

## 2014 Test Your Well Event Summary --- Greene SWCD

Project completion date: November, 2014

Greene SWCD proposed doing two separate workshops – one focused on urban (Test Your Well & Soil) and one focused on rural (cover crops).

URBAN Collaborators: Xenia FFA, Greene County Combined Health District, Miami Conservancy District, Central State University, OSU Extension, City of Xenia Water Treatment, Ohio Department of Health, Montgomery County Environmental Services Lab, and Greene SWCD.

Urban Project Summary: Greene County's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Test Your Well Event was held at Xenia High School on September 16 from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. Attendees brought their well water sample in for testing. FFA students gathered the samples, had them fill out a survey, and tested the samples with nitrate and iron strips. The first 50 participants were offered free Arsenic and Lead screenings. FFA students also directed participants to bacteria and additional testing options. FFA teacher reported individual nitrate and iron sample findings to each attendee. Several tables were set-up with displays from participating agencies regarding water quality and conservation. Attendees could gather information and ask questions at displays while waiting for their nitrate and iron sample results. GCCHD ran a video about bacteria sampling and could answer any questions. Reduced cost bacteria test kits were available for purchase. Expanded arsenic information was provided to participants. New this year, participants were offered soil sampling information and the opportunity to receive a free soil test. Participating agencies put information in their newsletters and websites. Grant funds were used to print color bookmarks for display pick-up. News releases submitted to the local papers.

Major accomplishments: Approximately 70 people participated. Fifty water samples were tested for nitrates and iron. Forty nine reduced cost bacteria tests were sold. Fifty samples were submitted for arsenic/lead screening. Approximately 20% of the bacteria and 25% of the arsenic samples were above acceptable levels. Participants received guidance on mediation.

Variations from original proposal: Montgomery County Lab agreed to do testing at a reduced cost (\$10 versus \$25) on samples. Miami Conservancy District provided funding to cover these costs. Soil sampling was not as widely used as expected. Left over grant funds will be rolled over to a cover crop workshop in 2015.

Program evaluation and plans for continuation: Committee was pleased with participation and will continue nitrate, bacteria, arsenic, and soil testing. Montgomery Lab was very involved in the planning and provided discounted testing options for participants. Committee will look into making additional connections with soil health.

Suggestions for improving future projects: Testing results should be linked to location to try and make some speculations on water quality throughout Greene County. Connection with the surveys may also add some information on well depth and age.

RURAL Collaborators: OSU Extension, NRCS, Farm Service Agency, Greene County Career Center, Greene County FFA, Farm Bureau, Farm Credit Services, Fertilizer Dealers (Trupointe, Blue Stone), and Greene SWCD.

Rural Project Summary – GSWCD Annual Meeting was used to focus on Soil Health. FFA students were brought in to review soil health and make connections to the Land Judging CDE through hands-on work in a soils pit. Annual Meeting participants were also provided with soil pit learning and then had an additional soil health presentation. Display materials and cover crop information were provided.

Major accomplishments – Approximately 60 FFA students and 70 landowners received soil health training.

Variations from original proposal – Many anticipated costs were not needed ... payment for a speaker, transportation costs for students, publication expenses. Remaining grant funds will be used to enhance 2015 Soil Health programming.

Evaluation – Speaker and information was well received.

Suggestions for improvements - May consider a different venue to allow interaction with cover crops.

## 2014 Test Your Well Event Summary --- Greene SWCD (continued)

### 2014 Greene County Soil Health Education Workshops

#### LIST OF ESTIMATED URBAN PROJECT EXPENDITURES

<i>Item</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Cash Match</i>	<i>In-Kind Match</i>	<i>Total</i>
Soil Test Kits	138	100		238
Printing and display costs	204			204
Cost/Share on Water Testing		500	1500	2000
Nitrate Test Strips & Bottles		250		250
Iron Test strips		200		200
Lead and Nitrate/Nitrite Testing			200	200
Flyer insert w/ City/County mailings		50	100	150
Follow-up mailings w/ test results		50	100	150
Advertisement in Greene SWCD Newsletter			50	50
Advertisement through OSU Extension news column and other news releases			50	50
Booth space during 3 local events			150	150
Displays at 3 County Libraries – Bookmarks and backyard conservation			100	100
<b>Urban Totals</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>2250</b>	<b>3742</b>

#### LIST OF ESTIMATED RURAL PROJECT EXPENDITURES

<i>Item</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Cash Match</i>	<i>In-Kind Match</i>	<i>Total</i>
Printing and advertising costs		200	100	300
Handout Materials	29		50	79
Meal, refreshments		350	100	450
Soil Pit Excavation			200	200
Cover Crop seed	161		161	322
Advertisement in Greene SWCD Newsletter			50	50
Advertisement through OSU Extension news column and other news releases			50	50
Advertisement through Farm Bureau			50	50
<b>Rural Totals</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>1501</b>

<b>Grant Totals</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>1700</b>	<b>3011</b>	<b>5251</b>
---------------------	------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

Remaining funds: \$468.00, will be rolled over to assist with a Soil Health Landowner Workshop in February, 2015.

Examples of any print materials or media coverage: Enclosed.