

Summer

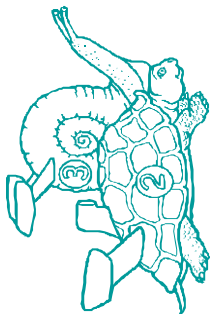
2008



FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

SWIFT

Soil and Water Information for Teachers



Spotlight on Resources: The Rain Garden Solution

Rain gardens put the landscape to work; they are installed to divert rain water from entering the storm drain and rushing directly into a creek or stream. Run-off from a roof, driveway, patio or other hard surface is diverted into a low-lying area in the garden. The purpose is to allow rain to soak into the ground quickly. When designed correctly, it should hold water for no longer than 48 hours. Rain gardens help clean the water as it percolates through the soil to the area's groundwater.

The garden also attracts wildlife. Berries on woody plants and seed heads left on perennials are a food source during winter months. Rain gardens can be designed to serve as a focal point in the landscape or can be unobtrusive and fit the existing landscape.



Rain gardens are inexpensive, easy to install and offer an environmentally sound solution to urban storm water run-off. They help protect the natural hydrology by slowing the rain run-off and allowing it to soak into the ground.

In urban areas with rows of houses, driveways, streets and sidewalks, rain water is directed to storm drains. As the run-off rushes over the impermeable surfaces it picks up and carries pollutants such as fertilizers, motor oil and grass clippings to the stream. The rush of water entering the streams causes erosion along their banks, raising the potential for flooding downstream and degrading water quality. Rain gardens allow storm water to soak into the soil quickly rather than run off the land.

For guidance on installing a rain garden visit our website at www.franklinswcd.org to download *Rain Garden Manual for Homeowners*.



Inside this issue:	
Fun Stuff to Do	2
Upcoming Events for Educators	3
Calendar of Events	4

For advice on starting a school yard rain garden, contact Stephanie Suter at (614) 486-9613, extension 125. To see one in action, visit the Division of Wildlife Office at 1500 Dublin Road, Columbus, OH 43215.



Fun Stuff to Do



Annual Rose Festival

Each year the Rose Festival is sponsored by Columbus Recreation and Parks. It is held in the Park of Roses at Whetstone Park (3923 N. High St.) on June 14th and 15th from 10 am to 8 pm. There will be numerous displays, vendors, workshops, educational activities, rose and plant sales, good food, and of course, a chance to view the roses! Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District will hold an awards ceremony for its *Conservation Poster Contest* winners on Saturday afternoon. Come celebrate beauty, nature and our environment.

Congratulations Conservation Poster Contest Winners



Each spring Franklin Soil and Water sponsors a Conservation Poster Contest. The theme of the contest this year was “Water is Life”, focusing on the importance of clean water in our local streams. Thirty Franklin County Schools participated, involving approximately 4,000 students in grades K-12. This year the students drew their posters on 8 1/2” x 11” paper and, to increase the conservation message, they used the backs of previously used papers. All of the posters were well done. We appreciate all of the time and effort by the participating teachers and students.

Free Teacher Resource Fair!

Come to COSI on Wednesday, August 6th, 2008 from 10 am to 3 pm to meet representatives from many of central Ohio’s organizations that support teachers. Discover what resources are available to local K-12 teachers. Visit COSI online at www.cosi.org for an updated list of exhibitors.

All teachers are admitted free to this event and all of COSI’s general exhibits on August 6th!

COSI Workshops for Teachers

Experience inquiry based lessons that you can use with your students at a two-day COSI Teacher Workshop. All workshops run 8 am to 4 pm each day and cost \$90 per two-day session. One semester hour of Ashland University or Ohio State University graduate credit is available for an additional fee for each two-day workshop. Each workshop is aligned with the current Ohio Academic Content Standards. For more information or to register check out the website:

www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development.

Inquiry Into Chemical and Physical Change

June 16 & 17, 2008 Grades 3-7

Identify and describe states of matter. Differentiate chemical and physical changes in our daily lives.

Inquiry Into Weather

June 18 & 19, 2008 Grades 2-7

Make and take weather instruments. Use process skills to predict the weather. Offered in partnership with Franklin County Metro Parks.

Inquiry Into Chemical and Physical Changes in Cooking

June 24 & 25, 2008 Grades PreK-4
Identify and describe chemical and physical changes using kid-friendly foods and recipes.

Inquiry Into Electricity

July 7 & 8, 2008 Grades 5-9

Expand on the electricity curriculum by creating a circuit with an off-set motor. Take what you learned and create a device that scribbles.

Inquiry Into Water

July 10 & 11, 2008 Grades 3-7

Explore the physical and chemical properties of water and understand water as a resource.

Science and Literature

July 21 & 22, 2008 Grades PreK-3

Learn to use books, writing, and media to teach about science and math.

