



Montgomery
Soil and
Water
Conservation
District

The Conservation Advocate

January 2011

Mission Statement: The Montgomery Soil and Water Conservation District connects the residents, businesses, governments and agriculture of Montgomery County with education, best management practices, and technical leadership of water quality, water management, conservation, and wildlife habitat. We are the community's natural resource stewards for a livable community today and tomorrow.



Welcome Kristen Lauer, District's New Educator

Hello everyone! My name is Kristen Lauer, and I am your new Education/Information Specialist. I'm looking forward to connecting with you in a variety of ways, whether at our Facebook page, our soon to be redesigned webpage, this newsletter, or any variety of workshops and classroom presentations.

My experience with Soil and Water Conservation Districts goes back about as far as I can remember, to helping my family tend the newly planted spruce trees in the windbreak on our farm. I've also always had a love for the outdoors, and a desire to know what everything was and how it fit together. My past jobs have focused on different parts of those interests, and I hope to bring it all together here!

I hope to build on the successes of my predecessors, as well as branch into new areas that may interest you! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or ideas, and please check us out on Facebook. We'd love to be your friend! Please contact me in any of the following ways: Office phone - 937-854-7646 ext. 109, cell phone - 937-248-3563 or email lauerk@mcOhio.org

Sincerely,
Kristen Lauer
Education/Information Specialist

Board of Supervisors

Steve Boeder

Fred Glander

Calvin Helsinger

Duane Plessinger

Bill Wissinger

District Staff

Cheryl Barkalow

Stefan Bridenbaugh

Jim Dillon

Russ Heintz

Jeremy Huggler

Dan Jackson

Kristen Lauer

NRCS District
Conservationist

Karen McAlister (Acting)

Upcoming Events

- ✘ Feb. 9, 2011- Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- ✘ Feb. 21, 2011 - President's Day. Holiday - Office Closed
- ✘ Mar. 5, 2011 - Rain Barrel Workshop - Kettering
- ✘ Mar. 11, 2011 - Tree & Plant Order Deadline

The Conservation Advocate is published in January, March, August, November

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Free Farm Tire Disposal Successful



Farm families in Montgomery County really made great use of the free farm tire disposal held on December 2nd through the 4th, 2010, at the North and South Solid Waste Facilities. The Montgomery County Solid Waste District conducted 106 transactions that brought in almost 45 tons of old implement tires.

The Montgomery Soil and Water Conservation District along with the Farm Service Agency both promoted this event in their fall newsletters. Word of this event was sure heard out on the farm. The previous free farm tire disposal had 67 transactions that brought in 26.5 ton of tires. This means there was a 37% increase in transactions, and a 40% increase in the tonnage of tires brought in to the Solid Waste Facilities during the December event.

We would like to think that the December tire event cleaned up most of the old tires laying out behind the implement shed; but in case you just weren't able to take advantage of that opportunity there is another chance coming up in the spring of 2011. The Montgomery County Solid Waste District will hold another free farm tire disposal from March 24th through March 26th, 2011. So start rounding them up, and take advantage of something free.

District Conservationist Lee Green Moving On

District Conservationist Lee Green has received a promotion to the field office in Concord, New Hampshire, where he will begin working on January 31st. He has served the landowners and producers of Montgomery County well during the three and one half years he has been with us. He will be missed and we wish him the best. While the District Conservationist (DC) position is being advertised and a new DC is being selected, District Conservationist Karen McCalister from Miami County will be our Acting DC. She can be reached at our office at 937-854-7646, extension 102.

Quail Habitat and How You Can Help

CP33 habitat buffers help restore quail habitat.

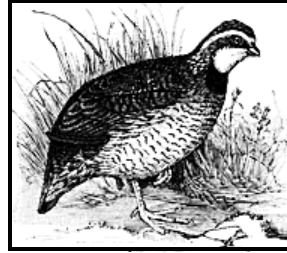
By Erik Lewis, Farm Bill Biologist

Here we are, 5 years after the USDA introduced its first wildlife specific conservation practice aimed at restoring declining habitat for the Northern Bobwhite Quail and other grassland dependent wildlife. The practice, known as CP33-habitat buffers or “quail borders”, is designed to provide nesting and brood rearing habitat as borders on the edges of crop fields. The USDA offers rental and cost share payments to eligible landowners with eligible cropland who establish CP33 on their crop fields. The borders are planted into native grasses and wildflowers that provide the early succession grassland habitat that quail require as a part of their habitat needs.

