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## Butler County Stream Team

April News - 2017

Next Sampling Day - April 8



**If you cannot sample, contact Teresa on her cell at [513-706-8991](tel:513-706-8991). Lynn will be out of town with sporadic cell coverage.**

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### Remember to Sign in Your Samples

Please remember to sign the paperwork in the lock box when you place your samples in the cooler. Remember, you have to push the padlock on the lock box to get it to open as it is spring-loaded.

### Lab Sign Up

Remember, if you are signed up for lab and find out you cannot make it. Please remove your name from the [doodle sign up](#) so that someone else can take your place. We limit the signup to avoid too many bodies in the lab and not enough work.

**Reminder that the lab is now in Shideler Hall at Miami. We are in room 7 which is in the basement.**

[Map of Shideler's location](#)

**Parking: Two choices:**

1. Around Cook Field across from Shideler if you use a parking pass (if you are signed up for lab, [contact Teresa for a pass](#))
2. Or, pay to park in the parking garage found on E. Withrow street behind Pearson Hall (our old lab location)

### Canoe/Kayak Trip

We are looking at two possible dates for our annual canoe/kayak trip. Please select which dates you are available

### Stream Team Sampling Dates

Apr 8  
May 13  
June 10  
July 8  
Aug 12  
Sept 9  
Oct 14  
Nov 11

### From Summits to Sustainability-- Reaching for High Places, Personally and Professionally

Apr 12, 2017, 7:00pm - 8:45pm

**Deadline:** Wednesday, April 5, 2017

**Cost:** FREE (Registration is required)

**Location:** The Ohio Union, Archie Griffin Grand Ballroom, 1739 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43210

**Contact:** Christy McLeod, [614-292-3371](tel:614-292-3371), [mcleod.53@osu.edu](mailto:mcleod.53@osu.edu)

The largest consumer co-op in the United States with over 6 million active members, REI (Recreational Equipment, Inc.) was founded in 1938 in Seattle. The outdoor retail co-op is dedicated to inspiring, educating and outfitting its members and the community for a lifetime of outdoor adventure and stewardship. It offers its own line of gear and apparel, in addition to products from other brands for the broad range of outdoor pursuits. REI leads a robust

on this [Doodle Poll](#) if you would like to attend. We aim to go on the date that most people are available.

We plan to paddle from the St Rt 73 bridge near Trenton down to Rentschler Forest in Fairfield Twp. This section of the Great Miami is 7 miles long and passes by several tributaries including Gregory Creek. It also passes through forested areas, farmland, past the Hamilton boat club, and under railway and road bridges. We usually see a lot of bank swallows, blue herons, and the occasional bald eagle. The [Great Miami Water Trail map](#) doesn't show much detail, but the stretch is from river mile 48.3 to 41.3.

You can either use your own boat (we will help transport your boat) or we will be working with Jimcos Kayak in Middletown to use his boats.

Please [contact Lynn](#) if you have any questions.

Remember to select your availability on the doodle poll <http://doodle.com/poll/z5phqv7au8qnm6vg>

## Stream Biology Class/ Biological Monitoring

**Saturday, May 20 from 9 am - 12 noon**

If you would like to learn more about biological monitoring of our streams, we are planning to head to Indian Creek Preserve ([map](#)) on Saturday, May 20.

After a brief background on streams, water quality, and the stream creatures, we will enter the creek to conduct a stream sample. This biological sample will help us to assess the health of the water. Interested attendees can become biological samplers for Stream Team.

Please wear closed toe footwear that can get wet. Please be aware this entire class will be held outdoors rain or shine. There are no shelters in this portion of the park. There is a restroom and a few picnic tables.

**Pre-Registration is required** by May 18 as I need to get all of the resources together. To register, please contact Lynn at Butler SWCD at [513-887-3720](tel:513-887-3720) or email your name to [ButlerSWCD@ButlerCountyOhio.org](mailto:ButlerSWCD@ButlerCountyOhio.org).

## Private wells -- Test for a silent killer By Mike Ekberg, Manager for Water Resources Monitoring and Analysis at Miami Conservancy District

Recent groundwater [studies](#) in our region show that drinking water in up to 20 percent of private wells contains high levels of arsenic. Long-term exposure to arsenic through drinking

marketing effort to get people outdoors, including closing its stores on Black Friday and encouraging all Americans to spend the day out in nature. REI is passionate about the outdoors and committed to promoting environmental stewardship and increasing access to outdoor recreation. Its stewardship/sustainability efforts are focused on product sustainability, sustainable operations, creating access to the outdoors and encouraging sustainable tourism, and assisting with community stewardship projects and volunteerism. REI's sustainability and stewardship initiatives are led by Vikram Sahney, 38, Vice President of Sustainability. At OSU, Sahney will share how he, and hopefully students and others, finds ways to align his passions and profession to reach ever higher levels of sustainability.

