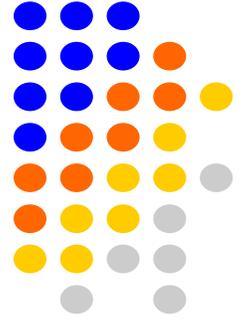


Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

CONQUEST

“Capture your students love of learning about the environment”



Kelly’s Korner ~ STOP!



Why did the salamander, frog, toad and cross the road? The answer is simple...to get to the vernal pool. “HUH?” Each spring, when the weather provides wet conditions and warmer temperatures (around 50 degrees) these amphibians migrate back to their birthplace, a vernal pool. Vernal pools are temporary, seasonal wet spots. They are great breeding grounds for amphibians because they typically lack larger predators such as a fish and water fowl. Once the frog, toad or salamander matures they leave the pool to establish their own habitat, but return to their birthplace when they reach



Salamanders gets some help crossing the road to their breeding grounds.



sexual maturity. Sadly, many of the beloved little amphibians are killed each year in their quest as they migrate back and get killed on the roads. Another tragedy is habitat loss, as development and the desire to “fill-in” wet areas eliminates these special vernal pools. **What can you do to help?** STOP the car...dodge or don’t drive down that frog covered road! Don’t fill in the seasonal wet areas! Educate others! Many areas and states have special road closings for a short period each spring to prevent automobiles from killing hundreds of amphibians. In Akron, the intersection of Merriman Rd & Sand Run Parkway closes every year at this special time, but only at night– and only for this special reason! FMI-Summit Metro Parks 330-865-8060

Wayne SWCD
428 W. Liberty St.
Wooster, OH 44691
P: (330) -262-2836
www.wayneswcd.org

CALL OR EMAIL NOW to schedule an Educational School Program!

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District
Kelly Riley,
Education Specialist
CONTACT INFO:
kriley@wayneoh.org
Or call Kelly at
330-262-2836

www.wayneswcd.org
Check the Education Tab on our website for details!

Soil vs. Dirt

So do you know the difference between soil and dirt? Is there one? Yes...basically think of dirt as soil in the wrong place. You have dirt in your carpet, clothes and under you fingernails...but you have soil in your yard, garden and field. Think of soil as a thin living skin that covers the land. It goes down into the ground just a short way. For helpful ideas, lessons, and learning material, visit these website:

Soil Science Society of America— <http://www.soils4teachers.org/>

Soil-Net.com <http://www.soil-net.com/>

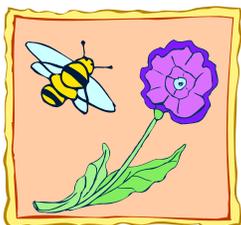
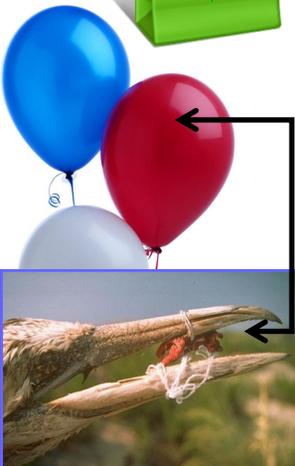
USDA-Soils <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/soils/home/>

Important Dates

- Fish pick -up **April 15**
- Tree pick-up **April 16**
- Earth Day **April 22**
- Arbor Day **April 25**
- Poster Contest **April 25**
- Memorial Day **May 26**



FMI: www.nacdn.net.org/education/contests/poster/2014



Poster Contest!!! ALL GRADES!

Wayne SWCD is sponsoring our annual poster contest for grades K-12. The 2014 stewardship theme is **"Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil"**. Cash awards will be given for 1st and 2nd place in the following categories: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12. All winners will be sent on to the State contest and also featured in our Fair Building Sept. 6-11th. Contest rules:

- Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect (paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper or other materials on regular posters (no computer only special category)
- Poster size must be between 8.5" x 11" and 22" x 28".
- Posters should be packaged so they remain flat when sent for judging.
- All posters must be created by an individual student rather than a team of students.
- The 2014 Stewardship title **"Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil"** or **"Dig Deeper"** must be on your poster.
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, NACD encourages each student to do as much of the work as possible by him/herself. Entries completed by students in their handwriting and coloring will score better than those designed, drawn and colored by adult assistance.

On the back of each poster, please print:

- Student's name
- Student's age
- School grade
- Student's home address
- Student's phone number with area code
- School's address and phone number with area code
- Teacher's name
- Conservation District (county in which school is located - **Wayne SWCD**).

Only one entry per student may be submitted. Judges will also evaluate posters on the following criteria: **1.** Has the theme been clearly addressed? **2.** Does the work demonstrate an understanding of the subject matter? **3.** Is the work neat, organized and grammatically correct?

Posters must be turned in to the Wayne SWCD office, 428 W. Liberty Street, Wooster by **4:00 p.m. on Friday April 25th**. Please see our website or call the office @330-262-2836 for more information.

Conservation~ Every Day...not just on Earth Day!

- ⇒ **Use cloth or reusable shopping bags.** Eliminate or reduce the use of PLASTIC bags!
- ⇒ Be safe, **Cut your 6 pack or 4 pack plastic rings** before you put them in the trash. Because... Do you know what happens to your garbage after you set it out on the curb? Probably not! These could become litter and death traps to animals, birds & fish.
- ⇒ **NEVER do a Balloon Release** or let a balloon go outside. What goes up...must come down. Not only do Balloons become litter on earth, they can be death traps to animals and livestock, get tangled up in farm equipment, and they end up being ugly litter.
- ⇒ **COMPOST**...food scraps &/or yard waste. This waste product becomes wonderful a gardening soil amendment. With some time, and a little bit of effort, Mother Nature will do the work for you.
- ⇒ **HELP the POLLINATORS**....Bees, Bats, Butterflies & Moths are very important for fruit, vegetable & seed crops. Provide native flowering habitat, water...and limit or discontinue pesticide and herbicide or any type of chemical usage!
- ⇒ **SAVE WATER! Use a Rain Barrel.** Collect & use pure water for your plants/garden.
- ⇒ **USE A MULCHING Mower blade.** Let the grass clipping lay in the yard. Not only does it save time & energy, but grass clippings contain the same beneficial nutrients as fertilizer.