



Perry Soil and Water Conservation District  
212 S. Main Street  
New Lexington, OH  
43764

Phone: 740-743-1325  
[www.perryswcdohio.org](http://www.perryswcdohio.org)

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
New Lexington, OH  
43764  
Permit No. 16

Mission: To increase public awareness and provide technical assistance in conserving our soil, water, and other natural resources.

All SWCD & NRCS programs and services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, or handicap

## HOW TO PLANT A TREE SEEDLING

### Before Planting

- **Handle Gently:** Keep roots moist by placing them in water or wrapping in damp material; avoid extreme temperatures.
- **Site Prep:** Clear grass and debris from a small circle around the planting spot
- **Check Depth:** Determine the root collar (where roots meet the trunk); this should be at ground level.

### Planting Steps (Hole Method)

1. **Dig the Hole:** Make it wide (3-4 times the root spread) and just deep enough so the root collar sits at ground level when the tree is placed inside.
2. **Position the Seedling:** Place it in the hole, spread roots out straight down, and ensure the root collar is level with the ground.
3. **Backfill:** Use the original soil, gently packing around the roots to eliminate air pockets, but don't compact too hard.
4. **Add Mulch:** Apply 2-3 inches of organic mulch (like wood chips) in a donut shape, keeping it a few inches from the stem to prevent rot.
5. **Water:** Water deeply to settle the soil and hydrate the roots.

**Watch this video for more information.**

<https://youtu.be/uUzeruQT8xE>

January 2026

### Board of Supervisors:

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# PERRY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### District Staff:

David Snider  
Penny Cox  
Theresa Wyer  
Collin Hill

### NRCS Staff:

Joe Koehler  
Dave Grum  
Timira Lockheart

### ODA Staff:

Amy Boyer

## For The Farmers Program

Perry SWCD recently completed the first round of the soil sampling program in Perry County. We collected just under 100 soil samples in approximately 1,500 acres from a wide range of agricultural settings. The effort focused on better understanding soil health and nutrient levels to support productive and sustainable farming practices across the county.

Samples were taken from crop ground, hay and pasture ground, home and market gardens, high tunnel production systems, and Christmas Tree operations. By including diverse land uses, the project aimed to capture a representative snapshot of soil conditions across both commercial and small-scale agricultural operations.

Soil testing provides valuable information on nutrient availability, pH levels, and organic matter, helping producers make informed decisions about fertilizer use, crop selection, and soil management. Results from the sampling will help guide recommendations that can improve yields, reduce input costs, and protect soil and water resources.

Local producers and gardeners who participated in the sampling effort will receive individualized results, while aggregated data will be used to identify broader trends in Perry County soils. This initiative highlights the importance of proactive soil management as a foundation for long-term agricultural success in this county.

This program was made possible by a donation from Champs Pizza and Busch Light (It will last until all funding has been utilized).





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CONSERVATIONIST CORNER

Louis Bromfield (birth name Lewis Brumfield) is a conservationist that is from Mansfield, Ohio. He was a Pulitzer-Prize-winning novelist and a screenwriter, and essayist. He was an author of 33 books of fiction and nonfiction. He may be best remembered for his promotion of land conservation and sustainable farming.

After graduating from Mansfield High School, Bromfield attended Cornell university. He enrolled in Cornell's College of Agriculture for one semester before returning to Ohio in 1915 to help his father run the family farm. In 1916, Louis attended Columbia University in New York to study journalism, however in 1917, he enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served in the U.S. Ambulance Corps. He was discharged from the Army in 1919, and moved to New York, to pursue a career in writing. In 1921, he married Mary Appleton Wood and later have 3 daughters. He was employed as a reporter for the New York City News Service and later as a night editor with the Associated Press. He then was a staff writer for Time Magazine and a weekly column for the *The Bookman* magazine titled "The New Yorker." In 1925, Bromfield moved his family to France and begins to write full time. He went on to write 33 novels which *Early Autumn*, was a Pulitzer Prize winner.

In 1938, Bromfield moved back to Ohio and bought 1,000 acres of farmland in Richland County and named it Malabar Farm. This farm hosted a famous wedding between Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall in 1945. Malabar Farm became widely known for its sustainable farming methods. It was the source of information for his novels *Pleasant Valley* (1945) and *Malabar Farm* (1948). He authored 5 other nonfiction works on sustainable agriculture and ecology.

In 1976, Malabar Farm became a state park and is now Malabar Farm State Park, operated by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Louis Bromfield died at University Hospital in Columbus, Ohio on March 18, 1956. He was 59 years old.



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## 2026 Conservation Poster Contest

The Perry Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will once again sponsor the 2026 Poster Contest with cooperation of National Association of Conservation Districts.

