

Volume 78, Issue 1

Conservation News — Published Quarterly

January 2021

Pickaway Soil & Water Conservation District, 110 Island Road, Suite D, Circleville, Ohio 43113

Upcoming Events

January 18 Office Closed MLKJ Day

January 19 Board Meeting 9:00am

February 10 Tree Seedling Order Forms Due

> February 15 Office Closed President's Day

February 16 Board Meeting 9:00am

March 5 SWCD Poster Contest Entries Due

> March 16 Board Meeting 9:00am

March 22 Fish Fingerlings Order Forms Due

March 26 Tentative Tree Pick Up

March 30 Fish Fingerlings Distribution



850 Farm-to-Table Books Delivered to 1st Grade Students & Libraries

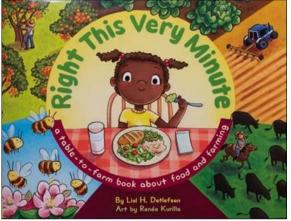
850 copies of the book titled "Right This Very Minute: a table-to-farm book about food and farming," written by Lisl H. Detlefsen, illustrated by Renee Kurilla, and published by Feeding Minds Press, was delivered by Pickaway SWCD to Pickaway County Schools & Libraries in November.

This book was chosen as the American Farm Bureau Foundation Book of the Year in 2019. "Right This Very Minute" is an excellent, well-rounded book that gives students a sneak peek into the diverse world of agriculture and where our food comes from, whether it be from pollinators, crop fields, orchards, livestock farms, soil, etc.

We believe books are a powerful educational tool in the hands of children, and by providing this book to our 1st grade students, we hope the message within this book will reach both our students and their families. Interactive, online activities have been created and shared with teachers to go along with the lessons in the book. Teachers received a classroom copy of the book and school libraries received a copy of the book as well. We also provided copies of the book to the Pickaway County Public Main Library and Younkin Branch, the Bookmobile, Salt Creek Library, and the Little Free Libraries situated around Pickaway County.

This project was made possible by the support of several local and state organizations: Circleville Sunrise Rotary, the Ohio Beef Council, the Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation, PCN Agriculture Strategic Direction Fund of PCCF, and the South Central Power Company Foundation.

Thank you for your support!!!



Pickaway SWCD Conservation News

2021 TREE SEEDLING SALE

Tree and shrub seedlings, ground cover, and various seed mixes are offered in this year's sale. These products are excellent for wildlife habitat, windbreaks, landscaping, stream buffers, ground cover, Christmas trees, and more. The sale is open to everyone and plants may be planted without restriction.

Seedlings are 1-3 years old and average 6-18 inches in height. Seedlings are bare rootstock and are dipped into a preservative gel before they are placed into a plastic bag in order to keep them moist. Each packet can be carried in one hand. The District does not offer reimbursements for any trees that do not survive.

Orders are due to Pickaway SWCD by Wednesday, February 10, 2021. Tentative order distribution date is Friday, March 26 at the Pickaway County Fairgrounds. Please send someone to pick up your seedlings if you are not able to come yourself. A postcard will be sent to confirm exact pick up date, location, and times. Be sure to include the number of packets ordered and your correct mailing address, telephone number, and email address if available on the order form. Please complete the enclosed order form and mail it with your payment to: Pickaway SWCD 110 Island Road, Suite D, Circleville, Ohio 43113. You may also slide orders under our office door if you wish to deliver them to the office in person.

Orders can be paid with cash or check only. Please make checks out to Pickaway SWCD. If you include your email on the order form, a confirmation email and copy of your receipt will be emailed to you. Hard copies of all receipts will be given at pick up. If you have any questions, please call the office at 740-477-1693. For additional details or for order forms, please visit www.pickawayswcd.org.

Please note that Pickaway SWCD and several other SWCDs order all of our trees through Athens SWCD. Athens SWCD works with various greenhouses on varieties, and they are the distributor. The Athens Soil and Water Conservation District reserves the right to substitute species in the Specialty Tree Packets, Erosion Control Seed Mix and Wildlife Food Plot Seed Mix based upon availability.

