



CONSERVATION TRAILS

“Follow the Trail of Natural Resource Conservation”

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

Annual Meeting

We are sorry to announce that due to concerns over Covid-19, the Wayne SWCD Board of Supervisors have decided to cancel our 2020 Annual Meeting.

However, we will still hold our Annual Supervisor Election! Absentee



Fall 2020

Dates to Remember:

- 10/6 Board Meeting 8:30 am
- 10/12 Columbus Day
- 11/3 Board Meeting 8:30 am
- 11/11 Veteran's Day
- 11/26 Thanksgiving (office closed through 11/27)
- 12/8 Board Meeting 8:30 am

*Note : Our Board Meetings are now held via **ZOOM**. If you would like to attend the Zoom Board Meetings, please contact the office to be sent a link. Thank-you!*

Supervisor Election & Absentee Ballots

Legal Notice

The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of Supervisors of the Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to be held in accordance with Chapter 940 of the Ohio Revised Code. Individuals who own or occupy land within the Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District and are 18 years of age or older may vote for Supervisor.

There are 2 ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot:

- Voting absentee from September 23, 2020 until November 5, 2020, by requesting the ballot application and election ballot from the Wayne SWCD office by mail at the following address: Wayne SWCD, 428 W. Liberty St., Wooster Ohio, 44691; by calling the office at 330-263-5376; or email shiller2@wayneoh.org **All absentee ballots must be received by noon in the Wayne SWCD office on November 5, 2020**
- At the Wayne SWCD office from October 23, 2020 until November 5, 2020 during normal business hours, 8:00a.m. – 4:30p.m.

Place and return the election application and election ballot in an official **SWCD Election Ballot** envelope provided by Wayne SWCD.

***Eligible voters must complete a ballot application in its entirety for validation. Information provided will be used for the sole purpose of validating ballots.**

One (1) Supervisor will be elected to a three-year term commencing January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2023.

- ◆ Nominee(s) are: 1.) Jeff Gochnauer



Be Thankful

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Milkweed Pod Collection



Once again, we are collecting Milkweed Seed Pods for [OPHI](#) (The Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative). These seeds will be used to improve and create pollinator habitat in the state of Ohio. You can drop off your dry seed pods from Common Milkweed (once pods are gray/brownish in color) preferably in paper bags to our office until October 30th. M-F, 8-4:30pm.

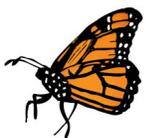


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Meet the Candidate

Jeff Gochnauer lives in Green Twp. and farms 720 acres of corn, soybeans, wheat and barley. He raises wean to finish hogs.

Conservation practices used on the farm include 100 percent no-till, cover crops, planting green, grass buffer strips, grass waterways, soil testing and CNMP.

Jeff is a member of Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County and the Farm Bureau.

Jeff and his wife, Sherri, have four children: Miriam, Noah, Emma and Leah.



Cover Crops

"Do not fear failure but rather fear not trying." - Roy T. Bennett

Cover crops establishes close-growing grasses, legumes or small grain crops to provide seasonal protection. They help improve soil and water quality by reducing soil erosion, increasing organic matter and capturing and recycling nutrients in the soil profile. Cover crops can also be used to fix atmospheric nitrogen, reduce soil compaction, manage soil moisture and provide supplemental forage for livestock.



The Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) offers a Cover Crop Program that is funded through the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD). Through this program, MWCD offers reimbursement for approved fields you apply for with a cap of 200 acres per applicant across eligible counties in the jurisdictional boundary of the MWCD District, unless fields are located within one of the specified MWCD Lake watersheds. The cost share is \$12/acre for returning applicants and \$15/acre for *brand new* applicants. To learn more about the program, or if you have any questions please contact [the Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District](#).

Be Septic Smart

If you're lucky enough to be a homeowner, you are aware if you have a septic system or if you pay a public/city sewer bill. If you have a septic tank, with proper care and maintenance, you can keep it working properly for decades and avoid costly repairs.

Much like your vehicle, you know it needs to be done...the dreaded routine maintenance; every 3,000 miles for a vehicle... for a septic tank it's every 3-5 years! What are we talking about? Not an oil change, or tire rotation, but actually a pumping and inspection. It's that simple. Call a septic pump truck, get the sludge pumped out, and have the Pro's check the tank. The bill you pay for that routine upkeep could save you thousands of dollars in repairs later. Also, make sure you keep your records.

With about one fifth (20%) of U.S households depending on individual onsite or small community cluster systems (septic systems) to treat their wastewater, it is vital to properly maintain. We should all care about the estimated 4 billion gallons of wastewater dispersed below the ground's surface every day! Septic systems treat wastewater from household plumbing fixtures (toilet, shower, laundry, etc.) through both natural and technological processes, typically beginning with solids settling in a septic tank, and ending with wastewater treatment in the soil via the drain field. When it's working good, like your vehicle, there are no signs of problems. However...failing systems can leak bacteria, nitrogen, viruses, and other pollutants contaminating nearby surface and groundwater resources. Be septic smart, do your part, and keep on a regular routine. Learn more at www.epa.gov/septic.



