

# CROSSSECTION



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### Special Points of Interest:

- Environmentally friendly cleaning options
- Forestry Camp scholarships available
- Grand River Partners event announced

**Conservation Program Deadlines Announced! See Page 2**

## CLEAN BOATING

As spring breaks and the frogs start calling, many of us start preparing for, or at least dreaming about, summer recreation. Boating is a big part of how Lake County residents enjoy our natural resources. But boating can also damage our waterways, and harm our sport and non-sport fish populations. Boat owners mitigate their impact on river and lakes by being aware of potential problems and preventing them.

**Transporting non-native plants and animals.** While cargo ships are the likely source of zebra mussels and round gobies in Lake Erie, and well-meaning aquarium enthusiasts unleashed Eurasian Water Milfoil, recreational boats have been carrying these invasive species into our reservoirs, inland lakes, and streams. In addition, dumping leftover bait fish into a different body of water than they came from can introduce not only non-native fish, but also new fish diseases to a watershed.

Responsible boaters should make sure that their boat is washed down, and cooling lines are flushed whenever the boat is taken from one body of water to another. Bait minnows can be kept for another fishing trip, given to another angler, or allowed to perish.

**Boat Painting and Cleaning.** The substances marketed for maintaining the appearance of your boat can cause harm to aquatic ecosystems. Marine paint usually contains heavy metals that can find their way into the food chain. Phosphates in soaps cause eutrophication, an overgrowth of algae that can suffocate fish. Detergents disrupt the protective slime coats on gills, making it difficult for the fish to breathe. Bleach, petroleum products, chlorine compounds, and lye are also common in cleaners but harmful to aquatic life.

Ecologically friendly cleaning products, and liberal use of elbow grease decrease the amount of chemicals released into marina waters. Though the labels may be confusing, the Ohio

Clean Boater program suggests looking for the words 'Danger,' 'Warning' or 'Caution' on products. The best option is a product which contains none of these words, but something that merits only a 'Caution' statement is less harmful, flammable or toxic than a 'Warning' or 'Danger' statement. Scraping and painting should be conducted on land if possible. No matter where you choose to repaint your boat, make sure to collect any paint chips, dripped paint, and leftover paint for proper disposal. No cleaning products, solvents or paints should be disposed of in the thru-hull drain.

**Engine Maintenance, Fueling, and Bilges.** The engine is probably the most common source of recreational boating pollution. It is unfortunately common to see an oil sheen in marinas and around boats. A clean, properly tuned engine is the best bet for economy and to notice small leaks before they spread. Oil absorption pads near the engine and in the bilge will collect oil and keep it from being discharged with the bilge water. And of course used oil and solvents used for cleaning parts should be collected and disposed of on land. Federal laws can be used to levy civil penalties on boaters who discharge oil of any kind. To prevent spills from gas tank vents, only fill the boat's tank to 90%, and fill up at the beginning of the day, not the end of the day. Fill canisters on dry land.

**Trash and Sewage.** Garbage is a simple issue to control. All it takes is a garbage bag to collect everything in, and a trip past the dumpster when you return to the marina. Reusable containers will also help minimize the amount of trash that accumulates during a day of boating. Special attention should be paid to preventing trash from blowing overboard, and keeping even small items like fishing line and cigarette butts (which are made of plastic) on board. Dumping dead fish or fish scraps into

*(Continued on page 2)*

## ANNUAL GRAND RIVER CANOE CLEANUP

Join Grand River Partners (GRP), Lake Metroparks, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Scenic Rivers, and the City of Painesville to help clean the Grand River of trash by canoe. Volunteers will end the day with a cookout & giveaways. For more information, call GRP at 440-375-7311

## FORESTRY CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Once again, Lake SWCD will provide two full scholarships to Ohio Forestry & Wildlife Conservation Camp. This is a one-week resident camp for high school students which focuses on forestry, tree identification, tree climbing techniques, and silviculture, as well as providing the more traditional camp experiences of campfires, cabins, and canoeing. The Ohio Forestry Association has been operating this camp since 1950, and it will be held at Camp Muskingum on the shores of Leesville Lake in Carroll County.

For more information, or to request a scholarship application, please contact Beth Landers, Education Coordinator, at 440-350-2730.

## CLEAN BOATING *(Continued from page 1)*

Ohio's waters is illegal, unless the scraps are being used as bait.

Marine Sanitation Devices come in many forms, and it is up to the boat operator to read and follow the instructions. It is illegal to release raw human waste into waters of the state. Untreated, or poorly treated sewage spread hepatitis, giardia, gastroenteritis, and many other diseases. For boats without a head, consider a portable toilet similar to those used whitewater rafting, or a stop in port during a day of boating.

For more information about environmentally-aware boating, visit [www.ohiocleanboater.osu.edu](http://www.ohiocleanboater.osu.edu) or call the Ohio Sea Grant Office at 614-292-3548.