CSI: The Science Involved in Solving Crimes

July 28 & 29, 2008 Grades 9-12

Use cutting edge forensic science to solve and crime. View an autopsy with a forensic pathologist.

Inquiry Into Biodiversity in a Prairie

July 30 & 31, 2008 Grades 3-8

Explore the interconnectedness of the prairie ecosystem using COSI’s new prairie exhibit.



Upcoming Events for Educators

Metro Parks Summer Courses for Educators

In partnership with a number of school districts and state and local agencies, Metro Parks will offer four two-day educator workshops in June and July. Participate in hands-on activities and discover field trip locations and agencies that can enhance integrated curricula.



Workshops target elementary through high school Academic Content Standards and process skills and are offered through Ashland University for one semester hour of graduate credit per course. A no-credit option is also available. Register online at: www.metro Parks.net. Questions: call or email Susan Boggs, workshop coordinator at (614) 895-6211 or sboggs@metro Parks.net. Cost: \$50 workshop fee, tuition is additional. Minimum: 8 participants/workshop.

* **Technology for a Green Tomorrow**

June 23, 24, 25 & 26, 2008, 8 am to 1 pm

Discover the technologies being developed to reduce pollution, optimize energy production and to build energy efficient structures and vehicles. Gain an understanding of the strengths and limitations of the technologies being used. Workshop is designed for teachers of middle and high school. Registration deadline: June 16, 2008.

* **Analyzing Human Impact on Water**

July 8 & July 10, 2008, 8 am to 5 pm

Examine the affect of pollution on rivers. Understand point and non-point source pollution, surface water and groundwater impacts. Tour landfill and wastewater treatment plant. Workshop is designed for middle and high school teachers. Registration deadline: July 1, 2008.

* **Physical Education**

July 15 & 16, 2008, 8 am to 5 pm

Participate in activities that can be done in a schoolyard or a Metro Park. Learn how physical activities can support benchmarks for science and math. Activities include: archery, fishing, cup stacking, hiking, golfing and team building. Workshop is designed for elementary and middle school teachers. Registration deadline: July 8, 2008.

* **Nature's Weird and Wonderful**

July 22 & 23, 2008, 8 am to 5 pm

Explore plant and animal interdependence, adaptations and natural nutrient cycling. Topics: alien species, soil life, decomposition, food webs/chains, unique ant behavior, plant mutations, and using gross things to teach science. Workshop is designed for upper elementary and middle school teachers. Registration deadline: July 15, 2008.

The Ohio Farm Bureau's Teacher Workshop

A partnership between Ohio Farm Bureau Federation and Metro Parks

Land and Living: A Workshop for Teachers (a 2-session workshop). Learn how farming technology has changed and how farmers are protecting the environment. Explore current and future farming techniques designed to reduce negative impacts on the environment. Discover educational resources that address environmental science, social studies and other standards. Workshop is partially funded by grants provided by the Ohio EPA and Ohio Soybean Council. For each 2-day session completed, a participant may earn one graduate credit hour from Ashland University. Workshop was designed for upper elementary and middle school teachers.

Session I, July 28 & 29, 2008:

- Two-day tour of livestock farms and a Metro Park.
- Cost: \$150 (includes 1-night hotel accommodations and registration).

Session II, August 7 & 8, 2008:

- One-day visit to the Ohio State Fair to gain valuable knowledge about Ohio's agricultural industry.
 - One-day visit to The Ohio State University, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences to learn about several food and agriculture programs and majors.
- Cost: \$50 (registration only)

To Register:

Email summerworkshop@ofbf.org

Or call Judy Roush, Workshop Coordinator, at (614) 246-8243.

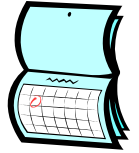
Registration deadline for both Sessions:

June 30, 2008. Participants may register for one or both sessions.



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May: National Barbeque and Gifts from the Garden Month



June: National Strawberry Month, National Iced Tea Month

- June 3: Teachers and Family Day
- June 5: World Environment Day
- June 8-14: International Clothesline Week
- June 15-21: Clean Rivers Week
- June 18: International Picnic Day

July: National Hot Dog Month, National Blueberries Month

- July 11: Cheer Up the Lonely Day
- July 16: National Ice Cream Day



August: National Catfish Month

District programs and services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis.

FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT --- A Federal/State/Local partnership funded by: Franklin County Commissioners; State of Ohio; Columbus; Gahanna; Hilliard; Reynoldsburg; Upper Arlington; Westerville; Worthington; Villages of Canal Winchester, New Albany and Obetz; Blendon, Brown, Franklin, Hamilton, Jackson, Jefferson, Madison, Norwich, Plain, Pleasant and Prairie Townships; The Nature Conservancy; Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks; Darby Creek Association; Franklin County Board of Health, Engineer, Sanitary Engineer and Development Dept.; Ohio Environmental Education Fund; Clean Ohio Fund; Nature Work; and resource assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.



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