

# CROSSSECTION



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

*Great Lakes Restoration Initiative..... 1*

*Rain Barrel Workshop... 1*

*USDA Program Announcement ..... 2*

*Emerald Ash Borer Update ..... 2*

*Annual Meeting and Election Held..... 2*

*Tree Sale Species..... 3*

*Tree Sale Order Form... 4*

*Stormwater in Winter.... 5*

*Pervious Pavement for Stormwater Management ..... 5*

*Who Wants to be a Conservationist? ..... 6*

## GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE

On October 30th, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) was signed, creating a \$475 million pot of money for pollution issues in the Great Lakes. A collaboration of federal agencies will focus on five areas as they work with state and local agencies and organizations. The five focus areas are:

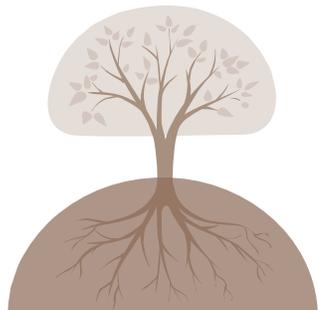
1. remediating toxic substances and Areas of Concern,
2. controlling invasive species,
3. nearshore health and nonpoint source pollution,
4. habitat and wildlife protection and restoration, and
5. accountability, monitoring, evaluation, communication and partnerships.

Lake Erie has a reputation for being polluted, overloaded with algae, and devoid of living things, though those of us who live here know that water quality is greatly improved from the conditions that drew national attention in the early 1970's. However, there are many areas in the Great Lakes that have been languishing under pollution that remains from industrial effluents released over 50 years ago. The Great Lakes Initiative will target these areas. It will also support projects that reduce the impact of nonpoint source pollution, and aim to prevent introduction of non-native species. This means that the GLRI can make a major impact on not only water quality in Lake Erie, but also in the perception of water quality in Lake Erie and throughout the watershed



The Great Lakes is one of the largest and most important freshwater resources in the country. In the past, it has been studied and analyzed, and pollution issues have been identified. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding will help get projects going to improve the water quality in this important waterway. Watch for new water quality projects throughout the watershed. Some proposed projects include dam removals, easement purchases, urban forestry, and habitat restoration in Lake Erie watersheds.

# Tree Seedling Sale Inside



## BUILD A RAIN BARREL!

### DROP-IN WORKSHOP TO BE HELD AT TREE SALE

Want to build a rain barrel, but haven't made it to one of our workshops? During our tree sale this year you can stop by and build your rain barrel with our tools and guidance. This includes the downspout diverter, the barrel, and all necessary fittings to construct your rain barrel, and the expert guidance of the Lake SWCD staff as you build. You will also go home with instructions for installing and maintaining the rain barrel. Our barrels are sourced second-hand from food companies. They have all been cleaned, but some retain reminders of what they once held (usually an aroma of soy sauce, vinegar, or whiskey). After holding a few workshops, the barrels are getting picked over. **So during the tree sale, you can purchase a rain barrel kit for only \$39!** There will be no pre-order for the rain barrels, they will only be sold day-of. We will have at least 50 kits available. The hours for the tree sale are 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM Friday, April 16th, and 9:00 AM to Noon on Saturday, April 17th at the Natural Resources Building on the Lake County Fairgrounds.

## USDA CONSERVATION PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS EXPECTED IN FEBRUARY

Details on the 2010 conservation programs should be announced in February. Though producers can apply for the programs all year long, the program details and collection periods will be announced after January 1<sup>st</sup>. Some of the programs available include:

**Wetland Reserve Program:** WRP provides significant financial incentives to restore farmed or converted wetlands and provides one time payments for conservation easement on these sensitive areas.

**Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program:** WHIP provides significant incentives to restore or create wetlands. Monies are also used to create nesting habitat with warm season grasses and to control invasive species.

**Environmental Quality Incentives Program:** EQIP provides incentives to improve farm soil, water and related resources. Cost incentives are provided for many practices including waste storage structures, fencing, water supply, micro-irrigation and a long list of other practices that may be needed.

