



# CONSERVATION NEWS



## Pickaway Soil & Water Conservation District

Volume 74, Issue 1

Conservation News — Published Quarterly

January 2017

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

### In this Issue

Tree Seedling Sale  
Fish Fingerling Sale  
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Poster Contest  
Donald E. Minor Scholarship



### Upcoming Events

**February 3rd**  
CSP Applications Due

**February 15th**  
Tree Seedling Order  
Forms Due

**February 20th**  
Office Closed  
President's Day

**February 21st**  
Board of Supervisors Meeting  
9:00am

**March 21st**  
Board of Supervisors Meeting  
9:00am

**March 24th**  
SWCD Poster Contest Entries  
Due

**March 27th**  
Fish Fingerlings Order Due

**March 30th**  
Fish Fingerlings Distribution

**March 31st**  
Envirothon Registration and  
Release Forms Due

## Tree Seedling Sale

Winter may be upon us, but it's time to think Spring because the Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Tree Seedling Sale is here! This sale is open to everyone, as a low cost source of plant materials for conservation uses.

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

These seedlings are 1-3 years old and average 6-18 inches in height. Seedlings are bare rootstock. They are dipped into a preservative gel to keep them moist, and then placed into a plastic bag. Each packet can be carried in one hand. Please send someone to pickup your seedlings, if you are not able to come yourself. If the seedlings are not picked up on the specified date, the District can not be responsible for the condition of the seedlings. The District does not offer reimbursements for any trees that do not survive.

Also available this year, in addition to tree seedlings, are Pheasant Forever seed mixes. The seed mixes have been designed by wildlife professionals to provide diverse, high-quality, and long-lasting wildlife habitats. The mixes meet Ohio Department of Agriculture standards and exceed NRCS conservation standards. Both of these seed mixes meet criteria set forth by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) practice PLT15 - Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat. In addition they also meet criteria set forth by Farm Service Agency (FSA) for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) practice CP42 - Pollinator Habitat. If you are purchasing seed for either of these programs, please be sure to follow all Standards and Specifications as directed from NRCS and/or FSA. Seed will be sold in 1/2 acre increments.

Order forms and payment are due to the Pickaway SWCD on **FEBRUARY 15, 2017**. You may use the form included in this newsletter or find the form on the District website. Tentative order distribution date is set for **APRIL 14, 2017**. A postcard or email will be sent to confirm exact pick up dates, location, and times. Seedlings should be planted within 5 days after pick up and watered regularly to assure their vitality.

## FISH FINGERLING SALE

Pickaway SWCD is conducting our annual fish fingerling sale! Descriptions of the available fish and an order form can be found in this newsletter and on our website. New this year for purchase are Japanese Koi, 40 pound bags of fish food, and a pond book!

Fish orders, with payment, must be in the SWCD office by **March 27th**. Fingerlings must be picked up at the Pickaway County Fairgrounds on **March 30th**. Fish are guaranteed to be delivered in good condition, however, we cannot guarantee survival after being picked up.

**Call the District or visit [www.pickawayswcd.org](http://www.pickawayswcd.org) for more information and detailed descriptions of any of the items available through this year's tree sale**

## TREE SALE ITEMS

### Deciduous Trees

| Type of Tree     | Mature Height | Ideal Growing Conditions   |
|------------------|---------------|--|
| Black Cherry     | 60+ft         | Tolerate a variety of conditions   |
| Black Walnut     | 75ft          | 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

| Type of Tree         | Mature Height | Ideal Growing Conditions                 |
|----------------------|---------------|--|
| Bald Cypress         | 100-120ft     | Very wet soils, muck, clay, or fine sand |
| Canadian Hemlock     | 60-75ft       | Cool, moist locations                    |
| Colorado Blue Spruce | 100+ft        | Prefers full sun, moist soil             |
| Eastern White Pine   | 80ft+         | Prefers full sun; shade tolerant         |
| Norway Spruce        | 100ft         | Grows well on most sites                 |
| Scotch Pine          | 50-80ft       | Well-drained, dry soil and full sun      |

### Tree and Shrub Packets

Each of these packets will contain two each of the species in the packet.  
No substitutions.

