org/HOA](https://www.SaveLocalWaters.Org/HOA)



Upcoming Events

- **October 22nd**, 6pm -7pm - Virtual Annual Meeting (pre-registration required)
- **October 24th**, 9am - 12pm - Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River
- **November 14th**, 10am - 2pm - GMR Water Quality Monitoring Program

Conservation Spotlight
(513) 772-SOIL (7645)
www.hcswcd.org

Connect with us

