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Plant Native and Protect Local Waterways this Spring

With the Help of Franklin Soil and Water's Annual Tree and Plant Sale

2/3/2016 FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO— Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District is currently hosting their Annual Tree and Plant Sale through Friday, April 8th. The sale highlights native trees, shrubs, and plants that thrive in Ohio climate and soils, as well as attract native pollinators, birds, and mammals. Ordering details, including a complete list of species and their descriptions, can be found at the Franklin Soil and Water [shopping cart](#). Proceeds from the sale go toward their Conservation Fund and Mini-Grant program, benefitting soil and water conservation projects throughout Franklin County.

Last year, water quality became a common headline in Ohio. From the Columbus nitrate advisory, to the detection of microcystin (a toxin produced by blue-green algae) in Lake Erie and along the Ohio River, the effects of poor water quality were visible in Ohio. High levels of nutrients entering waterways are central to many water quality foes. Excess fertilizers, chemicals, and lawn waste are a few factors that can contribute to poor water quality by way of residential runoff.

Deep-rooted, moisture-seeking native plants can help redirect runoff by channeling water deep into the soil, trapping carbon dioxide and pollutants for their use. The deep roots also help hold soil into place, minimizing soil erosion. Tolerant of Ohio climate and soils, native plants require less maintenance than many non-native plants—families can spend the time saved enjoying the summer months together, instead.

There is something for everyone at the Franklin Soil and Water Tree and Plant Sale, including seed packs and specialty packets. This year, the specialty packets are as follows: Ash Replacement, Fast Growing, Honeysuckle Replacement, and Shrubs. The sale runs through Friday, April 8th and the pick-up dates are April 29th-30th at the Ohio Division of Wildlife. For complete details, visit www.franklinswcd.org. Orders are currently being accepted online and by mail. For questions, call (614) 486-9613.

Orders should be mailed to:

*Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District
1404 Goodale Blvd, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43212*

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The mission of Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District is to promote land-use decisions for the conservation, protection and improvement of soil and water resources by providing information assistance through effective partnering, technical guidance and education.