

THE WHITEWATER RIVER WATERSHED NEWSLETTER



Thanks for Reading

It may seem cold and lifeless outside, but the Whitewater River Watershed Project is still steaming with activity. If you have further questions about the watershed, contact Chelsea Tooley, Outreach Coordinator, by phone at 1-812-689-4107.

Backyard Conservation Workshop

March 31st @ 6pm

Harrison Public Library

10398 New Haven Road, Harrison, OH

Come and learn about backyard conservation and the things you can do to improve your yard and help the environment at the same time.

Topics Include: Rain Gardens, Native Plants, Composting, and Rain Barrels

At the end of the workshop, thanks to Butler County SWCD, there will be an opportunity to build your own rain barrel for \$35/barrel. Blue barrels, kits, and drills will be provided. There will also be an opportunity to purchase compost bins \$45, rain barrels \$65 (terracotta colored), and blue bird boxes \$20.

RSVPs are appreciated but not required. Please call Heather Wirth at 812-926-2406 x 107 for reservations and/or any questions.

What's Inside:

- Upcoming Backyard Conservation Workshop
- Where Have All the Fish Gone?
- Upcoming Conservation Tillage Workshop
- Upcoming Lawn & Garden Management Workshop
- Kids Corner



Where Have All the Fish Gone?



One of the questions that comes up around winter time is “where have all the fish gone?” After all, you won’t see many fish out and about in lakes and streams. Since they can’t walk right out of the ponds and streams, where do they go and how do they survive the cold temperatures?

Fish find the warmest place in the lake, stream, or pond to settle in for the winter. This is often the deepest part of the water. If you were able to see down there you would see the world of fish moving in slow motion.

Because fish are coldblooded, they have no other way to warm themselves up. As a result, they slow down almost to the point of hibernation. Because their body is barely moving, they don’t need much food nor do they expend much energy for swimming.

Some fish like trout and salmon prefer colder water and are more active in the winter. If you were ice fishing, you would find smallmouth bass anywhere from 30 to 100 ft. down, but winter-loving fish like trout and salmon would be just 3 to 6 ft. below the ice.

When the weather begins to warm in the spring, the gradual rise in temperature will stir the fish out of their slow winter state and back to active life.



Whitewater River Watershed Project

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<http://www.dearborncountywatersheds.org>

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Conservation Tillage Breakfast & Workshop - March 14th @ 7:30 am

Zimmer Tractor - 405 E. 7th Street, Brookville, IN

Come and enjoy a free breakfast courtesy of Zimmer Tractor and learn about cover crop establishment and equipment setup, herbicide modes of action, cover crop benefits, and the honey bee neonic dilemma: how you can help.

Please bring PA card and \$10 for PARP credit; also applied for CCH and OH Credits.

For reservations call the Franklin County Extension office at (765) 647-3511 or SWCD office at (765) 647-2651 ext. 3

Lawn & Garden Management: Trees, Nutrients, Pests, and More Workshop

April 29th @ 6:00 pm - Harrison Public Library

10398 New Haven Road, Harrison, OH

Come and learn about lawn and garden management. Topics include proper tree planting techniques and care, soil testing, proper fertilizer usage, and pest management.

RSVPs are appreciated but not required. Please call Heather Wirth at 812-926-2406 x 107 for reservations and/or any questions.

Kids Corner



Can you color Polly the Penguin and her fish above?

Snowflake Search

How many snowflakes can you find in this newsletter? If you post the correct answer to the Whitewater River Watershed Facebook page you will win a prize.



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Facebook: Whitewater River Watershed Project Website: <http://www.dearborncountywatersheds.org>