

Backyard Conservation Update: *January 2016*

- ✔ **Great Blue Heron awarded** to Anheuser-Busch and Frank Dengg of Columbus City Schools at the FLOW (Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed) meeting December 7th. Both Anheuser-Busch and Mr. Dengg were recognized for their conservation ethic, environmental initiatives, and community partnerships. In particular, their partnership with FLOW has increased resident participation in river clean-ups and tree plantings to improve water quality in Franklin County. See how Anheuser-Busch and Frank Dengg worked with FLOW [here](#).



*[Bryson Cole, Anheuser-Busch Environmental Manager (left)
and Frank Dengg of Columbus City Schools (right)
both with FSWCD Director, Jennifer Fish]*

The Great Blue Heron Award recognizes outstanding contributions in natural resources and stream protection within Franklin County. Franklin Soil and Water recognizes the importance of partnerships to the sustainability and success of its mission to protect and improve soil and water resources, and is pleased to recognize Anheuser-Busch, Columbus Brewery and Frank Dengg with this award.

✔ **Ways to Have an Eco-Friendly Winter**

- ✔ Freezing water still matters! We may soon see snow sticking to the ground. While everything is frozen into place, the streams and rivers below the white blanket are still important to keep in mind. When using de-icers and salt on pavement, be sure to use the minimum amount needed to make walking and driving safe. If you happen to lay too much, try sweeping the excess onto where your lawn would be. Unused de-icer and salt will reach the pavement when the snow melts, enter the storm drains along the road, and make its way to Franklin County rivers and streams, polluting our source of drinking water in the spring.
- ✔ Bundle up and get outside! Consider grabbing your coat, tackle, and a life jacket before heading out for ice fishing once the lakes freeze. Stop by your local bait shop and see where the good fishing is at—Indian Lake in Logan County is great for Saugeye this time of year. For tips and tricks about ice fishing, check you ODNR's Division of Wildlife website [here](#). Is fishing not for you? Check out one of one of Ohio's 80+ [state parks](#)! A winter hike is sure to warm you up.

- ✓ Is your yard a safe haven for wildlife over the winter? Check out the latest [Nature Scoop](#) to see what you can do to keep wildlife stay healthy over the next couple of months.

Water Quality in the News:

- ✓ [Microbeads Phase-out](#)
- ✓ [State Imposes Phosphorous Limits](#)

Coming Soon!

The Winter/Spring 2016 Edition of *Frankly Speaking*, including the **spring tree sale** order form, will be out late January/early February. An email reminder will also be sent out with directions to order online.

Each year, we offer conservation tree seedlings, container-grown trees, perennial flowers, seeds, and edible landscaping plants during our annual spring sale. The plants are all native to Ohio except for the fruits. The sale is pre-order and order forms will be posted on our website and in our newsletter (*Frankly Speaking*), along with an online purchasing option. Any profits from our annual spring sale go to our Conservation Fund, which we use for conservation projects across Franklin County.

FSWCD UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	TIME	NOTES
1/18/2016	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	All Day	Office Closed
1/23/2016	Educator Workshop: Maps and Apps	8:30AM – 4:00PM	Highbanks Metro Park
Late Jan/Early Feb	Spring Tree and Plant Sale Begins	Accept orders until 4-8-2016	Keep a look out!
2/2/2016	Groundhog Day	All Day	
2/2/2016	World Wetlands Day	All Day	
2/15/2016	President’s Day	All Day	Office Closed
2/20/2016	Educator Workshop: Upcycling	8:30AM – 4:00PM	Highbanks Metro Park