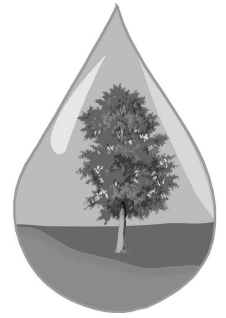


THE CONSERVATIONIST



Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District *Conservation • Development • Self-government*

March 2009

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TOM EDWARDS TO RETIRE

Thirty years ago, the world was a little different than it is today. In the past thirty years, computers have gone from the size of small building to the size of a palm, stereos have progressed from 8-tracks to mp3s, and six U.S. Presidents have sat in the Oval Office. One constant through that time in Delaware County has been District Conservationist Tom Edwards. Tom, who started assignment in the Delaware Field Office in 1979, will retire on April 3, 2009 after 30 years in Delaware County and over 42 combined years of government service.

Much like the rest of the world, Tom has seen the focus of conservation work change and grow, but his dedication to helping the citizens of Delaware County and Ohio conserve natural resources has remained constant. Although he says he will miss the job, and it will probably feel a little

SWCD CALENDAR	
For more info on these events, please call the District Office, (740) 368-1921.	
March	
3/11	Olentangy Watershed Alliance Board Mtg.
3/12	Upper Scioto Advisory Committee mtg.
3/14	Farmers' Share Breakfast
3/17	SWCD Board Mtg. - 8:00 PM
3/26	Midway Gardens Drainage Improvement Petition - Commissioners Viewing
3/28	Green Thumb Gardners' Fair - Olentangy Liberty High School
3/30	Open House for Tom Edwards
3/31	SWCD Ag Committee Mtg.
April	
4/1	SWCD Drainage Committee Mtg.
4/1	Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed mtg.
4/8	Olentangy Watershed Alliance Board mtg.
4/9	Rain Barrel Workshop
4/18	Earth Day at Columbus Zoo
4/19	Earth Day Celebration @ Highbanks
4/21	SWCD Board Mtg. - 8:00 PM
4/28	Area 5 Envirothon Competition
May	
5/6	Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed mtg.
5/13	Olentangy Watershed Alliance Board mtg.
5/18	Midway Gardens Petition - Commissioners 1st Hearing
5/19	SWCD Board Mtg. - 8:00 PM
5/25	Memorial Day - OFFICE CLOSED



strange at first to not be on the job, after 40+ years, he's ready to sleep in on a Monday morning.

There will be an Open House to celebrate Tom's retirement on Monday, March 30 from 3:00-6:00 PM at the Delaware SWCD office. Please stop by to wish Tom well in his retirement!

Delaware SWCD Mission

To provide progressive leadership, support, and assistance to the public through grassroots programs that promote natural resources conservation and stewardship.

AGENCY NEWS



Agricultural Scholarship Offered

Applications are being accepted for the Delaware Soil & Water Conservation District, Dick O'Keefe Memorial Scholarship. This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a qualified student graduating from high school this spring. Applications are available on-line at www.delawareswcd.org, in high school guidance offices, and at the Delaware SWCD office. Call the SWCD office for more information at 740-368-1921, ext. 4. Completed applications must be received at the SWCD office by Wednesday, April 15, 2009.



Grant Writing Workshop

The Heart of Ohio RC&D Council and Ohio EPA will be hosting a workshop entitled "Grant Writing: Connecting with Community Resources," on Wednesday, May 20, 2009. The one-day workshop is open to the public and will be held in Circleville, OH at the Pickaway County Field Service Center.

In today's economic climate, finding ways to keep revenue at current levels is particularly challenging. This workshop is ideal for anyone in any type of organization who may want to apply for a grant. Facilitator Carolyn Watkins, Chief of the Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education, will address all steps needed to acquire funding - from research to funding and feedback. Topics will be explored through both lecture and small group interactions.

Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. with the first session to begin at 9 a.m. The cost is \$20 and covers all workshop materials, certification, morning refreshments and lunch. For more information or to register, contact Traci Aquara at Heart of Ohio RC&D, 740-368-5979, ext. 112 or visit their website at www.heartofohiorcd.org.

ALL PRE-ORDERED TREES & WILDLIFE PRODUCTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP:

Tuesday, April 8 - Friday April 11

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

**Delaware SWCD Office
557-A Sunbury Road, Delaware**



NAP Application Deadline

The deadline for producers to sign-up for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, or NAP, coverage is March 16, 2009. To apply for NAP coverage, complete form CCC-471 (*Application for Coverage*), and pay the service fee at the county FSA office. Insurance coverage on crops is a requirement to remain eligible for the agency's Disaster Assistance Programs such as SURE, LFP, TAP, and ELAP. Producers must purchase at least catastrophic (CAT) level of insurance for all insurable crops and producers must apply for coverage before a disaster strikes. The service fee is \$250 per crop per county or \$750 per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$1875 per producer with farming interest in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver of service fees.

