

January / February / March 2020
A quarterly publication / Issue 30

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

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Mark Your Calendars

February 3 - Tree Planting Workshop Registration Deadline

February 6 - Tree Planting Workshop

February 17 - Office Closed - Presidents' Day

February 19 - Tree Sale Order Deadline

February 20 - SWCD Board Meeting

March 19 - SWCD Board Meeting

March 21 - Athens County Tire Recycling Drop-off

March 27 - District Scholarship Deadline

April 3 - Tree Sale Distribution

April 3 - Camp Canopy Application Deadline

April 9 - 1st & 5th Grade Contest Entry Deadline

April 16 - SWCD Board Meeting

April 18 - Athens County Tire Recycling Drop-off

April 30 - Spring Fish Sale

Visit our website www.athensswcd.org for more information
on the events listed above.



Poison Hemlock

Watch for control methods in
our next newsletter!

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Current Resident or

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**.



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

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

An Equal Opportunity Provider,
Employer, and Lender.

73rd Annual Meeting and Banquet

The Athens Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) recently held their 73rd Annual Meeting and Banquet with approximately 100 people in attendance. Prior to the meeting the District held their annual election. Bryan Ford was elected to serve a three year term for the board of supervisors beginning January 1, 2020.



2019 Cooperator of the Year



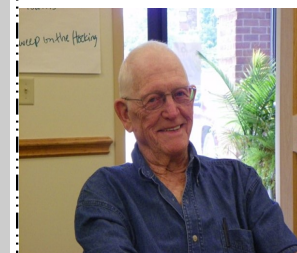
The 2019 Cooperator of the Year went to David Sturbois with Arrow Farms. Arrow Farms is located on the borders of Lodi and Canaan Townships with approximately 466 acres of land. Dave's goal is to produce 10,000-13,000 lbs. of beef annually. He does this through utilizing rotational grazing, stockpiling cool season grass for late fall/early winter feeding, and has spent the past two years establishing a 10 acre native warm season grass pasture for summer slump grazing. David believes in a holistic farm management approach, so caring for his 280 acres of woodlands is also a priority. He has completed work on invasive species eradication, crop tree release, timber stand improvement, brush control, and wildlife habitat establishment. David has been a District Cooperator since 1966.

2019 Conservation Educator of the Year

The 2019 Conservation Educator of the Year was awarded to Nicki Kline, 6th grade science teacher at Morrison-Gordon Elementary School. Nicki was recognized for her efforts to not only teach students where their food comes from but also how to grow it! The students also learned the importance of pollinator habitat and the conservation of birds through our Books and Bird NOTES program.



Special Recognition



Harold Dodd was recognized for 27 years of dedicated service to the District and the Board of Supervisors. Teresa Caldwell was recognized for 12 years of service and Jill Montle was recognized for 15 years of service to the Athens SWCD.

Need improved pastures or hayfields? Consider frost seeding clovers!

Looking for a boost in yields? Frost seeding clovers may be the right answer for you - and now is a good time to plan those seedings. Frost seedings are typically done to establish red, white or some other type of clover. Make no mistake, a good fertility program is irreplaceable but frost seeding can certainly help fields by adding Nitrogen, a very important nutrient for the growth of grasses.

Benefits: The establishment of legumes can provide a Nitrogen boost to established grasses in fields, thus boosting productivity. The addition of clovers can also mitigate the toxicity of endophyte infected fescue on livestock.

How: Good seed to soil contact will be important for establishment. Mowing or heavy grazing of fields in late fall can help with this. As far as timing, clovers should be broadcast over fields when nighttime temperatures fall below freezing and daytime temperatures rise above freezing. This creates a freeze and thaw action in the soil that helps get seed worked down into the soil where it can germinate. In Athens County this cycle typically occurs sometime between Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day.

Cautions: Make sure you use inoculated clover seed from a reputable source. If seed is not inoculated (this will be indicated on packaging) then you will need to purchase an inoculant.

Once clovers have started to establish a quick grazing of the field can reduce competition allowing the plants to flourish. Don't leave animals in the field too long as they may graze the newly established seedlings. As soon as the plants reach 6 inches they should be able to withstand controlled grazing.

Frost seeding is an economical way to improve your fields. It doesn't require specialized equipment or fertilizer and seed isn't overly expensive. It is a great way to let Mother Nature increase fertility in your operation.