Please visit www.pickawayswcd.org for more information and detailed descriptions of all the items available through this year's tree sale. **Deciduous Trees**

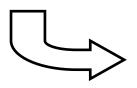
licious	11000
Mature Height	Ideal Growing Conditions
100-120 ft	Very wet soils, muck, clay, or fine sand
30 ft	Prefers full or partial sun; any type of soil
80+ ft	Prefers full sun; shade tolerant
60-100 ft	Grows well in most soils
70 ft	Well-drained soil; full sun
	Mature Height 100-120 ft 30 ft 80+ ft 60-100 ft

Type of Tree	Mature Height	Ideal Growing Conditions
Black Cherry	60+ ft	Tolerate a variety of conditions
Black Walnut	75 ft	Prefers fertile, deep soils
Northern Red Oak	80+ ft	Full sun and acidic soil
Sugar Maple	100+ ft	Partial to full sun; well- drained soil
White Oak	100+ ft	Shade tolerant, best in deep, sandy loam on south and west facing slopes

Coniferous Trees



No substitutions



Edibles Packet

(2 each of the following species = 10 seedlings)

Type of Tree/Shrub	Mature Height
American Elderberry	5-12 ft
Butternut	60 ft
Hazelnut	15-18 ft
Paw Paw	15-20 ft
Persimmon	50 ft

Honey Bee Packet

(4 each of the following species = 20 seedlings)

Type of Tree	Mature Height
American Plum	20 ft
Black Locust	40-60 ft
Eastern Redbud	20-30 ft
Sourwood	25-30 ft
Tulip (Yellow) Poplar	80 ft



Tree	Trees per Packet	# Packets	\$/Packet	Total \$
Black Cherry	25		\$20.00	
Black Walnut	25		\$20.00	
Northern Red Oak	25		\$20.00	
Sugar Maple	25		\$25.00	
White Oak	25		\$20.00	
Bald Cypress	25		\$20.00	
Eastern Redcedar	25		\$20.00	
Eastern White Pine	25		\$20.00	
Loblolly Pine	25		\$20.00	
Virginia Pine	25		\$20.00	
Edibles Packet	10		\$12.00	
Honey Bee Packet	20		\$20.00	
Dwarf Stayman Winesap/Yellow Delicious	2		\$25.00	
Shiitake Mushrooms	1 kit		\$27.00	
Whitetail 365 Food Plot Seed Mix	25 lbs		\$55.00	
Erosion Control Seed Mix	2 lbs		\$15.00	
Wildflower and Grass Seed Mix	1 oz		\$6.00	
Wild Ginger	25 per packet		\$25.00	
Partridge Berry	25 per packet		\$25.00	
Wild Geranium	25 per packet		\$25.00	
Bat House	Each		\$20.00	
Eastern Bluebird Box	Each		\$20.00	
Weed Wand Magic with 3 replacement tips	1		\$26.00	
Tree Marking Flags	Individual 100 in a Bundle		\$0.10 each \$10/bundle	
Name:				Total
Address:				Order deadline is

2021 Pickaway SWCD Tree Seedling Order Form

~Cash or Check Only~ Make checks payable to: **Pickaway SWCD**

February 10, 2021.

City/State/Zip:_____ Phone:_____Email:_____

2021 tree pick up will be **Friday, March 26** only. **ALL** orders need to be picked up this day. Please plan accordingly. A postcard will be sent to you to confirm pickup date, location and times. Seedlings should be planted within 5 days after pick-up and then watered regularly.

Placing an order will add you to our quarterly newsletter mailing list. All issues are emailed, and January and July issues are also mailed. The list is never shared and you may opt out at any time by contacting the District office.