To download the electronic "NAP Basic Provisions Document", form CCC-471 NAP BP, go to: www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/ccc_471_nap_bp.pdf. The application and service fee must be filed by March 16th, the deadline date for 2009 spring planted crops which include forage sorghum, oats, pumpkins, double crop soybeans, sunflowers and all spring planted specialty crops grown for food.

NAP is a federally funded program that provides coverage to producers for non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occurs due to natural disasters. Crops eligible for NAP coverage are those for which crop insurance is not available.

Dig-In to Hands-on Backyard Conservation Workshop Series

- **When:** Every Monday in **June 2009** from 7-9 PM
- **Where:** the Delaware SWCD's Conservation Area at the Delaware County Fairgrounds
- **Cost:** \$30 for the whole series
- Limited to 15 participants
- At the conclusion of the workshop series, participants will receive:
 - a rain barrel
 - a soil testing kit
 - a Backyard Conservationist Certificate

Sponsored by the Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District
 Made possible by a generous grant from the ODNR- Division of Soil and Water Conservation



Harvesting Rain Water Using Rain Barrels – June 1st

- Save money & conserve water by using rain barrels
- Learn:
 - proper rain barrel selection for your needs
 - how to hide ugly rain barrels using landscaping
 - sensible storing techniques
- A Do-It-Yourself installation demonstration will be done to add a rain barrel to the Conservation Area's Education Building



Getting the 'Dirt' on Building Healthy Lawns, Gardens and Landscape through Soils – June 8th

- Bring a soil sample from home to test for pH and nutrient levels
- Learn to:
 - nurture and manage soil
 - compost to help maintain soil health
- Take a peek into the wild and diverse world of soil organisms and how to maintain healthy populations of helpful soil organisms.

Garden Pollinators: Colorful Natives – June 15th

- Planting and caring for native prairie plants and trees
- Selecting sites, soils, specimens, and maintaining them
- Plant selection and purchasing recommendations
- Earning carbon credit money with trees



The Sensible Way of Constructing and Maintaining Water Gardens – June 22nd

- Engage in step-by-step planning, construction, and maintenance of water gardens to enhance your landscape
- Learn the ins-and-outs of the Conservation Area's waterfall construction and maintenance

Bring Your Shovel – Rain Garden Building Night – June 29th

- Topics to be covered:
 - Is a rain garden right for your property?
 - What is a rain garden?
 - Selecting rain garden sites
 - Capturing and filtering rain water
- Hands-on rain garden installation bring your shovels and rakes!



Registration Form – please detach and return to Delaware SWCD with payment

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # where you can be reached: _____

Email address: _____

\$30.00 payable to Delaware SWCD at time of registration
 557-A Sunbury Rd. Delaware, OH 43015 (740) 368-1921 ext. 4
 Registration due by May 22nd, 2009
 First come, first served – class limited to 15 participants
 Dig-In to Hands-On Backyard Conservation Workshop Series

DRAINAGE PETITION PROJECTS UPDATE

- ***Sheets #318** (Kingston Township): Construction is complete.
- ***McNamara #582** (Berlin & Orange Townships): Construction will begin in March, 2009.
- ***Brookview** (Harlem Township): The project was approved for construction at the Final Hearing held in November, 2008. Construction is scheduled to begin this Spring.
- ***Nuckles #20** (Oxford Township) and **Rhoades #7** (Scioto Township): Engineering plans are nearing completion and a Final Hearing is anticipated in 2009.
- ***Dutcher #477/Scott #604** (Berlin Township): Preliminary engineering is nearing completion.
- ***Ruder #86/Toot #98** (Liberty Township): Field survey is in progress.

Please contact Scott Stephens at the SWCD office with any questions regarding drainage improvement projects.

PEANUT BUTTER PIE



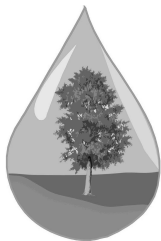
Ingredients:

1-1/2 C. Peanut Butter
 2 C. Powdered Sugar
 1-8 oz. Pkg. Cream Cheese
 1/2 C. Milk

2-8 oz. Cool Whip
 Chocolate Syrup
 3 Chocolate Graham Cracker
 Crusts

Cream Peanut Butter and cream cheese. Add powdered sugar and milk. Gradually fold in Cool Whip. Fill into crust. Drizzle chocolate syrup over top. Place in freezer and freeze approximately 2 to 3 hours. Enjoy!

-Submitted by Sue Cunningham, Delaware SWCD Board of Supervisors Member



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