The 2026 theme, **Soil. Where It All Begins**, celebrates the incredible power of soil to support life in all its forms. Soil is not just the ground we walk on. It is the starting point for healthy food, clean water, thriving habitats, and resilient communities. From backyard gardens to forests and city parks, everything begins with what is beneath our feet.

Soil does a lot more than grow plants. It holds water, cycles nutrients, and provides homes for billions of living organisms that help keep nature in balance. It keeps roots in place, helps prevent flooding, and supports wildlife and people alike. The trees in our neighborhoods, the food on our tables, and the natural places we love all depend on healthy soils.

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## MAPLE SYRUP 101

### Syrup in Your Backyard!!

**Forget expensive equipment: A little ingenuity goes a long way.**

Glenford Fort Preserve, 11995 St. Rt. 757, Glenford OH 43739

**SPEAKER – Tim Kirby**

#### Topics:

- Tree Selection
- Tapping (when, where, how)
- Collecting Sap
- Homemade evaporators
- Boiling down to syrup, and storing
- Tips and tricks for making the best syrup
- Pancakes and sausage to let you sample the yumminess!



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**PERRY SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**Saturday,  
March 7, 2026  
9:00AM – 12PM**

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Class size is limited,  
please RSVP to  
Perry Soil and Water  
Conservation District  
**740-743-1325**

# Perry SWCD 2026 Seedling Tree Sale

Native Shrubs, Small Trees, and Fruit Trees	Saplings (2'-4')	Pack of 5 (12"-18")	Pack of 25 (12"-18")	Total # of packets × price
	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$45.00	
American Hazelnut				
American Plum				
Pussy Willow				
Red Mulberry				
Redbud				
Sweet-Shrub				
Blueberry		Sold as 2 yr rooted cuttings (fruit bearing 2nd yr)		
Strawberry (pack of 10 plants)		Sold as 1 yr seedlings (fruit bearing 2nd yr)		
Native Lg Broadleaf Tree Species	Pack of 5 (12"-18")	Pack of 25 (6"-12")	Pack of 100 (6"-12")	Total # of packets × price
	\$15.00	\$40.00	\$110.00	
Bitternut Hickory			N/A	
Black Walnut				
Bur Oak				
Sassafras			N/A	
Swamp White Oak				
Sugar Maple				
Native Large Conifer Tree Species	Pack of 5 (12"-18")	Pack of 25 (6"-12")	Pack of 100 (6"-12")	Total # of packets × price
	\$15.00	\$35.00	\$80.00	
Dawn Redwood				
White Pine				
Additional Items		Quantity	Cost	Total
Wildflower Seeds: 200'sq of perennials, grasses & annuals			\$5.00	
			SUB-TOTAL	
<i>Starting 2022 State Auditor requires Soil &amp; Water to collect tax. Non-profits and farms must provide tax exempt form with order.</i>			** Sales Tax (7.25%)	
<b>Order Deadline: March 17, 2026   Pick up: April 10, 2026</b>			TOTAL	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail order form and check to: Perry SWCD, 212 S. Main Street, New Lexington, OH 43764**

**You can stop in the office and place your order Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

----- Clip this bottom portion and keep the date/time handy -----

Tentative pick up date is Friday, April 10, 2026. Note: New pick up location  
 Pick up will be held from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the SWCD office in New Lexington.  
 Any questions call 740-743-1325



# 2026 SEEDLING TREE SALE

## NATIVE SHRUBS, SMALL AND/OR FRUIT TREE SPECIES



### American Hazelnut - *Corylus americana*

Mature Height: 10–16'  
Mature Width: 8–13'  
Growth Rate: F–M  
Light Required: ☀️☁️  
Soil Moisture: M  
Soil pH: N

edible nuts, autumn foliage, best in open areas



### American Plum - *Prunus americana*

Mature Height: 15–25'  
Mature Width: 15–25'  
Growth Rate: F  
Light Required: ☀️  
Soil Moisture: D–M  
Soil pH: N

early summer, edible fruit, fragrant flowers, attracts birds



### Pussy Willow - *Salix caprea*

Mature Height: 6–15'  
Mature Width: 4–12'  
Growth Rate: F  
Light Required: ☀️  
Soil Moisture: W  
Soil pH: N

