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# Butler County Stream Team

## October News - 2016

### Next Sampling Day - Oct 8



**If you cannot sample, contact Lynn at 513-615-2538 , or contact Teresa at 513-785-4142 or her cell at 513-706-8991.**

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### High St Closed for Pumpkins

Just a reminder that High St in Hamilton will be closed for Operation Pumpkin. Some of you may need to find an alternative route for sampling. Find the schedule and more at [www.operation-pumpkin.org](http://www.operation-pumpkin.org)

### Duplicate Samples

Reminder, you have pink labels for duplicate samples. Check and see if you are due to take a duplicate this month or next. If you have any questions, contact Teresa [barnest@bceo.org](mailto:barnest@bceo.org)

### Thank you To Miami's ERC

Thank you to Jeremy Fruth and Ann Rypstra for our tour of the Ecology Research Center. Thank you also to all of the volunteers who joined us for this cold and wet day. Find out more about the ERC at <http://miamioh.edu/cas/academics/centers/erc/index.html>

### Great Miami River Cleanup

#### October 22

Join us for a fun Saturday morning and help cleanup our river. See if you can find the weirdest item.

**On Foot** - Clean along the river bank at multiple locations

### Stream Team Sampling Dates

Oct 8

Nov 12

Remember to let us know if you cannot collect your sample

### Great Miami River Cleanup

**Oct 22, 9 am - 12 noon**  
**Multiple locations**

Save the date for this fun event.

See what the weirdest item you can find is. More details will be posted soon at

<http://greatmiamirivercleanup.org/>

### Special Invite for Stream Team Volunteers to a Hike at

#### Salamander Run

**Saturday, Oct 8, 3- 5 pm**

4821 Layhigh Rd, Hamilton, OH 45013 ([map](#))

Guided trek of varied terrain and habitat at Salamander Run , managed and currently owned by Three Valley Conservation Trust. Enjoy the restoration efforts, wildlife and native species to be found at this soon to be park. Suggested: wear long pants and sturdy footwear.

This area is closed to the public, and is viewable only by invitation or special permit. The Friends of MetroParks has provided a special invitation to stream team volunteers to this closed event.

For more information, please contact Chuck Holliday,

from Carlisle to the Ohio River.

### Boat options

1. Call Jimco Kayak/Canoe Livery at 513-424-1529 to book your seat in a kayak for this Middletown location. **You must pre-register directly with Jim.** Space is limited. Free kayak rental for this event.
2. Call Adam at Hamilton Co SWCD 513-772-7645 x 15 if you would like to bring your own canoe/kayak to Heritage Park in Colerain Twp.



[chuckh@hollidayintheparks.com](mailto:chuckh@hollidayintheparks.com)

## 2016 Webcast Series

These webcasts are shown at the Butler County Engineers Office on Rt 4 in Hamilton. 1921 Fairgrove Ave. from 1 - 2:30 pm

- October 12, **Retrofitting Revisited: Forward Into the Past**
- November 16, **Non-Traditional MS4s**

Visit <http://greatmiamirivercleanup.org/> for all the locations and other details

If possible, please [pre-register online](#).

## Milkweed Seed Collection

The Annual Milkweed Collection is wrapping up. We have until **October 30th** to fill our bin with milkweed seed pods.

The seeds will then be taken to correctional facilities to be sorted, then used in ODOT projects around the state.

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



Thank you to Ken Dwigans for allowing us to collect on his property, and to Karen Gaker for joining us.

## The Perfect Time of the Year

### By Chuck Holliday

I have always gotten a lot of questions concerning the best way to "get rid of honeysuckle". I am a firm believer in the fall foliage spraying of honeysuckle. Most everyone has heard the saying "first to get its leaves in the spring and last to lose its leaves in the fall." Honeysuckle uses the last few warm and sunny days of fall to actively store its energy to its roots, during spring and summer honeysuckle aggressively turns its energy to growth and berry production. Know your enemy!



The Don Gieger Method - In late fall, after the native and natural flora has gone dormant, honeysuckle plants are actively producing next year's plants. A simple 2% solution of Roundup in a sprayer can do catastrophic

damage to a honeysuckle plant if the foliage is spray on a warm (>40 degree) and sunny day because the plant is actively sending its produced energy and accompanying Roundup solution to its root system. The honeysuckle plant should not come back to life the next spring. Remove the dead plant and spot spray any missed plants that may show life.

I have seen this method used quite successfully in many commercial applications: Dudley Woods restoration, Allen Park, Salamander Run, and Hamilton County Parks. It works equally as well in your back yard.

Remember 2% solution of Roundup equals 2.5 ounces of straight Roundup add to 128 ounces of water. Increasing the dosage does not increase the effectiveness spray. Save your money, make more gallons of spray, spray more honeysuckle.

Attack honeysuckle, plant native for birds and butterflies, Good Parks.

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## EPA Blog Digest

### By Mary Cullum

Did you know the EPA has a blog? Well, I must have checked the "subscribe " box at some point because the EPA Blog Digest periodically shows up in my inbox. Actually, I'm glad I did because it keeps me informed about what the EPA is up to and refreshes my environmental outlook. Just this morning another EPA blog landed in my email. Among the articles highlighted was a short article from May 2015 about the Clean Water Rule. It hit on the major reasons for this fine-tuning of the Clean Water Act. One of which was the use of scientific studies that showed that wetlands and small streams, like the ones here in Butler County that we sample and test, are an important factor in the health of larger downstream bodies of water. This may not be news to us, but our work contributes to advancing the scientific data on the value of protecting the quality of our waters, which has had a positive effect on our health, economy, and communities. For over 40 years our country has benefited from the diligence of the EPA to safeguard our water resources. So as we go forward through this fall, think about how much clean water means to you and share your thoughts about the benefits of the EPA's efforts with your family and friends. Here's the link to the article: <https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2015/05/reasons-we-need-the-clean-water-rule/>

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## Water News

### What's ahead for our region's weather?

By Mike Ekberg, Manager for Water Resources Monitoring and Analysis at MCD

In my August 1, blogpost, "Climate Change: Is It Real?" we noted that our climate is always changing. Some people want to debate the cause, but that's not nearly as important as planning for the changes that are expected.

[Read more...](#)

### **Microbeads in rivers**

From USGS

Microplastics are the miniscule plastic fragments (smaller than 0.04 inch) that fall off of decomposing plastic bottles and bags, and are intentionally manufactured into some toothpastes and lotions. Scientists have found microplastics nearly everywhere, particularly in lakes, rivers, and aquatic animals. [Read more...](#)

### **New Technology Helps Pinpoint Sources of Contamination: A Library of Poop**

When the local water management agency closes your favorite beach due to unhealthy water quality, how reliable are the tests they base their decisions on? As it turns out, those tests, as well as the standards behind them, have not been updated in decades. Now scientists have developed a highly accurate, DNA-based method to detect and distinguish sources of microbial contamination in water. [Read more...](#)

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## **Sampling Reminders**

- 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.
- The combination of the cooler lock is **2278** which is BCST if you look at your phone keypad.
- Remember the cooler lock is weird, and that the numbers don't line up along the middle.
- **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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Our mailing address is: 102 Boyd Hall, Institute of Environmental Sciences, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056

Phone: 513-785-6666

E-mail: [whitelr@butlercountyohio.org](mailto:whitelr@butlercountyohio.org)

Website: [www.butlercountystreamteam.org](http://www.butlercountystreamteam.org)

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