

KNOX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL NEWS

"USDA Farm Service Agency , Natural Resources Conservation Service , Knox SWCD and OSU Extension, Knox County are an Equal Opportunity Provider, Employer and Lender "

February / March 2019

Tree Planters Available to Local Landowners

It's already February and SPRING is just around the corner. Before long it will be time to begin giving serious consideration to the task of planting all sorts of things, and tree seedlings are no exception.

The Knox Soil and Water Conservation District has two FESCO three-point-hitch mount tree-planters available for those local landowners interested in planting large areas to trees for the establishment of wildlife areas, windbreaks and re-forestation efforts.

The planters are suitable for transplanting most seedling stock and will allow a crew of two to three people to plant 3,000 trees a day without much trouble. A 40 horsepower or larger tractor is suggested. Each planter is mounted on a trailer with interchangeable 1 7/8 inch ball/pin hitch receivers for easy transport.

The planters can be reserved by calling the Knox Soil and Water Conservation District office at 740-393-6724. The rental rate for use of the equipment is \$25/day.

Knox SWCD Tree Sales..... See pages 11-12



Farmers Can Use Locally Developed "App" to Track Fertilizer Applications

Ohio farmers can use a mobile device application developed by the Knox SWCD and Knox County Farm Bureau to help track their fertilizer and manure applications and insure compliance with recent regulatory changes.



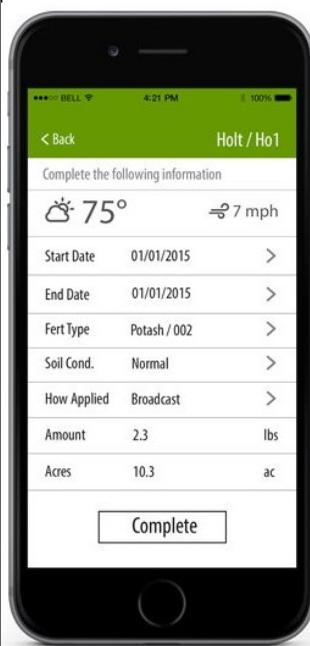
OHIO NUTRIENT
MANAGEMENT
RECORD KEEPER

The ONMRK app features drop-down menus that make it easy and quick for farmers to record their fertilizer or manure application as well as record the current weather conditions and forecast for the next 24 hours. Those records can then be printed through an Internet portal.

After setting up the ONMRK app on their mobile device, farmers can easily record what nutrients they apply on their farms and fields. It uses the device GPS system to pinpoint exactly where farmers are on their acreage and give an accurate report instantly. The app will also warn you if weather conditions aren't favorable to apply fertilizer or manure nutrients.

The web account which instantly links farmers' data and updates records whether they are recorded through a mobile device or from a computer can be set up at onmrk.com. The mobile device app can be downloaded to your Android or Apple mobile device from both Google Play and the App Store. You must set up your web account before you can utilize the mobile device application.

For questions on the record keeping requirements or the ONMRK app you can call the SWCD office at 740-393-6724.





Farm Service Agency

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Need to Update or Add Equipment? Check Out Our Farm Storage Facility Loans!

FSA's Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program provides low-interest financing to producers to build or upgrade storage facilities and to purchase portable (new or used) structures, equipment and storage and handling trucks.

The low-interest funds can be used to build or upgrade permanent facilities to store commodities. Eligible commodities include corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, oats, wheat, barley, minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain, pulse crops (lentils, chickpeas and dry peas), hay, honey, renewable biomass, fruits, nuts and vegetables for cold storage facilities, floriculture, hops, maple sap, rye, milk, cheese, butter, yogurt, meat and poultry (unprocessed), eggs, and aquaculture (excluding systems that maintain live animals through uptake and discharge of water). Qualified facilities include:

- Loans on used bins and/or dryers
- Portable augers, grain carts, and grain trailers
- Round hay bale grabber attachments, hay spear attachment and hay trailers
- Skid loaders and wheel loaders are eligible if they are used to move a commodity produced on the farm.
- Storage and handling truck loans
- Hay storage buildings, grain bins, grain handling and drying equipment, cold storage for fruits and vegetables, maple syrup and sap, egg washers, honey storage, milk bulk tanks, and more!

Facility loans of \$50,000 or less can be considered microloans with the following terms:

- 5% down payment
- Interest rates are LOW (2.625% for a 7-year loan approved in February)!
- 3, 5, or 7-year term on new equipment
- 3 or 5 years on used equipment

Facility loans over \$50,001-\$500,000 are non-micro loans with the following terms

15% down payment

- \$100,000 3, 5, or 7-year term
- \$100,001 to 250,000 3, 5, 7, or 10-year term
- \$250,001 to \$500,000 3, 5, 7, 10, or 12-year term

\$100 application fee

****LOANS MUST BE APPROVED BEFORE CONSTRUCTION CAN BEGIN****

Loans up to \$50,000 can be secured by a promissory note/security agreement and loans between \$50,000 and \$100,000 may require additional security. Loans exceeding \$100,000 require additional security.

