



# Conservation News



## Athens Soil and Water Conservation District

69 S. Plains Road The Plains, Ohio 45780

740-797-9686 or 800-582-8890

[athensswcd.org](http://athensswcd.org)

Mission: Provide leadership by promoting the wise use and enhancement of Athens County's natural resources for current and future generations.

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[athensswcd.org](http://athensswcd.org)



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### 76th Annual Meeting and Banquet

The Athens SWCD recently celebrated its 76th Annual Meeting and Banquet at Rooster's Ridge. Prior to the meeting the District held its annual election. Bryan Ford was re-elected to serve a three year term on the board of supervisors beginning January 1, 2023. For a complete list of award recipients and their accomplishments visit [www.athensswcd.org](http://www.athensswcd.org)! Congratulations to the following award recipients:



### 2022 Cooperator of the Year

The Athens SWCD presented Junior Stanley, of Stanley Farms with the 2022 Cooperator of the Year award. Junior and his family manage a cow-calf operation on approximately 550 acres, located north of Amesville, in both Athens and Morgan counties.



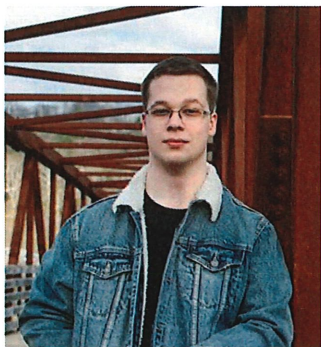
### 2022 Conservation Educator of the Year

The Athens SWCD presented the 2022 Conservation Educator of the Year award to Heike Perko. Mrs. Perko teaches 7th & 8th grade at Trimble Middle School.



### 2022 District Scholarship Award

The Athens SWCD's 2022 District Scholarship award was presented to Gavin Haning. Gavin is a graduate of Athens High School. He plans to attend Hocking College majoring in Natural Resources and Law Enforcement.





# 2023 Athens SWCD Fish Fingerling Sale

Visit [athensswcd.org](http://athensswcd.org) for fish sale order forms and pickup information. Pre-orders must be received by April 20, 2023 with payment. Fish pickup will be Thursday, April 27th from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Athens SWCD Office, 69 S Plains Road, The Plains, Ohio 45780



## **Triploid White Amur (Grass Carp) - \$16.00 each**

8-10"- good for aquatic weed control



## **Channel Catfish - \$0.90 each**

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 - \$8.00 per 100 each**

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



## **Hybrid Bluegill - \$1.00 each**

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



## **Largemouth Bass - \$1.10 each**

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 - \$13.00 each**

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



## **Redear Shellcracker - \$1.00 each**

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



## **Bluegill - \$1.00 each**

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

## **Pond Conditioner - \$90.00 per 1 gallon**

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

## **Optimal Fish Food - \$47.00**

40 lb. Bag - 40% protein, small pellet

## **Recommended Stocking Rates for Triploid White Amur Per Pond Surface Acre:**

20 - 40% Pond Cover - 5 White Amurs

40 - 60% Pond Cover - 10 White Amurs

Table 2.1. Recommended stocking rates of fingerling fish for new or renovated ponds. (Source: ODNR Division of Wildlife *Pond Management Handbook*.)

Stocking Combination	Number of fish to stock per acre			
	Bass	Bluegill	Redear	Catfish
Bass-bluegill	100	500		
Bass-bluegill-catfish	100	500		100
Bass-redear	100		500	
Bass-bluegill-redear	100	350	150	
Bass-bluegill-redear-catfish	100	350	150	100

**BUCKLEY BROS.**  
INC.

143 N. Plains Rd  
The Plains, OH 45780  
740-797-3032

Leading the Others  
Since 1904

Bring this ad in for  
\$2.00 off one 25#  
bag of Bird Seed

**YOUR LOCAL FARM & FEED SUPPLY STORE**

Advertising in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by the Athens SWCD/NRCS.





## "One Water"

### 1<sup>st</sup> grade Coloring and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Poster / Essay Contests

Teachers and students get ready! The 2023 contest season is about to begin and we would love to visit with you in your classrooms to tell you all about it! This year the theme is about the importance of protecting and keeping our water clean. We all share the same water and therefore share in its care.

We would be delighted to bring this exciting program to your classroom with a fun and hands-on activity. These contests are open to all 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade aged students in Athens County. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place county winners will receive a t-shirt and a monetary award for their efforts.

Contact Teresa Caldwell at 740-797-9686 ext. 6282 or [teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org](mailto:teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org) to schedule your classroom presentation or to receive additional contest information.

Deadline for classroom presentations is March 24, 2023 - you don't want to miss it!