:	Office Use Only-(OO)	-
	Receipt #	

2021 Pickaway SWCD Fish Fingerling Sale



<u>Channel Catfish</u>

4-5" fingerling- a sport and food fish; spawns are forage for bass; can grow up to 14"; easier to catch after a hard rain



<u>Fathead Minnow</u>

1-2" fingerling- a forage fish; can grow to 3"; readily consumed by predatory species



<u>Hybrid Bluegill</u>

2-4" fingerling- a forage and sport fish; know for their rapid growth to 10"; the primary prey of largemouth bass



Largemouth Bass

2-3" fingerling- primarily a sport fish; can grow over 25" and 14 lbs.; ravenous predatory feeder; will eat anything that fits in mouth



<u>Japanese Koi</u>

6-8"- Maximum length is 3 ft; do best in ponds with more than one koi; get along well with other, non-aggressive fish; great for controlling duckweed and other aquatic weeds



<u>Redear Shellcracker</u>

2-4"- closely related to the bluegill; popular pan fish; can grow up to 11"; eats snails, crayfish and small fish

White Amur (Grass Carp) 8-14"- good for aquatic weed control



Yellow Perch

2-3" fingerling- requires brush or weeds to lay eggs during the first part of April



<u>Bluegill</u>

2-4" fingerling- a forage and sport fish; can grow to 10"; the primary prey of largemouth bass

Pond Conditioner

Nature's Pond Conditioner by Koenders is a two in one bottle product, containing both needed bacteria and pond dye.

Pond Management Book— The Common Sense Guide

Written by Steve Fender of Fender's Fish Hatchery.



Order forms are due by March 22 with payment

Fish pick up: Tuesday, March 30 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Location: Pickaway County Highway Department Parking Lot 1660 Island Rd, Circleville, OH 43113

- Bring a 10-20 gallon garbage can or 5 gallon bucket
- Line container with non-deodorized plastic liner
- Fill half full of your own pond water

Approx. 10 gallons of water holds 100 fingerlings. Each White Amur and Koi requires 2 gallons of water and must be placed in a container with a lid or a liner that can be tied at the top. All fish guaranteed to be delivered in good condition, however, we can not guarantee survival after being picked up.

Recommended Stocking Rates Number Per Pond Surface Acre				
Fathead Minnow	1000			
Bluegill	200			
Hybrid Bluegill	100			
Redear Shellcracker	100			
Largemouth Bass	100			
Channel Catfish	50-100			
Yellow Perch	100			
White Amur 20-40% Pond Cover: 5 Fish 40-60% Pond Cover: 10 Fish				
For more information on any f the items sold in this year's sale, you may visit our supplier's website: Fender's Fish Hatchery www.fendersfishhatchery.com				

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2021 Fish Fingerling Order Form

Return this form with payments by March 22, 2021 Pickaway SWCD, 110 Island Road, Suite D, Circleville, Ohio 43113 Cash and Checks (payable to Pickaway SWCD) accepted

				Office Use Only
Name:				Receipt #
Address:				
City:		ST:	Zip:	
Diagon Noto: Diaging on ander mill	add you to our	nowslattar n	nailing list If you	
Please Note: Placing an order will email you an order confirmation an	•			-
email you an order confirmation an	nd a copy of you	r receipt. Ha	rd copies of receipt Phone 1:	s will be given at pick up
8	nd a copy of you	r receipt. Ha	rd copies of receipt Phone 1:	s will be given at pick up
email you an order confirmation an	nd a copy of you	r receipt. Ha	rd copies of receipt Phone 1:	s will be given at pick up
email you an order confirmation an Email:	nd a copy of you	ır receipt. Ha	rd copies of receipt Phone 1: Phone 2:	s will be given at pick up

Redear Shellcracker	2-4"	.85~c	
	24	.00 ¢	
Largemouth Bass	2-3"	.95 ¢	
Channel Catfish	4-5"	.75 ¢	
Yellow Perch	2-3"	.90 ¢	
Bluegill	2-4"	$.85\ c$	
Japanese Koi	6-8"	\$12.00	
White Amur	8-14"	\$14.00	
Pond Conditioner	1 gallon	\$90.00	
Pond Management Book		\$20.00	
		Total Price	\$

Pick-Up: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 from 10:30—11:30 a.m. at the Pickaway County Highway Department parking lot 1660 Island Rd, Circleville, OH 43113

Education & Outreach Events

Poster Contest

Calling all local young artists in grades 4 through 9! It's time to break out the colored pencils and paint again for the Soil and Water Stewardship poster contest! The contest is open to all Pickaway students (public, private, and home schooled) who are currently in grades 4 through 9.



"Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities" is the 2021 theme, as selected by the National Association of Conservation Districts. The purpose of the poster contest is to provide students with an opportunity to share their thoughts about soil, water, and related natural resource issues, and to express the importance of conservation. Pickaway SWCD can provide educational materials to introduce students to the theme. A PowerPoint presentation is on the Pickaway SWCD website.

Posters will be judged in two grade level categories: **Grades 4-6** or **Grades 7-9**. Awards will be handed out in each category. Medallions or honorable mention rosettes will be awarded to top placing participants. All other participants will receive participation ribbons. Copies of the first, second and honorable mention posters will be featured on placemats in restaurants around Pickaway County and displayed at the Pickaway County Library during Soil and Water Stewardship Week, April 25 through May 1, 2021. First place posters will also be framed and displayed at the Pickaway County Library in the Children's Area for a year. First place posters advance to the State Contest with a chance to advance to the National Contest.

Students must complete an Entry Form (with parent signature) and tape it to the back of their poster. Contest info and the Poster Contest Entry Form is located at <u>www.pickawayswcd.org/poster-contest</u>. Posters must be turned in to the Pickaway SWCD office by **Friday, March 5**.

Donald E. Minor Memorial Scholarship

The Pickaway SWCD is offering at least three \$500 scholarships to Pickaway County high school seniors who will be majoring in agriculture or natural resources. The scholarships are for the purpose of continuing higher education at a two or four year college or university. Applications are due **Friday, April 16**. For further information on the scholarship and how to apply, please visit our website at <u>www.pickawayswcd.org/scholarships</u>.

Check out our website at **www.pickawayswcd.org** for resources such as:

- Office News and Events
- Rental Equipment
- Landowner Resources
- Education Program Info
- Scholarships
- Newsletters
- Tree and Fish Sales
- Contractor and Vendor Lists
 - Poster Contest

NOTICE

If interested in running for a 3-year term as a Pickaway SWCD board member, please contact the District office (740-477-1693), current board member Clyde Ohnewehr (614-332-4196), or view the website (pickawayswcd.org) for details and info. Thank you!

Affiliate Memberships

WE WANT YOU to be an Affiliate Member of the Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District. Pickaway SWCD provides assistance to hundreds of children and adults each year through its education programs at no charge. We also offer a memorial scholarship to graduating Pickaway County Seniors that will be majoring in a Natural Resources field. By becoming an affiliate member, you would be helping to make these things possible. We renew memberships the beginning of each calendar year. Please contact the SWCD office with questions.

Future Conservationist (Student) Soil & Water Protector Steward of the Land	\$10.00 \$30.00 \$100.00
Corporate Member	\$250.00
 Future Conservationist (Student) - \$10.00 For your contribution you will receive: One "Pick-A-Way to Healthy Soils" bookmark Recognition at our annual meeting Recognition in our Newsletter Recognition on our District website Soil & Water Protector - \$30.00 For your contribution you will receive: One "Pick-A-Way to Healthy Soils" bookmark Recognition at our annual meeting Recognition at our annual meeting Recognition in our Newsletter Recognition in our Newsletter New in 2021, anyone who signs up for a Corporate or Steward 	 Steward of the Land - \$100.00 For your contribution you will receive: One "Pick-A-Way to Healthy Soils" bookmark One complimentary annual meeting ticket Recognition at our annual meeting Recognition in our Newsletter Recognition on our District website A certificate of appreciation Corporate Membership - \$250.00 For your contribution you will receive: Two "Pick-A-Way to Healthy Soils" bookmarks Two complimentary annual meeting tickets Recognition at our annual meeting Recognition at our annual meeting
affiliate membership can send a business card sized ad with their affiliate membership sign up form to be included in our subsequent April, July, October and January newsletters.	-Recognition on our District website -A certificate of appreciation
Your membership contribution is tax deductible and is used to help provi	ide educational opportunities on soil and water conservation

practices in our community. Thank You!

Future Conservationist (St	tudent) \$10.00	Steward of th	e Land \$100.00
Soil & Water Protector \$3	0.00	Corporate Me	ember \$250.00
Please Print:			
Name as you wish it to appear on recognition	on materials:		
Contact Name:	Email:		Phone:
		City:	Zip:

Technical Corner

Winter Salt

One of the biggest environmental challenges we face is the question of how to reduce the rainwater runoff that enters our surface and groundwaters due to increased development and impervious surfaces. Not only does this runoff cause flooding but it also carries pollutants which wreak havoc with our streams and the aquatic life in them.