Tree Planting Workshop

Back by popular demand! The Athens SWCD will be offering a tree planting workshop titled "Tips for Success". This discussion, led by Eric Hayes, Jr., SWCD Forestry/Wildlife Technician and Cameron Bushong, ODNR DOF Forester will teach landowners many of the basics for successful seedling plantings. From site and tree selection to site prep and aftercare, participants will learn many tips and tricks for getting the most of their time and money when planting seedlings. While

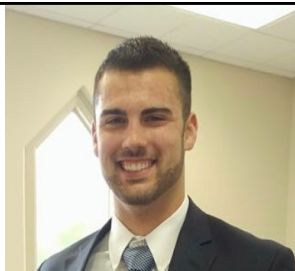
there is a \$10 registration fee, participants will receive a \$10 voucher good toward their 2020 seedling purchase. This workshop will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 6pm at the Athens SWCD office, 69 South Plains Road, The Plains. Pre-registration is required by February 3rd.

Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV)

2020 annual forestry inspections for Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV) have started early this year allowing more time to meet with our landowners on site in the field. Take the time to meet with our Wildlife Specialist / Forestry Technician who is currently scheduling site visits to help landowners better understand the CAUV program and its requirements. This program is administered by the Athens County Auditor and inspected by the Athens SWCD as a collaborative effort to provide local community support. Even if you are not in the CAUV program please contact Athens SWCD to schedule a site visit on your property to explore your forestry and wildlife possibilities.

District hires Urban Stormwater Specialist

My name is Joseph Jarvis. I am the new Athens SWCD Urban Stormwater Specialist. I am currently attending Ohio University perusing a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering as well as several related certificates. I interned with the City of Athens at the Water Treatment Plant; then transferred to the Engineering and Public Works Department. During that time, I assisted the previous Stormwater Technician in managing the City's stormwater program. I enjoy being outdoors, working out, traveling and sports. I am excited to pick up where Abbot left off and work with everyone at Athens SWCD.



Athens Soil and Water Conservation District Scholarship

The Athens SWCD is offering an opportunity for college-bound agriculture or natural resources students to move forward their career goals. This scholarship program recognizes deserving students with a long-term career interest in agriculture and/or natural resources, and rewards them with funding for their college education.

Eligibility

- * Be a high school senior enrolled in an Athens County High School
- * Have an average to above-average academic record
- * Plan to enroll in an accredited, nonprofit, vocational/tech institute, community college, four-year college or university that offers an academic major in a field related to agriculture and/or natural resources in the fall of the next academic year
- * Plan on a career in agriculture and/or natural resources

Scholarship Amount and Coverage

One, one-time award of \$500 will be awarded to a high school senior who meets the eligibility requirements. This award is good for one year and is not based on financial need. The recipient of this award is allowed to:

- * Apply funding towards tuition and fees, room, board, books, supplies, and incidental expenses
- * Transfer from one institution to another and retain the scholarship

Application Deadline

Applications are due by the close of business on the last Friday in March. Send application and all supporting credentials to Cathy Bobo at the Athens SWCD, 69 South Plains Road, The Plains, OH. 45780. No late applications will be accepted.

Applications are available on our website www.athensswcd.org or in the office

1st Grade Coloring and 5th Grade Poster / Essay Contest



It is time for our annual 1st grade Coloring and the 5th grade Poster/Essay Contests. These contests are open to all 1st or 5th grade classes in Athens County. This year's theme is "**Where Would We BEE, Without Pollinators?**". Reservations for classroom presentations are open from February 18 to March 27, 2020. Entry deadline is April 9, 2020. For more details or to schedule a presentation contact Teresa Caldwell at 740-797-9686 ext. 6282.

Spring 2020 Fish Sale

Mark your Calendars!
Athens SWCD will hold their spring fish sale on Thursday, April 30, 2020. Watch our website for details.