Producers do NOT need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply. The loans are designed to assist a diverse range of farming operations, including traditional grain operations, farmers supplying local food and farmers markets, non-traditional farm products, and more.

To learn more about the FSA Farm Storage Facility Loan, contact your County FSA office.

Malted Grains and Maple Syrup Eligible for Farm Storage Facility Loans

Malted small grains and maple syrup are now eligible for Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL) through the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

FSFLs provide low-interest financing to producers to build or upgrade storage facilities and to purchase portable (new or used) structures, equipment and storage and handling trucks.

The eligible commodities have been expanded to include malted small grains and maple syrup. Eligible malted small grains include barley, oats, rice, rye and wheat. Maple sap is used to produce maple syrup.

The low-interest funds can be used for:

- bottler or filling systems for maple syrup, excluding containers
- equipment to improve, maintain, or monitor the quality of stored FSFL commodities, such as cleaners, moisture testers, heat detectors, along with a proposed storage facility
- handling and drying equipment determined by the County Committee to be needed and essential to the proper functioning of a storage system
- electrical equipment, such as pumps, lighting, motors, and wiring, integral to the proper operation of the storage and handling equipment, excluding installing electric service to the electrical meter.

FSFLs are not available for the actual processing of the small grain into the malted commodity or maple sap into maple syrup. Additionally, purchased commodities are not eligible for FSFLs.

The following storage and handling equipment is ineligible for FSFLs:

- boiling equipment
- feed handling and processing equipment
- production and feed facilities
- structures of a temporary nature not having a useful life of the term of the loan
- maple sap tubing and pumping systems.

Loans up to \$50,000 can be secured by a promissory note/security agreement and loans between \$50,000 and \$100,000 may require additional security. Loans exceeding \$100,000 require additional security.

Producers do not need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply. The loans are designed to assist a diverse range of farming operations, including small and mid-sized businesses, new farmers, operations supplying local food and farmers markets, non-traditional farm products, and underserved producers.

Contact the Knox County FSA office for more information.

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Call for a ONE on ONE meeting at your farm today!
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Hey
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Here!!!
Contact Amie Allen to advertise in the
Ag News at 740-393-6724 or via
email at aallen@knoxswcd.org



Farm Service Agency

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider, Employer and Lender

USDA FSA Offers Text Alerts to Knox County Producers

Subscribers Can Receive Important Program Reminders and Updates

Farmers can now receive notifications from their county office through text messages on their cell phone.

Whether producers are in the field, or on a tractor, this service enables FSA customers and stakeholders to receive notifications while on the go. Producers will receive text messages regarding important program deadlines, reporting requirements and program updates. * No more than 6 messages will be sent per year.

To enroll, producers must text a OHKNOX to 372669 on your cell phone. Producers will receive a system generated reply if they have successfully enrolled. Standard text messaging rates apply. Participants may unsubscribe at any time.

In addition to texting, we send newsletters over email and with as an insert in the Mt. Vernon News. Do we have your correct email for you to stay up to date?

Proper Management of CRP Grass Cover

In the past, aesthetic mowing of CRP grass cover was a widely accepted practice by many participants. Today with more research and understanding, it has been shown that properly managed grass cover will reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and is more beneficial to wildlife than annually mowed grass covers.

Wildlife, especially grassland birds including pheasants and quail, and pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, view properly managed CRP cover as a source of food and habitat suitable to raise their young. Wildlife will not be attracted to CRP cover if plants are not allowed to mature. Game birds and bees are disappearing because of habitat loss.

Properly managed grass cover does not include noxious weeds such as thistle and teasel or woody species like trees and multiflora rose. These noxious weeds must be controlled. This can be done in several ways. Mowing of CRP cover, not to exceed 20% of the total CRP acres in a field, is permitted. This activity must be included in your conservation plan and be conducted outside of Ohio's primary nesting season (**March 1st – July 15th**). The location of this mowing shall be changed from year to year. Another option to control noxious weeds is by spot mowing affected areas or spot spraying of an approved herbicide. These treatments will have a minimal effect on the CRP

practice cover's ability to meet the purposes of erosion control, water quality, and wildlife habitat.

Do you need to mow part of your CRP to control noxious weeds? Call FSA at 740-392-0891 to make your request.

Unauthorized disturbance of CRP cover is considered a violation of the terms and conditions of the CRP contract and conservation plan. Violations could potentially result in hefty penalties including contract termination and refund of all contract related payments.

Properly maintained CRP cover can be very attractive if noxious weeds and invasive species are controlled and grasses and wildflowers are allowed to mature. Please scout your CRP fields before weeds go to seed. Contact your local FSA office for permission to spot treat your CRP grass cover during Ohio's primary nesting season (**March 1st – July 15th**). Plan to have your CRP cover assessed for the need of mid-contract management activities that are designed to enhance your CRP cover for wildlife. Mid-contract management is a contractual obligation that is outlined in your CRP-1 Appendix and conservation plan.

Contact the FSA office for more information on proper maintenance and management of CRP practice cover.