The Northern Bobwhite Quail population has been in decline for many decades throughout its entire range. This is due to many factors like severe weather, changes of farming practices, and habitat loss. I have met with many landowners who remember days of abundant quail and multiple coveys on their farms, but also recall the lack of quail following the heavy snow storms of the late 70’s. Quail populations in Southwest Ohio have managed to hang on, probably due to less large scale farming. The other benefit to quail is the rolling type landscape with more fencerows, smaller crop fields, and woody draws in the region. These areas have also seen some of the best quail responses to the CP33 habitat practice. I personally have seen increases in quail numbers in Butler, Miami, Montgomery, and Preble counties.

CP33 has had success here in Ohio and as of July 2010 there were 15,207 acres of CP33 in the state (ranking 5th in number of acres nationwide) with acres still available. The idea of restoring habitat for a native bird that has such a rich history with farming in Ohio is attractive to farmers, landowners and bird watchers alike. It hits home with many people, but the big question is, “does it work and make a difference”. Research has shown that CP33 buffers established in an otherwise agricultural landscape receive a positive and rapid response from quail and other targeted grassland songbirds. Trends also show that this positive response increases with the first three years as buffer vegetation develops.

Optimal Bobwhite habitat should have 5-20% woody/shrubby cover, interspersed with herbaceous cover consisting of native clump grasses and native wildflowers (i.e. Forbs) with 30-60% bare ground underneath so the young quail chicks can forage. The buffers also provide food and cover from weather and the many species of quail predators.



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2011 Tree & Plant Sale Descriptions

Deciduous & Nut Trees			Evergreens		
NEW!	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>		<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>
American Chestnut Hybrid (2)	2-3'	\$14.00	Arborvitae (5)	6-12"	\$ 6.00
<p>NATIVE - <i>Castanea dentata</i> x - potted. Grows 80-100' tall. Likes full sun and well drained soils. Rich, flavorful, edible nuts in 13-15 years. NOT GUARANTEED TO BE BLIGHT RESISTANT.</p>			<p>NATIVE - <i>Thuja occidentalis</i> - (Northern White Cedar) 3 yr. Seedlings. Grows 40-60'. Evergreen foliage is scale-like and flat. Will reach 6' in 6-7 years. Plant 4' apart for windbreaks. Red squirrels and birds like seeds.</p>		
Hazelnut (5)	12-18"	\$ 8.00	Colorado Blue Spruce (25)	10-18"	\$ 16.00
<p><i>Corylus americana</i> - 1 yr. Seedlings. Grows to 15' tall and 15' wide. Also known as the American Filbert. Adaptable to moist or dry soils. Best nut production in full sun. Tasty nuts desirable to humans & wildlife.</p>			<p><i>Picea pungens</i> - 4 yr. Seedlings. Grows 80-100'. Needles 1-1.5" long. Color varies from green to silver blue. Ordinary soil, average moisture & full sun. Slowest growing, but most popular spruce. Ornamental, windbreaks, Christmas trees.</p>		
Northern Pecan (5)	12-18"	\$ 7.00	Norway Spruce (25)	8-16"	\$ 16.00
<p><i>Carya illinoensis</i> - 1 yr. Seedlings. Grows 50-70'. Spreads 40-70'. Beautiful and majestic shade tree. Provides a crop of thin shelled nuts in 12-15 years. Plant in full sun in moist, well drained soils.</p>			<p><i>Picea abies</i> - 3 yr. Seedlings. Grows 60-90'. Needles dark green, 0.5-1" long. Branches droop gracefully as it matures. Does well in average soil conditions, but prefers moisture in soil to maintain deep green color. Ornamental, timber, windbreaks.</p>		
Persimmon (American) (5)	12-18"	\$ 6.00	Scotch Pine (25)	12-20"	\$ 16.00
<p>NATIVE - <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> - 1 yr. Seedlings. Grows 30-60'. Easy to grow. Does not like wet sites. Bears sweet, orange fruit in the fall in about 6 years. Gather after frost. Used in making spiced fruit breads and puddings. Enjoyed by wildlife/bees.</p>			<p><i>Pinus sylvestris</i> - 3 yr. Seedlings. Grows 75'. Needles are stiff, 1.5-3" long. Grows in most soils, excellent for windbreaks, Christmas trees and timber. Space 6' apart for windbreaks.</p>		
Red Oak (5)	12-18"	\$ 6.00	White Pine (25)	5-11"	\$ 16.00
<p>NATIVE - <i>Quercus rubra</i> - 1 yr. Seedlings. Grows 70-80'. Dense green foliage turns deep red in fall. Acorns are large, rounded & eaten by a variety of wildlife. Tolerant of urban conditions: salt, ozone, & sulfur dioxide.</p>			<p>NATIVE - <i>Pinus strobus</i> - 3 yr. Seedlings. Grows 75-100'. Soft, flexible needles 3-5" long, blue-green color. Moist sandy loam soils. Full sun.</p>		
River Birch (5) *	12-18"	\$ 6.00	Ground Covers		
<p>NATIVE - <i>Betula nigra</i> - 1 yr. Seedlings. Grows 50-70'. Planted as an ornamental shade tree, prized for its flaky, orange ornamental bark. Can be single or multi-trunked. Prefers moist to wet, rich, deep, acidic soils.</p>					
Sugar Maple (5)	12-18"	\$ 7.00		<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>
<p>NATIVE - <i>Acer Scharium</i> - 2 yr. Seedlings. Grows to 75'. Valued for sap from which maple syrup is made. Brilliant scarlet-orange foliage in fall. Popular shade and ornamental tree.</p>			Pachysandra (50)	2 ¼" peat pots	\$ 27.00
Tulip Tree (5)	12-18"	\$ 6.00	<p>Grows to 6". Part to full shade. Dense, lustrous evergreen trailing type of groundcover. White flowers in spring. Very hardy, adapts to any soil. Fine for terraces or any place grass is not successful. Plant 400 plants/100 sq. ft. for extra heavy cover.</p>		
<p>NATIVE - <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> - 1 yr. Seedlings. Grows 80-150'. Has green tulip shaped leaves and flowers (greenish-yellow with an orange base). Blooms in mid-June. Seeds eaten by squirrels and song birds.</p>			Vinca Minor (50)	2 ¼" peat pots	\$ 28.00
			<p>Also known as myrtle or periwinkle. Grows to 6". Good in shade, spreads quickly in any soil type. Lavender blue flowers in spring. One foot spacing. Potentially invasive to natural areas.</p>		

