



Conservation Commentary

November & December 2007

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Got Mud??

For much of the summer an extreme drought had a strangle hold over Meigs County, and any rainfall would have been a welcomed sight.

During the past few months Mother Nature has provided us with replenishing rains. The long overdue rains have relieved the extreme drought, but have caused major challenges for winter feeding of livestock. Because of the dry conditions producers were forced to begin feeding hay a lot earlier than normal. With wet soil conditions and temperatures above freezing, winter feeding areas have become a muddy mess!

Mud increases stress for both the producer and livestock. Muddy conditions increases energy requirements and at the same time decreases feed intake. Feeding cattle in mud can also increase health problems.

One method that can be used to help reduce some of the problems associated with winter feeding is the installation of a heavy use pad. Heavy use pads can be constructed using gravel or concrete. Gravel pads consist of a layer of geotextile fabric, overlain with an aggregate base material, overlain with a surface material. Concrete pads consist of a 4 inch layer of crushed gravel or limestone as base material, and 5 inch thick concrete slab.

Concrete pads are probably the most desirable for durability and low maintenance; however the initial cost is greater than a gravel pad. Gravel pads offer the same durability but tend to be higher maintenance, with less initial cost.

For more information about heavy use pads please contact your local NRCS office at 740-992-6647.



Meigs SWCD

33101 Hiland Rd.

Pomeroy, Ohio 47569

Phone: 740-992-4282

www.geocities.com/meigsswcd/

Supervisors

Ed Gibbs
Chairman

Tonja Hunter
Vice Chairman

Bill Baer
Secretary/Treasurer/ Fiscal Agent

Joe Bolin
Fiscal Agent

Marco Jeffers
Member

District Staff

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Administrator/District Technician

Vicki Morrow
Assistant Administrator

Jim Freeman
Wildlife/Watershed Coordinator

Jenny Ridenour
Education Coordinator/District
Technician

Raina Fulks
Leading Creek Watershed
Coordinator

NRCS

Mary Ann Hawk
District Conservationist

Jason Crislip
Soil Conservationists

County Commissioners

Mick Davenport
James Sheets
Jeff Thornton

Wild Things
By Jim Freeman
Wildlife Specialist



Plan now for Deer Damage Control

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife has provisions to assist agricultural producers with deer damage control, and here in Meigs County your first step should be to call me at the Meigs SWCD.

Prevention techniques and recommendations may include fencing, scare devices, repellents, alternative landscape plantings, issuance of Deer Damage Control Permits and hunting. Generally speaking, lethal options are considered a last resort and are not generally the first choice or the most effective choice of deer damage control.

If you are experiencing deer crop damage, you need to call me as soon as you see damage happening. Deer Damage Control Permits are intended to address deer damage only at the time the damage is occurring, not before or after the fact. You will need to meet with me at the site where damage is occurring to complete a Deer Damage Investigation Report and, if need be, a Deer Damage Control Permit.

Deer Damage Control Permits are intended to address property damage, generally involving crops, nurseries or orchards. Your 10-year-old stand of fescue and broom sedge is not a crop.

Furthermore, deer damage control permits cannot be used on property that is managed for trophy bucks, planted to food plots or where deer feeders are installed.

The number of deer that may be killed will generally vary based upon the size of the property and severity of the damage; in any event, there is a limit to the number that will be issued. Deer Damage Control Permits are not intended to be used as deer population control, which is what hunters are for.

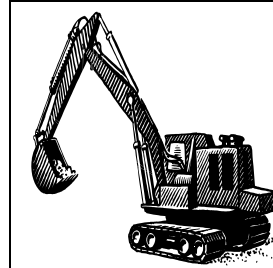
Producers and landowners who are eligible for Deer Damage Control Permits can select up to five shooters. All shooters must live in Meigs County or in an adjacent county and hold a current Ohio hunting license (which go on sale around the middle of February). Make sure you have the following information about your shooters on hand: name, address, phone number, date of birth and hunting license number. The Division of Wildlife will run a background check to see if they have any hunting violations.

Also, select your shooters carefully; experience has shown that hunting buddies are generally not the best choice since deer shooting and hunting are two totally different activities.

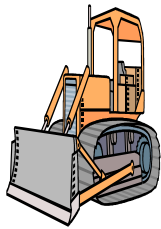
Calendar of Events

Jan 17	Leading Creek Improvement Committee meeting 9:15 a.m. at the Meigs SWCD office
Jan 21	Office Closed - Holiday
Feb 18	Office Closed – Holiday
Feb 21	Supervisor Board Meeting 11:30 a.m. at the Meigs SWCD office
Feb 29	Tree order deadline
Mar 18	Multi County Envirothon at Hocking State Forest
Mar 31	Photo entry deadline-Streams of Meigs County- contact the Meigs SWCD office for details

WOODS  **BUSH HOG**
  
McCORMICK
CROSS & SONS
FARM EQUIPMENT
 10248 COUNTY RD. 84
 JACKSON, OH 45640
ANCIL CROSS Phone (740) 286-1966
OWNER (740) 286-6451



Roses Excavating
 46078 S. R. 124
 P.O. Box 397
 Racine, Ohio
 45771



3-R Industries, Inc.,
 27938 Tower Rd.
 Langsville, Ohio
 45741
 Phone: 740-669-4836



Home National Bank
 Racine 949-2210
 Syracuse 992-8333

 **CONSOLIDATION ENERGY**
Consolidation Coal Company



Southern Ohio Coal Co.
 P.O. Box 98
 Cumberland, OH 43732
 Phone: 740-558-7225

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 Racine

Crow & Crow Attorneys at Law
 Pomeroy

Depoy Ag Parts
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 Middleport

Montgomery Trailer Sales
 Langsville

PDK Construction
 Pomeroy

Peoples Bank
 Middleport, Pomeroy, Rutland

Brown's Taxidermy
 Racine

Jack's Septic Service
 Pomeroy

Farmers Bank & Saving Company
 Pomeroy

Leading Creek Conservancy District
 Rutland

Downing-Childs Agency
 Pomeroy

Racine Optometric Clinic
 Racine

J.D. Drilling
 Racine

Holzer Clinic-Meigs
 Pomeroy

Quality Print Shop
 Middleport

SWCD Equipment for Rent, Sale

The following items are available for sale:

Platbooks	\$15 each
Meigs SWCD caps	\$6 each
Marking Flags	\$.08 each
Topographical Maps	\$8 each
Ohio Pond Management Handbooks	\$2.25 each
Digital Soil Survey CD	\$10 each

The following equipment is available for rent (subject to scheduling and availability):

John Deere No-Till Drill	\$48 min. plus \$8/acre over 6 acres	70 HP tractor min
Tye No-Till Drill	\$36 min. plus \$6/acres over 6 acres	45 HP tractor min
Brillion Seeder	\$30 min. plus \$6/acre over 5 acres	45 HP tractor min
Lime Spreader	\$25 min. plus \$1/ton over 25 ton	60 HP tractor min
Forester Tree Planter	\$25 per day	25 HP tractor min
Planter Bars	Free with a \$20 returnable deposit	
Box Trap	Free with a \$30 returnable deposit	

All equipment must be scheduled through the Meigs SWCD office at 992-4282 during regular business hours for delivery Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4: 30 p.m. A \$20 fee will be assessed if equipment is delivered and not used. **A \$10 charge per month will be added to all unpaid bills after 60 days.**

The Mission of Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District is to provide assistance for the wise use of our natural resources for present and future generations.



Meigs SWCD
33101 Hiland Road
Pomeroy, OH 45769
Phone: 740-992-4282
Fax: 740-992-4248

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage Paid
Pomeroy OH
45769
Permit # 101
Non-Profit