



Sat, Nov 9

**is our next sampling date
and the last for this year**

Reminder to contact [Lynn 513-615-2538](tel:513-615-2538) or [Teresa 513-706-8991](tel:513-706-8991) if you cannot sample, or if you have any issues while sampling.

Sampling Reminders

- Coolers are in place from 8 am - 10:30 am.
- Please remember to wear your safety vest.
- Please mark the time and date on your labels of when you collected the sample. None of the sample times should be the same unless you are a time traveler :)
- Remember to sign in your samples in the lock box then place your sample in the cooler. Both coolers use the same code.
- Sign your sample into the cooler with the drop off time.
- Remember to grab bottles for the following month.
- If there is not enough water to sample, fill out label saying dry, or too low to sample, then attach to a bottle and place in the cooler.
- **Duplicate samples** - when you sign them into the cooler, put the number "2" next to the sample ID.

2020 Sampling & Training

Annual Training Breakfast

Save the date for Feb 8 for our annual training breakfast.

Seeking a New Liberty Twp Sampler

Sadly Holly, who has sampled in Liberty Twp for many years, has moved. We are seeking a new sampler for Liberty Twp. If you know of someone that may be interested, [please let Lynn know](#).

Will you be Sampling in 2020?

If you are willing and able to keep sampling in 2020, [please let Lynn know](#). Remember, sampling dates run March through November

Do you Live In Four Mile Creek Watershed? Stake Holder Meeting in January at the Oxford Library

Butler SWCD is working with a group of graduate students from Miami's Institute for the Environment and Sustainability to create a plan for a portion of the Four Mile Creek Watershed. We seeking input from interested parties about the Watershed. This meeting is important for future grant funding. To be eligible for Ohio EPA Clean Water Act Section 319 funding, (1) there must be U.S. EPA-approved 9-Element Plan for the HUC-12 subwatershed and (2) the proposed project must be described in the 9-Element Plan. Currently, the subwatershed from North of Acton Lake to just south of Oxford (see map) lacks a 9-Element Plan and cannot access \$100,000s in federal funding that other communities have acquired.



Residents and other community members, municipal officials, and environmental and planning professionals are invited to come

and stay as long as you can make it to review electronic and print maps and data. In addition to getting your input on potential projects, we'd like your perspective on proposed "Critical Areas" –areas where Ohio EPA monitoring either shows (a) impairment i.e. habitat alteration, hydromodification, silt/sediment or nutrient enrichment; OR (b) areas with healthy waters that need protection from degradation.

The actual meeting date is still being firmed up, though it looks to be mid January. If you are interested in receiving more details, please email Madeline Maurer and Lynn White at butlerswcd@butlercountyohio.org.

Your input is valuable!

Great Miami River Cleanup

Once again we had horrible weather for the clean sweep, and once again some great volunteers came out to help clean up trash. We are now in the planning stages for the 2020 event. You can see a list of cleanup locations on the website. If you have an idea for an additional site that you would like to host in 2020, [please let Lynn know](#)
www.GreatMiamiRiverCleanUp.org



Honeysuckle Removal Silvoor Biological Sanctuary, Oxford

Thursday, November 14th, 1-4pm

Saturday, December 7th, 1-4pm

Location: We will be meeting in Peffer Park, then walking west-southwest into the Silvoor Biological Sanctuary where there is honeysuckle to be removed. There is a parking lot just off of Oxford Millville Rd (Route 27). <https://goo.gl/maps/vZsMMskB92S2>

Be prepared for mud, fun, and a workout! If you have loppers, chainsaws, or other tools that can be

used to remove honeysuckle, please bring them. We will have a few on hand for people to borrow.

Register:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1CuexzMWfuOE0ZooQ7liFcaaCETir1Bnw6H8UyE753gw/edit?usp=sharing>



What's the Big Deal About Mussels?

As you may know, last fall freshwater mussels were reintroduced to the Mill Creek at two locations. These were the first mussels in Mill Creek for about 100 years.....we thought.

