



Election Results

Congrats to Lee Turner and Denver Davis on re-election to our board for another three year term. Special thanks to Nick Schultz for running for board supervisor as well.

Boxelder Bugs

Boxelder bugs are larger species of bugs that may invade buildings, especially during warm days of autumn, to seek sheltered sites for overwintering. Large populations are often correlated with long, hot dry summers. During the fall, they are attracted to building and occasionally to night-lights. They may fly through open doors and windows, but they most commonly enter thru cracks and crevices around doors, windows and roof soffits. Indoors, these bugs are a nuisance because their presence and foul odor when crushed or disturbed.



Adult boxelder bugs are flat-backed, elongated narrow bodied insects, about 1/2 inch long and 1/3 inch wide. They are dark brownish-black with three lengthwise red stripes on the area behind the head and reddish margins on the front wings; abdomen is bright red underneath the wings.

Boxelder bugs are so named because they are a major pest of boxelder trees, their primary host. These bugs feed on seed-bearing (female) boxelder trees, and they also feed on seed bearing silver maples; they do not feed on male trees. They use their piercing-sucking mouthparts to suck sap from the leaves, tender twigs and developing seeds of the host trees.

Overwintering adults leave their hibernating sites with the coming warm weather and females begin egg-laying in late April to early May. Females lay clusters of eggs in crevices of bark, on stone, leaves, grasses and other objects near host plants. Eggs hatch in 11-19 days, with bright red nymphs appearing about the same time that new tree leaves develop.

Eliminate potential hiding places for the bugs such as piles of boards, rocks, leaves, grass and other debris close to the house. Leaving a six to ten foot wide strip especially on the south and west sides of the structure is best. Be sure to caulk and close openings where bugs can enter the house, they are attracted to lights.

The best time to treat young, exposed boxelder bug nymphs is during spring and early summer. Insecticides for creeping and crawling pest will work to quickly knock down these nuisance bugs. *~info from OSU extension*



**TREE SALES end March 7, 2025
see page 3 for order form**

**FISH SALES end April 25, 2025
see page 5 for order form**



2025 Board Meetings—second Wednesday of the month @ 9:30 am

Jan 8th, Feb 12th, Mar 12th, Apr 9th, May 14th, June 11th, July 9th, Aug 13th, Sept 10th, Oct 8th, Nov 12th, Dec 10th



Jan 20th—Holiday—office closed

**Feb 17th—Holiday—office closed
Feb 21st—Business sponsor due
Feb 28th —Scholarship Deadline**

**Mar 7th —Tree order deadline
Mar 9th—Time Change**

**April 8th & 9th - Tree pickup
April 25th—Fish order deadline**

**May 6th — Fish pickup 1:30-4:00 pm
May 11th— Mother’s Day
May 26th—Holiday—office closed**

**June 15th—Father’s Day
June 19th—Holiday—office closed**

**July 4th—Holiday—office closed
July 27th thru Aug 2nd — County Fair**

August—TBD—Annual Meeting

BECOME A BUSINESS SPONSOR!

Our office is offering a yearly business sponsor opportunity to anyone who would like to advertise their business. There are 3 ways to place a business ad, proceeds go towards the annual meeting.

Tier 1—\$50 –placemat for annual meeting

Tier 2—\$75—placemat and 2x in our newsletters

Tier 3—\$100—placement and 4x in our newsletters

If you would like to become a business sponsor or have questions please call our office @ 419-738-4016 and ask for Chris or email cdavis@auglaizecounty.org Deadline is February 21, 2025.

The Auglaize SWCD Newsletter is a publication to keep county residents informed on our SWCD programs. If your address needs corrected, if you wish to be removed from our mailing list or receive your newsletter via e-mail. Contact cdavis@auglaizecounty.org or call the office at 419-738-4016.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Deadline: Feb 28, 2025

Our office is offering a \$500 scholarship to any high school senior or student currently enrolled in a college or university for the fall of 2025 who resides in Auglaize County. The applicant should be pursuing a degree in a natural resource or an agricultural related field. Applications can be requested from our office or found on line at www.auglaizeswcd.org. The completed application and a copy of transcript are due no later than 4:00 pm on Friday February 28th.