## AGRICULTURAL EASEMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM DEADLINE SET FOR JUNE 1, 2007

Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) announced the sixth funding round of the Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (AEPP) on March 2, 2007. This year, \$3.125 million will be available for the purchase of agricultural easements from qualifying farmland owners. The application deadline is 5:00 p.m. on June 1, 2007.

Applications must be submitted by a Local Sponsor. The Lake County SWCD serves as the Local Sponsor for Lake County landowners wishing to apply. The Lake SWCD will complete the application using information from the landowner, along with soils, and planning and other data available through the County offices.

An agricultural easement is a voluntary, permanent and legally binding restriction that limits the use of the land to agricultural uses. The land is still privately owned and managed, and all rights of ownership are retained except the ability to develop the land. The easement is recorded on the property deed and transfers with the land to successive owners.

To qualify for the program, the land must be enrolled in the Current Agricultural Use Tax (CAUV) program and engaged in agricultural activities. It must use best management practices and have been in compliance with state and agricultural laws for the past five years. Applications are ranked on a point system, based upon valuable soil types, proximity to other permanently protected agricultural land, development pressures, whether or not the community has a recent comprehensive plan, and other factors.

For those farms that are selected, a payment cap has been set at \$2,000 per acre, with a maximum of \$500,000 per farm.

## FEDERAL FARM AND RANCH LANDS PROTECTION PROGRAM DEADLINE APRIL 27, 2007

Funding is made available each year to purchase agricultural conservation easements through the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP). The FRPP is a Federal program that seeks to preserve productive farm or ranch land, or land that contains historical or archaeological resources. This year several Lake County landowners are considering applications for FRPP. Lake SWCD is also seeking landowners interested preliminary planning for 2008.

The program provides matching funds of up to 50% to purchase agricultural conservation easements. The local unit of government where the applicant's farm is located must provide a match of between 25% and 50%, and the participating landowner may make a donation of up to 25% of the appraised fair market value.

The FRPP is the Federal equivalent of the Ohio Agricultural Easement Purchase Program, and provides another opportunity for farm owners to obtain compensation for establishing a conservation easement on their land. In 2005, 100 acres in the Village of North Perry were accepted and permanently preserved under the FRPP.

If you would like more information about either the FRPP or the AEPP programs, or to make an application, please contact Maurine Orndorff, Agricultural Programs Technician, at 440/350-5863.

## LAKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT COLLECTION EVENTS

Item	Drop-off location	Day and Time
Scrap Tire Collection	Lake County Fairgrounds	Sat., Apr 14. 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Used Computer Collection	Lake County Fairgrounds	Sat. Apr 21. 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Household Hazardous Waste Collection	Lake County Fairgrounds	Sat., June 9. 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Scrap Phone Book Collection	Multiple locations	Multiple dates

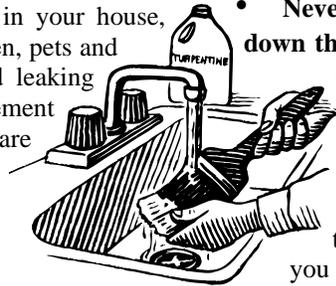
## CLEANING SOLUTIONS FOR POLLUTION PREVENTION

### FRANCINE TOTH, LAKE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

Do labels on cleaning products under your kitchen sink say "CAUTION, WARNING or DANGER." If so, you are probably handling a household hazardous waste. Take time to review the list of ingredients on your cleaning products, and you may be surprised at what you find.

Why is it important to consider alternative cleaners and repellents? Many of the common household and lawn and garden products we use daily contain toxic or hazardous chemicals. The presence of these chemicals in your house, basement and garage can be harmful to children, pets and the environment due to accidental spills and leaking containers. Leaking products stored in the basement or garage can flow into floor drains that are pumped or piped to a roadside ditch or storm sewer. Many products are severe eye, skin and respiratory irritants and are extremely harmful if ingested. For more information see <http://es.epa.gov/techinfo/facts/safe-fs.html>

What can you do to reduce your risk? You can use alternative cleaning agents and repellents in your home. These cleaning agents are nontoxic alternatives that are safer for your family and the environment. You can also reduce the potential of stormwater pollution by reducing the amount of household hazardous waste in your home and garage.



- **Store household hazardous wastes in their original containers.**
- **Save money and reduce waste by purchasing only what you need and use.**
- **Place solvents and paint thinners in a closed jar to let dirt and paint settle to the bottom. You can reuse the top portion, and dispose of less waste!**
- **Never pour motor oil, paints or chemicals directly down the sink or into a catch basin in the street. Recycle or dispose of them properly.**

How we dispose of unwanted toxic products like oil, paint and gardening chemicals can greatly impact our waterways. Chemicals should NEVER be poured down storm drains! These drain directly into the nearest stream and are not treated. Remember, if you own a septic system, pouring chemicals down your drain can kill the beneficial bacteria that treat the wastewater.