Market Facilitation Program (MFP)

The Market Facilitation Program provides direct payments to help corn, soybean, wheat, dairy, and hog producers who have been impacted by illegal retaliatory tariffs, resulting in the loss of traditional exports.

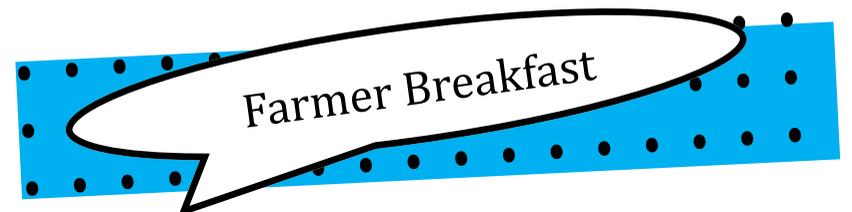
A payment will be issued on the producer's total harvested production of the commodity. Payment rates are as follows: Corn \$0.01, \$1.65 Soybeans, \$0.14 Wheat, \$0.12 Dairy, \$8.00 Hogs. Producers can apply through **February 14, 2019**. Those who filed CCC-910 by February 14 have until **May 1, 2019** to provide production to support their application.

Unauthorized Disposition of Grain

If loan grain has been disposed of through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office staff, it is considered unauthorized disposition. The financial penalties for unauthorized dispositions are severe and a producer's name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. Always call the county office before you haul any grain under loan.

Conservation Reserve Program Opportunities!

Waterways can fix gullies and put tile in at the same time with cost share and an annual rental payment. Hay and pasture fields can be bid into the Grassland Conservation Reserve Program (GRP) and if accepted producers receive the annual rental payment and cost share on needed fence. Do you need a filter strip along a stream? CRP sign up is on hold while we wait for a new Farm Bill but get your name on the list to be contacted for the next sign up!



February 19 –Measuring Farm Profitability

March 19 –Grain Bin Rescue– DEMO AT MTV Fire Dept

April 16 –Effects of Farm Stress

*Monthly meetings will be held on the **3rd Tuesday of the month at 8 a.m.**

New Permanent location: Brandon Baptist Church (13513 Sycamore Road, Mount Vernon)

*Please join us to discuss farm topics, Q & A, and general discussion.

- Bring your questions and a friend!
- Breakfast will be at your expense
- Menu will rotate monthly
- Monthly raffle



*Representatives from Knox FSA, NRCS, SWCD, and OSU Ext. will be present with updates
Have a speaker or topic idea? Call 392-0891 Katie.

*Topics subject to change



Farm Service Agency

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Low Interest Commodity Loans Provide Cash Flow Now

Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL's) are marketing tools available to producers beginning upon harvest and provides interim financing at harvest time to help meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities until favorable market conditions emerge.

With the current market conditions producers who have access to on-farm storage or warehouse storage should consider a Marketing Assistance Loan (warehouses must be able to issue acceptable warehouse receipts. Contact the county office for additional information on warehouse loans).

Producer Eligibility

To be eligible for a MAL the producer must:

- Comply with conservation and wetland protection requirements;
- Submit an acreage report for all cropland on all farms;
- Have and retain beneficial interest until the loan is repaid or Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) takes title to the commodity;
- Meet adjusted gross income limitations. If a Marketing Loan Gain (MLG) is earned and prices fall below the loan rate, then the MLG is subject to AGI provisions.

Commodity Eligibility

To be eligible for a MAL the commodity must:

- Be merchantable for food, feed or other uses as determined by CCC;
- Meet specific CCC minimum grade and quality standards.

Beneficial Interest

A producer retains beneficial interest in the commodity if he/she maintains control of the commodity and title to the commodity. Some marketing decisions may cause a producer to lose control and/or title to the grain so review specific concerns with the county office.

Final Availability Dates

May 31, 2019 is the final availability date for a corn or soybean loan.

Loan Rates

Loan rates for Knox County are \$1.94 per bushel for corn and \$5.12 per bushel for soybeans.

Interest

The interest rate charged for commodity loans is set at one percentage point above CCC's cost of borrowing from the U.S. Treasury at the time the loan is made. After a loan is made, the rate is fixed except the interest rate for loans outstanding on January 1, 2019 is adjusted to reflect CCC's cost of borrowing on January 1st, plus one percent. **The interest rate for the month of December is 3.750%.**

Loan Settlement

MAL's mature on the last day of the ninth calendar month following the month in which the MAL is approved. A producer may settle an outstanding MAL:

- Before maturity period by repaying the MAL or;
- Upon maturity by forfeiting the commodity to CCC.

For loan eligible commodities a producer may repay an MAL any time during the loan period at the lesser of the:

- Loan rate plus interest or;
- Alternative loan repayment rate determined by CCC. Prices would have to drop more for this option to be viable and can be discussed further by calling or visiting the Knox County FSA Office.

Required Signatures

In cases where individual producers are applying for MAL's, spousal signatures are now required on loan documents to protect the interest of all parties in the loan making process. In the past producers could sign on behalf of spouses but this option is no longer available. Spouses have the option of waiving interest in the crop to avoid signing loan documents. FSA has a document that can be completed to waive interest.