Road salt, applied mostly in the winter, becomes a formidable pollutant because salt does not "disappear" after a storm event. Fish and bugs that live in freshwater streams can't survive in extra salty water. According to study results from the Izaak Walton League, 118 million Americans also depend on local streams for drinking water. Water treatment plants are not equipped to filter out the extra salt, so it can end up in your tap water and even corrode pipes. The salt is also absorbed into the ground at the roadside where it can soak into the groundwater supply or be washed into streams with every rain storm. Salt impacts roadside vegetation by damaging and killing trees and other plants. Salt also causes corrosion of vehicles and metal infrastructure when it reacts with the metal.



Road salt is applied to road surfaces in the winter to disrupt the freezing cycle. Road salt works by lowering the freezing point of water through a process called freezing point depression. The salt (NaCl) breaks into its separate ions, Sodium and Chloride, in a small amount of water. The added particles make it more difficult for the water to freeze into ice, so it lowers the freezing point of the water. For road salt to work, there needs to be a small amount of liquid water. This is part of the reason why road salt is not effective in extremely cold weather when water would freeze too easily. When cold weather is forecast, it is common to pre-treat roads with brine, which is a solution of

salt and water. This allows plows to remove ice and snow before it solidifies on the roadway. The application of the substances in the winter allow road crews to make the roads safer for winter driving.

Road salt replaced sand, which was used in earlier times to add grit to snow and ice to improve traction. Some communities used ashes as well. But in the spring, all that sand and ash needed to be swept off the roads and picked up, so it didn't get washed into streams and lakes with the snow melt and spring rain. The search for alternative types of road salt has been going on for years. There are some substitutes available that use calcium, magnesium, or potassium, instead of sodium, but they all cost more up-front. The relatively inexpensive price of traditional road salt makes it the most popular choice.

Water Quality impacts from road salt in the winter have long been problematic but there are some ways we can work toward the solution. Besides reducing the amount of runoff with green infrastructure, raingardens, rain barrels, and streamside plantings, we can help to reduce the amount of salt in the runoff. Here are some homeowner and business Best Management Practices:

- Shovel early and often: When you remove snow manually you will need less salt and the de-icing material will be more effective. Begin as early as you can and keep up with the snowfall, (unless freezing rain is forecast to follow the snow) so the sun can get at the pavement or sidewalk and melt it away. You may not even need salt.
- **Reposition snow piles:** Shovel away from paved surfaces if possible. Dump your shoveled snow onto nearby grassy or vegetated areas so that the snow melt will absorb into the ground, preventing runoff containing dissolved salt and other pollutants from entering the storm drains.
- Apply only what's needed: Remember-One cup of road salt will de-ice 250 square feet or ten sidewalk squares. Sprinkle de-icing material on icy areas only and follow manufacturer's instructions for working temperatures and application rates. Winter salt is most effective between 32 degrees F and 10 degrees F.
- Apply protectively: Keep salt application away from any storm drain, or where melted runoff can mix with salt and then flow into a storm drain. Storm drains lead directly to streams, rivers and lakes.

Safe roads are very important to all of us, and we can achieve safety and still be more efficient and careful with our road salt. If we practice the best management practices, we can make a difference and improve conditions for ourselves and future generations.

NRCS Updates

Ohio NRCS Announces New EQIP Application Deadline

COLUMBUS, OH, Dec. 7, 2020 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced Friday, January 15, 2021, as the deadline to submit applications for Ohio's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program which helps producers make conservation work for them. NRCS provides agricultural producers with financial resources and one-on-one help to plan and implement improvements, or what NRCS calls conservation practices. Using these practices can lead to cleaner water and air, healthier soil and better wildlife habitat, all while improving agricultural operations. Through EQIP, you can voluntarily implement conservation practices, and NRCS co-invests in these practices with you. Together, NRCS and producers invest in solutions that conserve natural resources for the future while also improving agricultural operations.

