

W Lake Views

**MUSKINGUM
WATERSHED**
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Summer 2015
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MISSION STATEMENT

*Responsible stewards
dedicated to providing
the benefits of flood
reduction, conservation
and recreation in
the Muskingum River
Watershed.*

mwcd.org

Who Wants a 2015 Coachman Clipper and One Season of Free Camping?

The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD), in partnership with General RV Center from North Canton, announce an exciting promotion where one family will win a brand new 2015 Coachman Clipper AND free camping from April 1-October 31, 2016 at any MWCD facility.

Entries can be made through www.mwcd.org or by mailing a 3"x5" piece of paper titled, "Camping Giveaway." Add name, address and phone number to the entry and mail to MWCD, PO Box 349, New Philadelphia, OH, 44663.

Mail-in entries must be postmarked by August

24, 2015 and all chances to win by mail or through the website must be received by August 31, 2015.

Only one entry per family. Duplicate entries will not be valid. All rules and regulations of the contest are found online at www.mwcd.org or by mailing a stamped, self-addressed envelope to "The Great Camper Giveaway" rules request, MWCD, PO Box 349, New Philadelphia, OH 44663. A winner will be chosen at random from the received entries by September 3, 2015.

Join the excitement and enter to win!

Let the Great Camper Giveaway begin.

Now through August 31, 2015

**Sponsored by
General RV and the MWCD**

Enter for your chance to win a
2015 Coachman Clipper and free
camping from April 1-October 31,
2016 at any MWCD facility.



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3063 Greensburg Rd | North Canton, OH 44720
800-996-9945 | www.generalrv.com

**Muskingum Watershed
Conservancy District**

1319 Third Street NW
P.O. Box 349
New Philadelphia, Ohio
44663-0349

Telephone: (330) 343-6647

Toll-free: (877) 363-8500

Online: www.mwcd.org

E-mail: info@mwcd.org

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MWCD Staff Teach Forestry Management



Buckeye Career Center students and instructors along with MWCD staff celebrating after planting 1,000 hardwood trees at Leesville Lake property



Students and MWCD Conservation Staff gathering at Leesville in Carroll County for field instruction on forestry management.



Environmental Sciences students practicing proper techniques of tree planting under the guidance of MWCD staff.

The MWCD Forestry program dates back to 1945 when the Board of Directors formally adopted a reforestation policy to augment soil erosion control practices and protect the lakes. These early years of the Forestry program were dominated by the planting of pines that currently surround the ten permanent District lakes.

Today, the District is managing and harvesting those same pines while also establishing young growth hardwood forests. The MWCD conservation staff is in process of updating the forest inventory which had not been thoroughly completed since the 1990's. Today, the MWCD is recognized as the second largest tree farmer in the State of Ohio.

Earlier this year students in the natural resources program from Buckeye Career Center, New Philadelphia, had an opportunity to gain firsthand field experience in silviculture at MWCD property at Leesville Lake. Students assisted in planting 2-year old white and red oak trees which replace 80-100 year old pines that were selectively removed. This sustainable and targeted approach ensures the tree stands thrive for the enjoyment of future generations while also providing valuable habitat for diverse ecosystems.

Dan Castellucci, MWCD Forest Resources Manager, stated, "I was impressed with the students in their knowledge, work ethic and their desire to learn. It was an outstanding experience for everyone and we hope to continue the opportunity to give field experience to future classes in other areas of environmental sciences."

It's a Great Day to Say Dam!

After three years of construction, the project team assembled to celebrate the completion of the Dover Dam maintenance improvement project. The Dover Dam is the only concrete dam structure in the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) 14-dam system.

In the mid 1990's the U S Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issued a report stating the Dover Dam was on the top 20 list of most critical dam structures in the United States in need of maintenance and stabilization. The agency determined failure of the Dover Dam would place over 40,000 people at risk and potentially cause economic losses in excess of \$700 million.

The Dover Dam Safety Assurance Program consisted of rehabilitation and stabilization by installing 130 anchors in the dam and stilling basin, installing a parapet wall on top of the dam and installing a closure on the left descending abutment as well as river bank protection immediately downstream of the dam.

The MWCD Chief Engineer, Boris Slogar, stated this project was a testimony to the ingenuity of the team to devise a workable solution to maintain the aging structure while John Hoopingarner, MWCD Executive Director/Secretary, recognized the importance of the cost-share partnership with the USACE on this and other on-going dam improvement projects in the District.

The total project cost was \$60 million. The MWCD was the non-Federal Sponsor and provided 3.45 percent, or more than \$2 million, of the total project cost while the USACE provided the residual \$58 million.