Lienholder Waiver

If you have a lien on the crop FSA has a lien waiver document that lienholders can sign so that loan proceeds can be issued directly to the applicant or issued jointly. Applicants are encouraged to visit with crop lienholders before applying for a MAL.

Save Time – Make an Appointment with FSA

To insure maximum use of your time and to ensure that you are afforded our full attention to your important business needs, please call our office ahead of your visit to set an appointment and to discuss any records or documentation that you may need to have with you when you arrive for your appointment.

Maintaining Stored Grain Quality

Bins are ideally designed to hold a level volume of grain. When bins are overfilled and grain is heaped up, airflow is hindered and the chance of spoilage increases.

Producers who take out marketing assistance loans and use the farm-stored grain as collateral should remember that they are responsible for maintaining the quality of the grain through the term of the loan.

FSAfarm+, FSA's Customer Self-Service Portal

The USDA FSA has launched a tool to provide farmers with remote access to their personal farm information using their home computers. Farmers and producers can now view, print or export their personal farm data all without visiting an FSA county office.

The program, known as FSAfarm+, provides you with secure access to view your personal FSA data, such as base and yields, Conservation Reserve Program data, other conservation program acreage, Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation status information, field boundaries, farm imagery, name and address details, contact information and membership interest and shares in the operation. This data will be available in real time, at no cost to the producer and allow operators and owners to export and print farm records, including maps. Producers also can electronically share their data with a crop insurance agent from their own personal computer.

Farm operators and owners first will need "Level 2 eAuthentication" to access the webportal. This level of security ensures that personal information is protected for each user. Level 2 access can be obtained by going to www.eauth.usda.gov, completing the required information and then visiting your local FSA office to finalize access.

For more information on FSAfarm+, the customer self-service portal, contact your [FSA County office](#).

Knox County Soybean Starter Fertilizer Trial

Cooperator: David & Emily Mitchem
Centerburg, Ohio

Trial	Starter	Soybean	
	Rate Gal/A	Moisture	Yield
101	20	11.28	68.72
102	20	11.31	62.77
103	0	11.75	69.95
104	0	11.76	67.54
105	20	11.71	69.03
106	20	11.85	63.88
107	20	11.53	61.91
108	0	11.77	65.14
109	0	11.88	65.64
110	0	11.82	63.22

Yield Analysis

	5 Rep Ave			5 Rep Rank	
	Bu./A	Moisture		(Bu./A)	Difference
Starter	65.26	11.5	Starter	65.26	
No Starter	66.30	11.8	No Starter	66.30	1.04

Economic Analysis

Seeding	Yield Bu./A	Income Cash Price ¹	Fertilizer Expense	Net Return
		\$8.23/Bu.	Starter Cost ² /A .305/lb.	To Nitrogen Difference ³ \$/Acre
Starter	65.26	\$537.09	\$26.30	\$510.79
No Starter	66.30	\$545.65	\$0.00	\$545.65 -\$34.86

¹ Farmers Co-op Fredericktown Jan 2019 Cash Bid (10/3/18)

² OSU Crop Budget 2018

³ Includes \$8.00 application charge

The 2018 report is now available in both a print and e-version. To receive a printed copy, stop by the Knox County Extension office. The e-version can be viewed and downloaded at go.osu.edu/eFields.

GAPs

What is GAPs class? An educational course that covers good agricultural practices or 'GAPs', which help reduce the risk of on-farm produce contamination. Attending the OSU GAPs class does not equate to being 'GAPs Certified.'

Learn about water quality, worker training, health and hygiene, manure and compost handling, domestic and wild animals.

This training is required in order to sell produce at the Mount Vernon Farmers Market.

Tuesday

March 19, 2019

6pm-9pm

Location: Ag. Service Building
1025 Harcourt Road, Mt Vernon

Cost: \$30 a person

Details: Pre-Registration is required

Contact: 740-397-0401

Good Agriculture Practice Training

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number Attending: _____ X \$30 = \$ _____

REGISTRATION INFORMATION. Please register by Friday, March 8, 2019. Return to: OSU Extension, Knox County; P.O. Box 1268, Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050, Checks made payable to: OSU Extension, Knox County

Ohio State University Extension

Knox County Soybean Plant Population Study

Cooperator: Jim & Susan Braddock
Fredericktown, Ohio

Plot # 1

Plot # 2

Yield Analysis					
Seeding Rate	3 Rep Ave Bu./A	Seeding Rate	3 Rep Rank (Bu./A)	Difference	
125000	78.59	165000	79.08		
145000	77.54	125000	78.59		-0.49
165000	79.08	185000	78.57		-0.51
185000	78.57	145000	77.54		-1.54

Economic Analysis					
Seeding Rate	Yield Bu./A	Income Cash Price ¹ \$8.23/Bu.	Expense Seed Cost/A ² .428/1000	Net Return To Seed \$/Acre Difference	
125000	78.59	\$646.80	\$53.50	\$593.30	
165000	79.08	\$650.83	\$70.62	\$580.21	-\$13.09
145000	77.54	\$638.15	\$62.06	\$576.09	-\$17.20
185000	78.57	\$646.63	\$79.18	\$567.45	-\$25.84