Thanks to our County Commissioners/ Administrator

John Bergman/Dave Bambauer/Doug Spencer
Erica Preston

The Auglaize SWCD Board of Supervisors and Staff would like to Thank the Commissioners/Administrator for their continued support and dedication to conservation in our county; the financial assistance at the county level draws matching funds from the state that enables the District to continue to provide assistance to all Auglaize County residents.

2025 Tree Order Form

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone _____

Office Use Only
Order No. _____
Check / Cash
Amount \$ _____
Receipt # _____

	<u>Species (10 Seedlings per Packet)</u>	<u>Seedling Size</u>	<u>Number of Packets Ordered</u>	<u>Price/ Packet</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
10 Trees per Packet	Bald Cypress	12-18"		\$15.50	
	Balsam Fir	8-12"		\$15.50	
	Douglas Fir	8-12"		\$15.50	
	Norway Spruce	18-24"		\$15.50	
	White Pine	12-18"		\$15.50	
	Red Maple	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Red Oak	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Sugar Maple	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Swamp White Oak	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Sycamore	12-18"		\$15.00	
	Wildlife Pack (includes 2 ea listed below)	6-12"		\$18.00	
	Swamp White Oak, American Hazel Nut, Ninebark, American Plum, Red Osier Dogwood				
	Beauty Pack (includes 2 ea listed below)	12-18"		\$25.50	
	Red Bud, Serviceberry, Common Lilac, Flowering Dogwood, Black Chokeberry				
	Wetland Pack (includes 2 ea listed below)	12-18"		\$26.00	
	Spice Bush, Pussy Willow, River Birch, Button Bush, Nannyberry				
	Nut Pack (includes species listed below)	12-18"		\$30.00	
	3-Hazelnuts, 2-Northern Pecan, 2-Butternut, 3-Black Walnut				

**Deadline for ordering seedlings is
March 7th 2025**

Subtotal	\$
+TAX @ 7.25%	
Total Amount Due	\$

Check payable to Auglaize SWCD, 110 Industrial Dr #G, Wapakoneta, OH 45895 must accompany order form.

Pick up dates are April 8th - 1pm to 4:30pm AND April 9th - 7am to 1pm
 Postcards will be sent with location of pickup

How To Plant Your Seedling



Step 1

- Dig a hole deep enough so the roots can be positioned straight down

Step 2

- Plant the seedling at the same depth at which it was grown at the nursery
- Usually soil/water stains or changes in bark color indicate this
- Do NOT allow the roots to curve back up the side of the hole, make sure they are straight down if roots are curled up, the tree will live for about 2 years and then die



Step 3

- Use your shoe (but do not stomp) around the base to remove air pockets so that the roots do not dry out after planting
- For weed and grass control, mulch around the base of the seedling



Step 4

- Saturate the ground around the seedling with water
- Water the seedling as needed the first year
- Do not fertilize until at least the 2nd year
- Mark with flags, rocks, a fence or some stakes



Where **NOT** to plant your seedling

- On top of underground drainage tile
- Under utility lines
- Near property line
- On top of a septic leach bed

Other info . . .

A tree needs a minimum of 5-10 feet on each side to grow!

Don't let the roots dry out, but don't submerge into direct water

Cover the roots with moist mulch or soil if planting must be delayed for more than a day

Place a colored flag or stake by the seedling so don't mow over it

Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program Application

If you are interested in applying for the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program for 2025, sponsored locally by our office, we ask you contact us to start filling out the application by February 28th, 2025. We may not know the results of the application for six months. The biggest decision you need to make prior to application is how much money you require to have an ag easement on your property. The program will never pay more than \$2,000 an acre per applicant farm and maximums are based on funding distribution for Auglaize County. Please contact our office if you have an interest in applying or questions about the program.