Funding provided by the MWCD was through maintenance assessment collections on 500,000 parcels throughout the 18-county district. Last year the Board of Directors reduced the assessment by half which resulted in assessment collections in 2014 totaling \$5.5 million. Assessment dollars can only be used on flood control maintenance projects such as dam maintenance, reservoir maintenance



Executive Director, John Hoopingarner (center) with Congressman Gibb's District Director, Darrel Kirk (left) and Tuscarawas County Commissioner Belle Everett (right), discussing the partnership with MWCD and the US Army Corps of Engineers.

including dredging and shoreline protection, water quality improvements and watershed management. Other major priority dam maintenance projects that require MWCD local cost share funding include Bolivar Dam, Beach City Dam, Zoar Levee and Mohawk Dam. The total MWCD local cost share funding for these projects is \$200 million while Federal funding is \$660 million needed to preserve the 70+ year old flood reduction system.



Staffing Up For Summer

In order to provide safe and family friendly service during our peak recreational season, the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) increases staffing levels at our five major parks and three marina locations. The total number of MWCD employees increases from 110 to nearly 350 during the summer months. Additions to our staff include position titles ranging from beach guards to park attendants, concession workers to naturalists, gate attendants to park activities leaders, rangers to marina attendants and many others in between!

In addition, MWCD also posted several college intern positions earlier this year.

These positions afford opportunities for college students to gain practical experience in their chosen field of study. Our Conservation Department is hosting three interns who are students at Muskingum University, West Virginia University, and Hocking College. Our Information Systems / Information Technology Department is hosting an intern who is from Kent State University and is also a United States military veteran.

Seasonal, part-time and full-time job opportunities are posted on the www.mwcd.org website, where online employment applications can easily be submitted through the Career Opportunities page on the website.



US Army Veteran and Kent State student intern, Nick Forcier, assisting the MWCD Information Systems/ Information Technology Division and keeping the MWCD five major parks, three marinas, and main offices connected and operating smoothly.

2015 Special



Atwood

330-343-6780 | atwood@mwcd.org

JUNE

- 2 Moonlight kayak tour (midnight)
- 5 Outdoor big screen movie night
- 6 Ice cream social
- 13 Land and lake festival (10am-6pm)
- 17-20 ALIVE Music Festival
- 21 Father's Day dinner
- 26 Outdoor big screen movie night
- 27 Jam out with R.E.N. Band

JULY

- 1 Moonlight kayak tour (midnight)
- 3 Band (TBD)
- 4 FIREWORKS! (dusk), bike parade, DJ Doug Hood, tie dye
- 10 Outdoor big screen movie night
- 17 Outdoor big screen movie night
- 18 Touch-A-Truck
- 20-25 Christmas in July
- 25 Ho, Ho, Ho Breakfast with Santa, DJ Doug Hood
- 31 Moonlight kayak tour (midnight)

AUGUST

- 1 Rock out with the band, Badstone
- 7 Outdoor big screen movie night
- 8 Campers' Yard Sale
- 15 Dance to the band R.E.N. Paul Reynolds
- 21 Outdoor big screen movie night
- 29 Inflatables, DJ, Moonlight kayak tour (midnight)

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Band (TBD)
- 6 Back to school party with DJ Doug Hood
- 26 Trick or Treat, DJ

OCTOBER

- 2-4 Atwood Area Fall Festival
- Schedules for additional weekly activities will be available at the Activity Center during the summer.

Charles Mill

419-368-6885 | charlesmill@mwcd.org

JUNE

- 6 Summer kick-off, kidz bike poker run
- 13 Yo ho ho pirate/ GPS Time
- 20 Father's Day/ car show
- 27 Art Festival

JULY

- 3 Glow party and tattoos
- 4 FIREWORKS!
- 11 Las Vegas spectacular
- 18 Splash weekend-cardboard boat races/boat parade
- 25 Santa's Holiday of Fun- Christmas in July

AUGUST

- 1 Games for hunger/MWCD community food drive
- 8 Flea market & motorcycle cruise in
- 15 Pets are people too
- 22 Hog Roast Luau & Jim Pitney Auction
- 29 Jr. and Sr. Olympics

SEPTEMBER

- 4-6 Karaoke, glow party and tattoos/ catfish tournament
- 12 Grandparents Day
- 26 Harvest Fest/ cast iron cooking

OCTOBER

- 2-4 Happy Halloween & Chili Cook-off

NOVEMBER

- 14 Festival of Thanks

DECEMBER

- 12 Santa Celebration

Pleasant Hill

419-938-7884 | pleasanthill@mwcd.org

JUNE

- 6 Touch-a-Truck & model building
- 13 Safe Boating & Fishing Festival- DJ music
- 20 Brian Ward 5K Race & Jim Warner Band
- 27 Ohio History Sat.- Snowy River Boys Bluegrass Band