¹ Farmers Co-op Fredericktown Jan 2019 Cash Bid (10/3/18)
² OSU Soybean Production Budget 2018

Final Rankings		
Seeding Rate	Yield Rank	Return to Seed Rank
125000	2	1
145000	4	3
165000	1	2
185000	3	4

Yield Analysis					
Seeding Rate	3 Rep Ave Bu./A	Seeding Rate	3 Rep Rank Bu./A	Difference	
125000	67.05	145000	70.07		
145000	70.07	185000	69.16		-0.91
165000	68.37	165000	68.37		-1.70
185000	69.16	125000	67.05		-3.02

Economic Analysis					
Seeding Rate	Yield Bu./A	Income Cash Price ¹ \$8.23/Bu.	Expense Seed Cost ² /A .428/1000	Net Return To Seed \$/Acre Difference	
145000	70.07	\$576.68	\$62.06	\$514.62	
125000	67.05	\$551.82	\$53.50	\$498.32	-\$16.29
165000	68.37	\$562.69	\$70.62	\$492.07	-\$22.55
185000	69.16	\$569.19	\$79.18	\$490.01	-\$24.61

¹ Farmers Co-op Fredericktown Jan 2019 Cash Bid (10/3/18)
² OSU Soybean Production Budget 2018

Final Rankings		
Seeding Rate	Yield Rank	Return to Seed Rank
125000	4	2
145000	1	1
165000	3	3
185000	2	4

The 2018 report is now available in both a print and e-version. To receive a printed copy, stop by the Knox County Extension office. The e-version can be viewed and downloaded at go.osu.edu/eFields.



Ohio State University Extension

Hydrangea School

April 25, 2019 • 1 P.M.

Join Mahoning Extension Educator Eric Barrett to discover the world of hydrangeas. Learn which varieties will work best in your garden and landscape, and learn how to properly care for and maintain a successful plant.

You will receive educational materials as well as your own hydrangea plant to take home.

Location: OSU Extension Office
160 Columbus Road
Mount Vernon , Ohio, 43050

Cost: \$30 per person

Questions call: 740-397-0401



Registration includes program and handouts. Please mail to P.O. Box 1268, Mount Vernon, OH 43050 or drop off the registration to the OSU Extension Office in Mount Vernon (160 Columbus Road). The program is filled on a "first come, first served basis."

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number Attending: _____ X \$30 = \$ _____

Knox County Agriculture News Blog

For the most up-to-date information on Knox County Agriculture and 4-H issues visit Web Blog at:

<http://u.osu.edu/knoxcountyag>

This blog contains timely agronomic, livestock, horticulture, 4-H and fair information. All meeting notices will also be posted here. The calendar page will list all the important dates, deadlines and meeting times for all Extension events. This site will be updated weekly and even sometimes daily throughout the year. If you choose subscribe to this blog you will get an email once a week listing all new information posted during the week. Check it out and let us know what you think.

Farmers Market Meeting

Vendor Registration

Spring is right around the corner, and so is the Mount Vernon Farmers Market vendor meeting. Mark your calendars for this information and necessary meeting.

Topics for the evening will be:

- WIC and SNAP programs
- Rule changes and updates
- Sign the vendor agreement
- Pay your vendor fee
- Secure your spot at the market

Chicken College

TUESDAY, April 2, 2019

Do you have a desire to raise your own chickens for eggs, or meat? Not sure how big of a coop to build for your chickens? Where do you purchase pullets, and what breed should you get?

Topics for the evening will include:

Chicken Breed Selection and Purpose

Coop Selection and Size

Care and Handling

Each participant will receive a folder with information and resources.

Thursday

March 14, 2019

6pm

Location: Ag. Service Building

1025 Harcourt Road, Mt

Vernon

Details: Vendor Fee is Due

740-397-0401

Chicken College Registration includes program and handouts. Please mail to P.O. Box 1268, Mount Vernon, OH 43050

or drop off the registration to the OSU Extension Office in Mount Vernon (160 Columbus Road). The program is filled on a "first come, first served basis."

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Number Attending: _____

Location: OSU Extension Office
160 Columbus Road
Mount Vernon, Ohio, 43050

Cost: Free! Registration is required

740-397-0401



Knox Soil & Water Conservation District

“The Wise Man Built His House Upon the Rock”

“A wise man built his house upon the rock, and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall because it had a firm foundation. The foolish man built his house upon the sand, and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon the house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it!” Many of us have heard this story time and again since we were youngsters. It is a parable from Jesus’ “Sermon on the Mount” some 2000 years ago. While the message he was trying to get across had more to do with the moral concepts one should live their life by, the basic message in the parable he was using to relate the concept still holds practical application all these centuries later.