2011 Tree & Plant Sale Descriptions

Ornamental Grasses	Flowering Trees/Shrubs Cont.																											
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Makes a nice border when planted 1 to 2 feet apart. </td> <td style="text-align: center;">1 gal. pot</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$ 8.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td> Switch Grass (1) * ‡ NATIVE - <i>Panicum virgatum</i> - Ornamental warm-season prairie grass, also excellent for erosion control and wildlife cover. Dense, attractive clump grows 4-6' tall. Seed produced on large, airy panicles. Outstanding soil stabilization. </td> <td style="text-align: center;">1 gal. pot</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$ 8.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	Little Blue Stem (1) * + ‡ NATIVE - <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> - Attractive blue green foliage grows to about 12" by mid summer. Fluffy seeds emerge on 2-3' seed stalks in August. Foliage turns reddish-brown in fall & remains attractive through winter.	1 gal. pot	\$ 8.00	Prairie Dropseed (1) ‡ NATIVE TO MIDWEST - <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> - Warm season bunch grass grows in sunny, dry sites 2-3' tall. 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Yellow flesh is custard like and highly nutritious with a tropical flavor. </td> <td style="text-align: center;">12-18"</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$ 10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td> Red Bud (Eastern) (2) NATIVE - <i>Cercis Canadensis</i> - 2 yr. Seedlings This early blooming tree grows in moist soil, in full to mostly shady areas. Hundreds of magenta blossoms emerge in April and May before leafing out. This wonderful tree makes a lovely landscaping addition to any yard. </td> <td style="text-align: center;">1-2'</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$ 5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td> Spicebush (1) NATIVE - <i>Lindera benzoin</i> - Grows 6-12'. Very showy, native plant. Deciduous shrub that is very tolerant of wet conditions. Suitable for shady areas. Blooms in spring, very small white flowers in tiny clusters. Oblong, green leaves turn yellow in fall. 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	<p>NEW!</p> <p>Rain Barrel (1) 55 gal barrel \$80.00</p> <p>Pre-made 55 gallon plastic barrel (gray or white), designed and constructed by District Technician, Russ Heintz. A rain barrel is a rain water construction system that stores rooftop runoff to be used later for activities such as lawn and garden watering and car washing. Rain water is naturally soft and devoid of minerals. Collecting rain water can not only lower our water bills, it is also beneficial to the environment because the stored water would otherwise run off into storm sewers and streams.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>Eastern Bluebird Nest Box (1) \$20.00</p> <p>Features 7/8" predator guard, overhanging roof, and ventilation. Easy open front for monitoring & cleaning. 7/8" kiln dried western cedar. Place in open rural country with scattered trees. Mount 5' off ground. 7.25"x9.25"x12".</p> </div> <div style="flex: 0.5; text-align: center;">  </div> </div>																											