**Conservation Stewardship Program:** CSP provides a per acre payment on lands where the producer has demonstrated excellent stewardship efforts and is willing to make further improvements treating farm resources.



Those who wish to apply or to learn more about the program are invited to contact the Orwell USDA Service Center at 1-888-217-3947. Information about EQIP and other NRCS conservation programs is available on the Web at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/>. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION

On October 20th, Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District held its 63rd Annual Meeting at Grand River Cellars in Madison Township. Attendees enjoyed a buffet dinner and had the option of touring the wine cellar.

An election was held for two board members to start terms in January 2010. Carla Lee was newly elected to the Board, and Bruce Landeg was re-elected to his second three-year term.



There was also a Chinese Raffle this year, where people could enter for a chance to see some of the protected properties in Northeast Ohio, go on a guided fishing trip on the Grand River, take home a rain barrel, or numerous other prizes. The Chinese Raffle raised \$565 dollars for the Mastin-Grantham Memorial Education Fund. The Mastin-Grantham fund supports Watershed Watch, Envirothon, classroom programs, Forestry Camp scholarships, and other education opportunities for Lake County students.

## EMERALD ASH BORER UPDATE

Last summer you might have noticed triangular, bright purple objects hanging in trees throughout eastern Ohio. These emerald ash borer (EAB) traps were part of a statewide effort to determine the spread of this invasive insect. As of the end of the summer, no emerald ash borer has been detected in Lake County, even though Cuyahoga County is quarantined.

The risk of bringing EAB into Lake County still remains. The nursery industry is well aware of the issue, and quarantines on ash trees are in place. However, individuals play an important role in preventing the spread of EAB as well. The following guidelines will help you leave EAB where it is

- Don't move firewood. Most people are not good at identifying tree species without leaves attached. Eggs and larvae can be lurking in the bark or just under the bark.
- Don't move wood chips. EAB eggs and larvae can potentially survive the chipper and remain in chipped wood mulch. Use well-composted mulch, or something produced from trees in a non-quarantined area.
- Identify your trees. Locate any ash trees on your property. Trees that would be affected include green ash, white ash, blue ash, and black ash, and their cultivars. (Mountain ash is not at risk, and neither is box elder, or ash-leaf maple.)
- Report potential infestations to the Ohio Department of Agriculture hotline at 1-888-OHIO-EAB. Monitor your true ashes for bark discoloration, thin leaf canopy, and new branches sprouting from the main trunk. Woodpecker activity is another sign.
- Federal law prohibits moving non-coniferous firewood, ash logs with bark, any ash materials, and ash plants out of Ohio, regardless of the Ohio quarantine boundaries.

The Ohio Department of Agriculture and the US Department of Agriculture are working to identify and stop the spread of emerald ash borers. However, many urban communities are already taking steps to remove and replace ash trees, since live, healthy trees are safer to remove than dying or dead trees. While there are a few treatment options, the process is expensive and ongoing. Homeowners and urban foresters alike are faced with the difficult decision of deciding how much a tree is worth. Compounding the issue is the fact that some communities relied heavily on ash trees to replace elms that fell victim to Dutch Elm Disease.

If you would like more information on Emerald Ash Borer, check out <http://www.emeraldashborer.info>. OSU Extension also has some great information on identifying ash trees at [http://ohioline.osu.edu/b700/b700\\_63.html](http://ohioline.osu.edu/b700/b700_63.html).

## STORMWATER IN WINTER

BETH LANDERS, EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Runoff doesn't get too much attention in the winter, when the landscape is frozen and covered in snow. However, this winter precipitation can also create a pathway for pollutants to get into our streams and ponds. And if you've installed rain barrels, or a rain garden, they might need a bit of attention this winter, too. Check the list below to see if you are ready for stream-friendly snowfall.

**Rain Barrels** - Make sure to drain your rain barrel and disconnect it from the downspout. You can leave the diverter in place on the downspout - just check the directions for winterizing it, or call us if you have questions.