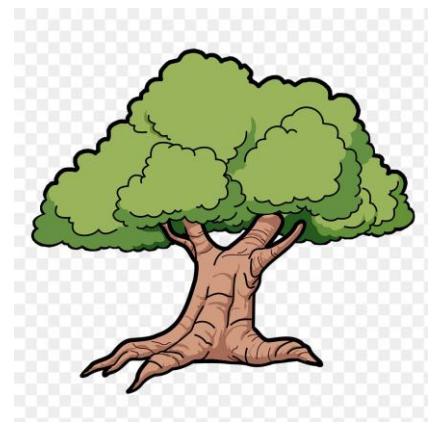
attracts pollinators and birds, soft fuzzy catkins



### Red Mulberry - *Moraceae*

Mature Height: 35–50'  
Mature Width: 35–40'  
Growth Rate: F  
Light Required: ☀️☁️☁️  
Soil Moisture: W  
Soil pH: A, N

ornamental with berries for wildlife or used in jams



### Redbud - *Cercis canadensis*

Mature Height: 20–30'  
Mature Width: 25–35'  
Growth Rate: M  
Light Required: ☀️☁️  
Soil Moisture: M  
Soil pH: A

adaptable with edible pink-magenta flowers, heart shaped leaves



### Sweet-Shrub - *Calycanthus floridus*

Mature Height: 6–10'  
Mature Width: 6–12'  
Growth Rate: F  
Light Required: ☀️☁️  
Soil Moisture: W  
Soil pH: A

magnolia shaped fragrant flowers, deer resistant



### Blueberry (bluecrop) - *Vaccinium corymbosum*

Mature: 6–8 years  
Growth Rate: F–M  
Light Required: ☀️  
Soil Moisture: W  
Soil pH: A

highbush known for high yield  
mid-season, fiery red fall foliage, soil wet but not standing



### Strawberry (Albion) - *Fragaria x ananassa*

Mature: 1–3 years  
Growth Rate: F–M  
Light Required: ☀️  
Soil Moisture: W  
Soil pH: A

ever-bearing large, firm, sweet, and juicy red berries, needs moist, well drained soil

## NATIVE LARGE BROADLEAF TREE SPECIES



### Bitternut Hickory - *Carya cordiformis*

Mature Height: 50–80'  
Mature Width: 30–50'  
Growth Rate: F  
Light Required: ☀️☁️  
Soil Moisture: W  
Soil pH: N

host plant for many moth species, nuts are bitter and wildlife friendly



### Black Walnut - *Juglans nigra*

Mature Height: 75–100'  
Mature Width: 50–75'  
Growth Rate: F  
Light Required: ☀️☁️  
Soil Moisture: D, M, W  
Soil pH: A, N

fragrant flowers, edible fruit with excellent shade, valued for timber



### Bur Oak - *Quercus macrocarpa*

Mature Height: 60–80'  
Mature Width: 60–80'  
Growth Rate: S  
Light Required: ☀️☁️☁️  
Soil Moisture: D, M, W  
Soil pH: A

shade tree; drought resistant, fruit is an oval acorn



### Sassafras - *Sassafras albidum*

Mature Height: 30–60'  
Mature Width: 25–40'  
Growth Rate: F  
Light Required: ☀️☁️☁️  
Soil Moisture: M  
Soil pH: A

attractive tree hosts many butterfly species; aromatic bark



### Sugar Maple - *Acer saccharum*

Mature Height: 40–80'  
Mature Width: 30–60'  
Growth Rate: M  
Light Required: ☀️☁️☁️  
Soil Moisture: M  
Soil pH: A

valued for its sap, and timber and vibrant autumn foliage



### Swamp White Oak - *Quercus bicolor*

Mature Height: 50–60'  
Mature Width: 50–60'  
Growth Rate: M  
Light Required: ☀️  
Soil Moisture: M, W  
Soil pH: A

one of the faster-growing oaks; gorgeous fall foliage, attracts wildlife

## NATIVE CONIFER TREE SPECIES



### Dawn Redwood - *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*

Mature Height: 70–100'  
Mature Width: 15–25'  
Growth Rate: F  
Light Required: ☀️  
Soil Moisture: M, W  
Soil pH: N

fast-growing conifer with soft, feathery foliage, reintroduced to North America in 1940s



### White Pine - *Pinus strobus*

Mature Height: 60–80'  
Mature Width: 20–40'  
Growth Rate: F  
Light Required: ☀️  
Soil Moisture: M  
Soil pH: A, N

timber, windbreak, wildlife, soft long needles

Growth Rate:  
F = fast, 12"+ per year,  
M = medium 6–12" per year,  
S = slow 2–6" per year

Light Required:  
S = sun ☀️  
P = part sun/shade ☀️☁️  
SH = shade ☁️☁️

Soil Moisture:  
D = dry, M = medium, W = wet

Soil pH:  
A = acidic (6.5 or less),  
N = normal pH range (6.5–7.5),  
B = basic/alkaline (7.5+)