## Butler County Farm Day

May 6, 2017 10 am - 2 pm  
At Pedro's Angus Farm 2151 Harris Road, Hamilton, OH 45013 ([map](#))

Butler County, considered a bedroom community for Cincinnati with many urban areas, is rich with agricultural history and continues to have an agricultural focus in many of our rural areas. The goal of the Farm Day event is to educate the public about Ohio's number 1 industry – Agriculture. This day will give you a glimpse into what farm life is like on a Registered Black Angus cattle operation. We also hope our 800 + participants will walk away with a greater understanding of farm life, the passion producers have for their livestock and agricultural operations, and how our producers work to find ways

water is associated with multiple serious health problems. Arsenic is a known human carcinogen, linked to cancers of the bladder, lungs, skin, kidney, nasal passages, liver, and prostate gland. In addition, exposure to arsenic interferes with the immune system, impacts cardiovascular, pulmonary, neurological, and hormonal processes, and may be a contributor to the development of type 2 diabetes.

**Elevated arsenic not uncommon in regional groundwater** Arsenic is an element and a minor component of the rock and soil present in local aquifers. Under the right conditions groundwater dissolves arsenic in the aquifer and carries it into wells. Public water systems must test for arsenic. If arsenic levels are high, they are required to remove it. Unlike public water supplies, private wells usually are not routinely tested.

**Drinking water comes from a private well? Get your water tested.** How can you tell if your well water has high arsenic levels in it? You can't, not without a laboratory test. That's why I urge well owners who use their wells for drinking water to get their water tested. A laboratory test will typically cost anywhere from \$20 to \$25. If you use a private well for drinking water, it's important to test your water for arsenic. If you don't, you run the risk of consuming drinking water with elevated levels of arsenic.

**Removing arsenic.** Removing arsenic from drinking water can be complex. In general, there are two major categories of removal systems, point of use (POU) and whole-house. POU arsenic removal systems remove arsenic at a single tap where the water is consumed. POU arsenic removal systems do not remove arsenic throughout the entire house. Whole-house arsenic removal systems remove arsenic at the point where water enters the house, distributing treated water throughout the entire house.

A recent [study](#) by the U.S. Geological Survey and MCD found the effectiveness of treatment systems in removing arsenic is largely dependent upon the arsenic level in the untreated water. The higher the arsenic level in the well, the less effective arsenic removal systems tended to be. Fortunately, studies of our regional aquifers show that most water has arsenic levels that can be removed with arsenic removal systems that are available on the market.

Currently, there are two labs in our area that will test your water. Call them for fees and more information:  
Montgomery County Environmental Laboratory  
4257 Dryden Road, Dayton, OH 45439  
(937) 781-3016

Pace Analytical Services, Inc. - Dayton  
25 Holiday Drive, Englewood, OH 45322

to conserve our natural resources through conservation practices.

Find out more at  
[www.butlerswcd.org/farmday](http://www.butlerswcd.org/farmday)

(800) 723-5227

### **Other resources to help you understand how to test your well water**

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has a website with contact information about state-certified labs that can help with testing. Heidelberg University also offers testing services.

The Ohio State University (OSU) also offers an on-line tool to help you understand the test results. The OSU site offers a lot of information for well owners.

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## **Water News**

### **First evidence found of popular farm pesticides in drinking water**

[www.washingtonpost.com/news/science/wp/2017/04/05/iowa-scientists-find-first-evidence-of-popular-farm-pesticides-in-drinking-water/?utm\\_term=.7ba52e01300f](http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/science/wp/2017/04/05/iowa-scientists-find-first-evidence-of-popular-farm-pesticides-in-drinking-water/?utm_term=.7ba52e01300f)

### **Lower Great Miami River Study**

[http://wp.miamiconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/2017\\_LGMR\\_Report-FINAL\\_02-28-17\\_Compressed\\_Graphics.pdf](http://wp.miamiconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/2017_LGMR_Report-FINAL_02-28-17_Compressed_Graphics.pdf)

### **Americans are Water Conscious**

[www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/03/170329104002.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/03/170329104002.htm)

### **Graphene-based sieve turns seawater into drinking water**

[www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-39482342](http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-39482342)

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## **Sampling Reminders**

- Remember to sign in your samples in the lock box then place your sample in the cooler.
- 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
- Sign your sample into the cooler with the drop off time.
- Don't put the samples in the bag with the clean bottles
- Keep the cooler lid closed as much as possible
- Provide labels that say dry, or too low to sample, if that is the case.
- Remember the cooler locks are different from each other. See info above.
- **Duplicate samples** - when you sign them into the cooler, put the number "2" next to the sample ID.
- **Duplicate samples** - use the month that is on the label. Remember to talk to Teresa if you will be out of town that month and she can switch dates for you.

Butler County Stream Team Monthly Newsletter

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