

2012 BIG TREE NOMINATION CONTEST

For a number of years now, the MSWCD has sponsored a Big Tree Contest in Muskingum County. The purpose of the contest, in addition to locating, measuring and documenting our county's big trees, is to provide an opportunity to remind us of the importance of trees and their role in our quality of life.

Trees nominated for this contest may be on your own property, or on other privately owned or public land in Muskingum County.

Trees are scored using a format utilized by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Division of Forestry in determining Ohio's big trees, many of which remain National Big Tree Champions. The tree's height, average crown spread, and Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) are factored in this measurement, earning specific points or values.

When you nominate a tree, we ask that you approximate these dimensions. SWCD staff will measure each nominated tree for points. Also, it is very important to be specific as to the location of the nominated tree. It is equally important that the nominator or owner be available for the measurement by the staff during the field visit.

An award will be presented to the owner of the largest tree in Muskingum County, regardless of specie. A custom made plaque and recognition in the *District Newsletter* will be awarded to the owners of the "Big Tree 2012".

Last year, A Silver Maple, owned by Sandy Peterson, took the prize for the biggest tree in Muskingum County and the largest Siler Maple in the State of Ohio! The tree scored an amazing 405.925 points. This points total was calculated by adding the diameter in inches (322.8), the height (66 feet) and the crown spread average times .25 (68.5' x .25). Each tree entered is in the contest for two years. Previous big tree winners can enter again, but a different tree must be submitted for consideration.

If you would like to submit a tree for consideration, complete the form below and return by April 6, 2012.



2012 MUSKINGUM COUNTY "BIG TREE" CONTEST OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Owner's Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Daytime Phone: _____
Nominator's Name: _____
Daytime Phone: _____
Species: _____
Circumference at 4 1/2' (in inches): _____
Approx. Vertical Height (in feet): _____
Average Diameter/Spread of Crown (in feet): _____
Exact Location of Tree: _____

Draw a brief sketch of the property showing the approximate location of the tree in the space provided below, or stop into the office and show us on an aerial map.

Complete and return by April 6, 2012 to:
Muskingum SWCD "Big Tree" Contest
225 Underwood Street, Suite 100
Zanesville, OH 43701