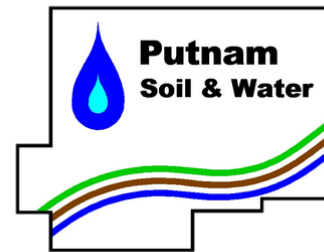


FALL 2026

CONSERVATION CONVERSATION



www.putnamswcd.com

PUTNAM SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1206 E. SECOND ST. SUITE 2 OTTAWA, OH 45875 (419) 523-5159

SOIL & WATER SUPERVISORS

JEFF DULING

KYLE HASELMAN

TERRY SCHROEDER

AARON SIEBENECK

MICHAEL WELLER

SWCD STAFF

SARAH RIEMAN

District Administrator

CURTIS TOBE

Technical Manager

JEFF NORDHAUS

District Technician

BONNIE BROOKS

Program Specialist

RYAN SCHROEDER

District Technician

FALL BACKYARD CONSERVATION

Provide Habitat

- Leave healthy plant stems standing - many native insects overwinter inside.
- Build a brush pile for birds and small wildlife to enjoy.
- Keep leaves under trees and in garden beds for shelter and soil nutrients.
- Mulch a thin layer of leaves onto your lawn; compost the rest.
- Plant native species in fall to help them establish.

Put Pumpkins to Good Use

- Chop up your pumpkin and add it to your compost.
- Offer pumpkins to wildlife responsibly. Plain, undecorated pumpkins can be placed in a suitable wooded area where local wildlife may find it. Avoid dumping large quantities and follow local wildlife guidance.
- Harvest the seeds to eat or repeat the growing cycle next year!

Prepare for Winter

- Clean bird feeders and birdbaths to reduce the spread of disease. Keep fresh water available when conditions allow.
- Check birdhouses after nesting season. Clean and repair them if appropriate and leave them available as potential winter shelter.
- Skip unnecessary fall cleanup. A tidier yard isn't always a healthier yard. Leaving some natural materials in place can benefit wildlife and soil.

**SMALL CONSERVATION MINDED
CHOICES IN THE FALL CAN
MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE FOR
YOUR YARD, LOCAL WILDLIFE
AND THE ENVIRONMENT
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**

Winterize Rain Barrels

- When freezing temperatures arrive, drain your rain barrel.
- Cap off the hole in your downspout.
- Remove plumbing.
- Flip upside down for the winter.



HELP THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY

Common Milkweed is the sole host plant for Monarch butterflies. This particular plant is lacking on the landscape and has a direct effect on Monarch populations. **Our office is collecting milkweed pods till Nov 12th.** It is best to pick them when they are dry, gray or brown in color. If the seam pops with gentle pressure, they can be picked. Collect the pods in paper bags. Harvesting pods from milkweed plants do not have any effect on the population of the established milkweed areas.



Schroeder & Weller Re-Elected to Board of Supervisors

The contested election for our Board of Supervisors ended September 3rd. Terry Schroeder and Michael Weller were re-elected. Their 3 year term will begin January 2027. Our Open House held on the 3rd was

another success. Producers enjoyed a great meal and conversation. Eligible H2Ohio participants could pick up their Implementation checks.

"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

– Jane Goodall

5TH GRADE CONSERVATION TOUR

Around 450 students from all Putnam County schools attended our annual 5th Grade Conservation Tour. Half the day was spent at Dan Ellerbrock's Dairy Farm and the other half at Ottawa Memorial Park.

Stops included:

- Ecosystems
- Edible Bugs/Invasive Species
- Agriculture
- Trees
- Dairy Barn Tour
- Recycling
- Wildlife
- 4-H
- Mammal Adaptations
- Soils



RECYCLING

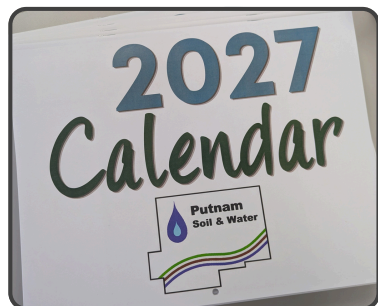
Putnam County Drive Thru Recycling is open Mon – Fri 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. except for being closed on holidays and Level 3 Road Closures.

For additional information, please see our website www.putnamcountyrecycles.com or our Facebook page Putnam County Ohio Solid Waste District.

With the success we had with our Recycle Day for 2026, we will continue to hold that in the Spring. Thank you for recycling from the Putnam County Solid Waste District, Putnam County Commissioners Office and especially from the Recycling Employees out there!



**WISHING EVERYONE A
SAFE AND BOUNTIFUL
HARVEST!**



**Free Calendars
available at our
office!**

MANURE MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Contact our office
to apply and for
more details.

This new project is an effort to move manure
onto fields that normally use commercial
fertilizer.



District Award Winners



Conservation Farm-of-the Year

Fischbach Brothers
- Paul, Bill & Robert



Conservation Leader

Rick Wilson

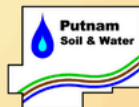
GRANT OPPORTUNITY CRITICAL FILTER BUFFER PROGRAM

This new program will filter surface water before it enters streams and
other water sources that contribute to harmful nutrient runoff to
waterways. It will also minimize streambank erosion and trap sediment.

- ✓ Acres must be converted from cropland
- ✓ Buffer must lay adjacent to a body of water (ditch, stream, river, etc.)
- ✓ Minimum width is 15 feet wide - maximum average is 60 feet
- ✓ New Seeding must use "Filter Strips" appendix guidance
- ✓ First come, first serve with a maximum of 10 acres per producer



Contact our office today at
419-523-5159 to see if you
qualify. Acres must be in
Putnam County.



We are currently certifying Overwintering
Cover acres planted this fall. This includes
wheat, cover crops and forage. Please make
an appointment to come in.

Current contracts go through the 2027 crop
year. Program standards and payment rates
are the same as 2026.

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EQUIPMENT RENTAL

**2026 Remlinger No-Till Drill
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(10' Seeding Width)**



Rental Rate: \$10.00 per Acre with a \$50.00 minimum -
Available to all landowners.

3 different boxes for all your needs—
including pollinator seed, clover, rye,
fescue, wheat, and beans.