New District Program Administrator

Trish Nuskievicz was born and raised in northeast Ohio. She has always enjoyed all four seasons in Ohio and being outdoors, especially on or near water. She grew up playing in creeks, camping, hiking, 4-wheeling, boating, swimming, water-skiing and fishing at Mosquito Lake. She also enjoys growing vegetables, campfires, playing with her dogs, spending time with her spouse, grilling and mowing on her favorite toy – her sub-compact tractor! Her passion for the outdoors easily developed into a strong interest in the environment, so it was a natural fit for her to get a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree with a major in Geology from Kent State University. In her last year of college, she was hired as an unpaid intern in planning and worked her way up from the bottom to the top of the planning agency; and she also served as a GIS Specialist and the Floodplain Administrator. Some of her favorite career projects were made possible by nearly a dozen Clean Ohio grants she wrote and administered to purchase and preserve about 1,100 acres of land that she gave to the Metroparks to help build them up and to provide places for people to recreate while enjoying nature. One of the land purchases includes a boardwalk that crosses a vast floodplain. She believes that the best education is hands-on experience and hopes that people will be able to appreciate the land and water that has been preserved for them and for future generations. Another favorite project was the installation of Solar Photovoltaic panels on a county-owned building, which saves the county money on electricity for 25-40 years and reduces greenhouse gases. Trish is excited about the opportunity to be the District Program Administrator and is enjoying being a part of the Wayne County community.



Trish

Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans / CNMP's

What is a [Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan](#)? Why should I get one? What does it require? A Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) is a whole farm, progressive document. It contains records of the current activities on a livestock operation, an evaluation of the existing environmental risks, and proposals to reduce the risk of negative impacts to the environment. The objective is to ensure both farm production and environmental goals (clean water, clean air, and healthy soils) are achieved on the farm. A CNMP developed for your farming operation provides you a strategy for managing your farm's soils and nutrients. Having and following a CNMP may protect you from regulatory actions in case of an accidental manure spill or complaints about odors and other nuisances associated with the management and spreading of manure. To get started, you will need the following things:

- * Field Information (Tract Number, Field ID, Acreage) * Soil Tests (**Must be taken in the past 3 years**)
- * Manure Tests (For Accurate Nutrient Values) * Crop Rotations, *Manure Storage Information
- * Animal Information (Number of Head, Type of Bedding, etc.) and Type of Equipment Being Used on the Facility. To learn more about CNMP's, or if you have any questions please contact the Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District at 330-263-5376, visit our office for more details, or [check out our website](#).

Leave the Leaves

It won't be long before we are raking, mowing or burning those falling leaves... BUT WAIT! NO. There is a better way. So, from the [NWF](#)—here are a few reasons WHY LEAVES ARE GOOD! Put down the rake:

- **Increase fertility of your soil:** as the leaves decompose, nutrients are added to your soil, and also allows for greater water retention
- **Provide habitat for wildlife:** frogs, turtles, and salamanders rely on fallen leaves to provide cover and hibernation places; many moth and butterfly caterpillars overwinter in fallen leaves before emerging in spring.
- **Provide food for wildlife:** creatures like earthworms and millipedes reside in and decompose leaf litter, and also are themselves a source of food for bigger wildlife like birds and toads.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital and family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's **TARGET CENTER** at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

2375 Benden Dr., Suite B, Wooster, OH (330-234-5372)

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

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Taylor Gilmore, Nutrient Management Specialist
Stacey Hiller, Administrative Assistant
Rob Kastner, Water Management Engineer
Trish Nuskiewicz, District Program Administrator
Luke Nussbaum, No-Till Specialist
Kelly Riley, Education Specialist



Fall is a great time to re-seed or plant a tree! If you're looking to add some color to your landscape, here are five recommended [NE Ohio Native Trees](#) to consider:

1. **BLACKGUM OR BLACK TUPELO (NYSSA SYLVATICA)** The simple leaves of this easy-to-grow, regal tree turn from rich green to brilliant scarlet red in fall.
2. **COMMON DOGWOOD (CORNUS FLORIDA)** Best known for its outstanding spring blooms, dogwoods also offer outstanding fall leaf color in shades of purple, orange, and red.
3. **FREEMAN MAPLE (ACER X FREEMANII)** This outstanding landscape tree is a hybrid of the fast-growing silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) and red maple (*Acer rubrum*), two common Ohio native trees.
4. **COMMON SERVICEBERRY (AMELANCHIER ARBOREA)** It offers white spring flowers, edible summer fruits, and smooth gray branches, but its orange-yellow-red fall color is especially impressive.
5. **SCARLET OAK (QUERCUS COCCINEA)** This is a fast-growing oak for the landscape that can reach 120 feet at maturity and offers exceptional red fall color.

FMI- <https://www.independenttree.com/five-best-northeast-ohio-trees-colorful-fall-foliage/>

If you would like to conserve paper and receive your newsletter by e-mail please call our office at 330-263-5376.

ATTENTION...ALL Educators...at home ~ at school:
First, [NACD](#) (*National Association of Conservation Districts*) has **FREE** Educational Curriculum Guides and Booklets K-8 available for download on various conservation topics. From soils, pollinators, watersheds and now forests... you should check it out! And secondly...get a head start on our [Poster Contest!](#) Due May 28, 2021. FMI about that please visit our Website www.wayneswcd.org— Education Tab and visit www.nacd.org as well.



The 2021 Poster Contest and Stewardship week theme is “Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities.”

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

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