



CONQUEST

"Capture your students love of learning about the environment"

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

Fall 2011

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

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Kelly's Korner

Boy how time flies when your having fun! Isn't that true with summer and the weekends? Now that school is back in and hopefully you are back in the groove of things, you get thrown a curve ball. Well, it's nothing unusual, and certainly not a surprise, but the Wayne County Fair is here again! Yeah for the Monday all schools have off, and if your lucky enough, you may have an in-service day—without students! As a former teacher, and yes a former Wayne County student—I know how this week can mess up your lesson plans and mess up your school work. But what I hope everyone realizes, is that life isn't always about school, and the work that goes with it. It's about making memories and enjoying friends and families. Of course I'm biased about the fairs, and I understand not every person or student goes to the fair or is involved. But from my perspective, it would be nice to have a little less stress, and a little less homework assignments, even for you to have to grade or record, during the week of the fair. I know the students and their parents would be appreciative as well. I'm not saying don't teach or give assignments, I'm just suggesting that you consider those students and parents that are very involved in working, showing and enjoying the fair. Enough with that! Now that being said, I hope that you take the time to stop by and visit our building! You can see the winning Conservation Posters from the past year, learn about Best Management Practices, and all the things the Wayne SWCD is involved with. Don't forget to take a shot at our guessing contest! I hope everyone gets time to make some memories at the fair! Enjoy ~Kelly

*"We don't remember days;
 We remember moments"*
 ~ Cesare Pavese

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Important Dates:

- * Sept. 20-22 Farm Science Review— London, OH
- * Sept. 22—County Land Judging Contest
- * Sept. 30— District Land Judging Contest— FFA
- * Oct. 10— Columbus Day
- * Nov. 15— Wayne SWCD Annual Meeting
- * Nov. 24— Thanksgiving

Did you know? Feed your brain...

- The United States uses about 346,000 million gallons of fresh water every day.
- The average person in the United States uses anywhere from 80-100 gallons of water per day. Flushing the toilet actually takes up the largest amount of water.
- The wood frog actually freezes in the winter and is reanimated in the spring. When temperatures fall, the wood frog's body begins to shut down, and its breathing, heartbeat and muscle movements stop. The water in the frog's cells freezes and is replaced with glucose and urea to keep cells from collapsing. When there's a thaw, the frog's warms up, its body functions resume and it hops off like nothing happened.
- Recycling 1 ton of plastic can save over 7 cubic yards of landfill space.
- Over 25 billion Styrofoam cups are thrown away in the USA each year!

The Envirothon is coming to Wayne County!

Attention Environmental Science Teachers and FFA Advisors! Please mark your calendar for next **April 25th, 2012**—and plan on attending the **ENVIROTHON** competition with your students! Why is this any different than the past? Well, I...or should I say Wayne SWCD has decided to be the **HOST** of the 2012 Area II Envirothon! So it will be somewhere here in Wayne County...the location will be revealed in January, and further details will follow. No excuses, travel won't be an issue. I would really like to have a strong showing of local teams, so please consider sending a team (or two) from your school. If you are curious about what the Envirothon is, here is more information: "The Envirothon tests students' knowledge of soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatic ecology and current environmental issues. In addition, the Envirothon encourages cooperative decision-making and team building. While each student on an Envirothon team is challenged to contribute his or her personal best, the score that counts at the end of an Envirothon is the team score. A team consists of five students, all from the same high school. An adult advisor (or advisors) must accompany the team, but is not permitted to assist the team during the competition. Five "Area Envirothons" are conducted around Ohio late each spring. The top four teams from each of these Area competitions progress to the Ohio Envirothon in June." So...be there!

Sandhill Crane Migration



Sandhill Cranes frequent the Funk Bottoms in Wayne County before their migration south to Florida. Look for them this fall, especially in November!

One treasure Wayne County boasts is the Killbuck Wildlife Area and the Funk Bottoms, located just South of Wooster. Of course this area is home and habitat, as well as an important migratory stop-over for many birds and other species of wildlife, including the Sandhill Crane. The Greater sandhill cranes (*Grus canadensis tabida*) are listed as a **state endangered species in Ohio**. The ODNR Division of Wildlife have been doing migration studies on these birds, and you can learn more by visiting their website at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us>. According to them, observations of breeding pairs and confirmed sightings of nests or young (colts) indicate breeding by sandhill cranes in Ohio since 1985. Growth of the breeding population has been slow, primarily centered in the Killbuck/Funk Bottoms region, Geauga, Ashtabula, Lorain, Trumbull, and Williams counties, and at Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area. Numbers of breeding sandhill cranes have been slowly increasing over the last decade from about 2 pairs in 2000 to

over 20 in 2010. In addition, there is a large non-breeding flock at the Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area southwest of Wooster with over 20 birds. So, this fall, check the skies, fields and wetlands for this large and magnificent bird. For more info, visit the ODNR Div. of Wildlife site for maps, research and data.

