

CONSERVATION TRAILS

“Follow the Trail of Natural Resource Conservation”
Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District



www.wayneswcd.org 330-262-2836

Winter 2018–2019

Awards Presented at 71st Annual Meeting

This year two brothers were the recipients of the Conservation Farm Award. The Earl Jentes Family Farm and his brother, Robert Jentes, who runs and operates Blue Ridge Farms. Both farms are located in Wayne Township.

Earl, along with his wife, Robin, sons Brian and Darren, and daughter-in-law Lacey run and operate the farm, which has 700 acres of crops, a milking herd of 60 Holsteins along with practicing conservation tillage, strip cropping, cover crops, tile drainage and nutrient management.



Earl's son Darren accepting award

Robert farms with his wife, Jan, and children Daryl and Sheryl. They have a 750 acre operation with crops, conservation tillage, strip cropping, cover crops, tile drainage, nutrient management and milk a herd of 100 Holsteins. Both families have a strong commitment to conservation!



Robert and family

Pastor Paul Bartholomew was awarded the Conservation Education Award. The Mohican Church of the Brethren is the lucky home base for Pastor Paul, as many students and families already know that he cares deeply about nature, conservation and the environment as much as the people that reside in it. Pastor Paul truly practices what he preaches. He is very active and has been involved in the outdoor education programs near Northwestern Schools and at Camp Inspiration Hills. He has been helping with wildlife education and outdoor adventures for over twenty years, and his love and appreciation for nature, hunting and wildlife are included in his conversations, sermons and lessons. His dedication to help preserve milkweed, monarch and pollinator habitat and to help fellow educators is never ending. He is a well-rounded outdoor enthusiast that inspires just about everyone he meets. For this reason, The Wayne SWCD was proud to honor Pastor Paul with the 2018 Educator of the Year.



Pastor Paul

The Bicentennial Farm Award was presented to Elmer and Carolyn Baer by ODA Interim Director, Tim Derickson. The farm traces it's history to 1818. Now in their 7th generation, the Baer family operates a 120 cow dairy farm with three generations actively involved.

Featured speaker, Sarah Jamison, NOAA Senior Hydrologist with the NWS out of Cleveland presented “Localized Weather Forecasting”. She discussed how weather predictions are made, how they are becoming more accurate and precise due to technology and data. Also, forecasts, like farming, are never perfect. Ms. Jamison also shared information on a program called CoCoRaHS, which allows the community to participate in rain reporting. For more information see the article on page 2 of our newsletter.



IMPORTANT DATES:

- 2/12 Board Meeting 8:30 am
- 2/18 Presidents' Day
- 3/8 Tree Order deadline
- 3/12 Board Meeting 8:30 am
- 4/9 Fish Order deadline
- 4/9 Board Meeting 8:30 am
- 4/11 Tree pick-up
- 4/16 Fish pick-up
- 4/26 Poster deadline



Happy New Year

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Supervisor Election Results

Results from the election were announced at the conclusion of the evening on November 8th at the Wayne SWCD Annual Meeting and Banquet. In the fall of 2018 Wayne SWCD sought to elect two (2) supervisors to fill the expiring terms of Matt Peart and John Redick. The Wayne SWCD is governed by five board members that are elected from the populous of Wayne County. Each board member serves a three year term as public officials and serve without pay. They are protected from liability by laws which indemnify all SWCD supervisors from personal liability in any civil actions arising from involvement with the SWCD. Board members provide locally led input and guidance to the programs and services provided by Wayne SWCD. Staff provide the daily services and programs on behalf of the Board of Supervisors.

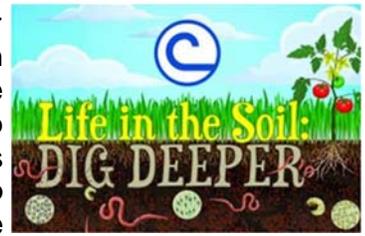
Incumbents Matt Peart and John Redick were re-elected as Wayne SWCD Supervisors. Each board member shares a genuine concern to protect our local natural resources. Thank you to Craig Grimes for his interest in serving on the board.