JULY

- 4 Rock n' Roll- Tight Rope Band
- 5 Magic and Balloons
- 11 Nature/ Music- live animals/ Kaptain Kurt One Man Band
- 18 FIREWORKS! Christmas in July: DJ, inflatables at beach
- 25 Elvis's Live Tribute & beach BBQ

AUGUST

- 1 Games for hunger/ MWCD community food drive
- The great Mohican triathlon & family races
- 8 Wild West Fest- Bachporch Swing Band and square dancing
- 15 Appalachian/Bluegrass: Snowy River Boys Bluegrass Band
- 17 The RACES at Pleasant Hill Lake Park: Triathlon

Events Calendar

- 22 Bug Zoo / magic and county fair
- 29 Outdoor skills– canoe/ kayak events

SEPTEMBER

- 5 FIREWORKS!
DJ/4th Annual Cornhole Championship

OCTOBER

- 9-10 Halloween Campout–chili and apple cook-off DJ

Seneca

740-685-6013 | seneca@mwcd.org

JUNE

- 5 Connie and Joe Williams (singers)
- 6 Safety Day
- 12 Michael St. James (DJ)
- 13 Michael St. James (DJ)
- 20 Deep Water Band
- 27 Little Creek Band; Deep Water Band

JULY

- 3 FIREWORKS!! Michael St. James (DJ); Randy Valez (singer); Exit 25 (band); River Towne Band
- 4 Michael St. James (DJ)
- 10 Christmas in July Weekend
- 11 Wicked Night Band; Michael St. James (DJ)
- 18 Little Creek Band
- 25 Car Show, Jacob Keaton Duo; Spike Man 50's and 60's DJ

AUGUST

- 1 Hound Dog Duo
- 8 Dr. Insecta's Bug Lab/Magic; Michael St. James (DJ)
- 14 Connie and Joe Williams (singers)
- 15 TRICK OR TREAT! Forever Young Duo; Michael St. James (DJ)
- 22 Michael St. James (DJ)
- 29 Jacob Keaton Duo; River Towne Band

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Michael St. James (DJ); Randy Valez (singer)

WEEKLY EVENTS

Bingo, Strolls with Friends, Coffee and Donuts, Adult Crafts, Neighborhood Chats and Kids Crafts.

Kayaking is held every Friday, Saturday and Sunday 9am-12pm and again from 1pm-4pm from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Live entertainment varies by location (Parkside, Marina Point and The Dockside Restaurant at Seneca Marina)

Tappan

740-922-3649 | tappan@mwcd.org

JUNE

- 6 Learn to kayak
- 13 Teen weekend: 2 on 2 volleyball tournament; DJ In Tunes
- 15-19 Basketball camp
- 20 Ice cream social
- 21 Father's Day tailgate party
- 26 "Shiz Diz" glow party
- 27 Golf cart scavenger hunt, Kirt James inflatables

JULY

- 4 DJ Mr. Moe and parade
- 5 FIREWORKS! Matt Van Fossen Band
- 11 Painting class
- 13 17 Swimming Lessons
- 18 Cardboard Boat Race
- 24-25 Christmas in July; Beach Party with Santa and New American Groove Band

AUGUST

- 1 Beach Luau with Valley Boys Band, Archery Tag
- 8 Teddy Bear picnic
- 15 Campers' yard sale, Learn to kayak, ACS Light the Beach night; DJ In Tunes
- 22 Hot Dog Roast
- 29 Moonlight kayak

SEPTEMBER

- 5-7 Halloween Spooktacular, Dan Jones Band, Trick or Treat, costume parade, scavenger hunt; Hoard and Jones Band, DJ Mr. Moe
- 12 Camper's Farewell Picnic

WEEKLY EVENTS

Wednesday: Kids Bingo

Thursday: Family Movie Night

Friday: Adult \$2.00 Bingo



Events and activities are subject to change at all parks without notice. For more information and weekly scheduled event times, stop at the park office.

Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District Promotes Water Quality through Multiple Programs

Over 68 billion gallons of water is contained in the 10 lakes managed by the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) throughout the 18-county service area. The 10 lakes include:



Boaters and skiers enjoying Tappan Lake in Harrison County.