Financial assistance is now available in a variety of agricultural categories such as cropland, pasture operations, and organic. Several special projects are also available which address water quality, forestry management, improving pollinator populations and wildlife habitat, pasture improvements and many more.

Applicants should be farmers, or farm or forest landowners and meet eligibility criteria. To participate in USDA conservation programs, contact your local NRCS conservationist as soon as possible. Be sure to check the status of your Service Center when you reach out to us. For offices with restrictions on in-person appointments, we are still available by phone, email, and through other digital tools. Your Service Center's status is available at https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus/service-center-status.

Applications signed and submitted to NRCS by the January 15 deadline will be evaluated for fiscal year 2021 funding. Visit Ohio NRCS website under "EQIP Funding Categories" for more details. To learn more about EQIP or other technical and financial assistance available through NRCS conservation programs, visit Get Started with NRCS or contact your local USDA Service Center.

*Complete news release and additional documents can be found on the home page of the website: pickawayswcd.org.

USDA to Open Signup for the Conservation Reserve Program and CRP Grasslands in Early 2021

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12, 2020 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced the signup periods for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the CRP Grasslands in 2021. Signup for general CRP will be open from Jan. 4, 2021, to Feb. 12, 2021, and signup for CRP Grasslands runs from March 15, 2021 to April 23, 2021. Both programs are competitive and provide annual rental payments for land devoted to conservation purposes.

CRP—General Signup

Through CRP, farmers and ranchers establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. Farmers and ranchers who participate in CRP help provide numerous benefits to the nation's environment and economy. CRP general signup is held annually. The competitive general signup includes increased opportunities for enrollment of wildlife habitat through the State Acres For Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) initiative.

Grasslands Signup

CRP Grasslands helps landowners and operators protect grassland, including rangeland, pastureland, and certain other lands while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. Protecting grasslands contributes positively to the economy of many regions, provides biodiversity of plant and animal populations, and improves environmental quality. A separate CRP Grasslands signup is offered each year following general signup.

*Complete news release and additional documents can be found on the home page of the website: pickawayswcd.org.

PICKAWAY SWCD 110 ISLAND ROAD, SUITE D CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO 43113

NONPROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO PERMIT NO. 199 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Pickaway Soil & Water Conservation District



Office Staff

Tawn Seimer, District Administrator Shelley Steele, District Technician Wesley French, District Technician Katerina Sharp, Education/Outreach Coordinator Justin Armintrout, District Conservationist Eliezer Ortiz-Barbosa, Soil Conservationist Phil Roe, Agriculture Conservation Experienced Service Enrollee Lindsey Douglas, Civil Engineering Technician Caleb Worley, Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist

PSWCD Board

Matt Anderson, Vice Chairman; Barbara Martindale, Secretary; Bill Black, Treasurer & Fiscal Agent; Clyde Ohnewehr, Member; Jonathan Lohstroh, Member

Pickaway County Agencies-Phone Numbers

Farm Service Agency	740-477-1691
Pickaway County Commissioners	740-474-6093
Jason Van Houten-ODNR Service Forester	614-265-6703

Affiliate Members 2020

Find us on: facebook.

Corporate Members

The Savings Bank, Pickaway County Farm Bureau, Richard & Judy Clifton, Honeyrun Farms, Columbus Turf Nursery-Daniel Huggett,
C. Randall & Cindy Metzger, Vickers Farms, Pickaway Farms-Jay & Marci Wippel

Steward of the Land

Hartsock Ag, Seth & Kacie Beachy, Tim & Amy Colburn, John & Curtis Drummond, Dunlap Farms-John & Susie Dunlap, Arnold & Diane Gabriel, Clyde & Leslie Ohnewehr, Don Shaw & Sons/Shaw Farms, Wiseheart Farm

Soil and Water Protector

Laurina Harper, Doug & Vicki Kohli, Daren & Susan Metzger, Todd Millard, Jane M. Poulson, Mark & Toni Schein

Future Conservationist (Students) Clara Wilson, Maggie Wilson, Mark Wilson

OSU Extension	740-474-7534
Pickaway County Engineer	740-474-3360
Division 1 ODNR	614-644-3925