

Muskingum River Woodland Interest Group (MRWIG) has teamed up with the Coshocton, Guernsey, Knox, Licking, Morgan, Muskingum and Perry Soil and Water Conversation Districts (SWCD's) for a Forestry Field Day to be held on Saturday, September 23rd, 10:00 to 3:00 on the McGee Farm, 7275 Wentworth Drive Philo, Ohio 43771 (SR 555, south of Zanesville in Muskingum County).

Field Day attendees will have the opportunity to participate in concurrent sessions including crop tree release, invasive plant identification and removal, wildlife management, timber harvests, managing woodland roads, chainsaw safety and tree safe felling demonstrations.

With the guidance of Ohio Division of Forestry, Service Foresters, participants will have the opportunity to identify and select trees for a Crop Tree Release, a practice that will help forest owners identify trees in their woodland acreage as they manage for greater timber volume and increased lumber production. Ohio Division of Wildlife Biologists will help attendees identify opportunities to increase wildlife habitat on their property and share important management techniques that will benefit both the woodland and wildlife resource.

Certified Foresters and a Timber Buyer will share their perspectives on conducting a timber sale. These forest management veterans will take participants step by step through the entire process from timber selection, marking trees, securing a contract and road layout and restoration following the harvest. We will learn what a timber buyer is looking for when he purchases standing timber and he will explain the process of taking a tree from the woods through the final product.

SWCD and NRCS staff will be available throughout the event to discuss EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) and other programs available to assist landowners with woodland management.

Registration is \$10.00 per participant and includes lunch and one raffle ticket (additional raffle tickets will be available for purchase at the event). There are many raffle items including a Stihl chainsaw and woodland management tools. Raffle proceeds will be used to offer scholarships to high school youth who wish to attend the Ohio Forestry and Wildlife Camp.

To register for the field day contact your local SWCD or MRWIG at www.MRWIG.org