**Rain Garden** - Now is a great time to check for thin spots that need re-mulched. You can also cut back this year's dead growth, or leave it for cover and food for winter wildlife. It is best to cut things back by hand or with a string trimmer - running equipment through the rain garden will compact the soil.

**Snow Blower** - Check your snow blower for leaks. Be careful mixing the oil and gas, and clean up any spills immediately with absorbent material. If your engine runs rough, get it tuned up - a two-cycle engine can produce a pound of carbon monoxide each hour it runs.



**De-icer** - If you need to use a de-icing product, use it sparingly. Salt or salt substitutes should be stored in a weather-proof container, or indoors. Read the label directions for application rates. Just like fertilizer, more salt isn't going to melt faster.

**Automobiles** - Check your car for leaks, too. Fixing leaks will keep the snow clean, and also possibly make your car more reliable in the cold weather. If you do your own car repair, find an automotive fluids recycler or store the used fluids until the next Household Waste Collection Day.

**Shovel** - If you are healthy and have a snow shovel, it is the most environmentally-friendly way to clear your driveway and sidewalks. Shoveling does not produce air or water pollution.

## PERVIOUS PAVEMENT FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

PAUL BOWYER, STORMWATER SPECIALIST

Pavement is an intrinsic part of our lives and the urban landscape. More than two-thirds of the area of a typical commercial development is devoted to pavement. From an environmental perspective, traditional paved areas have only negative qualities. They cause an increase in the volume and rate of stormwater runoff and dramatically increase the size of the stormwater management device or practice that the development will need to install, without providing filtering of stormwater contaminants. However, pervious pavements are slowly gaining interest and use, transforming paved areas from liabilities into stormwater assets.

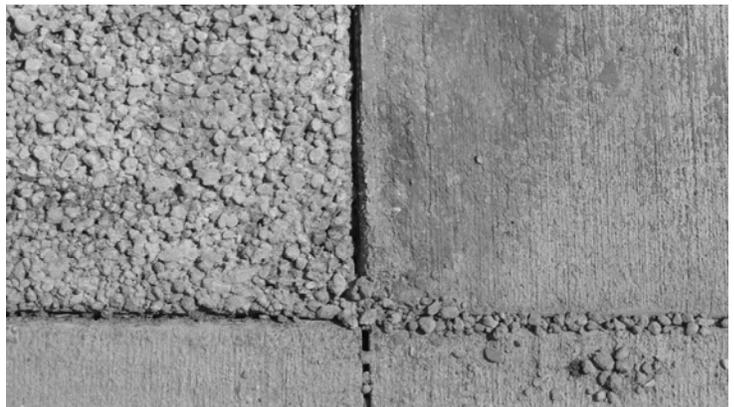
Pervious pavements are designed to allow water to pass through, and infiltrate into the soil below. In areas where soil infiltration rates are moderately low, a gravel sub-base is used beneath the pavement to temporarily store stormwater. This creates an unseen stormwater retention pond. The benefits to the development are obvious. The area of the pervious pavement is no longer adding to the stormwater runoff volume. The area under the pervious pavement can be used to temporarily store runoff. Additionally, as the stormwater passes through the roadway material and back into the soil, filtering of some stormwater contaminants occurs. A recent study from the University of New Hampshire also concluded that pervious pavement substantially reduces the need for winter salt, as the melted water drains away, instead of re-freezing on the road surface. For many developments it is possible to use the pervious pavement area as the sole stormwater management practice for the development, completely eliminating the space and maintenance needed for a traditional stormwater pond or other practice. In other words, the pavement actually serves two functions, parking and stormwater management.

There are four main types of pervious pavements: porous concrete (concrete mix made with no fines), porous asphalt (made with

larger aggregate), pervious pavers (bricks that allow water to flow through, usually set in a pattern with gravel-filled spaces), and plantable pavers (open-grid bricks and plastic grids that are designed to have a plantable sandy soil at the surface).