Nowadays, a person’s most valuable material possession is often their home. Most of us can not afford to risk building or buying a home that has poor foundations or footings and will end up having structural problems down the road. Much less, one that happens to be subject to repeated flooding, or one where the septic system doesn’t function because of seasonal wetness problems. I am sure that the foolish man in Jesus’ story had his reasons for building where he did. Perhaps a beautiful view along the river (in a floodplain), a picturesque sea-side home (on soil subject to

erosion from wave action), or the last “prime” lot in a subdivision (never mind that it was the last one for a reason),

and the list goes on. It is amazing how many reasons we can come up with to convince ourselves to build structures in places where they really shouldn’t be.

There is a resource that can help us avoid making these common mistakes. The Knox County Soil Survey is a publication containing maps of all of the various soil types found in Knox County, along with descriptions of the suitability of each type of soil for uses that range from home sites to ball fields. Soils that are typically flooded, poor for use as foundation materials, likely to have severe wetness problems etc., are all identified on the maps found in the survey. The soil survey information is available on-line at USDA’s “Web Soil Survey” site at <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>; just hit the “Start WSS” button to begin.

So don’t be like the foolish man, check out the Knox County Soil Survey before you buy or build your next home! For more information regarding soil suitability in Knox County, or if you need help using the on-line soil data application you can contact the Knox Soil and Water Conservation District at 393-6724, or stop by at 160 Columbus Road in Mount Vernon.

Frost Seeding a Viable Option for Some Forage Stand Improvements

The SWCD office gets numerous questions each winter about options for improving forage quality on pasture areas that may have suffered due to overgrazing in the past year. In many instances, the best answer may be to totally renovate the pasture. Often though, it seems that farmers are more interested in a minor “renovation” rather than a total rehabilitation of their pasture areas.

Frost-seedings, (really just late winter broadcast seedings) are a viable option in many instances to do that moderate rehab for your pasture. If you are considering a frost-seeding this year to improve a pasture area you have until about the middle of March to get it done. As with any seeding, fertility is important and you should soil test the area where you will be working. Another important consideration for frost-seedings is that you will be counting on the repeated freezing and thawing cycles we normally encounter in late winter to “incorporate” the seed and provide adequate seed to soil contact. For this reason frost seedings should normally be attempted only on pasture areas where the existing vegetation has been grazed quite close or that have been heavily trampled.

Seeding can be accomplished with any manner of broadcast equipment, even a hand carried broadcast spreader may be sufficient on small areas of an acre or less. Keep in mind that hard legume seeds (clover, etc.) will “throw” farther than most grasses and your application pattern will need to accommodate those differences. For the same reason, it may be advisable to apply grass seed and legume seed in separate applications. Also, just as in normal seedings, legume seeds may need to be inoculated, a “wet” or “damp” inoculation process should be used to aid in inoculant adhesion since you will be broadcasting the seed.

Be realistic with your expectations when attempting a frost-seeding on an existing pasture. Regardless of your efforts, the results are not going to equal those of a complete reseeding or renovation. It is also true that the frost seeding technique is more effective for legumes than it is for grasses. Additionally, your grazing management through the first season will have a significant impact on the success of the seeding.

If you are interested in doing a complete pasture renovation, or are establishing a new pasture area, the Knox SWCD has no-till drill equipment available to aid you in that task. You can contact the Knox SWCD office at 393-6724 for more information or individual assistance.

Have a Forestry or Wildlife Question?

Jake Peer at the Knox SWCD is available to assist local landowners with any questions or concerns they may have concerning the woodlands or wildlife on their property. He can help you decide what the best course of action is if you have damage from wildlife occurring on your property. Additionally, if you are trying to attract more wildlife or specific wildlife to your property he can help you decide what habitats could be enhanced or what habitats to establish. He can also help you, if you have any questions about how to improve or enhance your woodlands. If you are interested in taking the next step in management of your woodlands by becoming an American Tree Farmer and having your woodlands certified, he can help with that too! Jake can be reached at 740-393-6724 and will be happy to come out and assist you with your forestry and wildlife concerns.

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Knox Soil & Water Conservation District

Deer Damage Control Permits

- If you have filed a deer damage complaint, you may NOT kill deer until a Deer Damage Control Permit (DDCP) has been issued to you.
- All shooters MUST be listed on your DDCP and be approved prior to killing deer under the permit.
- If you had a DDCP in 2018 and wish to continue killing nuisance deer, you MUST file a complaint for 2019 and be issued a 2019 permit prior to shooting any nuisance deer.
- All shooters must have a VALID Hunting License to be able to use the DDCP, unless they are the landowner or the children of the landowner.
- All deer killed under a DDCP should be promptly checked-in either online at the link provided on your permit or by calling the number on your permit.
- Your DDCP is ONLY valid during the dates listed on the permit.
- You may NOT kill more deer than the amount of tags issued on your permit. If you require more tags, call Jake Peer at Knox SWCD (740)-393-6724.
- You may NOT kill any antlered deer with your DDCP unless you are a Christmas tree farm, orchard, or commercial nursery (This is new for 2019).
- If you are a Christmas tree farm, orchard, or commercial nursery, you MUST surrender the antlers from any antlered deer to either the Knox SWCD or the State Wildlife Officer (This is new for 2019).
- You MUST have hunters utilizing the property during the normal deer seasons or else you will NOT be issued a DDCP (This is new for 2019).
- If most of your deer damage is from deer rubs during the Fall and Winter, then you are encouraged to have legal hunters utilize the legal deer seasons to harvest deer.
- If you are experiencing deer damage and wish to file a complaint, please do so here <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/nuisance-wildlife>