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

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

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

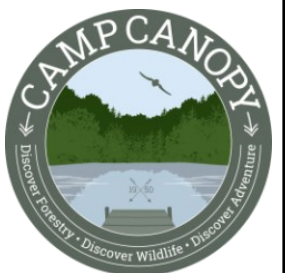
YOUR LOCAL FARM & FEED SUPPLY STORE

Scholarships Available for Camp Canopy



Camp Canopy, formerly known as Ohio Forestry and Wildlife Conservation Camp is set to debut June 7-12, 2020 at Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum on Leesville Lake. Camp Canopy is the place where high schoolers go to discover forestry, wildlife and adventure; while also enjoying fun activities of a traditional summer camp, such as swimming in the lake, hanging out around a campfire and meals in the mess hall! This camp is available to incoming freshmen through graduating seniors and is sponsored by the Ohio Forestry Association.

The Athens SWCD has two scholarships available to Athens County students interested in attending Camp Canopy. One will be open to all Athens County high school students and will be sponsored by the Athens SWCD. A second scholarship will be available to Nelsonville-York students only and is sponsored by Meadowview Tree Farm in memory of Autumn and Othmar Stone. Application forms are available on our website at www.athensswcd.org and are due in our office by April 3, 2020.



ORDER FORM

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		\$20.00	
White Oak	25		\$20.00	
Bald Cypress	25		\$20.00	
Eastern Redcedar	25		\$20.00	
Eastern White Pine	25		\$20.00	
Norway Spruce	25		\$20.00	
Scotch Pine	25		\$25.00	
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	
Wildlife Food Plot Seed Mix	25 lbs		\$50.00	
Erosion Control Seed Mix	2 lbs		\$15.00	
Wildflower and Grass Seed Mix	1 oz		\$6.00	
Ohio Pollinator Seed Mix	1.46 lbs PLS		\$85.00	
Ohio Pollinator (NO GRASSES) Seed Mix	1.19 lbs PLS		\$83.00	
Wild Ginger	25 per packet		\$25.00	
Partridge Berry	25 per packet		\$25.00	
Wild Columbine	25 per packet		\$25.00	
Bat House	Each		\$18.00	
Eastern Bluebird Box	each		\$18.00	
Tree Marking Flags	each		\$0.10	
Plantskydd-ready to use spray	1 quart		\$22.00	
Plantskydd-soluble powder	2.2 lbs		\$49.00	
Weed Wand Magic with 3 replacement tips	1		\$26.00	
Tree Planting Workshop - reg deadline 2/3/20			\$10.00	

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Total

Order deadline is
February 19, 2020.
~Cash or Check Only~
Make checks payable to:
Athens SWCD

Seedlings should be planted within 5 days after pick-up and then watered regularly.
Customers will be notified about pick-up date via postcard or email once the date is confirmed.



Athens Soil and Water Conservation District
2020 Tree and Wildlife Packet Sale

How to Order

Orders will be taken until Wednesday, February 19, 2020. Tentative order distribution date is the first Friday in April. A postcard or email will be sent to confirm exact pick up date, location, and times. Be sure to include the number of packets ordered and your correct address and telephone number on the order form. Please complete the enclosed order form and mail it with your payment to:
Athens SWCD 69 S. Plains Road The Plains, Ohio 45780.

You may also place orders by stopping in our office from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday. Orders can be paid with cash or check only. If you have any questions, please call 740-797-9686 or 800-582-8890. For additional details or order forms visit athensswcd.org. 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.

Seedling Descriptions

Deciduous Trees

Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) Commercially important tree growing to 60+ ft. at maturity; commonly used for lumber, veneer, and furniture. Leaves are dark green in summer and yellowish in fall. The small black fruit provides food for a variety of birds and mammals. Tolerates a wide variety of growing conditions.

Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*) A rapidly growing tree common in all of Ohio, is most common in moist bottomlands and open fields, but is found everywhere due to squirrels burying its nuts. It has dark green compound leaves and produces delicious nuts that are preferred by wildlife. It is valued for timber, veneer, and furniture. Grows well in most locations, but prefers fertile, deep soils. Mature height and spread is 70 ft. Prefers full to part sun.

Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) Tall, relatively fast growing tree that can reach 80+ ft. at maturity. Leaves are shiny green in summer and bright red in fall. Makes an excellent tree for street or yard. Prefers full sun and acidic soil. It has a commercial value for furniture and lumber. Yields acorns that are round and ¾–1 inch long with a flat, thick, saucer-like cap. Acorns from this tree are at the top of the food preference list for blue jays, wild turkeys, squirrels, small rodents, whitetail deer, raccoons, and black bears. Deer also browse the buds and twigs in wintertime.

Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) This large shade tree, which can reach heights over 100 ft., is the cornerstone of the maple syrup industry. The medium green leaves can turn brilliant yellow, orange, or red in the fall. Prefers partial to full sun and well-drained soil. Excellent shade tree.

White Oak (*Quercus alba*) A large, broadleaf tree growing to 100+ ft. at maturity. This species is shade tolerant, found on a variety of sites, and grows best in deep, sandy loam soil on south and west facing slopes. A great species for wildlife. Yields acorns that are up to 1 inch long with a warty cap that covers about ¼ of the nut. The acorns are one of the best sources of food for wildlife and are gathered, hoarded, and eaten by birds, hoofed browsers, and rodents. Leaf buds also are eaten by several bird species and all parts of the tree are a favorite food for deer.

Coniferous Trees

Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) Large, slow-growing, long-lived, deciduous conifer. Frequently reaches 100-120 ft. in height and 3-6 ft. in diameter. The leaves are alternate, linear, and flat with blades generally spreading around the twig. Prefers very wet soils consisting of muck, clay, or fine sand where moisture is abundant and fairly permanent. Excellent for erosion control, timber, wildlife, and site rehabilitation. Consider their large size when planting near houses or power lines.

Eastern Redcedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) Actually a type of Juniper, this medium growing species makes an excellent windbreak while its aromatic heartwood is prized for making cedar chests, closet wood lining, cedar shavings, small carvings, pencils, and non-rotting fence posts. Reaching a mature height of 30 ft. and spread of 15 ft., it tolerates just about any type of soil and does well in full sun to partial sun conditions. Eastern Redcedar should not be planted near apple trees due to cedar-apple rust.

Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) An outstanding timber pine due to its large size, 80+ ft. at maturity, and fast growing ability. It has long, soft, light green needles and grows well in many soil types. Often used for windbreaks, wildlife habitat, lumber, and Christmas trees. Prefers full sun, but can tolerate some shade. Not salt tolerant.

Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*) One of the fastest growing spruces! Reaches 100 ft. at maturity. This extremely attractive evergreen has strong, distinctive, sweeping branches, and shiny green ½-1 inch long, flat needles. Grows well on most sites and is used for ornamentals, windbreaks, and Christmas trees.

Scotch Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) Medium-size pine that can grow 50 -80 ft. at maturity. Bluish green, medium length needles enhance its Christmas tree appeal. Also used for ornamentals, windbreaks, and lumber. Prefers well-drained, dry soils of lower fertility and full sun.

SEEDLING SIZE: Tree and shrub seedlings are typically between 6 and 18 inches tall, depending on the species.

Specialty Tree and Shrub Packets

Edibles Packet

(2 each of the following species - 10 seedlings total - No Substitutions)

American Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) This deciduous shrub reaches a mature height and spread of 5-12 ft. and has white blooms from June to July. It grows in medium to wet, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. It tolerates a wide range of soils, but prefers moist, humusy ones. Elderberry spreads by root suckers to form colonies. Fruits are attractive to wildlife and are sometimes used to make jams, jellies, pie fillings, and wine. Attracts birds and butterflies.

Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) Also known as white walnut, this slow growing tree reaches a mature height of 60 ft. and spread of 50 ft. Butternut prefers deep, moist, rich, well-drained soils under sunny conditions, especially the bottomlands of rivers and creeks. The butternut is a sweet and very oily nut and are ideal for topping desserts and salads. Male and female flowers of Butternut occur on the same tree.

Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*) This nut-producing shrub grows to a height of 15-18 ft. and a spread of 10-12 ft. at maturity with a medium to fast growth rate. It takes on a multi-stemmed form with an open, often wide-spreading base. Full sun and partial shade are best for this shrub - a minimum of 4 hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day. The hazelnut grows in acidic, alkaline, loamy, moist, rich, sandy, well drained, or clay soils and is drought-tolerant. Should be planted in multiples (2 or 3) to ensure cross-pollination. Nuts are preferred by squirrels, deer, turkey, woodpeckers, pheasants, grouse, quail, and jays. Hazels nuts can be eaten fresh or roasted as well as used in both sweet and savory dishes.