## Attention

### Photographers! 2023 All Athens County Photo Contest



2022 Grand Prize Winner -  
Lindsay Siegrist

Are you a camera buff? Do you know one? The Athens SWCD is once again sponsoring an All Athens County Photo Contest in 2023. This contest is open to any photographer of any age who resides in Athens County. We will accept photo entries beginning now through July 10, 2023. We are looking for photos taken of Athens County scenes and events in all seasons, so look through the photos you may have already taken on past outings or 'grab' your camera and see what you can capture in the next few months.

There are three categories for this contest and the appropriate forms and releases must accompany each photo entered. There is a limit of three photos per contestant. There will be one top county winner who will receive a monetary award. Contact Teresa Caldwell at [teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org](mailto:teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org) or 740-797-9686 ext. 6282 if you have any questions. Entry forms, rules and regulations can be found on [www.athensswcd.org](http://www.athensswcd.org).



## "Information Session" on 401 Permits

Planning a project that will result in the discharge of dredge or fill material into a lake, street, and/or a wetland? You may need a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Ohio EPA. Join Rachel Taulbee, Ohio EPA, Southeast District office, to learn more on the requirements of obtaining permits for your upcoming project on

February 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Athens SWCD office from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Call 740-797-9686 ext. 6280 by January 25<sup>th</sup> to register. Space is limited!

## District Scholarship Opportunities

Applications for the District's \$500 College Scholarship are being accepted through March 31<sup>st</sup>. Each year the district awards a \$500 scholarship to a deserving high school senior who plans to major in an agricultural or natural resource related field.

Camp Canopy will be held June 11 - 16, 2023. Each year the Athens SWCD offers at least one scholarship to attend the week-long event. This scholarship is open to all Athens County high school students including outgoing seniors and in-coming freshman. This camp has a reputation for giving its participants an exceptional opportunity to gain knowledge and skills that involve land, forest, and wildlife management issues. Application are being accepted until March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Visit [www.athensswcd.org](http://www.athensswcd.org) for application forms and more information on both of these opportunities.

## Athens County High School Essay Contest

The opportunity for area high school students to display their knowledge of conservation topics is returning to the Athens Soil and Water Conservation District's contest playlist. Open to any Athens County high school student, the essay theme this year is "Adapting to a Changing Climate". Topic background and research resources will be available upon request. Entry forms and details can be received by contacting our office at 740-797-9686 ext. 6282 or [teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org](mailto:teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org).

Entries are welcome anytime between now and March 10, 2023. A 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner will be announced after March 24, 2023 and placing entries will receive a monetary reward for their efforts.







Tree Sale Packet Enclosed

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ATHENS, OH. 45701  
PERMIT NO. 189

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69 S. Plains Road  
The Plains, Ohio 45780  
(740) 797-9686 or (800) 582-8890

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Joyce Bobo  
Brenda Dahse  
Bryan Ford  
Glenn Lackey  
Gary Willison

**SWCD PERSONNEL**

Cathy Bobo, District Manager  
Rich Blazier, District Equipment Manager  
Teresa Caldwell, Conservation Education Coordinator  
Jacob Winters, District Technician

**NRCS PERSONNEL**

Joe Weber, District Conservationist  
Bill Serbonich, Conservation Specialist  
Dean Sinclair, Soil Conservation Technician

Current Resident or



## Mark Your Calendars

January 19 - January Board Meeting  
February 14 - Tree Sale Order Deadline  
February 16 - February Board Meeting  
February 17 - 20 - The Great Backyard Bird Count  
February 20 - Office Closed - Presidents' Day  
March 12 - Daylight Saving Time Begins  
March 14 - Camp Canopy Scholarship Deadline  
March 16 - March Board Meeting  
March 31 - District Scholarship Deadline  
March 31 - Tree Sale Distribution - Tentative date -  
Check our website for up to date information  
April 12 - Rainbarrel Workshop Registration Deadline  
April 19 - Rainbarrel Workshop  
April 20 - Spring Fish Sale Order Deadline  
April 20 - April Board Meeting  
April 22 - Earth Day  
April 25 - Area 5 Envirothon - Lake Hope State Park  
April 27 - Spring Fish Sale

\*Visit the Athens SWCD's website at [athensswcd.org](http://athensswcd.org) or  
like us on our Facebook page for more information

### Rental Equipment Available



Planting season is right around the corner, whether you are interested in frost seeding or spring planting the Athens SWCD can help. The following rental equipment is available through our office:

- ♦ Sunflower No-Till Drill - \$100.00 minimum or \$10.00/acre after 10 acres
- \*Farm Bureau Membership Benefit for Sunflower No-Till Drill - \$50.00 minimum or \$5.00/acre after 10 acres
- ♦ Truax No-Till Drill - \$100.00 minimum or \$8.00/acre after 12.5 acres
- ♦ Stoltzfus Lime Spreader (5 ton) - \$50.00 minimum or \$2.00/ton after 25 tons
- ♦ Worksaver ATV Seeder - \$50.00/day or \$75.00/weekend

Contact Rich Blazier, District Equipment Manager at (740) 818-5282 for seed and drill specifications.