2011 Tree & Plant Sale Descriptions

Wildflower Descriptions

	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>
Black-Eyed Susan (1) * + ‡	1 gal. pot	\$ 7.00
NATIVE - <i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> - "Goldsturm" variety. Height & spread 2 to 2 1/2'. Vigorous and compact. Bright golden flowers from July through fall. Easily reseeds. Flowers attract butterflies. Seeds attract birds.		
NEW! Blanket Flower (1)	1 gal. pot	\$7.00
<i>Gaillardia grandiflor</i> - Goblin Variety Grows 1' high and 1' to 2' wide. Red and Yellow bi-color blooms from June through September. Likes full sun.		
Blue Eyed Grass (1)	5" pot	\$ 9.00
NATIVE - <i>Sisyrinchium sp.</i> Grows 12-16". The color of the flower is a deep bluish-purple to blue-violet. The stems are flattish and the flowers appear at the top. Blooms from May to June and attracts butterflies. Plant in full sun to light shade.		
Butterflyweed (1) + ‡	5" pot	\$ 7.00
NATIVE - <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> - This popular milkweed requires full to part sun. Its bright orange blossoms attract bees, hummingbirds, monarch and orange sulphur butterflies. This stunning plant blooms June through August and reaches a height of 2-3'. Plant in well drained, dry to moist soils.		
Cardinal Flower (1) *	5" pot	\$ 9.00
NATIVE - <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> - This bright red attractive native of wet to moist soil grows to a height of 2-5'. Blooming in July-September, attracts hummingbirds. It grows in full sun to nearly full shade in moist, rich soils.		
Hardy Geranium (1)	1 gal. pot	\$ 7.00
<i>Geranium hybrida</i> - Johnson's Blue variety – Grows 1-1.5' Blooms in mid-summer to autumn with lots of large, lavender-blue flowers. It blooms best in full sun. It's a magnet for bees and butterflies.		
Marsh Blazing Star (1) * ‡	1 gal. pot	\$ 7.00
NATIVE - <i>Liatris spicata</i> - These showy and beautiful flowers prefer sunny or partly shaded locations. Excellent as a garden plant in moist soil, the purple spikes of blossoms topping the plant that can reach heights of 3 to 6 feet. Flowering in July through September. Long referred to as a "butterfly magnet"!		

	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>
Russian Sage (1) +	1 gal. pot	\$ 7.00
<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i> - Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well drained soil in full sun. Grows 2-4' tall, spreads 2-4'. Produces lavender flowers from July through October.		
NEW! Speedwell (1)	1 gal. pot	\$7.00
<i>Veronica spicata</i> - Royal Candles - grows 10-12" tall. This is an erect bush, clump-forming, compact spiked speedwell. Likes full sun and blooms deep blue/purple flower spikes from June to August.		
Swamp Milkweed (1) *	1 gal pot	\$ 7.00
NATIVE - <i>Asclepias incarnate</i> - Grows 2-4'. Mauve flowers form clusters at the top of the plant and bloom in mid-summer. Grows in moist areas in nature, but does not require a moist location in the garden. Attracts the most butterflies, especially monarchs that depend on milkweed for their survival and hummingbirds.		
Wild Bergamot (1) ‡	5" pot	\$ 9.00
NATIVE - <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> - A very popular native for the garden, this lovely plant grows 2-4', blooming June through September. Many dense, lavender clusters of flowers attract hummingbirds, birds, butterflies and moths. Grows in a wide range of soils: moist to dry, sand to clay, in full sun to part shade.		

Symbols Meaning

- * These items are appropriate for establishing a rain garden. Contact Cheryl Barkalow at 937-854-7646 ext. 100 at the District office for more information about rain gardens or check out the following website www.prairienursery.com/store/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=8_35
- + These items are planted in the rain gardens at the District office
- ‡ These are prairie plants that the District is planning to use in future prairie planting.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