PawPaw (*Asimina triloba*) This small tree can form small colonies under natural conditions. Grows to both a height and spread of 15-20 ft. Leaves turn from dark green in summer to yellow in fall. Flavor and fleshy consistency of the large, sweet-flavored, edible fruits resembles bananas and can be eaten fresh or used in a variety of dishes. This fruit is also consumed by a variety of animals. Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade but prefers moist, fertile soil and full sun.

Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) The persimmon is quite adaptable to a variety of soil, moisture, and polluted conditions. It prefers moist, well-drained, average soils of various pH's, but easily adapts to poor, rocky, clay, sandy, or even organic soils of dry or moist constitution. It will not tolerate wet sites and needs full sun to partial sun. A slow to medium growing tree, it can reach a mature height of 50 ft. and spread of 30 ft. Persimmon is primarily a dioecious species, having male and female flowers on separate trees. This tree produces a yellow flower in late spring and early summer. Persimmons are often pureed or baked into goods, but they're also delicious raw.

Honey Bee Packet

(4 each of the following species - 20 seedlings total - No Substitutions)

These species will benefit many of our native pollinators by

providing early season to late season blooms.

American Plum (*Prunus americana*) Its white, pungently sweet blossoms emerge in early spring before the foliage breaks bud. It is very adaptable to a wide variety of environmental conditions and needs full sun. Can reach a mature height of 20 ft. and mature spread of 25 ft.

Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) The fragrant, whitish flowers, borne in showy racemes, appear after leaf emergence in May or June. The flowers originate in the axils of current year leaves and are pollinated by insects, primarily bees. Black locust is a medium sized tree, generally 40 to 60 ft. in height. The species does best on moist, rich, loamy soils or those of limestone origin. Mid season bloom.

Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) This deciduous, often multi-trunked tree has a rounded crown and typically matures to 20-30 ft. tall. Noted for its stunning pea-like, rose-purple flowers which bloom profusely in early spring. Flowers are followed by flattened leguminous bean-like dry seedpods that mature to brown in the summer. Does best in well-drained soils in full sun to part shade.

Sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*) This small, native tree has a mature height of 25-30 ft. Small, creamy-white, urn-shaped, fragrant flowers are borne in 4-10 inch long panicles in June to early July. The rich, iridescent green leaves turn vibrant yellow, purple, and red in fall. The sourwood grows in acidic, loamy, moist, sandy, well-drained, or clay soils. Prefers full sun and normal moisture but has some drought tolerance. Excellent native ornamental tree with four season attributes. Late season bloom.

Tulip (Yellow) Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) A fast-growing tree, at maturity this species can reach a height of 80 ft. with a spread of 40 ft. Flowering in late May/early June, it has the largest solitary flower of any native tree in Ohio. It is characterized by six petals that are yellow-green on the outside, and orange-yellow on the inside. It grows in full sun to partial sun and prefers moist but well-drained, slightly acidic, deep, rich soil but can adapt to other soil conditions. Early/Mid season bloom.

Fruits and Mushrooms

Dwarf Stayman Winesap/Yellow Delicious Apple (2 trees - 1 of each species) The Stayman Winesap Apple is a lovely combination of tart and sweet, and has been popular since the days of the pioneers. They store well and can be used to make applesauce, pies, cider and are a good eating fruit. The Yellow Delicious Apple is a large, golden fruit with a fine, sweet flavor. While they are best known as fresh-eating apples, they also work well for pies, applesauce, and preserves. These dwarf varieties will ultimately have a height and spread of about 10 ft. They grow best in full sun and moist, well-drained soils. Neither species is drought tolerant.

Shiitake Mushroom (1 kit) Delicious mushrooms that have brown, slightly convex caps that range from about 2-4 inches in diameter. Kit contains 200 inoculated shiitake dowel plugs, 1/4 lb. bees wax, wax dauber, 5 metal tags for labeling, and an easy to follow growers guide. Each kit will plug approximately 10 logs 3 inches in diameter and 40 inches long. Logs not included.

Seed Mixes

Create Food Plots for Wildlife! (25 lb. bag) Plant this mixture of sorghum, millet, soybeans, field pea, sunflower, buckwheat, and foxtail to provide a supplemental food supply for wildlife. An excellent choice for the conservation-minded landowner who wants to attract wildlife. Covers ½ acre.

