



CONSERVATION TRAILS

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

www.wayneswcd.org 330-263-5376

Winter 2021–2022

2021 Conservation Farm Award—Bowers Farm LLC



The Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District’s Board of Supervisors and Staff would like to award the 2021 Conservation Farm Award to Bowers Farms LLC. Randy Bowers is married to Michelle and they have two sons Dan (wife Mary) and David. The Bowers family farms 1,000-acres located in Chester Township and other areas of Wayne and Ashland Counties. The family has been farming since 1989. The Bowers have a crop rotation of corn, soybeans and rye cover crop in the fall. Bowers Farms utilizes

conservation practices including corn that is strip-tilled or no till, numerous sod waterways, cover crops, subsurface nutrient application through strip-till and vertical tillage on cornstalks in the fall and spring. Because of their commitment to conservation, please join us on congratulating Randy, Dan, Michelle and David, of Bowers Farms in winning the 2021 Conservation Farm Award.

Randy Bowers stated, “It is an honor and surprise to receive this award. We try to look at our conservation practices as the right thing to do with the soils we farm, and not so much as a profit center. What we are realizing however is that the conservation practices we employ are indeed paying us back. Be nice to your soil and it will be nice to you. No man is an island. We have had lot of help along our conservation journey. To our mentors, suppliers, neighbors, friends and family who have helped in any way, please accept our most sincere thanks and know that you too share in this award.”

Thank you to Open House Donors

The following businesses donated to defray the costs of the Open House & Election: Apple Creek Banking Co., Farm Credit Mid-America, Farmers National Bank, Gerber Feed Service, Lowe & Young & Steiner Excavating. Also, local door prize donations from: Certified Angus Beef; Farmers National Bank; JF Gift Shop; JM Smucker; Motts Oils and More; Muddy’s; P Graham Dunn & TSC.

John Redick

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to John Redick. John had just retired from the Wayne SWDC Board of Supervisors in December, having served 9 terms- 27 years, before he unexpectedly passed on January 6th. On the Board, John was involved with log jam projects on the Jerome & Muddy Fork – which was a Joint Board with Ashland. John also helped with the SWCD’s annual Tree Sales and housed the office’s no-till drills on his farm for years. John contributed so much to Wayne SWCD. John was also on the New Pittsburg Fire Department for 38 years. John will be greatly missed by his family, community, and our office.

IMPORTANT DATES:	
2/8	Board Meeting 8:30 am
2/21	Presidents’ Day
3/8	Board Meeting 8:30 am
3/11	Tree Order deadline
4/4	Fish Order deadline
4/7	Tree Pick-up 12-4:30pm
4/12	Board Meeting 8:00 am
4/12	Fish pick-up 9-10 am
4/30	Poster deadline



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John Redick, Wayne SWCD. Rest in peace.



Supervisor Election Results

In the fall of 2021 Wayne SWCD sought to elect two (2) supervisors to fill the expiring terms of Matt Peart and John Redick (whom retired from the board). Nominees were Matt Peart and Randy Tegtmeier who both ran unopposed. Matt has served on the board since January 2010. We would like to welcome newly elected Randy Tegtmeier from Congress Township. 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. Supervisors donate their time to the district to promote conservation activities. Each board member shares a genuine concern to protect our local natural resources.



Welcome Randy!

Managing Small Forest Patches for Birds



The Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative (<https://obcinet.org>) has a [FREE landowner guide for you!](#) Ohio was once covered in forest, but since European settlement, much of the landscape has been deforested. Forests have regrown throughout southeastern Ohio, but in the rest of the state, forest remains in the form of small forest patches (2.5-250 acres/1-100 ha), scattered throughout an agricultural and urban landscape. Small forest patches can vary greatly in tree and shrub species composition and structure. [Learn how the small patches are important at OBCI](#) by clicking on the link or visiting the website!