#### Native Edibles

| Type of Tree/Shrub  | Mature Height |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Persimmon           | 35-60ft       |
| American Elderberry | 5-12ft        |
| Butternut           | 40-60ft       |
| PawPaw              | 15-20ft.      |
| American Chestnut   | 60-100ft      |

#### Urban Evergreen

| Type of Tree         | Mature Height |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Colorado Blue Spruce | 100+ft        |
| Canadian Hemlock     | 60-75ft       |

#### The Birds and Bees

| Type of Tree           | Mature Height |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Eastern Redbud         | 20-30ft       |
| Red Osier Dogwood      | 8ft           |
| Shadblow Service Berry | 15-30ft       |
| American Hazelnut      | 10-16ft       |
| Sourwood               | 25-30ft       |

### Also Available:

- Bing/Black Tartarian Cherry
- Shiitake Mushroom Kit
- Erosion Control Seed Mix
- Showy Northeast Native Wildflower & Grass Mix
- Bird and Butterfly Seed Mix
- Wildlife Food Plot Seed Mix
- Pollinator Seed Mix
- Pollinator Forb/Legume Only Mix
- English Ivy Groundcover
- Pachysandra Groundcover
- Bat Houses
- Eastern Bluebird Boxes
- Tree Marking Flags
- Rain Barrel and Kit



# 2017 Tree Seedling Order Form

## Orders Due February 15, 2017

| Tree                                 | Trees per Packet | # Packets | \$/Packet | Total \$ |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Black Cherry                         | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Black Walnut                         | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Northern Red Oak                     | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Sugar Maple                          | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| White Oak                            | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Bald Cypress                         | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Canadian Hemlock                     | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Colorado Blue Spruce                 | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Eastern White Pine                   | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Norway Spruce                        | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Scotch Pine                          | 25               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Native Edibles Packet                | 10               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Urban Evergreen Packet               | 4                |           | \$17.00   |          |
| The Birds and The Bees Packet        | 10               |           | \$17.00   |          |
| Bing/Black Tartarian Cherry          | 2                |           | \$20.00   |          |
| Shiitake Mushrooms                   | 1kit             |           | \$25.00   |          |
| Erosion Control Seed Mix             | 2 lbs            |           | \$15.00   |          |
| Wildflower and Grass Mix             | 1 oz             |           | \$6.00    |          |
| Bird & Butterfly Seed Mix            | 1 oz             |           | \$5.00    |          |
| Wildlife Food Plot Seed Mix          | 25 lbs           |           | \$40.00   |          |
| Pollinator Seed Mix                  | 1.61 lbs PLS     |           | \$75.00   |          |
| Pollinator Forb/Legume Only Seed Mix | 1.36 lbs PLS     |           | \$70.00   |          |
| English Ivy                          | 100/tray         |           | \$30.00   |          |
| Pachysandra                          | 100/tray         |           | \$30.00   |          |
| Bat House                            | each             |           | \$18.00   |          |
| Eastern Bluebird Box                 | each             |           | \$18.00   |          |
| Tree Marking Flags                   | 100 to a bundle  |           | \$10.00   |          |
| Rain Barrel and Kit                  | each             |           | \$35.00   |          |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total**

*We accept checks and cash*  
*Make checks payable to:*  
**Pickaway SWCD**

*A postcard will be sent to you to confirm pickup date, location and times*

Placing an order will add you to our 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

# Annual Conservation Poster Contest

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

*"Healthy Soils are Full of Life"* is the 2017 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 carry their message into Pickaway County. Pickaway SWCD can provide educational materials to introduce students to the theme of healthy soils. Call (740) 477-1693 to request these materials.

