

The Warren Report



Warren County
Soil & Water
Conservation District

FUTURE CONSERVATIONISTS DAY CAMP

As 2021 ramps up into full swing, Warren County SWCD is excited to bring new summer programming to our residents! In line with our mission, we strive to be excellent conservationists, while helping others to learn how to be good stewards of the earth as well. This work includes helping to shape the next generation of conservationists. Children develop a connection and commitment to the natural environment by engaging in nature play and learning about the world around them. By experiencing scientific study and observation, children increase their scientific literacy and understanding of natural processes and systems. Plus, playing outside is fun! This year the District is offering our first annual Future Conservationists Day Camp for children ages 9 to 12 years old. This is a 3 day camp series which will rotate to a different park in Warren County each camp day. Campers will learn about wildlife, pollinators, prairies, forests, streams, and so much more by experiencing what different parks have to offer! They will practice making observations like field scientists, search for stream bugs and animal tracks, learn about environmental conservation, and play nature games! Camp will take place from 9:00a to 12:00p each camp day.

Monday June 21– E. Milo Park in Springboro
Wednesday June 23– Miller Ecological Park in Lebanon
Friday June 25 – Warren County Park District Armco Park

Program is FREE but space is limited to 20 campers!
Register at: www.warrenswcd.com/future-conservationists-day-camp

Questions? Contact Melissa Proffitt, Education & Communications Specialist
Melissa.proffitt@co.warren.oh.us, 513-695-3086

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Upcoming Events

May 22 - DIY Rain Barrel Workshop

**June 8 - Harmon Park Stream
Encounter**

**June 19 - Hamiton Twp. Touch
- a- Truck (See the new Macro
Mobile!)**

**June 21, 23, 25 - Future
Conservationist Day Camp**

**July 13 - Franklin Municipal Park
Stream Encounter**

**August 10 - Muddy Creek/Mason
Bike Path Stream Encounter**

Miller Ecological Park, 2020



*For more information about
upcoming events or important
dates, please visit our website or
sign up for our email newsletter
on the homepage.*

WarrenSWCD.com

AREA IV ENVIROTHON TEAMS COMPETE VIRTUALLY

Congratulations Kings High School and Springboro High School!



KHS Team 2 and 1 (from left to right)
(Team 2) Kaitlin Niebauer; Declan Alford; Hanna Ballard (missing from picture)
(Team 1) Katie Ripley; Ellie Ritter; Noelle Adler; Brady Kidwell-Fitzgerald; Nick Marchal (club president)
Advisor: Ed Gomes (not pictured)

Congratulations to our Warren County teams that competed in the virtual 2021 Area IV Envirothon Competition! Two teams from Kings High School and one team from Springboro High School joined 39 teams from across SW Ohio to participate. All 3 of our county teams featured new advisors and students who had never before competed. Due to the students' hardwork and dedication, all 3 teams placed in the top 25! KHS advisor Ed Gomes shared the students were proud and "very excited to hear about how well they did." SHS advisor Beth Andrews said, "Our team name was the SHS Pioneer Species, named in honor of this being the very first year competing in the Envirothon competition (these students are the first to "populate" this new region/competition to represent SHS at Envirothon). We set our goal to "test the waters" and just try our best while having fun, knowing team members did not have much time to prepare and had other after-school

commitments. Thanks to the welcomed advice of Melissa Proffitt, I encouraged each student to pick an Envirothon topic area to focus their studies and then additionally study other topic areas if they had extra available time to prepare. Listening to the team's discussions was such a joy. The team members were rationalizing/justifying answers and showing great enthusiasm. The entire experience was light-hearted fun with the team's goal of doing the best they could given the circumstances and gaining experience to hopefully become more competitive next year. The team is pleased with 12th place and is optimistic about next year's competition. Thank you for this wonderful experience with Envirothon, and we look forward to competing again next year!"

Warren County SWCD is excited for 2022 and working further with these wonderful students and advisors!



SHS Pioneer Species (front row left to right) Maisha Choudhury and Nicole Shuler (back row left to right): Team Captain Grace Gulczinski, Faith Hampton, and Isaac Morton. Advisor: Beth Andrews (not pictured)

2021 Tree Sale Volunteers



2021 SUMMER INTERNS

Meet Caroline, Joel, Taylor, and Evan!

This summer we are excited to welcome four wonderful interns to the District. Caroline, Joel, Taylor, and Evan will be assisting with technical projects and educational outreach as they learn different components of careers in the natural resource field. These interns represent the next natural resource professionals! After graduating from Waynesville High school, Caroline entered OSU's Agricultural Technical Institute to pursue an Associates in Agronomy. She is in her 12th and final year of 4-H which she says "is where my love for the natural world started. I am drawn to soil science because of its importance in fighting climate change by the stopping and reversing of desertification." Joel is a junior studying environmental engineering at the University of Cincinnati. He shares that "I am interested in the natural resources field because it lies at the intersection of both my passions and interests -- I love to hike, spend time with friends outside, and explore local parks, and as a result I am very passionate about stewarding and protecting our natural resources well. I am very excited to join the Warren County SWCD team this summer!" Taylor is a junior at UC studying biology and environmental studies, and says "I am extremely interested in the environment, conservation, and looking at that deeper within my own community. I am very excited to gain some new hands-on experience this summer and learn in working with Warren County SWCD!" Evan is a second year going into third year student at Ohio State. He shares "I am interested in conservation as it impacts our community in a profound way and insuring that the community is safe is something I hold extremely important. I am an Eagle Scout, a member of Theta Xi social fraternity, I play the trumpet and enjoy cooking in my spare time". The District is looking forward to a great summer with our new interns!



Caroline Bensman

Joel Steimle

Taylor Wood

Evan Jones

SUMMER CONTESTS Hottest Day, Coloring, and Biggest Tree Contests

Check out our summer contests and enter to win a prize! All contest complete rules and submission guidelines can be found at <https://www.warrenswcd.com/contests>

Coloring Contest: This year's contest will feature dragonflies in honor of our education ambassador Dagmar the Dragonfly! There are three age categories. All coloring contest entries must be received or postmarked by July 31, 2021. Winners will receive a special prize!

Biggest Tree Contest: American Elm

Do you have the largest Elm tree on your property? We are in search of this year's Warren County Biggest Tree Contest winner! To enter, measure the circumference of your tree at four feet up from the base and make a rough estimate of the tree's height. Submit your tree's measurements by July 31, 2021!

Hottest Day: Can you guess what will be the hottest day between July 26 and August 14? Submit your entry of date and temperature by July 25!

Ecology Club from Mason HS, Muddy Creek Clean Up, April 2021





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COVID-19 UPDATES

While our office remains closed to public walk-ins, we are resuming some in person programming and summer events!

To stay current on developments and changes in our office, and updates on programs and services please subscribe to our Enews blast and newsletter on our website. Also visit us on social media!

www.warrenswcd.com

www.facebook.com/WarrenCountySWCD

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Our mission is to promote the wise stewardship of our natural resources through cooperative partnerships, educational programs and technical assistance in land and water management.