Attention! THE NATIONAL Envirothon is coming to OHIO in 2022! [Visit our website about the all of the Envirothon competitions!](#)

Educators of the Year:



Kelly Riley presents Catie and Abbey their awards during their FFA chapter meeting in November.

Congratulations to the 2021 [Educators of the Year](#) Award winners: Norwayne FFA's advisors **Miss Abbey VanTyne** and **Miss Catie Noyes**.

Abbey states one very cool thing in her "Planimal" class, is that they are growing radishes in a growth chamber from NASA! This is their first year participating in the Growing Beyond Earth program that NASA funds and supports where Norwayne FFA was one of fifty schools from around the United States to participate. They are growing three different radish varieties under NASA's very specific growing conditions and are reporting back to them with the results on germination, growth rate, and the general health/nutrition of the plants. This class also monitors their very own beehive where they do weekly inspections. They will be splitting the hive this upcoming spring. Students have developed a growing interest in pollinators and honey!

Catie says this about teaching Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) – "I love teaching this first-year class because the students get a little taste of all the things we do throughout the agriculture education curriculum in one year." In this course, the students learn basic soil science concepts. They learn about the soil profile and soil characteristics used to determine texture and drainage classes. Catie's favorite project is their energy project, where students learn about different alternative energies (solar, wind, water, geothermal) and pick one to research. The students then must build a model of their energy in action on the farm or at their agricultural business and convince the rest of the class that their energy is the best energy to invest in. Catie hosted a virtual District FFA land judging Competition in 2020, and then the real live one here in 2021.

Both teachers utilize the Greenhouse with their FFA classes in various projects as well. Two years ago, they were awarded the Grants for Growing grant from the National FFA. They used the money to purchase a FarmBot. Miss Noyes and Miss VanTyne are also heavily involved in community events and livestock projects as well with students. **We are very fortunate to have these two educators here, teaching in Wayne County, and we are very happy to congratulate and honor them both.**

Don't Miss the Tree and Fish Sale

The **Tree sale** is back this year! Please see the Tree Order Form insert enclosed in the newsletter to order. Please note: this year you can purchase a White Pine seedling pack for \$10.00 to donate to local school students. Orders and payment must be received in our office by Friday, **March 11th**. Pick up will be **Thursday, April 7th between 12:00 – 4:30 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 Monday, April 4th**. Fish pick up will be **Tuesday, April 12th from 9:00 – 10:00 am at the Wayne County Fairgrounds**. Updated info will be on our website at www.wayneswcd.org and on Social Media. <https://www.facebook.com/WayneSWCD/>

Poster Contest

POSTER CONTEST: The annual poster contest is for any student in Wayne county grades Kindergarten through 12. All ages are encouraged to express their creative & artistic skills while learning about conservation. Educating young people helps to ensure the next generation will be wise stewards of our natural resources. The rules and guidelines are followed by the NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts) rules. The 2022 Stewardship Theme is: **"HEALTHY SOIL HEALTHY LIFE"**. Posters must have this displayed as the title! **For more information go to the following link:** www.nacdnet.org - click on the Conservation Education Hub tab and look for contests, or visit

<https://www.wayneswcd.org/home/education/poster-contest> for more details.

Posters are due to the Wayne SWCD office **by 4:30 pm April 29th.**



Energy Audits Available Through the EQIP Program

Most people think about grassed waterways and waste storage facilities when [the EQIP program](#) comes to mind. While those practices typically dominate applications received, one of the little known issues that can be addressed by the program is energy use. An Agricultural Energy Assessment or Energy Audit as I call it is available through [EQIP](#). NRCS will pay 100% of the cost to have a certified Technical Service Provider (Private Consultant) develop the plan for your operation. Payment rates range between \$2006 and \$7184 depending on the size of the farm. The items that are addressed in the plan include lighting fixtures, fans, pumps, refrigeration units, heaters, etc. After the audit is completed you may sign up for the recommended improvements as outlined in the plan. The incentive payment for energy practices is based on 75% of the state average cost.