Posters will be judged in two grade level categories: **Grades 4-6** or **Grades 7-9**. Awards will be handed out in each category. First Place winners will receive \$25 and Second Place entries will receive \$10. Both First and Second Place will receive Medallions and their posters will be featured on placemats in restaurants around Pickaway County! Several posters from each classroom will receive Honorable Mention Rosettes. All other participants will receive Participation Ribbons. First, Second, and Honorable Mention posters will be displayed in the Pickaway County Library during Soil and Water Stewardship Week, April 30 - May 7, 2017. First place posters advance to the State Contest with a chance to advance to the National Contest.



## ENVIROTHON

The Area 5 Envirothon will be held on Tuesday, April 25th. This year's contest is being held at Scioto Grove Metro Park, south of Grove City on State Route 104.

Any High School teacher or Home School group is allowed to form a five-student team to compete in the Envirothon. Students are tested on their knowledge of soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatic ecology and current environmental issues. In addition, the Envirothon encourages cooperative decision making and team building. Schools are allowed to send up to three teams per school and are encouraged to think about forming a freshman team, so they gain experience in competing. Registration forms and release forms are due by **Friday, March 31st**.

This June, the State Envirothon is being held in Pickaway County at the Ohio Christian University. We would love to have a team chosen to represent Pickaway County while the state contest is held in our own backyard!

Contact Pickaway SWCD for more information and to sign up a team (or three)!

Students must complete an Entry Form (with parent signature) and tape it to the back of their poster. The Poster Contest Entry Blank can be printed from the PSWCD website [www.pickawayswcd.org](http://www.pickawayswcd.org). Posters must be to the PSWCD office by **Friday, March 24th**.

## 2017 Donald E. Minor Memorial Scholarship

The Pickaway SWCD is offering a \$500 scholarship to a Pickaway county High School senior 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.

For further information on the scholarship and how to apply, please visit our website [www.pickawayswcd.org](http://www.pickawayswcd.org).



# NRCS News

## Enrollment applications for Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) being accepted now through February 3<sup>rd</sup>



The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is currently accepting applications for enrollment in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), the nation's largest conservation program.

NRCS has made several updates to the program this year to help producers better evaluate and see the benefits of their conservation options. New methods and software will help producers see why they are or are not meeting stewardship thresholds and allow them to pick practices and enhancements that work for their conservation objectives. These new tools also allow producers to

see potential payment scenarios for conservation early in the process. "This year, the Conservation Stewardship Program provides even more opportunities for conservation and greater flexibility at the local level to prioritize resource concerns and conservation approaches," says Terry Cosby, State Conservationist in Ohio. Customized CSP tools for Ohio will improve the customer experience during application evaluations."

NRCS offices will accept applications through **February 3, 2017**.

People interested in the additional opportunities offered through the updated CSP can find information on the new CSP portal, located at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/csp>. This one-stop shop, which provides information to help producers determine whether CSP is right for them, will be continually updated as more information becomes available. Changes that producers can expect to see include nearly double the enhancements and conservation practices offered and better reporting tools to tell producers the results of their conservation efforts on their land.

Through CSP, agricultural producers and forest landowners earn payments for actively managing, maintaining, and expanding conservation activities like cover crops, ecologically-based pest management, buffer strips, and pollinator and beneficial insect habitat – all while maintaining active agriculture production on their land. CSP also encourages the adoption of cutting-edge technologies and new management techniques. NRCS has addressed producer and stakeholder input requesting greater flexibility to address local resource concerns. Producers will be better prepared to apply because they will know these local ranking priorities and targeted resource concerns. CSP is for producers who are already established conservation stewards, helping them to deliver multiple conservation benefits on working lands, including improved water and soil quality and enhanced wildlife habitat.

Producers interested in the program should visit the NRCS Circleville Field Office or call 740-477-1691 to find out more before the February 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline.