Pervious pavement is not without its challenges. In general, the asphalt and concrete types are not as durable as the traditional impervious surfaces. However, proper installation and strategic design can eliminate this weakness. For instance, installing the pervious pavement in areas where vehicle turning is minimized reduces damage from tire scrubbing. Additionally, some routine maintenance needs to be performed, like periodic vacuuming of the surface to prevent pores from being clogged by fine materials.

If you would like to learn more information on pervious pavement systems or where to view examples in Lake County, contact Paul Bowyer at the District.



THE UPPER LEFT QUADRANT IN THIS PICTURE IS A SECTION OF PERVIOUS PAVEMENT, SURROUNDED BY NORMAL CONCRETE

Return Service Requested



### WHO WANTS TO BE A CONSERVATIONIST?

Winter weather trivia. Living in northeast Ohio, you either embrace the snowy winters or go to Florida! Take the following quiz to determine if you ought to buy tickets today.

- 1) Snow can be dangerous! What is the most likely cause of snow-related death?
  - A) Skiing or sledding accidents
  - B) Heart attacks caused by over-exertion
  - C) Hypothermia
  - D) Automobile accidents
  
- 2) Hypothermia is a dangerous lowering of the body's temperature. Which group is most likely to fall victim to hypothermia?
  - A) Men 20-35
  - B) Women over 60
  - C) Men over 60
  - D) Young children
  
- 3) True or false: Snow can fall from blue sky.
  
- 4) Which of the following is not affected by wind chill:
  - A) You
  - B) Your dog
  - C) Your car
  - D) Seagulls
  
- 5) Speaking of wind chill, it is calculated using which of the following data points:
  - A) Temperature
  - B) Barometric pressure
  - C) Wind speed
  - D) Humidity
  
- 6) True or false: Frostbite is something you can safely treat at home

Answers:	4.	C
	5.	A and C
	6.	False
	2.	C
	3.	True



### LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

125 E. Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

•440-350-2730 (main number) •FAX 440-350-2601

Toll-free •428-4348 ext. 2730 Madison/Perry

•918-2730 Cleveland/Western Lake County

•1-800-899-LAKE ext 2730 outside Lake County only

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 am-4:00 pm

•E-mail: [soil@lakecountyohio.org](mailto:soil@lakecountyohio.org)

•Web site: [www.lakecountyohio.org/soil](http://www.lakecountyohio.org/soil)

PAUL BOWYER, Stormwater Specialist	350-2092
PAM BROWN, District Secretary/Treasurer	350-2041
DAN DONALDSON, District Administrator	350-2030
CHAD EDGAR, Urban Stream Specialist	350-2032
BETH LANDERS, Education/Information Coordinator	350-2033
MAURINE ORNDORFF, Agricultural Programs Technician	350-5863
MATTHEW SCHARVER, Resource Protection Specialist	350-2031
AL BONNIS, District Conservationist, NRCS	437-5888
JOHN NIEDZIALEK, Western Reserve RC&D Coordinator	350-2034

#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**DICK BAKER (1998-2006, 2008), NORTH PERRY, SECRETARY**

**BILLIE KAMIS (2006), WILLOUGHBY HILLS, CHAIR**

**BRUCE LANDEG (2007), MENTOR, FISCAL AGENT**

**CHRIS LEGROS (2007), WAITE HILL, VICE CHAIR**

**SKIP DUGAN (2009), PERRY, TREASURER**

#### MEMBER OF:

- American Farmland Trust
- Lake County Farm Bureau
- Nursery Growers of Lake County Ohio
- National Association of Conservation Districts
- Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER:** All Lake SWCD and USDA programs and services are available without regard to race, age, gender, national origin, political beliefs, color, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

The public is invited to attend Lake SWCD's monthly Board meetings, held the fourth Tuesday of the month at 4:00 pm at 125 East Erie St., Painesville. Meeting announcements appear under the public agenda in the News-Herald and on the Lake SWCD website. Please call in advance to let us know you will be attending.