



**April 14, 2018**

**is our next sampling date**

If you cannot sample, please contact [Teresa](#) 513-706-8991

**I'll miss the April sampling as I'll be at a conference, where my cell phone coverage will be spotty. If you have any questions/issues, please call Teresa at 513-706-8991.**

**- Lynn**

## **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.
  - Keep the cooler lid closed as much as possible
  - Remember to grab bottles for the following month. It's always helpful to have a spare bottle in case one accidentally jumps into the creek.
  - Provide labels that say dry, or too low to sample, if that is the case.
  - Remember the cooler locks are different from each other, but they use the same code number to open. One of the locks is spring loaded, so you have to push it in to open it.
  - **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.
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## Your Sampling Pics

One of the great suggestions from the training breakfast was a spot for you to showcase your sampling site. I'm stealing from Mary Cullum's site on Crawford Run in Hamilton. I collected for her once last year and loved all the racoon footprints.

If you'd like to share a pic and/or story about your sites, [send them to my email](#).

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## Stream Ecology

Mark your calendars, we are spending two mornings in the creek to learn about aquatic life. We will sample the macroinvertebrates and use them to assess the water quality. We will spend some time in the creek, so be prepared to get wet.

- June 16 at Indian Creek Preserve, near Reily

- July 21 at Gregory Creek: Dudley Woods Park in Liberty Twp.

If you are interesting in attending, [please let Lynn know](#) which locations(s) so we will have enough equipment.

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## Kayak 2018

### Wetland Paddle

#### Evening in May

I mentioned my annual kayak pilgrimage to Gilmore Ponds during the breakfast. I know that some of you are avid birders, this is a great chance to get out and explore this great habitat which is full of blue heron, egrets, and many other species of waterfowl. Apparently there is also a Great horned owl nest that I've yet to spot.

*This trip is for people with their own boats as there are no canoe/kayak liveries.*

My plan is to go out on the evening of Monday, May 7. If it is too cold (water & air temp combined less than 120 °F ), or pouring with rain, then the makeup date will Thursday, May 10.

**Register:** If interested, [let me know](#) and I'll send emails directly to you closer to the time.

**Bring: Necessary:** Kayak/canoe and flotation vest, **Recommended:** Hat and bug spray, **Your Choice:** Binoculars and camera.

### Annual River Trip

Looking to move the annual kayak trip to August as we have several people that always want to join us in June, but are always on vacation. Looking at either Aug 4 or Aug 18. If you have any thoughts about these dates [let Lynn know](#). Thanks to those who have responded.

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# Regional Conservation Council Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 17th

Fernald Preserve Visitors Center

7400 Willey Road, Hamilton, OH 45013

Registration opens at 8:45 am with the program beginning at 9 am.

This year's program features presentations on:

- Mitigation Banks and In-Lieu-Fees
- Managing Soil and Water in Changing weather patterns
- Managing Invasive Species in Forests
- General Management of Private Forests
- Funding Opportunities from OEPA and Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
- Urban Agriculture
- Using Drones to Assess Natural Resources

Sponsored by county conservation districts of the Tri-State, this event lets you learn from informative speakers, mingle with other conservationists and enjoy good food.

## Fee:

- \$10 per person for the program and refreshments, or
- \$20 per person for the program, refreshments and a buffet lunch.

**Registration:** <http://rcc.oki.org/annual-meeting-2/>

**More Info:** Contact David Rutter at [drutter@oki.org](mailto:drutter@oki.org) or [\(513\) 619-7693](tel:(513)619-7693).

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## Ohio Vernal Pools & iNaturalist

A few of us made it to the vernal pools workshop. It was cold, but at least we didn't get the foot of snow they called for. Here is one of our new buddies, a spotted salamander.



The Vernal Pools Partnership uses the free iNaturalist app. iNaturalist helps you identify the plants and animals around you. What's more, by recording and sharing your observations, you'll create research quality data. Create your own account, then when you are out exploring wetlands you can post your findings under the project **Ohio Vernal Pool Network**.

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## Help Hunt for Queen Bumble Bees!

### New Citizen Science program through the Goodell Native Bee Lab at OSU

The Goodell Lab is looking for volunteer naturalists who are able to identify bumble bees to species to help collect data on nest-hunting and foraging queen bumble bees this spring (April – June). They have all the info you'll need including procedures, id sheets, and data forms online.

[Read more...](#)



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## Water News

### When nature says 'Enough!': the river that appeared overnight in Argentina

A new watercourse is playing havoc with farmland and roads and even threatening a city – but also highlights the potential cost of the country's dependence on soya beans

[Read more...](#)



### Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Networks at the Heart of Citizen Science Movement

Lately, citizen science initiatives have been getting noticed by laypeople and mainstream media outlets. As everyday people become aware of ways they can get involved in actual scientific research, more of them are doing so—especially teachers and parents working with children. But this citizen science wave isn't actually a new thing. It has been growing outward from its core in volunteer water quality monitoring networks for years.

[Read more...](#)

### The Western Lake Erie impaired waters saga continues

The Ohio EPA has released its [draft water quality report](#) for 2018 and the report proposes to list the open waters of the Western Basin of Lake Erie as "impaired." The road to this listing has been long and complicated.

[Read more...](#)

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## American Rivers: A Graphic

Major rivers of the 48 contiguous United States, scaled by average flow where river symbols are proportional to the “gage-adjusted flow.”

To see a larger map and to find out more, please visit <http://pacinst.org/american-rivers-a-graphic/>

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## Butler SWCD is Hiring

### Rural Specialist, Full time, permanent

We are hiring a full-time Rural Specialist. This position would primarily work on Farm Bill programs, agricultural pollution complaints, and work with our agricultural community to provide educational resources and technical advise on best management practices. [Please see our website for details.](#)

Applications are due by 4 pm, Friday, April 13.

### Summer Intern

We are hiring a summer intern to assist with District programs and events. Hours will mainly be Mon-Fri from 8 am - 4:40 pm, though a few evenings and weekends may be necessary due to events. [Please see our website for details.](#)

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## Worm Bin Composting Workshop

**Butler SWCD**

1802 Princeton Rd, Hamilton, OH

**Thur, April 26**

6 -8 pm

Create your own worm bin to take home and compost indoors with red wiggler worms.

Cost: \$25. You will receive over \$50 worth of materials at this workshop

***Pre-registration is required by April 19***

Find out more and register online at

[www.butlerswcd.org/product-page/worm-bin-composting-workshop](http://www.butlerswcd.org/product-page/worm-bin-composting-workshop)



## Oxford EarthFest

Saturday, April 21. 10 am - 1 pm

Uptown Oxford.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1204626056339609/>

## Learn How to Make a Pollinator Garden

Starting at 9 am at the Oxford EarthFest.

The first 40 attendees will take home a free pollinator garden starter kit

Hosted by the Beeps Foundation.

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/beepsfoundation/events/>



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