Thank You to Annual Meeting Donors

Farm Credit Mid America, Farmers National Bank, Lowe & Young, Shearer Equipment, Steiner Excavating, Tyler Grain & Fertilizer, Beall Avenue Car Wash, Green Thumb, Jimmy Johns, JM Smucker, Meatheads Union Butcher Shop, Muddy's Cafe, Pine Tree Barn, Spoon Market & The Studio on Liberty

Poster Contest

POSTER CONTEST: Each year, Wayne SWCD sponsors an annual poster contest for grades K-12. The poster contest theme changes each year based on the NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts) national theme. The rules and guidelines are followed by the NACD rules. The 2019 Stewardship Theme is: "Life in the Soil: DIG DEEPER." Posters must have this displayed as the title! **For more information and the 2019 poster size requirements go to the following link:** www.nacdnet.org - click on Get Involved tab and the Stewardship & Education - and look for Contests, or visit <http://wayneswcd.org/postercontest.html> Students in Wayne County can enter. Posters are due to the Wayne SWCD office **by 4:30 pm April 26th.**



CoCoRaHS



CALLING ALL Weather buffs! Anyone can help! If you already have a rain gauge, you're in luck...if not, join in the fun... it's simple and easy. If you find you have an interest in weather and would like to help your local community as well as scientists and others interested in precipitation, then [CoCoRaHS](http://www.cocorahs.org) is for you. The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network, is a non-profit, community based network of volunteers who measure and report rain, hail, and snow in their backyard.

Basically, you need a high capacity 4" diameter rain gauge to participate, and you create an account online or use an app from your phone. Then you report your precipitation. Reporting should be accurate and consistent, and for this, CoCoRaHS provides training as well as how to guides for installation of rain gauges. Visit www.cocorahs.org to get started, learn more, watch videos or check weather!

Office Changes Update

We still do not have a confirmed date for the NRCS and Farm Service Agency relocation. However, it will be no later than **APRIL 1st**. They will keep the current phone number of 330-262-2836 and be moving to 2375 Benden Drive in Wooster (by Planet Fitness/old Hawkins). Wayne SWCD will be assigned a new phone number and as soon as we know the it, that will be posted on social media and our [newly renovated website](http://www.wayneswcd.org).



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<https://www.facebook.com/WayneSWCD/>

Worth Noting



The Tree sale is back this year! Please see the Tree Order Form insert in the newsletter to order. Orders and payment must be received in our office by **Friday, March 8**. Pick up will be **Thursday, April 11th between 12:00 – 5:00 pm at the Wayne County Fairgrounds.**



The Annual Fish sale order form is on the back page of the newsletter. Orders and payment must be received in our office **by Tuesday, April 9th**. Fish pick up will be **Tuesday, April 16th from 9:00 – 10:00 am at the Wayne County Fairgrounds.** Due to construction at the fairgrounds, signs will be posted on the day of pick up for both events. Updated info will be on our website at www.wayneswcd.org and on Social Me-

The Dirt on Invasive Worms

I could hardly believe it...it's hard to imagine the lowly earthworm that I've touted as being a wonderful partner to soil conservation... is now being labeled as an invasive and exotic species. So let me share with you what I've recently learned about worms from the [Great Lakes Worm Watch](http://www.greatlakeswormwatch.org) and researchers from the University of Minnesota Duluth.

For most of us, earthworms have always been part of our natural world. In fact, earthworms may have been one of the first critters we discovered as children. What we didn't know was that earthworms were not always part of our Great Lakes landscape. The first earthworms probably arrived with soils and plants brought from Europe. During the late 1800's and early 1900's many European settlers imported European plants that likely had earthworms or earthworm cocoons (egg cases) in their soils. As a result, exotic earthworms have been around many human habitations since European settlement. Perhaps that is why so many of us believed earthworms must have always been here. More recently, the wide-spread use of earthworms as fishing bait is apparently an important contributor to the spread of earthworms. All common bait worms are non-native species, including those sold as "night crawlers", "Canadian crawlers", "leaf worms", or "angle worms". When anglers dump unused fishing bait on the land or water, they are introducing an exotic species (earthworms CAN live in water for many months because they "breathe" through their skin...though they probably don't prefer it much). It is better to throw un-used bait in the trash!