Wet Weather Creates Tile Discharge Questions and Concerns

It's no secret that when it rains, especially when it rains a lot, the phone at the SWCD office rings! Recently, we have been getting a number of inquiries regarding the outlet of subsurface drainage systems in watercourses, specifically where that outlet is immediately upstream of a neighboring property owner. The question that arises is: can the upstream owner install sub-surface drainage and simply outlet the drains in the natural watercourse before reaching the property line?

Before getting too far into this issue in print, a little disclaimer is in order. The opinion published here is based on the considerable experience of the SWCD technical staff. HOWEVER, it is not a substitute for sound legal advice. Water rights and drainage law in Ohio are complex and constantly changing issues. In cases where personal property damage or other serious concerns may be an issue, legal counsel should be consulted (preferably legal counsel that has experience with rural drainage issues).

So... can the landowner upstream just dump his tile outlets in the watercourse above my property line? Well... probably yes, but there are a few conditions. First of all, they need to be outletting the tile to a natural watercourse. That might be a grassed waterway, drainage channel, stream, or river. They also need to be returning the subsurface drainage water to the natural watercourse BEFORE it gets to the property line. Finally, the subsurface drainage system must not be collecting water from any drainage area other than that which would normally flow to that point via surface flow. Still, a downstream landowner who feels that they are negatively impacted by such an installation may file suit and have the matter decided in court. In the end, court decisions in Ohio tend to be based on the "Reasonable Use Doctrine" which generally says that that a landowner may make reasonable use of their land (and water), even though the flow of waters could be altered and potentially cause harm. The landowner does not have liability for that harm unless the harm is deemed unreasonable. In the case of civil litigation, a judge will ultimately decide whether any harm caused by a landowner's action was "reasonable or unreasonable".

There are other considerations though, downstream erosion, excess wetness downstream of the outlet, and negatively impacted land uses can all be problems. That's why our advice to owners installing drainage projects is, and has always been, to work with downstream landowners if at all possible to extend and install good drainage outlets where it is practical. It's just the neighborly thing to do. For more information, or an on-site visit & consultation with SWCD staff please call the SWCD office at 393-6724.



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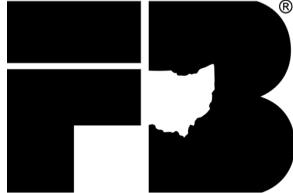
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Knox Soil & Water Conservation District

Knox SWCD Wildlife Packet Tree Sales

Evergreen Packet (15 seedlings/3 varieties) \$14/packet

- ◆ **-Concolor Fir:** Is somewhat similar to the Colorado Blue Spruce. They are fast growing and can grow as high as 150 feet and live over 300 years. They are widely used as ornamental trees. They have softer needles about an 1" long and produce a pleasant aroma. Cones are about 4" long and point up instead of down as with other evergreens. They are somewhat shade tolerant and grow on both moist loamy soils and drier sandy soils.
- ◆ **-Douglas-Fir:** Grows 40' to 60' in height. It has short flat needles and makes an excellent ornamental. Grows in moist locations near streams. Seeds are eaten by several birds.
- ◆ **-Fraser Fir:** This is a classy tall fir tree that has short dark-green needles with silver undersides. It is among the most classy of the conifers. A great ornamental and Christmas tree because of its density and compactness. Fraser Firs will grow in most locations but must have good drainage. Fraser Fir is a medium-sized tree, 40 to 70 feet high and one to more than two feet in diameter.

Nut Tree Packet (8 seedlings/2 varieties) \$14/packet

- ◆ **-American Hazelnut:** Grows 8 to 10 feet in height. Well aerated and light soils such as loamy sands, sandy loams, and loams support vigorous growth. Flowers in March and April; the fruit ripens from July to September. This uniquely flavored nut is eagerly sought by many wildlife species.
- ◆ **-Chinese Chestnut:** A prolific bearer of delicious nuts, similar to the American Chestnut, but is blight resistant. It is not as large a tree as the American Chestnut. Where it has plenty of room to grow, it will have somewhat the shape of an apple tree. The chestnut, like the oaks, holds its leaves during the fall and winter.

Butterfly Bush Packet (3 seedlings 18"-24") \$9/packet

Vigorous growing, deciduous shrub producing long spikes of pink, purple or white flowers. Full sun. Grows 6 to 8 feet. Attracts birds and butterflies.

Eastern White Pine Packet-

(5 seedlings 4yr. TP 2-2, 8"-12") \$10/packet

(25 seedlings 3yr. 7"-11") \$16/packet

These 3 & 4 year old seedlings are large conifers with needles 5 to a cluster and 2 to 5 inches long. This is an excellent shade and ornamental tree. Our best pine for lumber. Has a rapid growth rate.