Erosion Control Seed Mix (2 lb. bag) A blend of Birdsfoot Trefoil, Timothy, Tall Fescue, Annual Ryegrass, Alsike Clover, and Red Top. Excellent substitute for crownvetch. For severe erosion control measures. Covers 2000 sq. ft.

Showy Northeast Native Wildflower & Grass Seed Mix (1 oz. packet) A mix of native wildflowers and prairie grasses that will provide a wonderful display of color from spring through summer. This full sun/part shade mixture contains drought resistant species that attain an average height of 2-3 ft. Excellent for native meadows and wildflower patches. Covers 200 sq. ft. For specific details species included in this seed mix visit our website athensswcd.org.

Pollinator Seed Mixes

Created by Pheasants Forever, these seed mixes have been designed by wildlife professionals to provide diverse high-quality long-lasting wildlife habitat, 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 the Conservation Stewardship Program (CStP). 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 sold in 1/2 acre increments.** Quantity listed is pure live seed (PLS).

Ohio Pollinator Seed Mix - Species details are available on our website athensswcd.org.

Ohio Pollinator (NO GRASSES) Seed Mix Species details are available on our website athensswcd.org.

Groundcover

Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadensis*) This native spring wildflower is usually grown in woodland gardens, native plant gardens, or used as edging in landscapes. Easily grown in a variety of soil types in part shade to full shade. Spreads slowly by rhizomes. Height is 4-8 inches at maturity. Plant 8-12 inches apart. 25 bulbs per packet.

Partridge Berry (*Mitchella reptans*) A mat-forming, evergreen groundcover that displays interesting foliage, flowers, and fruit. Tolerates heavy shade and dry conditions. Height is 2 inches at maturity. Plant 8-12 inches apart. 25 bulbs per packet.

Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) With a mature height of 2-3 ft, this native wildflower has a light pink/yellow to blood red/ yellow flower that blooms April to May. It tolerates a wide range of soil conditions as long as drainage is good. Can be planted in full sun to part shade. Freely self-seeds and will naturalize to form large colonies in optimum growing conditions.

Wildlife Boxes

Bat House Bats play an essential role in keeping populations of night-flying insects in balance; one bat can catch hundreds of insects per hour! They are the primary predators of beetles, moths, leafhoppers, mosquitoes, and other insects. Installing this cedar bat house on your property will provide roosting locations for these nocturnal mammals.

Eastern Bluebird Box Landlords wanted! Attract bluebirds to your property! Bluebirds readily accept nesting boxes to raise their young. Ideal bluebird habitat is a mix of scattered trees and open grasslands including short, mowed, or grazed grass. These cedar nest boxes should be placed at least 300 ft. apart. Contact the District for more information on bluebirds.

Tree Supplies

Tree Marking Flags 30 inch high metal stake with a 4 x 5 inch purple flag. Perfect for marking those newly planted trees, shrubs, and groundcover.

Plantskydd 100% organic, safe for use in protecting flowers, ornamentals, seedlings, shrubs, and trees, as well as fruit, vegetables, and other food crops against browse damage from deer and rabbits. Won't harm the environment or pets. It is non-toxic, biodegradable, and also acts as a fertilizer. Available in 1 quart ready to spray bottle or 2.2 lb. soluble powder concentrate (makes 10 quarts of liquid for spraying).

NEW for 2020 Weed Wand Magic

The perfect accessory for fighting invasive species - no spray, no drift, no waste! Ideal for quick, easy and targeted spot application of herbicide directly on weeds or stumps! Its lightweight design prevents the need to bend over - simply push down on the tube to precisely apply the desired amount of herbicide. Each wand also comes with a three pack of replacement tips.

Tips for Success—Tree Planting Workshop

Join our professional resource staff for an evening workshop on site specific tree selection, site preparation, seedling care, planting, and critical first year

care! Prosperous seedling plantings are important to us and we would like to give you the tips to help make your planting as successful as possible. Cost for the evening is \$10 but at the conclusion of the night you will receive a tree sale voucher for \$10! This workshop will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 6pm at the Athens SWCD office, 69 South Plains Road, The Plains. (Location subject to change if registration numbers are significant.) Light refreshments will be available. **Registration is required by February 3rd.**

The Athens Soil and Water Conservation District reserves the right to substitute species in the Specialty Tree Packet, Erosion Control Seed Mix and Wildlife Food Plot Seed Mix based upon availability.