Great Recycling Center here in Wayne County...

Another well kept secret here in Wayne County is a business called **TRI-COUNTY RECYCLING**. Located in Wooster, Tri-County Recycling specializes in taking computers, servers, monitors, keyboards, printers, copiers and just about any old electronic thing that you just can't get rid of! Not only that, they take aluminum, plastic and steel cans & bottles. The owner, Eddie Beard is basically a one-man operation, and does an excellent job of keeping valuable waste out of the landfills, and making it easy to recycle. Eddie is looking for schools or locations to help him with recycling and become e-waste drop off locations. Taken off the website, www.tricountyrecycling.webs.com "At Tri County Recycling we enjoy our ability to generate funds for local charities, schools, and churches. Become a Tri County Drop Location and earn 25% from all e-waste collected. For more information call us. 330-202-7668". So, is your school recycling all that it can? If not, then do something about it! Here is a wonderful contact to get you started! Also, mark down Oct. 22nd as an E-waste recycling event at Buehler's in Orrville, with Tri-County Recycling!



CONSIDER CONSERVATION!

The following FREE Presentations can be scheduled by calling the Wayne SWCD office.

- ◆ **ENVIROSCAPE MODEL** (Grades 4-12, 45mins– 1hr.) Visually explains point & non-point source pollution on a watershed. Students get a hands-on demonstration of the effects of water run-off, & then learn how they can improve the watershed with conservation practices. Excellent for any environmental lesson.
- ◆ **FREDDIE THE FISH** (Grades K-4, 30-45mins.) Students get a visual understanding of the effects of pollution on “Freddie”(a sponge in a jar) as they are told about his journey downstream. Human impact on water and the importance of clean, healthy water is taught.
- ◆ **LIVING SOIL PROFILE** (Grades K-5, 45mins—1hr.) Students learn how soil is formed and discover the properties of soil. Intro & 3 different learning stations with hands-on soil smudge, rock rubbing, & coloring a soil profile are all covered.
- ◆ **INCREDIBLE JOURNEY** (Grades K-6, 30-45mins.) Students learn about water on earth, it’s value & the water cycle. They act out the cycle of a water droplet as they travel to different locations. Best if done outdoors, or in a large area.
- ◆ **TREE-MENDOUS TREES** (Grades K-6, 30-45mins.) Build a tree from the inside out (Heartwood to Bark) with your students! They will learn the value of trees, along with the forms and functions of the parts of a tree. Needs a big space.
- ◆ **BIRDS & BEYOND** (Grades K-6, 45mins. –1hr.) Students learn about birds, habitat, and conservation as they learn with Audubon toy bird replicas. They learn what makes a bird a bird, why birds are important & listen to over 30 bird songs.
- ◆ **MIGRATION MANIA** (Grades 2-6, 30-45mins) Reinforces definition of habitat. Discussion on why and what animals migrate, then an activity on bird migration. They learn the effects of humans have & the importance of habitat preservation.
- ◆ **TONY THE TRASHBAG** (Grades 2-6) Students learn the impacts of litter as they act out the movement of a plastic bag, and find out how it effects the whole environment, including harming animals. (Similar to Incredible Journey program) *Teachers can request a power point slide show that corresponds to the lesson presented.*
- ◆ **OUTDOOR EDUCATION** Call & schedule us to do a program or help out at your outdoor event. From fishing & stream studies to outdoor educational lessons, we can assist you & your school, or simply provide you with information or materials to borrow. Don’t forget to check out the loaner educational kits. ANY program can be modified to fit!

The following Educational Trunks can be loaned out for a 2-3 week period.

Celebrate the Harvest A-Z Kit (Grades K-3) This trunk covers farming, agriculture & Autumn harvest. It contains lessons, posters, photos, books, videos, and toys. Wonderful kit for fall harvest or supplement to farming & agricultural lessons.

Birds & Beak Adaptations Trunk - This trunk has all the materials you need to do the “Fill the Bill” educational activity. Students learn eight different types of beaks & how each is adapted to feed on different foods. Also includes educational bird CD’s, books & information.

For Heaven SNAKES! The snake trunk comes with a boa constrictor hand puppet, books & videos. Great for a whole unit!

RAINFOREST Teacher Trunk Talk about a treasure trunk! This educational trunk contains a macaw parrot puppet, along with a lot of educational books, stories, videos, and lesson plans. Wonderful kit to supplement a unit.

STREAM Stewardship—This trunk has a preserved macroinvertebrate collection, the Save Our Stream manual, water quality books, lessons, and videos. Great for an “indoor” stream study.

Animal Tracks Kit—This trunk contains animal track molds for 10 different animals with directions on how to use plaster of paris, or make stamps & comes with field track guides. Makes for a great art project too!

Honey Files Video & Teachers Guide (Grades 4-6) Complete w/ lessons & a video on honeybees. *(Also available online)*

Take Me Fishing - \$20 Fee Need fishing poles for your outdoor program? We have 17 quality poles, and tackles boxes.

The Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District, 428 W. Liberty St. Wooster, Oh 44691 (330)-262-2836

Contact Kelly Riley, Education Specialist Email: Kriley@wayneoh.org

Programs available Monday through Thursday. NEW WEBSITE: <http://www.wayneswcd.org>

How well do you know your numbers? Plastics, that is...

I'm always surprised when I notice that someone doesn't know about the triangle code that is listed on plastics. For the most part, every type of plastic should have a symbol; a triangle stamp, if you will, somewhere on it. This triangle symbol will have a number inside of it, ranging from 1 to 7, which indicates the type of resin, used to produce the plastic. I call that number the recycling code. These markers do not mean the plastic can be recycled, these markers do not mean the container uses recycled plastic. Despite the confusing use of the chasing arrow symbol, **these markers only identify the plastic type**. Sometimes it may be a challenge to even locate the triangle symbol on plastic, or better yet, read the number. I'm sure as you read this right now, you can look around you and find a piece of plastic. Pick up that bottle or container, look on the bottom or side and see if you can locate the recycling code. The majority of common used plastic products will be marked a number 1, 2 or 5. Some recycling facilities will only take certain numbers of plastic. Often you hear of only being able to recycle number 1 (PETE) and number 2 (HDPE) plastics. The reason for this is because the different plastics require different temperatures to be melted and used again. Having different types of resins mixed together can mess up a batch of recycled plastic. It also has to do with supply and demand. If there is no market for the other types of plastics, they will not accept them; it's all about cost. So word to the wise, know your numbers, and what your hauler or drop off location is willing to accept. Below are some helpful displays.

Choose safer plastics!

Plastics to avoid!

3 PVC or vinyl
Can contain phthalates

6 Polystyrene
Foam

7 Other
Can contain Bisphenol A

| | |
|--|--|
| | #1 Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) Polyester Fibers, Soda and Water Bottles |
| | #2 High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) Bottles, Grocery Bags, Motor Oil Bottle, Liquid Laundry Detergent |
| | #3 Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Clear Films, Pipe, Fencing, Non Food Bottles, Blister Packs |
| | #4 Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) Plastic Bags, 6-pack Rings, Various Containers, Container Lids |
| | #5 Polypropylene (PP) Yogurt and Deli Containers, Dishware, Auto Parts, Cosmetics Bottles |
| | #6 Polystyrene (PS) Styrofoam, Packing Peanuts, CD Jewel Cases, Take-out Plates and Containers |
| | #7 Other Resins Other types, Acrylic, Styrene, Nylon, Fiberglass and Mixed |

| Household | |
|--|--|
| Plastics | |
| <p>■ In your quest to go green, use this guide to use and sort plastic. The number, usually found with a triangle symbol on a container, indicates the type of resin used to produce the plastic. Call 1-800-CLEANUP for recycling information in your state.</p> | |
| PETE | <p>Number 1 • PETE or PET (polyethylene terephthalate) IS USED IN microwavable food trays; salad dressing, soft drink, water, and beer bottles STATUS hard to clean; absorbs bacteria and flavors; avoid reusing IS RECYCLED TO MAKE . . carpet, furniture, new containers, Polar fleece</p> |
| HDPE | <p>Number 2 • HDPE (high-density polyethylene) IS USED IN household cleaner and shampoo bottles, milk jugs, yogurt tubs STATUS transmits no known chemicals into food IS RECYCLED TO MAKE . . detergent bottles, fencing, floor tiles, pens</p> |
| V | <p>Number 3 • V or PVC (vinyl) IS USED IN cooking oil bottles, clear food packaging, mouthwash bottles STATUS is believed to contain phthalates that interfere with hormonal development; avoid IS RECYCLED TO MAKE . . cables, mudflaps, paneling, roadway gutters</p> |
| LDPE | <p>Number 4 • LDPE (low-density polyethylene) IS USED IN bread and shopping bags, carpet, clothing, furniture STATUS transmits no known chemicals into food IS RECYCLED TO MAKE . . envelopes, floor tiles, lumber, trash-can liners</p> |
| PP | <p>Number 5 • PP (polypropylene) IS USED IN ketchup bottles, medicine and syrup bottles, drinking straws STATUS transmits no known chemicals into food IS RECYCLED TO MAKE . . battery cables, brooms, ice scrapers, rakes</p> |
| PS | <p>Number 6 • PS (polystyrene) IS USED IN disposable cups and plates, egg cartons, take-out containers STATUS is believed to leach styrene, a possible human carcinogen, into food; avoid IS RECYCLED TO MAKE . . foam packaging, insulation, light switchplates, rulers</p> |
| OTHER | <p>Number 7 • Other (miscellaneous) IS USED IN 3- and 5-gallon water jugs, nylon, some food containers STATUS contains bisphenol A, which has been linked to heart disease and obesity; avoid IS RECYCLED TO MAKE . . custom-made products</p> |
| THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC | |