

# NORTHEAST OHIO AGRI-CULTURE NEWSLETTER

Your Weekly Agriculture Update for  
Ashtabula, Portage and Trumbull Counties

January 24, 2023



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## ***Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!***

We hope everyone is having a great week. We are looking forward to seeing many of you this evening at pesticide recertification and in the coming weeks.

Be sure to check out all our upcoming events. There are several flyers for various programs coming up in our counties in the coming months.

Reach out to any of us if you have questions.

Have a great week!

**Lee Beers**  
Trumbull County  
Extension  
Educator

**Andrew Holden**  
Ashtabula County  
Extension  
Educator

**Angie Arnold**  
Portage County  
Extension  
Educator

# **Settling in for the Winter (and beyond): Road Salt Impacts Groundwater Year - Round**

By: Kaine Korzekwa

Source: <https://www.agronomy.org/news/science-news/settling-winter-and-beyond-road-salt-impacts-groundwater-year-round>

For many parts of the United States, winter weather can impact road conditions. To reduce hazardous conditions caused by snow and ice, many counties, municipalities, homeowners, and others use deicers. Salt is the most common option to treat roads.



*Figure 1 Picture of the study site infiltration basin winter. A monitoring well cluster is visible sticking up in the middle of the filled basin. The research team evaluated the impact road had on ground quality. Credit Rachel McQuiggan*

But how might road salt impact groundwater? Does it have impacts only in winter, or does it have lasting impacts year-round?

These are key questions that Rachel McQuiggan, a researcher at the Delaware Geological Survey, and colleagues wanted to answer. In their research, they monitored stormwater and groundwater at an infiltration basin. An infiltration basin is a large, shallow roadside pool that allows stormwater to infiltrate into the groundwater.

The research [was published](#) in the Journal of Environmental Quality, a publication of the American Society of

Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America.

“Most stormwater management practices are designed to protect surface waters,” says McQuiggan. “Infiltration basins, and even some types of green infrastructure, are designed with the idea that stormwater benefits from a natural ‘filtering’ of contaminants as it infiltrates through soil, and contaminants dilute as that recharge mixes with existing groundwater.”

She adds that these are used to prevent contaminants like salt from being discharged straight into surface water. But in states like Delaware, groundwater contributes up to 80 percent of the water in rivers and streams. This means that salt will eventually reach rivers and streams, just on a longer timescale.

The researchers monitored the infiltration basin from mid-May 2019 to mid-February 2022 to evaluate the impact road salt had on groundwater quality. One aspect of their findings showed that geological complexity, such as differences in subsurface soil properties, influenced how salty stormwater moved through groundwater.

The researchers explained it is important to consider things like placement, depth, and frequency of monitoring groundwater to get the full picture.

The team found that groundwater is impacted by road salt throughout the year, not just during winter. This is because the salt is retained in the soil in the infiltration basin. Salt is made of sodium and chlorine atoms, and chloride more easily moves in water. However, sodium more easily latches onto soil particles.



*Figure 2 Rachel McQuiggan takes water quality measurements at a stormwater inlet. The researchers explained it is important to consider things like placement, depth and frequency of monitoring groundwater to get the full picture. Credit: A. Scott Andres*



*Figure 3 A. Scott Andres and Steve McCreary install a shallow monitoring well in the middle of the infiltration basin filled with standing water. The team found that groundwater is impacted by road salt throughout the year, not just during winter. This is because the salt is retained in the soil in the infiltration basin. Credit: Rachel McQuiggan*

During other parts of the year, stormwater that does not contain much salt enters the basin and flushes sodium from the soil into the water. The results of the study also suggest that a higher salt content can cause radium to enter the groundwater.

“Climate can really impact the timing of how this all plays out,” McQuiggan explains. “For example, if it’s a particularly dry



spring and summer, then the sodium can take longer to reach groundwater. And in Delaware, snowfall typically melts and runs off the roads within a few days of falling. In colder climates it can stay frozen for months.”

While there are other deicers available, they are not all as effective as road salt and each has its own pros and cons. Sand is a popular option to increase traction and minimally affect groundwater but could require extra maintenance like street sweeping, says McQuiggan.



*Figure 4 Rachel McQuiggan downloads stormwater data from a datalogger control box. The datalogger is connected to two sensors, one at each inlet, via buried cable. Data collected from these sensors will be used to calculate how much water has discharge.*

“There are even carbohydrate deicers, like beet juice,” she says. “However, most alternatives are used in conjunction with salt or acetate because those are so effective and road safety is incredibly important. Each option has its pros and cons in terms of impact to the environment and cost.”

Many cold areas depend on deicer to ensure the safety of drivers, bikers, and pedestrians. The researchers say their work provides direction on how to best monitor the impacts of deicer on groundwater so adjustments can be made if needed.

“Groundwater supplies almost half of all drinking water worldwide,” says McQuiggan. “In central and southern Delaware, groundwater is the only source of potable drinking water. Hopefully the results of this project will encourage best management practices for deicer use to protect groundwater resources.”

Funding for this research was provided by the Delaware Department of Transportation. The research team is affiliated with the Delaware Geological Survey and the University of Delaware’s Department of Earth Sciences.

## ***Renewable Energy for America Program Offering Grants and Low Interest Loans***

By: Chris Zoller, Extension Educator ANR

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2023/01/22/renewable-energy-for-america-program-offering-grants-and-low-interest-loans/>

This USDA Rural Development program provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Agricultural producers can also apply for new energy-efficient equipment and new system loans for agricultural production and processing. Applications are due no later than March 31, 2023.

How Can Funds be Used?

Funds can be used for renewable energy systems such as:

- Biomass (for example: biodiesel and ethanol, anaerobic digesters, and solid fuels)
- Geothermal for electric generation or direct use
- Hydropower below 30 megawatts
- Hydrogen
- Small and large wind generation
- Small and large solar generation

Funds also can be used to buy, build, and install energy efficiency improvements such as:

- High-efficiency heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems (HVAC)
- Insulation
- Lighting
- Cooling or refrigeration units
- Doors and windows
- Electric, solar, or gravity pumps for sprinkler pivots
- Switching from a diesel to an electric irrigation motor
- Replacement of energy-inefficient equipment

Who is Eligible to Apply?

Agricultural producers who generate at least 50 percent of their gross revenue from farming and small businesses in rural areas may apply for low interest rate loans and grant funding. Small businesses interested in applying must be in an eligible area. Check this website for additional information: <https://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/eligibility/welcomeAction.do?pageAction=ONERD>.

#### Additional Requirements

- Applicants must provide at least 60 percent of the project cost if applying for a grant only.
- Applicants must provide at least 25 percent of the project cost if applying for loan.
- All projects must have technical merit and utilize commercially available technology.
- Energy efficiency projects require an energy audit or assessment.

#### Getting Started

Additional program information, including application instructions can be found here: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/energy-programs/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency-improvement-guaranteed-loans/oh>.

## **Consider Feeding Options for Challenging Conditions**

By: Victor Shelton, Retired NRCS Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2023/01/18/consider-feeding-options-for-challenging-conditions/>

I probably have said it before, but I think it was Robert Frost that said, “You can’t get too much winter in the winter.” I disagree! I already miss not seeing grass on the landscape and I know that there are a lot of livestock that feel the same way.

I’m not a stickler to making or keeping new year resolutions and maybe I should be. As the old year becomes even more a piece of the past with the changing of a digit, my first thought is usually what can I do differently in this new run of 12 months that I wasn’t successful doing in the last.

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*Figure 5 Strategically placed large round bales, where they will be fed, can work well under good soil conditions.*

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We all make mistakes or make wrong decisions. A wise man recognizes those errors and works to not make them again. Life is full of lessons. You just have to pray that you learn them right the first time. Instead of making resolutions that you probably won't keep, take some time and really study something that didn't work last year and figure out how to improve it. For me, that's time management. I'm not "old," but I'm also not young and winter is closer than spring. Time gets more valuable and eventually you can't put a price on it.

Winter came quickly and harshly this time around. Some say that it was a wintery blast that we'll be talking about for decades – could be. I know that I haven't forgotten or stopped talking about the winter of 1978. Luckily, for the most part, I was ready and my contingency plan kicked in. Livestock were moved to where they had shelter from the predicted winds and hay was strategized in such a way that minor effort would be required to provide access for however long was needed.

I'm usually not a huge fan of bale feeding on pasture. The reason is because most years tend to be too wet and there is not enough frozen ground. Even though I appreciate the additional nutrients and organic matter that is added to the site, I've also seen more harm than good done too often. Under wet, especially saturated conditions, the soil around the bales can become tenaciously mud quickly from the concentrated livestock around them – even worse if bale rings are used which would require more energy to move around than I'm really willing to provide.

If you are feeding hay, you ideally don't want to put out too much at a time to create some competition, reducing waste and improving efficiency. Additional hay could be set out for the next feeding or two and fenced off with some temporary electric fence in lots of cases. Hay is an input into the operation, so when utilized, it needs to be efficient as possible.

I've seen other producers in late fall also strategically place large round bales out in the field where they will be fed and then move electric fence (and ring feeders if used) allocating the hay as needed. This certainly lessens the impact of tractor tires mudding around in the field.

Unrolling bales is also certainly an option and almost always better on the soil structure than standing bales. Unrolling bales spreads out the hay, dispersing the livestock more and helping to disperse nutrients and organic matter in the aftermath a lot more evenly. Quality hay is consumed readily and if conditions are good, you may not see much negative impact at all.

Even the unrolling and feeding of hay is best done where there is ample forage present. I start sounding like a scratched record repeatedly stating that maintaining good cover and good above ground growth means good root structure should be

present. Overgrazed pastures have short roots and are more prone to compaction and pugging. The more pugging type of disturbance a pasture has, the more likely it will shift to forages or plants that are adapted for such conditions and those are usually less productive and desirable.

The hay feeding location should be carefully thought out. It should have proper drainage, be close to a water source if possible and not be located where it will cause problems such as along a stream or above or adjacent to a water body. The ideal site should always be where water is available, and nutrients are lacking.

It is good to keep several options open for winter feeding. Stockpiled forages become more challenging to manage and consume the deeper the snow gets or if ice is present. Sometimes it is just easier and better to put out hay and wait until the forages are more accessible again. Livestock that are used to grazing stockpiled forages surprisingly are not as concerned about snow being on top and just continue to graze. Forages usually maintain decent condition and quality even when covered for long periods with snow.

I'd much rather stay on stockpiled forage, but again, you have to pay attention to soil conditions and go with a contingency plan when needed. If conditions improve, then you can go back to grazing. Dry or frozen soils are best for any of the activities.

It is no surprise that most producers feed hay or supplemental feed in dry lots in the winter. Rocked or concrete feeding pads control mud well, reduce energy requirements of livestock as compared to deep mud and protect pastures from damage.

Why do we do what we do – because it's the life we have chosen and hopefully the next generation will benefit from it and continue unwearingly to maintain, improve, and leave the land better than when they received it too. Be efficient with your time and have a happy new year!

Remember, it's not about maximizing a grazing event, but maximizing a grazing season! Keep on grazing!

## ***Help us...Help you! Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rent Survey 2022-2023***

Agricultural professionals with a knowledge of Ohio's cropland values and rental rates are invited to complete the 2022-2023 Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rent Survey

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by **April 30, 2023**. This may include rural appraisers, agricultural lenders, professional farm managers, ag business professionals, farmers, landowners, and Farm Service Agency personnel. Your thoughts and responses are greatly appreciated and will help build a platform for your portion of the state. The more responses, no names asked, the better the data set to provide information to clientele.

Complete the survey in one of these formats.



1. Online at <https://go.osu.edu/ohiocroplandvaluesandrentssurvey2223>
2. You can also access the online survey through this QR code:
3. Paper format – Long version [Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rents Long Survey 2023](#)
4. Paper format – Short version [Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rents Short Survey 2023](#)

## ***Recognizing Changes in Mental Health***

By: Bridget Britton

How do you know when someone close to you is experiencing a mental health challenge? You may not recognize a friend is experiencing a challenge until they show noticeable symptoms like crying excessively or having a panic attack. A co-worker's worsening mental health may go unnoticed for a long time. We may not recognize signs of worsening mental health because the person hides them. Still, we are more likely to miss signs because we do not recognize subtle signs of changing mental health.

We can become more aware of these subtle signs of mental health changes by sharpening our noticing skills. Here are some signs to notice:

- **Changes in appearance**– seeming unusually tired, beginning to wear wrinkled clothes, or having unkempt hair
- **Changes in attendance**– showing up to work later than normal, skipping meetings or lunch/coffee breaks. Canceling or skipping social outings.
- **Changes in thoughts**- expressing more worry, fear, or anger than is normal for them. Saying things “don’t matter” or feeling hopeless.
- **Changes in concentration**- unable to focus on work, very forgetful at home, extremely indecisive.

If you notice any of these signs in a co-worker or friend, think about when the changes began. Being tired for one day is not unusual but appearing tired for three or more days might indicate difficulty sleeping because of anxiety or stress. A friend who skips one get-together might have had a simple change of plans, but repeatedly skipping

(especially if they enjoyed them in the past) might be a sign that they are experiencing depression. When you notice a pattern, it is time to speak up!

Find the time and place to have a private conversation so the person doesn't feel overwhelmed or embarrassed. Be tactful as you tell them what you've noticed, using "I" statements ("I have noticed," "I am worried," etc.) and open-ended questions to encourage them to share. Finally, don't pressure your friend or co-worker to share information they don't want to share. Let them know you will be available to listen or help in the future.

Pay attention to small signs of changing mental health and tell the person what you've noticed. Your actions just might be the help and support they need to address their mental health.

## ***Upcoming Extension Events***

### Pesticide and Fertilizer Applicator Trainings

January 24 – 5PM to 9PM – Trumbull County Extension Office

February 1 – 1PM to 5PM – Geauga County Extension Office

March 1 – 1PM to 5PM – Portage Soil and Water

March 21 – 1PM to 5PM – Ashtabula County Extension Office

March 30 – 5PM to 9PM – Online ZOOM

### New Applicator Pesticide Training

Thursday, January 26, 2023 – 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM - Ashtabula County Extension Office

### Trumbull Farmer's Learning Series – Weather, Climate, and Agriculture

February 14 – 9AM to 10AM – Online ZOOM

### Ohio Fertilizer Applicator Certification

February 22 – 6PM to 9PM – Trumbull County Extension Office

### March Into Pruning

March 4 – 9AM to 11AM – Hartford Orchards LLC, Trumbull County

### Small Farm Conference

March 11 – 9AM to 3PM – OSU Mansfield Campus

### **\*2023 Northeast Ohio Agronomy School\***

March 28 – 9AM to 3PM – Colebrook Community Center, Ashtabula County

### Cow-Calf School


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April 14 – 3PM to 7PM – Novak Townline Farm, Trumbull County

Chainsaw Safety and Maintenance

April 22 – 9AM to 12PM – Trumbull County Extension Office

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<b>Lee Beers</b> Trumbull County Extension 520 West Main Street Cortland, OH 44410 330-638-6783 beers.66@osu.edu trumbull.osu.edu	<b>Andrew Holden</b> Ashtabula County Extension 39 Wall Street Jefferson, OH 44047 440-576-9008 holden.155@osu.edu ashtabula.osu.edu	<b>Angie Arnold</b> Portage County Extension 705 Oakwood St., Suite 103 Ravenna, OH 44266 330-296-6432 arnold.1143@osu.edu portage.osu.edu
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**CFAES**

Thursday  
**January**

**26**

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM  
Bloomfield Livestock  
Auction  
North Bloomfield, OH

## **BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE (BQA)**

This program offer the opportunity to earn your certification or renew you expiring one. The certification cycle is 3 years.

Haley Shoemaker and Andrew Holden will cover a multitude of topics, including carcass quality, injection protocol, and animal handling, that will provide your BQA certification and ultimately impact your success at marketing.



**BLOOMFIELD  
LIVESTOCK  
AUCTION LLC.**



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**No Registration Required**

**Please arrive at least 10  
minutes prior to 6:00 PM**

College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

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# Economic Outlook and Policy Webinar Series

## Spring 2023



**January 30<sup>th</sup>: 12-1pm**

*How are we going  
to feed the world?*

*- Dr. Ian Sheldon*

Register:

<https://go.osu.edu/aedefeed>





# FARMER'S LEARNING SERIES

## CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE



Photo Credit: Investigate Midwest

### Weather, Climate, and Agriculture

Weather is such a vital force in our lives and something that we experience daily. Evidence clearly demonstrates that our weather patterns, or climate, are changing. But the changes we experience depend greatly on where we live. In this presentation, we will discuss the observed changes in temperature and precipitation over recent decades, from a global overview to local changes right here in Ohio. We will highlight the key challenges facing farmers and natural resources managers across the state, from impacts on planting and harvesting decisions to increased stressors including pest, disease, and nutrient management. We will discuss ways folks are individually and collectively adapting to and mitigating future expected changes. Of course, we will take a look at the rest of what winter has in store and provide an outlook for the spring and summer seasons.

Join us as Aaron Wilson, PhD of OSU Extension discusses weather, climate, and agriculture. Register for this event at the following link: <https://osu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUqf-2trjgoH9YK246JIRsCGL44GZQv8KyF>

**When:** February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
9:00 am – 10:00 am



Trumbull Soil and Water  
Conservation District



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

# Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training

**FEBRUARY 22, 2023    6 – 9 P.M.**

Do you apply fertilizer to 50 acres or more for crops that are primarily for sale? If so, you are required by Ohio law to attend a training session or take a test to become certified. OSU Extension Trumbull County is offering a training session (no test) that will meet all certification requirements. **Pre-Registration is required a week in advance.** Cost for this training session is \$35/person and includes training materials, and handouts. To register online with a credit or debit card please visit <https://go.osu.edu/2023trumbullfact>. You can also register by completing the back portion of this flyer and mail with check to the address below. Please make checks payable to Ohio State University Extension.

**Location:** OSU Extension Trumbull County, 520 West Main St, Cortland, OH 44410

**Cost:** \$35/person

**Contact information:** 330-638-6783 or [beers.66@osu.edu](mailto:beers.66@osu.edu)



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[trumbull.osu.edu](https://trumbull.osu.edu)

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# 2023 Fertilizer Applicator Training Trumbull County

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$35/person \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **Ohio State University Extension**

Mail form and payment to: OSU Extension Trumbull County,  
520 West Main Street, Suite 1, Cortland, OH 44410

For questions, contact Lee Beers at 330-638-6783 or by email at  
beers.66@osu.edu







# 2023 New Pesticide Applicator Trainings

A Private Pesticide Applicator's License is required for those who want to apply restricted-use pesticides on his/her own land (or rented land) and produce an agricultural commodity. ODA requires each private applicator to take & pass the CORE (safety) test and any category(ies) that correspond to the crops he/she produces. There are 7 categories in which one may be certified via testing through ODA: 1-Grain and Cereal Crops, 2-Forage Crops and Livestock, 3-Fruit and Vegetable Crops, 4-Nursery and Forest Crops, 5-Greenhouse Crops, 6-Fumigation, and 7-Specialty Uses.

**This training will focus primarily on the CORE test.**

## Training Dates:

- **Thursday, January 26, 2023 – 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**  
Ashtabula Co. Extension Office  
39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047  
Call: 440-576-9008
- **Monday, February 13, 2023 – 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**  
Geauga Co. Extension Office  
14269 Claridon Troy Rd, Burton, OH 44021  
Call: 440-834-4656
- **TBA**  
Portage Co. Soil and Water Office  
6970 OH-88 Ravenna, OH 44266  
Call: 330-296-6432

**All 3-Hour New Pesticide Applicator Trainings will cost \$35 per person.**



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# 2023 New Pesticide Applicator Trainings Registration

**Registration Information:** Cost for the training is \$35 per person. Cost includes CORE training materials, handouts, and light refreshments. Category study materials can be purchased at an additional cost at each Extension Office.