A few months ago, Emily Imhoff found a mussel shell at the upstream riffle which was installed in 2018. The mussel has now been positively identified by Stan Hedeem. It is a recent shell of a female fatmucket, also known as a yellow mucket. She likely was a Mill Creek resident, perhaps at Salway. Although the species is widespread in the state, this is the first record for the Mill Creek.

It means it is quite likely that there are other mussels in the stream, at least below Salway and that by mitigating the two low head dams at Salway, we have opened the way for them to spread upstream! Larval mussels (called glochidia) spread by attaching to the gills of fish, then later dropping off. By opening up more of the stream to fish migration, its open for mussel migration also.

2019 Precipitation a Bit of a Roller Coaster

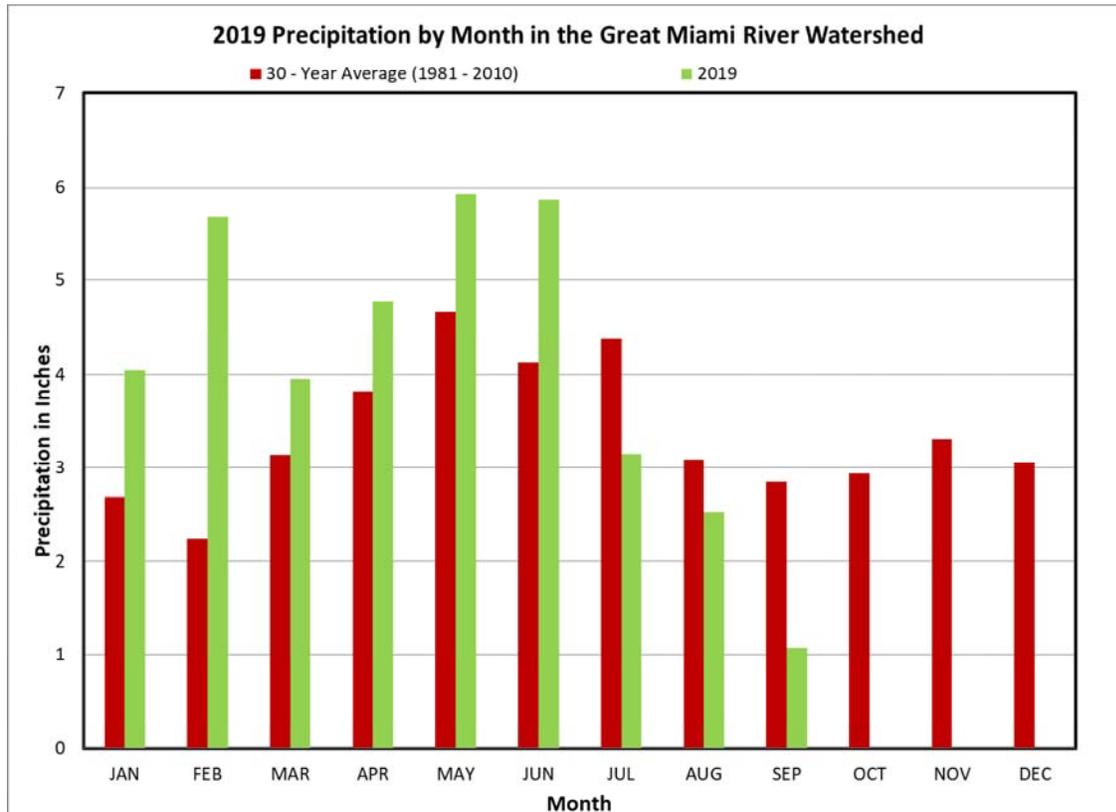
By Mike Ekberg, manager of water resources monitoring and analysis

It's been a rollercoaster of a year so far weather-wise. The first six months were wet, wet, wet, followed by a very dry summer. And what can we expect these last couple months of the year in the [Great Miami River Watershed](#).