2025 FISH SALE

Please return the order form and payment by Friday April 25, 2025
 Fish pick up (except Tilapia) Tuesday May 6, 2025 from 1:30 to 4:00 pm at the SWCD office

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Number of Boxes	Species	Size	Quantity per box	Price Per Box	Total
	Bluegill	2 - 4"	25	\$31.00	\$
	Bluegill	4 - 6"	20	\$48.00	\$
	Hybrid Bluegill	2 - 4"	25	\$31.00	\$
	Hybrid Bluegill	4 - 6"	20	\$48.00	\$
	Redear Shellcracker	2 - 4"	25	\$40.00	\$
	Redear Shellcracker	4 - 6"	20	\$56.00	\$
	Black Crappie	2 - 4"	25	\$46.00	\$
	Channel Catfish	4 - 6"	25	\$31.00	\$
	Jumbo Yellow Perch	4 - 6"	25	\$55.00	\$
	Jumbo Yellow Perch	6 - 8"	10	\$43.00	\$
	Jumbo Yellow Perch	8 - 10"	5	\$43.00	\$
	Large Mouth Bass	2 - 4"	25	\$48.00	\$
	Large Mouth Bass	4 - 6"	20	\$57.00	\$
	Large Mouth Bass	6 - 8"	10	\$53.00	\$
	Large Mouth Bass	8 - 10"	5	\$54.00	\$
	White Amur	8 - 12"	2	\$37.00	\$
	Black Fathead Minnow	1 - 3"	500	\$50.00	\$
	Tilapia <i>(delivered in June)</i>	5 - 10"	4#	\$84.00	\$
	Pond Sludge Remover	4#		\$63.00	\$
	Pond Sludge Remover	10#		\$168.00	\$
	Pond Sludge Remover	25#		\$349.00	\$
	Pond Bacteria	10#		\$168.00	\$
	Pond Bacteria	25#		\$349.00	\$
				Subtotal	\$
<i>return to:</i>	Auglaize SWCD ~ 110 Industrial Dr #G ~ Wapakoneta, OH 45895			tax @ 7.25%	\$
				TOTAL	\$

Living with Arthritis

Did you know arthritis is the leading cause of disability? One in four adults have some form of arthritis. The word arthritis means joint inflammation. The four most common warning signs are pain, swelling, stiffness and difficulty moving a joint. Here are three of most common types.

Osteoarthritis is the most common form, affecting over 30 million adults. It is sometimes referred to as degenerative joint disease or “wear and tear” arthritis. Symptoms include pain or aching, stiffness, decreased range of motion or flexibility and swelling. Osteoarthritis can affect a single joint and most often occurs in the hands, knees, hips or lower back. As the cartilage that cushions the joint breaks down, uneven surfaces develop causing pain and swelling. Medication and exercise can help relieve discomfort. If the deterioration causes bone to rub against bone, surgery may be needed.

Rheumatoid Arthritis is one of the most disabling types of arthritis and is the most common type of autoimmune arthritis. It shares many similarities with osteoarthritis, but can occur at any age. The disease is two to three times more common in women than in men, which may be related to hormonal factors. It most common affects the wrist, elbows, shoulders, ankles, knees and toes. Rheumatoid arthritis causes joints to become inflamed, stiff and painful to move. If not treated, joints can become deformed and lose their range of motion.

Gout arthritis is a common form of inflammatory arthritis and is very painful. It occurs three times more often in men. Gout is caused by the build-up of uric acid crystals within the joint and causes intense pain, swelling, warmth and redness. It usually occurs in one joint at a time and is most often found in the big toe. Gout flares start suddenly and can last days or weeks. It can be treated with medication and diet.

Treatments focus on relieving symptoms and improving joint function with several treatments being available. Always discuss treatments thoroughly with your healthcare provider or medical specialist to find the best solution.