#	Name (Number of items in Packet)	# of Packs	Price	Total Price
1	NEW! American Chestnut Hybrid (2)		\$ 14.00	
2	Hazelnut (5)		\$ 8.00	
3	Northern Pecan (5)		\$ 7.00	
4	Persimmon (American) (5)		\$ 6.00	
5	Red Oak (5)		\$ 6.00	
6	River Birch (5) *		\$ 6.00	
7	Sugar Maple (5)		\$ 7.00	
8	Tulip Tree (5)		\$ 6.00	
9	Arborvitae (5)		\$ 6.00	
10	Colorado Blue Spruce (25)		\$ 16.00	
11	Norway Spruce (25)		\$ 16.00	
12	Scotch Pine (25)		\$ 16.00	
13	White Pine (25)		\$ 16.00	
14	Pachysandra (50)		\$ 27.00	
15	Vinca Minor (50)		\$ 28.00	
16	Little Blue Stem Grass (1) * + ‡		\$ 8.00	
17	Prairie Dropseed Grass (1) ‡		\$ 8.00	
18	Switch Grass (1) * ‡		\$ 8.00	
19	Butterfly Bush (1) +		\$ 7.00	
20	Elderberry (5) *		\$ 8.00	
21	Lilac (2)		\$ 6.00	
22	Ninebark (5)		\$ 6.00	
23	NEW! Paw Paw (5)		\$ 10.00	
24	Red Bud (2)		\$ 5.00	
25	Spicebush (1)		\$ 12.00	
26	White Flowering Dogwood (5)		\$ 6.00	
27	NEW! Rain Barrel (1) 55 gal.		\$ 80.00	
28	Eastern Bluebird Nest Box (1)		\$ 20.00	
29	Black-Eyed Susan (1) * + ‡		\$ 7.00	
30	NEW! Blanket Flower (1)		\$ 7.00	
31	Blue Eyed Grass (1)		\$ 9.00	
32	Butterflyweed (1) + ‡		\$ 7.00	
33	Cardinal Flower (1) *		\$ 9.00	
34	Hardy Geranium (Johnson's Blue variety) (1)		\$ 7.00	
35	Marsh Blazing Star (1) * ‡		\$ 7.00	
36	Russian Sage (1) +		\$ 7.00	
37	NEW! Speedwell (1)		\$ 7.00	
38	Swamp Milkweed (1) *		\$ 7.00	
39	Wild Bergamot (1) ‡		\$ 9.00	

For Office Use

Date Order Received: _____

Cash: _____ Check: _____

Receipt #: _____

Packet Received By: _____

Total: _____

Donation: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Cut this out and keep as a reminder!

Montgomery SWCD

Tree & Plant Sale

10025 Amity Rd.

Brookville, OH

937-854-7645

Tree and plant pickup dates are

April 14th and 15th, 2011

from 8am to 5pm.

No pickup Notice will be mailed this year.

If you supply your email address we will email you a reminder of the pick up dates and next years order form, or sign up to be our facebook friend for these and other updates

Deadline for ordering: March 11, 2011

**Montgomery Soil and Water
Conservation District**

10025 Amity Road
Brookville, Ohio 45309

Phone: 937-854-7645
Fax: 937-837-2241
E-mail: lauerk@mcohio.org
www.montgomeryswcd.org

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Permit No. 13

All programs and services provided by the Montgomery Soil and Water Conservation District are available to everyone without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, handicap or marital status.

2011 TREE & PLANT PROGRAM

Deciduous Trees

Nut Trees

Evergreens

Flowering Trees / Shrubs

Ground Covers

Potted Wildflowers

Rain Garden Plants

Ornamental Grasses

Native Plants

These packets are offered as a low cost source of conservation plant materials which will provide food and cover for wildlife. Many plants are small and bare-rooted. ***We are offering a few varieties in small pots again this year.*** The majority of our plants are native to Ohio. Most packets will fit easily into one or two grocery bags. They are available to anyone and may be planted anywhere. To keep the cost low, we are unable to furnish replacements nor will we mail or deliver the packets. We reserve the right to make substitutions if necessary.

Please send your check or money order with your order form. Packets can be picked up from our office on **April 14th and 15th from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.** **No additional pick up notice will be sent so mark your calendar!** You will receive your receipt when you pick up your order. ***We have limited quantities of some trees and plants, so place your order early!*** Orders must be received by the District office by **March 11, 2011.**

Make your check payable to:

Montgomery SWCD

And mail to:

10025 Amity Road

Brookville, OH 45309-9399

LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE MONTGOMERY SWCD?

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. DONATIONS RECEIVED IN 2011 WILL AGAIN BE USED TO CONTINUE CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS. A BIG THANKS TO OUR 2010 DONORS.

Are there types of trees, plants, bird houses or bird feeders you're interested in that we don't offer? Give us a call or stop in our office and we'll try to locate a source for you.