Norway Spruce Packet-

(5 seedlings 4yr. TP 2-2, 10"-14") \$10/packet

(25 seedlings 3yr. 12"-16") \$15/packet

A medium to rapid growing evergreen of conical form. Cones are pendant and the needles usually have four sides. Stiff and sharp to the touch. Good drainage is necessary.

Colorado Blue Spruce Packet-

(5 seedlings 5yr. TP 2-3) \$13/packet

Grows to be a beautiful tree. Fine for ornamental and Christmas trees. Has short needles typical of spruces. Green to deep blue in color.

White Flowering Dogwood Packet-

(3 seedlings 18"-24") \$9/packet

This is a small tree growing to approximately 25 feet in height. It is one of the finest ornamental trees in the Eastern United States. It grows slowly; is long lived and will live in either sun or shade, on a dry or well drained soil.

Hardwood Packet (15 seedlings/3 varieties) \$20/packet

- ◆ **-Sugar Maple:** A favorite shade tree with reliable fall color. Valued for its hard dense, fine-grained and difficult-to-split wood. Trees in open grows to 80 feet tall and 40 feet wide. Requires a fertile, well drained soil and ample moisture. Full sun or partial shade. Performs poorly in compacted soil with limited root space.
- ◆ **-Tulip Poplar:** Oval to round crown. Beautiful yellow, tulip-like flowers attract honey bees. Bright green foliage turns yellow in fall. Needs full sun and plenty of space. Grows 70-90 feet with a spread of 35-50 feet. Good to use to fill in vacant spots in tree plantings.
- ◆ **-White Oak:** A large (90 feet) majestic native tree with wide spreading branches and leaves of blue-green which turn wine colored in the fall. Tolerates most soils except those very wet. It has a slow to medium growth rate. An extremely valuable timber tree and provides acorns for wildlife.

Red Oak Packet (10 seedlings) \$12/packet

This wide, massive, long-lived shade tree is fast growing reaching 80 to 90 feet at maturity. Its lustrous green leaves change to russet red in the fall. It is commercially valuable timber and provides acorns for wildlife.

Plantskydd Soluble Powder Deer Repellent

Proven effective in commercial applications, this 100% natural product is now available to the home gardener and landscape professional. Animals avoid treated ornamentals, shrubs, perennials and annuals. The Plantskydd can last up to six months over winter on dormant ornamental shrubs and three months on most other succulent /broadleaf plants. The smell of the blood meal base powder deters the deer and wildlife. For more information visit www.plantskydd.com

◆◆ **-Powder (1 lb.) \$20:** Treats 270 seedlings 1' high.

◆◆ **-Granular (3 lbs.) \$22:** Treats approximately 1800 square feet.

◆◆ **-Liquid (1 qt.) \$16:** Treats 100 seedlings 1' high.





Knox Soil & Water Conservation District

KNOX SWCD WILDLIFE PACKET ORDER FORM

(DEADLINE - April 4th, 2019 or until supply is exhausted)

Receipt # (office use only)

Item	Seedling/ Packet	Qty		Price	=	Total
Eastern White Pine- 3yr	25		x	\$16.00	=	
Eastern White Pine- 4yr	5		x	\$10.00	=	
Colorado Blue Spruce	5		x	\$13.00	=	
Butterfly Bush	3		x	\$9.00	=	
Norway Spruce- 3yr	25		x	\$15.00	=	
Norway Spruce- 4yr	5		x	\$10.00	=	
White Flowering Dogwood	3		x	\$9.00	=	
Nut Tree	8		x	\$14.00	=	
Hardwood	15		x	\$20.00	=	
Red Oak	10		x	\$12.00	=	
Evergreen	15		x	\$14.00	=	
Marking Flags	100		x	\$8.00	=	
Plantsydd- Powder	1 lb		x	\$20.00	=	
Plantsydd- Granular	3 lb		x	\$22.00	=	
Plantsydd- Liquid (RTU)	1 qt		x	\$16.00	=	
Grand Total					\$	

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

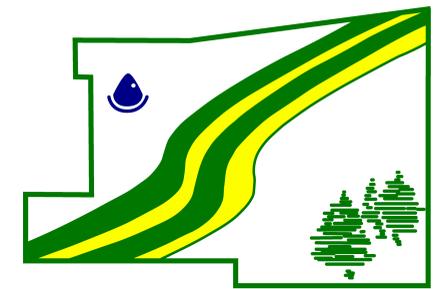
Email Address: _____
(for pick-up notification)



Send payment and make checks payable to: KNOX SWCD, PO BOX 270,
Mount Vernon, OH 43050 (PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER)

Packets must be picked up at the Knox SWCD office, 160 Columbus Road, Mount Vernon
Contact the Knox SWCD office with any questions at 740-393-6724 or email aallen@knoxswcd.org

Agency Contact Information



**KNOX SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Knox Soil & Water
Conservation District
160 Columbus Road
740-393-6724



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