Ways to cope include but not limited to: straighten and align the arthritic joint with braces or orthotics, lose weight to relieve the stress on the joint if overweight, exercise to strengthen muscles and support and protect joints, learn how to modify triggers of pain and stress using cognitive behavioral therapy, add gentle stretching and relaxation techniques to daily routine, learn life skills at self-management education workshops to reduce or manage arthritis pain and improve quality of life, pace yourself, rest, understand your limitation and limit work on projects to small segments of time, do not remain stationary for long periods of time, use warm and cold treatments as recommended, try a muscle ointment to reduce morning stiffness, eat healthy and follow an anti-inflammatory diet.

Living with arthritis can be frustrating and difficult. If you are willing to explore your options, taking control of arthritis is possible. It is essential that you play a role in the management of your conditions. Consult your healthcare provider if you have any questions on how to treat it.

~info from OSU Extension



Lighter side of things . . .



Why did the baby strawberry cry? His parents were in a jam.
Why couldn't the sailor learn the alphabet? He kept getting lost at C
What do cows most like to read? Cattle-logs
Why is grass so dangerous? It's full of blades
What did the one toilet say to the other? You look flushed
Why did the robber jump in the shower? He wanted a clean getaway

Grilled cheese meets tomato soup!

In the 1920's vegetables and meat were costly, while canned and processed foods were cheaper. The marriage of the cheesy sandwich with a bowl of tomato soup didn't occur until WWII. Military families turned to the meal for sustenance before it found its way to civilian society. The duo was a quick recipe that could keep energy levels high without blowing any fiscal budgets.




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Food Price Comparison from one year ago (US average)
 per National Farmers Union

Food	2023 price	2024 price
1# Bacon	\$4.99	\$9.49
Loaf Bread	\$4.49	\$4.99
5# Carrots	\$3.99	\$4.99
# Tomatoes	\$2.00	\$3.99
Doz Eggs	\$2.29	\$5.99
5# Flour	\$6.89	\$6.79
1 gal Milk	\$4.39	\$5.99
5# Potatoes	\$5.99	\$4.99


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What is Groundcover?
 It is any plant that grows over an area of ground. Groundcover provides protection of the topsoil from erosion and drought. In an ecosystem, the ground cover forms the layer of vegetation below the shrub layer. The most widespread ground covers are grasses of various types. In agriculture, ground cover refers to anything that lies on top of the soil and protects it from erosion and inhibits weeds.

What is Topsoil?
 Is the upper, outermost layer of soil, usually the top 2—8 inches. It has the highest concentration of organic matter and microorganisms and is where the Earth's biological soil activity occurs. Four elements constitute the composition of soil. Those elements are mineral particles, organic matter, water and air. The volume of top soil consists of 50-80% of these particles which form the skeletal structure of most soils. This composition allows the soil to sustain its own weights, and other internal matter such as water and overlying landscape.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Permit #81
Wapakoneta OH 45895
U.S. Postage Pd
Nonprofit Org

419-738-4016
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
110 Industrial Drive, Suite G
Auglaize Soil and Water Conservation District

Auglaize Soil and Water Conservation District

110 Industrial Drive #G Wapakoneta, Oh 45895 419-738-4016

www.auglaizeswcd.org and www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov



Auglaize SWCD Mission:

Provide leadership, technical assistance, education and conservation of natural resources in Auglaize County.

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 to 4:30 Mon thru Fri

Board Meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00am.
Please call or check our website to verify date and time.



NRCS / SWCD STAFF & BOARD MEMBERS

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Brad Steinke, NRCS Natural Resource Specialist
Gerard Braun, NRCS Soil Conservation Technician
Christine Davis, District Administrator
Doug Schmerge, District Technician 3
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The Auglaize Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), parental status, national origin, age, disability, genetic information (including family medical history), political affiliation, military service, or other non-merit-based factors. The USDA and Auglaize SWCD are equal opportunity providers and employers.