A wet first half

2019 started out wet and remained that way through the first six months of the year. In fact, precipitation in the Miami Valley for each of the first six months of 2019 exceeded the 30-year (1981–2010) monthly average.

February precipitation set a new, all-time record high of 5.68 inches breaking the previous record high of 5.35 inches set just the year before in 2018.



The wet start to 2019 resulted in some high river flows and saturated soils.

The Miami Conservancy District (MCD) recorded 16 high-water events in the first half of 2019. That's double our annual average! (MCD defines a high water event as any time river flows are high enough to result in water storage behind one or more of our five dams. Or when our staff takes action—such as closing a floodgate on a storm sewer—in one of our protected communities.)

Saturated soil conditions had a big impact on agriculture resulting in unplanted acreage or severe planting delays for crops.

An August story by the Columbus Dispatch reports that US Department of Agriculture statistics show “more than one in seven acres in Ohio went unplanted for farmers in the federal crop insurance program, the highest rate in the country.”

In some Ohio counties, rains prevented nearly 50 percent of the agricultural land from being planted,

“making 2019 [the state’s worst planting season on record](#),” the Dispatch reported.

Through August 2019, precipitation and runoff were on pace to set new record annual highs. And then things changed.

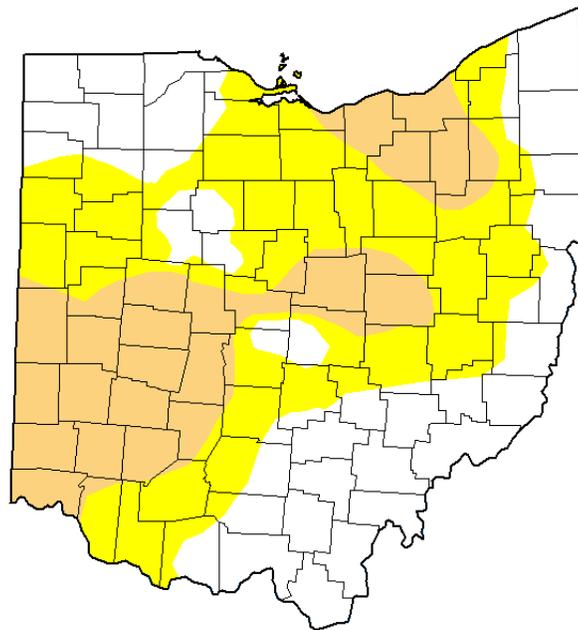
A drought sets in

Mother Nature turned off the rain!

Monthly precipitation in July, August, and September fell below monthly averages. In September, drought conditions began to set in. According to the National Drought Monitor, the Miami Valley was in abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions through September. And as of Oct. 22, the region remained in moderate drought conditions. What a difference a couple of months can make!

U.S. Drought Monitor Ohio

October 22, 2019
(Released Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:

Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

2012 algal bloom on the Great Miami River in downtown Dayton, Ohio.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration (NOAA), the dry, hot conditions the Miami Valley experienced over the past couple of months was a result of a persistent ridge of high pressure over the southeastern United States.

Outlook for the remainder of 2019

What can we expect for the remainder of the year? According to NOAA’s three-month outlook, the Miami Valley can expect above-normal temperatures through December. The [precipitation outlook](#) is less clear with atmospheric circulation patterns not giving a strong signal for wetter- or drier-than-normal conditions. As usual we’ll have to wait and see how the rest of the year plays out.

Water & Other News

New Invasive spreading from Atlantic States into midwest: Spotted Lanternfly

<https://phys.org/news/2014-11-entomologists-vigilance-newly-lanternfly.html>

New EPA Lead Standards Updated

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/10/climate/epa-lead-water-pipes.html>

The world is getting wetter, yet water may become less available for North America and Eurasia: Plants will demand more water in the future making less water available for people

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/11/191104112828.htm>



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