So, what is so bad about invasive worms? Surprisingly, worms can affect many things. While earthworms have often been shown to have positive effects on soil structure and fertility in agricultural and garden ecosystems, these very same creatures can have very different effects in previously earthworm-free hardwood forests. When earthworms invade our native forests, they change some of the important underlying processes that support the health and diversity of forest plants and animals. The loss of the forest floor and changes in the understory plant communities following earthworm invasion is associated with changes in the diversity and composition of microscopic animals, declines in macroinvertebrates, and may negatively affect the habitat and food sources for forest birds, small mammals and amphibians & reptiles. In addition, the effects of exotic earthworms seem to interact with the effects of deer browsing which may lead to even great declines in native forest plants. It seems that a cascade of effects on many organisms may follow exotic earthworm invasion that could severely impact the diversity of forested ecosystems. FMI please visit <http://greatlakeswormwatch.org/>

Did You Know?

With the huge rise in deer tick populations and the spread of Lyme disease, many friends of wildlife are welcoming opossums into their yards. Why? Scientists have learned that opossums act like little vacuum cleaners when it comes to ticks – with a single opossum hoovering up and killing as many as 4,000 ticks per week. Opossums are extraordinarily good groomers – they kill the vast majority – more than 95% percent of the ticks that try to feed on them.

Opossums are a benefit to ecosystems and a healthy environment beyond eradicating ticks. They will catch and eat cockroaches, rats and mice – in addition to consuming dead animals of all types (also known as carrion). The adults are solitary and nocturnal (active at night) and generally live in burrows or cavities they find ready made rather than create themselves. They seek shelter underground, in trees and anywhere in between. This amazing species is North America's only marsupial (pouched mammal). Go Opossum!



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Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

John Knapp, District Conservationist
 Jeff Lefever, Civil Engineering Technician
 Ray Rummell, Conservation Specialist

Wayne SWCD Staff

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 Taylor Gilmore, Nutrient Management Specialist
 Stacey Hiller, Administrative Assistant
 Rob Kastner, Water Management Engineer
 Adam Liston, District Program Administrator
 Rachel Lumpcik, District Engineering Technician
 Luke Nussbaum, No-Till Specialist
 Kelly Riley, Education Specialist



Wayne SWCD Annual FISH Sale



The Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District is accepting orders for our annual fish sale. The fish will be purchased from Fender's Fish Hatchery in Baltic. The types of fish which are available include fingerling size largemouth bass, channel catfish, white amur, perch, minnow, bluegill, hybrid bluegill, crappie, redear shellcracker, and Japanese koi. White amur (grass carp) are an excellent alternative to chemical control of weeds in ponds.

Fish order deadline is **Tuesday, April 9th**. Pickup is **Tuesday, April 16th from 9:00-10:00 a.m. at the Wayne Co. Fairgrounds**. Orders must be picked up at the specified time. At the pickup, you will need to bring a container filled with your own pond water, 5 to 10 gallons of water per 100 fish is required. Line the container with a new plastic liner before adding water. The White Amur & Japanese Koi must be placed in a container with a lid or a liner large enough to be tied at the top. Only 2 Amur/Koi to each 5 gallons of water. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 330-262-2836. Send order to Wayne SWCD, 428 W. Liberty St., Wooster, OH 44691.

Keep this section for reference

=====Clip Here =====

Return this section with payment

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

Species	Size	Price	Qty	Total
Bass - Largemouth	2-3"	.90	_____	_____
Black Crappie	2-4"	.85	_____	_____
Bluegill	2-4"	.85	_____	_____
Bluegill - Hybrid	2-4"	.85	_____	_____
Channel Catfish	4-5"	.80	_____	_____
Japanese Koi	6-8"	12.00	_____	_____
Minnow	1-2"	.08	_____	_____
Perch	2-3"	.85	_____	_____
Redear Shellcracker	2-4"	.85	_____	_____
White Amur	8-10"	13.00	_____	_____
"Farm Pond Management-The Common Sense Guide, Part I"				
Book by Steve Fender		20.00	_____	_____
Natures Pond Conditioner by		90.00	_____	_____
Koenders (1 gallon)		TOTAL	\$ _____	_____

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

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