- Charles Mill in Ashland and Richland counties
- Pleasant Hill in Ashland and Richland counties
- Beach City in Tuscarawas County
- Atwood in Carroll and Tuscarawas counties
- Leesville in Carroll County
- Tappan in Harrison County
- Clendening in Harrison County
- Piedmont in Harrison and Belmont counties
- Seneca in Guernsey and Noble counties
- Wills Creek in Coshocton and Muskingum counties

With the onset of hot weather comes a heightened awareness of water quality levels of Ohio's lakes where water supply and recreational activities thrive. As responsible stewards of this precious natural resource, the MWCD has embraced a robust water quality monitoring and testing program along with taking a proactive stance in promoting programs that reduce nutrient and sediment runoff to promote clean water in the 10 lakes managed by the MWCD. Other lakes, streams, and creeks within the District also benefit by the MWCD programs. These programs include:

Citizen Lake Awareness and Monitoring

The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) partnered with the Citizen Lake Awareness and Monitoring (CLAM) program sponsored by the Ohio Lake Management Society (OLMS) from 2009-2013. The District is fortunate to have volunteer "Lake Keepers" who continue to watch over eight permanent District reservoirs, conduct sampling and gather water quality information. These volunteers collect samples twice a month from July through September and send their samples to a lab for analysis of potential toxins that could cause harmful algae blooms. The results of three years of testing were made available in 2014 and show that all samples were below the threshold for health advisories and warnings. This means that measured toxins at District beaches where people have contact with water were well below the threshold for concern. The MWCD continues to monitor the lake water. Testing results of all of Ohio's lakes for 2011 to present can be found online at www.ohioalgaefinfo.com.

Water Quality Sampling in Coordination with the US Army Corps of Engineers

The MWCD lakes are on a five-year intensive sampling rotation in collaboration with a program established by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). This program has been in effect since 1986. The MWCD provides field personnel to pull samples at the designated locations and during critical times of the year as determined by the USACE. Seneca Lake was the focus of intensive water quality testing in 2014 while Tappan Lake in Harrison County and Wills Creek Lake in Muskingum and Coshocton counties are the focus in 2015.

NOWCAST Research with USGS

The MWCD is working in collaboration with US Geological Survey (USGS) and have developed a predictive modelling tool to forecast periods of elevated bacteria in inland lakes. In 2014 the USGS conducted research on the computer modelling tool at Atwood, Tappan and Seneca. The predictive modelling tool is ready to go active in 2015. A communications plan consisting of e-alerts, signage and social media postings is being developed in the event of periods of potential elevated bacteria outbreaks.



Skyler Dewey of the MWCD Conservation Group is taking water samples that will be tested for a variety of water quality indicators through the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Funding for a Watershed Specialist

The MWCD forged strong partnerships with County Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the 18-county region. Carroll and Harrison Soil and Water Conservation Districts agreed to share the Watershed Specialist position and the MWCD provided a grant to fund this position in 2014 to fill this void. The watershed specialist's role is to promote best management practices to keep nutrients and sediments from entering streams and lakes. The MWCD has a keen interest in ensuring agricultural loading and construction runoff monitoring programs are active through the appropriate county agencies.

Tuscarawas Acid Mine Drainage Program

The MWCD is currently partnering with Rural Action by hosting an AmeriCorps member that is assisting with Acid Mine Drainage issues and potential project sites.

Agricultural Support Programs

A Cooperative Work Agreement (CWA) with the MWCD and ODNR Division of Soil and Water has been in effect since 2010. The 2015 work plan and \$396,690 funding from the MWCD includes:

1. Promote and make available Cover Crop Program in all 18 counties within the District. Cover crops are increasingly becoming important in the conservation toolbox to decrease erosion and sediment runoff and prevent loss of nutrients from croplands in Ohio. This significant expansion will move this region of the State to the forefront in utilizing this conservation practice.
2. MWCD provides watershed education grants.
3. Harrison/Carroll water quality projects are funded through MWCD.
4. Provide funding for innovative projects meeting the core mission of the MWCD

All of these initiatives monitor and reduce nutrient loading to MWCD lakes thus helping to prevent harmful algae blooms and promoting water quality. Funding for these initiatives is made possible from revenues generated through agreements and leasing with the oil and gas industry.



P.O. Box 349
New Philadelphia, OH 44663-0349
Toll-Free (877) 363-8500



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Dover Dam Celebration

The Dover Dam Ribbon Cutting assisted by (L-R) two members of Boy Scout Troop 94, First United Methodist Church, Dover; Steve Muck, Brayman Construction Corporation; Boris Slogar, MWCD Chief Engineer; Congressman Bob Gibbs, 7th Congressional District; Colonel Leon Parrott, Commander Huntington USACE; Belle Everett, President Tuscarawas County Commissioners; Harry Horstman, President of MWCD Board of Directors; Joanne Limbach, Vice President of MWCD Board of Directors; Richard P. Homrighausen, City of Dover Mayor; and Dick Pryce, Member of MWCD Board of Directors. MWCD Executive Director/Secretary, John Hoopingartner (not pictured), was given the honor of conducting the official countdown to cut the ribbon.



March 31, 2015 was the official ribbon cutting of the Dover Dam celebrating the \$60 million dam maintenance and improvement project that was completed on-time and on-budget.