**Interested in applying for CSP?**  
**Contact Pickaway SWCD before the February 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline!**

# 2017 Pickaway SWCD Fish Fingerling Descriptions and Approximate Sizes



## Black Crappie

2-4" fingerling- a sport fish; can grow 5-12", prefer more aquatic vegetation



## Channel Catfish

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



## Fathead Minnow

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



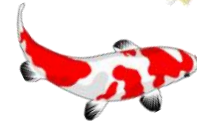
## Hybrid Bluegill

2-4" fingerling- a forage and sport fish; can grow 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



## Japanese Koi

6-8" Maximum length is 3ft; 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



## Redear Sunfish

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

## Fish Food

40 pound bags of Melick 47% protein fish food

## Pond Management-The Common Sense Guide

book by Steve Fender of Fender's Fish Hatchery

## ***Fish Sale Pick Up Information***

Fish pick up will be on **March 30th** beginning at **10:30am**  
Pick up location will be at the **Pickaway County Fairgrounds**  
Order forms are due by **March 27th**.

- 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**

Approximately 10 gallons of water will hold 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.

**Fish are guaranteed to be delivered in good condition, however, we can not guarantee survival after being picked up.**

For more information on any of the items sold in this year's sale, you may visit our supplier's website:

**Fender's Fish Hatchery**

[www.fendersfishhatchery.com](http://www.fendersfishhatchery.com)

## Recommended Stocking Rates Number Per Pond Surface Acre

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Black Crappie   | 100    |
| Fathead Minnow  | 1000   |
| Hybrid Bluegill | 200    |
| Redear Sunfish  | 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

# 2017 Fish Fingerling Order Form

Return this form with payments by March 27th  
 Pickaway SWCD, 110 Island Road, Suite D, Circleville, Ohio 43113  
 Cash and Checks (payable to Pickaway SWCD) Accepted



Office Use Only  
 Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Note: Placing an order will add you to our newsletter mailing list. If you prefer to receive newsletters by email, please include your address below.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

| Species                        | Size     | Quantity | Price              | Item Total |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------|------------|
| Fathead Minnow                 | 1-2"     |          | 100 for \$7.00     |            |
| Black Crappie                  | 2-4"     |          | .85                |            |
| Hybrid Bluegill                | 2-4"     |          | .75                |            |
| Redear Sunfish                 | 2-4"     |          | .85                |            |
| Japanese Koi                   | 6-8"     |          | \$12.00            |            |
| Largemouth Bass                | 2-3"     |          | .85                |            |
| Channel Catfish                | 4-5"     |          | .75                |            |
| Yellow Perch                   | 2-3"     |          | .80                |            |
| White Amur                     | 8-14"    |          | \$14.00            |            |
| Melick Fish Food (47% Protein) | 50lb bag |          | \$40.00            |            |
| Pond Management Book           |          |          | \$20.00            |            |
|                                |          |          |                    |            |
|                                |          |          | <b>Total Price</b> | \$         |

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

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

**THANK YOU TO OUR COMMISSIONERS**

**The Pickaway SWCD Board of Supervisors and Staff would like to thank County Commissioners, Harold Henson, Brian Stewart and Jay Wippel, for their continuing support to conservation in our county. The financial assistance at the county level draws matching funds from the state that allows the District to continue to provide assistance to all Pickaway County residents.  
Looking forward to a great year of service in 2017!**

***Affiliate Members***

**Corporate Members**-C. Randal and Cindy Metzger, Pickaway Farms, The Savings Bank  
**Steward of The Land**-Drummond General Partnership, Hartsock Ag.  
**Soil and Water Protector**-Doug and Vicki Kohli, Wiseheart Farms

**Thank you for your support!**

**Pickaway Soil & Water Conservation District**

Phone: 740-477-1693 Fax: 740-477-3327 Website: <http://pickawayswcd.org>

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