Lake County residents who clean out their garage, basement or under their kitchen sink and find hazardous materials are encouraged to take unwanted products to the Lake County Solid Waste District Special Collection Events. A partial list of collection events is located on the bottom of Page 2.

### ALTERNATIVE CLEANING SOLUTIONS AND REPELLENTS

**Grease cutter** - 1cup lemon juice + 1 cup water

**Scouring Powder** - 1 cup baking soda + water to form a paste

**Laundry Stain Remover** - 1 tsp. white vinegar or baking soda per load (adding baking soda reduces the amount of store bought detergent that you need to use. Add about ½ cup of baking soda at the beginning of the wash if you are using a liquid detergent. With powdered detergent, add the same amount of baking soda during the rinse cycle.

**Toilet bowl cleaner** - 1cup vinegar (let it sit for a while) and scrub or sprinkle baking soda around the edges and scrub

**Floor & Furniture Polish** - 2 parts vegetable oil + 1 part lemon juice (for leather furniture: 1 cup vinegar + 1 cup linseed oil

**Metal Cleaners** (brass and copper) -lemon juice + salt to form a paste OR a lemon wedge dipped in baking soda OR hot white vinegar and salt OR hot ketchup applied with a rag OR Worcestershire sauce for brass

**Glass Cleaner** - 1 part vinegar + 1 part water

**Rug/Carpet Cleaner** - Baking soda or dry cornstarch sprinkle on and vacuum

**Flies** - Well watered bowl of basil.

**Ants** - Cut bottom of Dixie cup and fill with some borax and sugar.

**Moth Repellent** - Cedar chips in cotton sachets

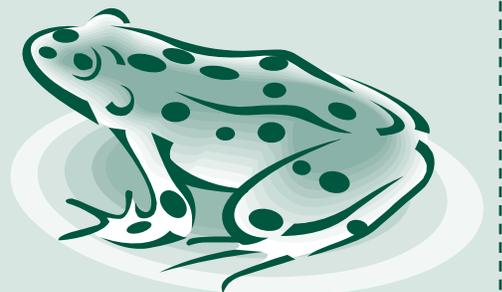
**Roach Repellent** - Chopped bay leaves and cucumber skins

**Air Freshener** - Place bowls of vinegar or baking soda around the house (out of reach of children and pets) OR essential oils or boiled herbs. To make boiled herbs, put the herbs of choice in boiling water for a few minutes until the heat releases its odor. After cooling, place the mixture in a bowl and add some salt to prevent any fungal growth.

**Drain Cleaner and Unclogger** - Pour about ½ cup of baking soda down the sink. Add a cup of vinegar (it will start to fizz). Rinse the drain with boiling water and salt. (You may have to repeat the process more than once).

**Tub and Tile Cleaner** - Mix 1 and 2/3cup baking soda, ½ cup liquid soap, ½ cup water, and 2 tbsp. Vinegar (don't add vinegar too early or it will react with the baking soda). Then, apply wipe and scrub away.

(Cut out and save this list for reference)



Return Service Requested



### WHO WANTS TO BE A CONSERVATIONIST?

Boating 101 - How knowledgeable are you about safe boating?

- 1) According to the Coast Guard, what percentage of drowning victims were found not to be wearing a life jacket properly?
  - A) 50%
  - B) 75%
  - C) 85%
  - D) 97%
- 2) All children under 13 years of age are required to wear a life jacket.
  - True
  - False
- 3) Alcohol is a factor in what percent of boating fatalities?
  - A) 5%
  - B) 16%
  - C) 25%
  - D) 33%
- 4) Type of boat operator most likely to wear a PFD:
  - A) Jetskier
  - B) Kayaker
  - C) Sailor
  - D) Motorboater
- 5) Type of boat most likely to be involved in a fatality:
  - A) Motorboat
  - B) Kayak
  - C) Jetski
  - D) Sailboat
- 6) Which type of PFD does not count towards total on board, according to Ohio law?
  - A) Type 1 - Commercial
  - B) Type 2 - Horseshoe-collar type
  - C) Type 3 - Vest style with flotation in the back panel
  - D) Type 4 - Throwable; ring or cushion
  - E) Type 5 - Special use; meets standards for specific activity

Answers: 1. C 2. True 3. B 4. A (listed in order from most to least) 5. A (listed in order from most to least) 6. D (also E if they are not approved for the activity the wearer is engaged in while wearing it)

### 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 Program 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

- DWAYNE BAILEY (2003-2005, 2007), MENTOR, VICE CHAIR**
- DENISE BREWSTER (2006), CONCORD, TREASURER**
- BILLIE KAMIS (2006), WILLOUGHBY HILLS, CHAIR**
- BRUCE LANDEG (2007), MENTOR, FISCAL AGENT**
- CHRIS LEGROS (2007), WAITE HILL, SECRETARY**

#### 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 third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 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.