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Butler County Stream Team

April News - 2015



Volunteer Stream Monitoring in Southwest Ohio

Next Sampling Day - April 11

Sample Collectors

If you cannot collect your sample in April, please let Beth downsea@butlercountyohio.org or Teresa (barnest@bceo.org 513-706-8991) know asap. Lynn is visiting her family in Scotland, so please don't contact her as she won't be able to do much to help.

COOLER LOCK COMBINATION: The combination on all of the coolers will be **2278**. For some weird reason the line to set the numbers is at the top, not the middle.

Cooler Check-In We included a clipboard in the coolers to make it easier to write the check in form (thanks for the idea Bill). To check in, write the sample id on the form and your name and time next to it.

Visit the Lab

The Lab has moved to Pierson Hall at Miami University. [Google Map](#) The lab itself is in Room 105. If you enter the front door (faces High St -SW corner of building), take the left hallway and the lab will be on your right. We are about as close to the front door as you can be without sitting outside :) Tera has put up signs.

LAB SIGN UP: <http://doodle.com/8xwapepucesena4t#table> This sign up will become more important as the year goes on due to parking pass distribution.

PARKING PASSES FOR CAMPUS: Request a visitor's pass at https://www.units.miamioh.edu/prk/visitors/visitor_permit_request.html. The pass will be good through the month of June. Once July arrives – the stream team will be paying for parking passes for those volunteers that sign up to work in the lab. We will fine tune how you receive those passes as the time gets closer.

Alternatively, you can pay to park in the parking garage behind Pierson Hall. I believe it is \$1 for the first 30 minutes and then \$0.50 for each additional half-hour.

Stream Team Sampling Dates

April 11 - sampling day
May 9- sampling day

Stream Team Upcoming Events

Macroinvertebrate Class
5-16-2015 from 10:00am to 2:00pm

Indian Creek Preserve; entrance off Oxford Rely Road

Bring Lunch

Register with [Kelly Crout](#)

Whitewater River Sweep
6-20-2015

Brookville, Indiana

Contact [Heather Wirth](#) for more details

Canoe/Kayak Outing
6-27-2015

Great Miami River near Middletown

Fishing Trip
TBD

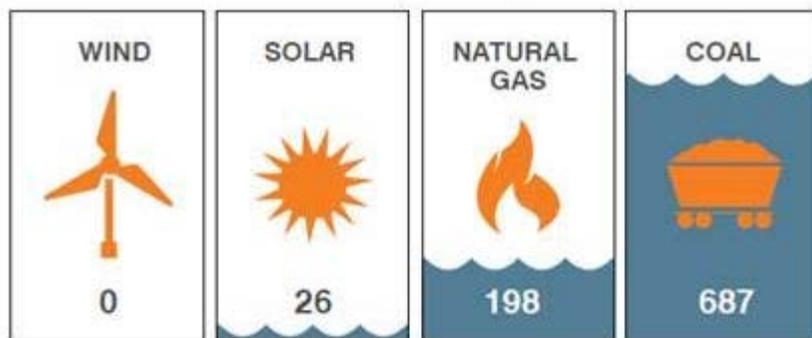
Creek in the Parks Programs for Families

Feel Free to bring family members! If you would like to help contact [Lynn White](#)

- Forest Run MetroPark
June 17 @10 am
- Sebald Park, June 24
@ 10am
- Gov Bebb Park, July 22
@ 10am
- Indian Creek, July 15
@ 10am

OTHER SPRING EVENTS

What are the thirstiest sources of energy?



Gallons of water used to power one home for a month

SOURCES: NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY, 2011 REPORT; EIA.

Water and energy are inseparably intertwined and today. As a society, we use a tremendous amount of water to generate electricity.....and a tremendous amount of electricity to pump and purify our water. **Demand for water is expected to grow 40% by 2030—and as climate change makes water more scarce in many regions, it's absolutely critical that we use water with maximum efficiency.** Today, the next time you take a drink of water or turn on the lights, take a moment to appreciate it and make a commitment to yourself to protect it.

Eco-Cache at the Edge of the Farm Preserve

Donna and Hays are doing an eco-cache - like geocaching but with an ecological message at each spot - on April 18th, 2-5. See spring on the prairie and practice your orienteering skills with the whole family while hunting for educational Caches hidden throughout this beautiful property. RSVP appreciated, but not required. Contact Three Valley Conservation Trust for more info and to register 513-524-2150.

Find out more about the Edge of the Farm Preserve

<http://jrscience.wcp.muohio.edu/edge-farm/TOC.html>

Get Committed - Create a Water-Smart Landscape!

By Mary Cullum

As a Stream Team Volunteer you obviously care about the water resources in our community and look for ways to wisely use this vital natural resource. Even though we don't suffer from California's water woes, we still need to innovate and incorporate water conservation strategies in our homes and communities.

Since spring has finally arrived here in Ohio, most everyone is antsy to get out of the house and into their yards! If you haven't done it already, why not make yours a water-smart landscape? You'll not only save water but you'll save money too! You'll also be showing your commitment to your water

Earth Day events

- EarthFest in Oxford, April 18, uptown Oxford
- Earth Day in Middletown, April 18
- Earth Day in Hamilton, April 22 from 11am - 1pm outside of the government services center on High

Farm Day

Come on down to the Farm to find out more about different farming practices and meet the animals.

May 2, 10 am - 3 pm at Double J Farm on Wehr Rd. This free event is a great chance for kids and adults to learn more about where their food comes from.

Lawn and Garden Management

Harrison Public Library, April 29, 6pm Topics: Tree Planting & Care, Soil Testing, Fertilization, and Chemical Usage. Contact [Whitewater Watershed Project](#) to for more information.

Conservation Connection - Garlic Mustard Pull

Saturday May 2, 2015 10am to 12pm

William F. & Cora
Dudley Woods MetroPark
5591 Hankins Rd, Liberty Township, OH

Walk-ins Welcome! Registration:
www.YourMetroParks.net

Wildflower Hike with Robert Henn

Saturday April 18th, 2015 10am to 12pm

William F. & Cora
Dudley Woods MetroPark
5591 Hankins Rd, Liberty Township, OH

FREE FOR ALL AGES!

Big Week of Birding in

conservation values!

One way to accomplish this is to check out the Watersense information on the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/index.html>. WaterSense is an EPA Partnership Program that encourages people to use water efficient techniques and products to make it easy to conserve water. The EPA website has tips and tools to help you incorporate water conservation practices into your landscape such as using native plants, placing turfgrass only where it has a practical function, and minimizing steep slopes. It has watering tips and irrigation tips as well. You can click on Ohio to find native plants that water-efficient and drought resistant. There are also tips for your home and a savings calculator too!

So get committed to water conservation and show you care!

Invasive Plant Alert: Lesser Celandine

Lesser celandine has eight petals, and resembles a short-stemmed buttercup growing from a dense mat of leaves. It is an early bloomer, starting in mid-March. By June the leaves have disappeared for the year. Celandine belongs to the buttercup family (Ranunculaceae).

Lesser celandine has been introduced to gardens in the United States several times. The plant is found across Europe and Asia. It thrives in wetlands, and is uncommon on higher, drier sites.

How lesser celandine affects surroundings

Lesser celandine is an exotic spring ephemeral and a vigorous growing groundcover that forms large, dense patches or mats on the forest floor, displacing and preventing native plants from co-occurring. Because lesser celandine emerges well in advance of the native species, it can establish and overtake areas rapidly.

The window of opportunity for controlling lesser celandine is very short, due to its short life cycle. It can be managed with persistence over time using methods that are site appropriate. While manual methods are possible for some (small) infestations, the use of systemic herbicide kills the entire plant from tip to root and minimizes soil disturbance

Locally acres of this invasive can soon be seen crossing the Great Miami River at the Liberty/Fairfield Wayne /Madison Bridge.

Many acres of spring wildflowers have been lost at Cincinnati Nature Center to this invasive plant. Many of the local parks are being attacked by lesser celandine.

This invasive plant needs to be contained. If patches of lesser celandine are located while collecting your samples please alert the property owners of this harmful invasive plant.

Fight invasives, plant native for birds and butterflies, Good parks!

Thanks,
Chuck Holliday

Butler County (FREE! Reservations Recommended)

- Bird Banding at Gilmore MetroPark 5-2-2015; 9am to 11am
- Sunrise at Woodsdale MetroPark 5-3-2015; 7am to 9am
- Indian Creek Winged Wonders 5-4-2015; 6:30pm to 8:30pm
- Forest Run MetroPark Feathered Friends 5-5-2015; 9am to 11am
- Birding at Sebald MetroPark 5-5-2015; 6:30pm to 8:30pm
- Bebb's MetroPark Birds 5-6-2015; 9am to 11am
- Evening at Dudley Woods 5-6-2015; 6:30pm to 8:30pm
- Let's See What's At Salamander Run 5-7-2015; 9am to 12pm
- Birding Secret Places! 5-7-2015; 6:30pm to 8:30pm
- The Birds of Gilmore 5-8-2015; 9am to 11am
- Friday Finale @ VOA MetroPark 5-8-2015
- Birding By Bike @ GMR Bike Path 5-9-2015; 6:30pm to 9pm

April Birding in Butler County MetroParks

- Bird Banding at Gilmore MetroPark Saturdays & Sundays: April 18 - May 31
 - Contact [Sharon Pawlowski](#)
- Spring Migrants Lecture Miami Valley Audubon & Dr. Dave Russell @ Forest Run MetroPark 4-14-2015; 7pm to 9pm
- CHECK OUT www.YourMetroParks.net or call 513-867-5835 for more information

ChuckH@hollidayintheparks.com

Butler County Stream Team Monthly Newsletter

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