[EQIP](#) provides technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers and landowners to address natural resource concerns on cropland, pasture, forest, and farm headquarters. Signup is currently underway with a deadline of January 14, 2022, however applications are accepted on a continuous basis! For more information or an application, please contact **John Knapp at 330-262-2836**.

F.A.R.M.

Field Application Resource Monitor (FARM) is a wonderful resource that anyone can use! **FARM** allows users to define their locations of interest and receive 12 & 24-hour precipitation forecasts to aid in the application of fertilizer, manure, and/or pesticides. **FARM** also utilizes a database of historical forecasts allowing users to search previous dates. Users can choose to create an account to track multiple fields, explore statewide conditions in quick-view, and sign-up to receive email alerts (text alerts coming soon). Check it out at <https://farm.bpcrc.osu.edu/>. Don't forget to use all the weather apps too, we all know how Ohio weather is!

Find Us on Social Media & Get Your Newsletter By E-Mail!



Follow us on Twitter
[@WayneSWCD](https://twitter.com/WayneSWCD)

Receive Your Newsletter by E-mail

BONUS: the E-Version has lots of clickable links!
If you would like to save trees and receive this newsletter by e-mail, let us know at:

info@wayneswcd.org

Thanks for helping us save paper & postage!



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

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Tree Order Form Inside

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

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

Wayne SWCD Staff

Cody Beale, Nutrient Management Specialist
 Kathy Burley, Secretary
 Taylor Gilmore, Water Resources Specialist
 Stacey Hiller, Administrative Assistant
 Rob Kastner, Water Management Engineer/Acting D.P.A
 Kelly Riley, Education Specialist

2022 Wayne SWCD Annual FISH Sale

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. Perch will not be available for our 2022 sale: fish options listed below. We will offer pond conditioner (1 gallon) and 40-pound bags of fish food. Please order ahead with these items as Fender's will only bring what we have ordered.

Fish order deadline: Mon., April 4th. ~ Pickup: Tues., April 12th from 9:00-10:00 a.m. at the Wayne Co. Fairgrounds.

Orders must be picked up at the specified time. For pick up, bring enough container(s) to hold purchased fish (ex: 5-gallon bucket) with a plastic liner (ex: trash bag) filled 1/3 full with pond water. One container/bucket will hold: 100 small fish; or 1,000 minnows; or 3-4 koi or amur with a liner large enough to be tied at the top with a twist tie or twine. Customers are invited to help with loading and unloading the containers into their vehicle at the delivery site to help expedite the delivery process.

If you have questions, contact our office 330-263-5376. Send orders with payment to Wayne SWCD, 428 W. Liberty St., Wooster, OH 44691.

Keep this section for reference

*Fender's reserves the right to make reasonable substitutions based on availability of species/size

====Clip Here =====

Return this section with payment by April 4th

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

***payment must accompany order**

Species	Size	Price	Qty	Total
Bass - Largemouth	2-3"	1.10	_____	_____
Black Crappie	2-4"	1.10	_____	_____
Bluegill	2-4"	1.10	_____	_____
Bluegill - Hybrid	2-4"	1.10	_____	_____
Channel Catfish	4-5"	1.10	_____	_____
Japanese Koi	6-8"	15.00	_____	_____
Minnow	1-2"	.10	_____	_____
Redear Shellcracker	2-4"	1.10	_____	_____
White Amur	8-10"	15.00	_____	_____
"Farm Pond Management-The Common-Sense Guide: Revised Edition"				
Book by Steve Fender		20.00	_____	_____
Natures Pond Conditioner	1 gallon	90.00	_____	_____
By Koenders				
Fish Food (Optimal)	40-pound bag	45.00	_____	_____
			TOTAL	\$ _____

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

428 W. Liberty Street
 Wooster, OH 44691
 330-263-5376

<http://www.wayneswcd.org>

[e-mail: info@wayneswcd.org](mailto:info@wayneswcd.org)

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