**Training that I will be attending (check one):**

\_\_\_\_ January 26, 2022, at the **Ashtabula County** Extension Office.  
Registration due by January 20

\_\_\_\_ February 13, 2022, at the **Geauga County** Extension Office.  
Registration due by February 7

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_


Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

\*To register for this training make check payable to OSU Extension and mail to:

- Ashtabula Co. Extension Office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047
- Geauga Co. Extension Office, 14269 Claridon Troy Rd, Burton, OH 44021





# Ashtabula County

## New Pesticide Applicator Training

### January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

A Private Pesticide Applicator's License is required those who want to apply restricted-use pesticides on his/her own land (or rented land) and produce an agricultural commodity. ODA requires each private applicator to take & pass the CORE (safety) test and any category(ies) that correspond to the crops he/she produces. **This training will focus primarily on the CORE test.** There are 7 categories in which one may be certified via testing through ODA: 1-Grain and Cereal Crops, 2-Forage Crops and Livestock, 3-Fruit and Vegetable Crops, 4-Nursery and Forest Crops, 5-Greenhouse Crops, 6-Fumigation, and 7-Specialty Uses.

**The 3-Hour New Pesticide Applicator Training will cost \$35 per person.**

**Date:** Thursday, January 26, 2023

**Time:** 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

**Location:** Ashtabula Co. Extension Office, 39 Wall St., Jefferson, OH 44047

**Cost:** \$35 per person includes CORE training materials, handouts, and light refreshments. Category study materials can be purchased at an additional cost at each Extension Office.

**Register:** Mail a check made out to 'OSU Ext. – Ashtabula', stop in the office, or call to reserve your spot. RSVP by January 20<sup>th</sup> to secure your spot.

**For more information call:** 440-576-9008



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# Geauga County

## New Pesticide Applicator Training

### February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

A Private Pesticide Applicator's License is required for those who want to apply restricted-use pesticides on his/her own land (or rented land) and produce an agricultural commodity. ODA requires each private applicator to take & pass the CORE (safety) test and any category(ies) that correspond to the crops he/she produces. **This training will focus primarily on the CORE test.** There are 7 categories in which one may be certified via testing through ODA: 1- Grain and Cereal Crops, 2-Forage Crops and Livestock, 3-Fruit and Vegetable Crops, 4-Nursery and Forest Crops, 5-Greenhouse Crops, 6-Fumigation, and 7-Specialty Uses.

**The 3-Hour New Pesticide Applicator Training will cost \$35 per person.**

**Date:** Monday, February 13, 2023

**Time:** 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

**Location:** Geauga Co. Extension Office, 14269 Claridon Troy Rd,  
Burton, OH 44021

**Cost:** \$35 per person includes CORE training materials, handouts, and light refreshments. Category study materials can be purchased at an additional cost at each Extension Office.

**Register:** Mail a check made payable to OSU Extension, stop in the office, or call to reserve. RSVP by February 6<sup>th</sup> to secure your spot.

**For more information call:** 440-834-4656



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# Ohio Department of Agriculture - Pesticide Exams

To get a new pesticide license, or to add a category to an existing license, producers need to pass one or more exams. Exams are offered at no cost, but registration is encouraged. Call your local office for more information.

## ◆ Northeast Ohio Test Dates ◆

### Ashtabula County

*Exams start at 9 AM*

- February 2, 2023
- March 8, 2023
- April 4, 2023
- June 1, 2023

### Geauga County

*Exams start at 10 AM*

- February 15, 2023
- March 22, 2023
- April 26, 2023
- May 24, 2023
- June 28, 2023

### Trumbull County

*Exams start at 10 AM*

- February 13, 2023
- March 13, 2023
- April 10, 2023
- May 8, 2023
- June 12, 2023
- July 10, 2023
- August 14, 2023
- Sept. 11, 2023
- Nov. 13, 2023

