

OCTOBER 2026 CONSERVATION UPDATE
Your Source for Conservation News in Washtenaw County

Photo by Katy Beaven - WCCD Staff

Scene from the Fall Tree & Native Plant Sale 2026

Read the Latest News from the Conservation District:

- Did you know Michigan is home to over 460 species of native wild bees? [**Shawn Severance shares Fall Garden Care Tips for Wild Pollinators.**](#)
- Fall is here, and the question about whether or not to rake leaves will come up for many Washtenaw residents. Learn more from our Community Forester in his article, [**Should we leave the leaves?**](#)
- Our staff are working hard to allocate federal grant dollars to farmers implementing conservation practices on their farms. Learn more in the [**Michigan**](#)

Conservation Stewardship for Farmers Project Fall Update.

- The invasive [Spotted Lanternfly](#) has been spotted in Washtenaw County. Read about it in the recap of our [Spotted Lanternfly Workshop](#).



6th Annual Tractor Tire Drive

Since its inception, the Tractor Tire Drive has collected over **100 tons of tires** from the agricultural community, preventing them from leaching chemicals into groundwater and reducing the breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

[Learn more about the Tractor Tire Drive](#)

Composting on Farms Survey

Washtenaw County is developing goals to reduce the amount of food scraps going to landfills.

One of the goals is to develop a county-wide compost program. The Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office Materials Management Division and the WCCD want to **learn more about composting on local farms**.



[Farmers, take the survey](#)

2026 Farmer Cost Share is



Open

The WCCD Farmer Cost Share program is designed to assist area farmers and land stewards with implementing conservation projects on their property that they would not be able to achieve on their own. This program is made possible through the support of our

[millage](#) which Washtenaw County residents have continuously supported.

[Learn more and apply!](#)

Local Government Meetings: Your Voice Matters!

Attending meetings is the best way to stay informed and give input to representatives. Visit our [public meetings calendar](#) for events near you.

The public is welcome at our [Monthly Board of Directors Meeting](#).

Community Updates: Local events, programs, and happenings.

Scraps to Soil Co-op Month Celebration

Saturday, October 17, 2026

Scraps to Soil (formerly [Influence Ypsi Community Composting](#)) is hosting a Co-Op Month Celebration. Join in an evening of sharing dinner together, winning raffled prizes, and having conversations with local co-operatives about how and why their co-op exists.

Growing Hope Marketplace Hall, Ypsilanti

5pm-7:30pm

[Learn more](#)

Prescribed Fire Festival

Sunday, October 25th

Learn about the benefits of prescribed fire! Through hands-on activities, demonstrations, and conversations with experts, visitors of all ages will gain a deeper understanding of how carefully managed fire benefits both natural landscapes and communities.

Matthaei Botanical Gardens, Ann Arbor

10am-2pm

[Learn more](#)

Legacy Land Conservancy Iron Creek Preserve Workday

Saturday, November 7th

Help remove invasive species while admiring the rare prairie fen and Iron Creek running alongside it. Legacy has been working hard to maintain this preserve's stunning habitat features and would love your help.

Iron Creek Preserve, Manchester

10am-12:30pm

[Learn more](#)



Washtenaw County Conservation District

washtenawcd.org

705 N. Zeeb Rd

Suite #201

Ann Arbor, MI 48103

734-302-8715

info@washtenawcd.org

You received this email because you
subscribed or participated in our
conservation resource sales.

[Unsubscribe](#)

