

CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

South Lebanon



Established in 1795, South Lebanon has been a community in Warren County with conservation at its core for over 200 years. A nearly two-mile stretch of the Little Miami River runs through the city center and stewardship and protection of this precious natural resource has been passed down through generations of residents. In 2021, South Lebanon renewed its commitment to green spaces and land conservation during its Comprehensive Plan, expanding land use designated for parks and open spaces, including “passive and natural areas that preserve pockets of nature.”

With this mission in mind, South Lebanon secured the first of two Operation Rain Garden grants from Warren Co SWCD in 2021 for the installation of a bioswale, a new focal point the city’s revitalized downtown area adjacent to the Veterans Memorial. The Bioswale will help manage and filter pollutants out of runoff from adjacent impervious surfaces, support pollinator populations with native flowering plants, and provide future generations of Warren County residents a beautiful community amenity to learn from and enjoy. We are thrilled to present our partner, South Lebanon, the 2023 Conservationist of the Year Award.