### Portage County

*Exams start at 10 AM*

- February 21, 2023
- March 21, 2023
- April 18, 2023
- July 18, 2023
- August 28, 2023
- Sept. 19, 2023
- October 24, 2023
- Nov. 28, 2023

**To register for an upcoming exam  
call 614-728-6987 or visit <https://go.osu.edu/neoexams>**



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
EXTENSION

College of Food, Agricultural,  
and Environmental Sciences

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# Small Fruit for Home Gardeners

Thursday, February 16th: 6:00PM Virtual Workshop

Join us virtually for this wonderful opportunity as the Portage Master Gardeners team up with Portage SWCD to host this workshop. Our presenter for the evening will be Dr. Gary Gao. Dr. Gao is a small fruit specialist at OSU's South Center where his research focuses on grapes, blueberries and brambles. Dr. Gao can also provide information on growing less common fruit crops including chokeberries, elderberries, gooseberries, goji berries, hardy figs, and hardy kiwis. There will be an opportunity for questions at the end of the presentation.

**To register for this free workshop visit:**

<https://Smallfruitsforhomegardeners.eventbrite.com>

OR

email Lynn at [lvogel@portageswcd.org](mailto:lvogel@portageswcd.org)  
or call (330)235-6815

**This event is provided by the Portage County Master Gardener Volunteers**



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# Starting Your Garden From Seed

**COST:** \$10 per person

**DATE:** February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**TIME:** 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Oakwood Conference Room 101,  
705 Oakwood St. Ravenna, OH 44266



**Scan QR Code for Registration or Call  
the Extension Office**

Do you want to learn to start your own garden from seed? Please join us on February 16<sup>th</sup> to learn all the tips and tricks to successfully start your own garden from seed. We will also be handing out free seed packets and will be giving away a seed starting kit.

**Scan QR code for  
payment**



**For Registration:** Scan Top QR Code or call the Extension Office at 330-296-6432

**Payment:** Scan Top QR code, or submit payment via **cash or check to**

**705 Oakwood St. Suite 103 Ravenna, OH 44266 by Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**



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# Natural Resource Professionals

## Save The Date!

Wednesday March 15<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Ohio State University Mansfield Campus

Online registration:

[go.osu.edu/maple2023](https://go.osu.edu/maple2023)

Registration: \$20



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## Introduction to Maple Syrup Production

This workshop is for natural resource professionals that need to get a better grasp of what it takes to turn a woods into a functioning maple syrup operation.

Learn how to assess a woodlands potential, what equipment will be needed, what options are available to a landowner interested in maple sugaring, and what else is needed to establish an operation as an income opportunity.



# COVER CROP ROUNDTABLE 2023

## Benefits and Challenges of Growing Cover Crops



**When:** Thursday February 9th: 6:00 PM

**Where:** Portage SWCD Meeting Room, 6970 State Route 88, Ravenna OH 44266

**What:** Join us for a light meal and a discussion about the benefits and challenges of growing cover crops in Northeast Ohio. Open forum so please bring your questions!

**Registration:** To help us plan for food, please register by emailing Anthony at: [alarch@portageswcd.org](mailto:alarch@portageswcd.org) or call (330)235-6811



PORTAGE



SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



PORTAGE COUNTY

# Pond Management Clinic

**Thursday, March 30, 2023**

**6:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Centerville Mills Park Dining Hall**

**Bainbridge Township**

**8558 Crackel Road, Chagrin Falls, 44023**

You won't want to miss this unique opportunity to gain information and ask questions about managing your pond. Our special guest, **Eugene Braig, Aquatic Ecosystem Program Director with Ohio State University** will present an enlightening overview of the, **'TOP 5 POND MANAGEMENT CONCERNS'**.

## **TOP 5 POND MANAGEMENT CONCERNS!**

*Free and open to the public.*

### **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**

by March 27<sup>th</sup> to reserve your seat.

Register at <https://pondclinic2023.eventbrite.com>

or call Portage SWCD at 330-235-6811.



**Sponsored by Geauga & Portage Soil and Water Conservation  
Districts**

