



CONSERVATION TRAILS

“Follow the Trail of Natural Resource Conservation”

Wayne SWCD

75th Annual Meeting



WayneSWCD

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Please join us as we are celebrating 75 years of boots on the ground conservation here in Wayne County! Formed in 1947... the Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District began. Please see the special newsletter insert with all the details, and mark your calendars for November 3rd, at [The Connection](#) in Wooster to join us for a special evening celebrating past supervisors, award winners, and what we all have in common, conservation of our beautiful land!

A History of the District's Annual Meetings—PART I

In honor of our 75th Anniversary, we are going back through history and memory lane, digging up the ole [Conservation Trails](#), – A History of the Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District! Follow along as we recall how it all started and how far we have come!

On May 7, 1947, a small group of landowners met for the organization meeting of the Wayne Soil Conservation District. The first governing body of supervisors was: D.W. Galehouse, Emmet Steiner, Glenn Kinney, Orran Hofstetter and E.D. Steiner. The Wayne Conservation District was born and assistance to the county landowners began.

The first Annual banquet was held at Smithville High School on March 1, 1948 at 8 pm. We were called the **Wayne Soil Conservation District** then. The office was located at the Post Office Building, the phone number was 1794 and the office hours were Friday afternoon from 1-5 pm. The first annual meeting was conducted by the five original supervisors mentioned above. [Bob Dush was the Soil Conservationist](#); Herbert Marshall from Coshocton was the District Conservationist with Carl James of Wooster as the Aide. The theme on the program was “Don’t Let Erosion ‘HOG’ All the Soil on Your Farm” and the motto was “Conservation is Use Without Waste.” There were 63 applicants listed for assistance from the Soil Conservation program and 51 members of groups asking for assistance.



Supervisors in 1957 with Winning Poster Contest Entries

The 10th Anniversary was celebrated on Monday October 7th at Orr Park which included an Ohio State Chicken Barbeque (OSU Poultry Dept.) from 5:30-7:30 PM. with a program at Orrville High School at 8 pm. Tickets sold for \$1.50 for adults & \$.75 for children. Ann Lane, International Queen of the Furrow, was introduced, Murray Gerber and Myron Yakley from Millersburg played music during the barbeque dressed in Swiss costumes and

ten years of Soil Conservation progress was presented by Robert Dush. The MC was Howard Miller, former Associate County Agent, and the addresses were given by Senator Frank Lausche and Don Williams, Administrator of Soil Conservation Service, Washington DC. US Congressman, Frank T. Bow and State Rep Ralph Fisher were also in attendance. Jay Kohler, Orran Hofstetter, Weldon Mohr, Maurice Conrad and Homer Billman were Supervisors during this event.

Dates to Remember:

- 9/05 Labor Day
- 9/06 Board Meeting 8:30 am
- 9/10–15 [Wayne County Fair](#)
- 10/4 Board Meeting 8:30 am
- 10/10 Columbus Day
- 11/01 Board Meeting 8:30am
- 11/03 Annual Meeting
- 11/11 Veteran’s Day
- 11/24-25 Thanksgiving (office closed)
- 12/13 Board Meeting 8:30am



[Monarchs are now listed as endangered!](#)

[Please help!](#)

Milkweed Seed

*Pod collection:
Ends Oct. 31st*

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A History of the District ~Annual Meeting's Part I—Continued

The 20th year was held at Triway High School on October 9, 1967 at 7 PM. Tickets were \$2.00 and the meal for 269 people was prepared by the Music Booster Club. Triway High School provided the music for the evening. Jay Buchwalter, Floyd Gwin, Carl Swinehart, C.B. Geiser and O.L. Weygandt were board members and Robert Dush, Paul Gorby, Isaac Sheppard, Daniel Rehm and Marie Nussbaum staffed the office. The office was located at 2581 Cleveland Road (across from where the present Farmer Boy Restaurant is located) in Wooster and the phone number was 330-262-2836. Office hours were from 8—noon and 1-5 PM Monday – Friday.

Wayne County National Bank provided cooperators signs free to the cooperators who had completed a majority of the planned practices. The bank had provided the signs since 1952. We have several pictures with Dave Maurer, who worked at the bank and presented the signs to several cooperators. Ironically, in 2005 Dave became a SWCD Board Supervisor.



David Maurer and Robert Dush present Cooperator Sign to Mrs. Frank Uher. 1960

In 1972, the District celebrated its 25th Anniversary. The meeting took place on October 2nd at 7:30 pm at Northwestern High School gymnasium with [Carl Bradford, Animal Science Dept. OARDC, as the featured speaker. He showed color slides taken behind the scene when he and his Border Collies assisted in the filming of Disney Production's 1970 "Mountain Born" movie.](#) It was filmed in the San Jan Mountains of Colorado. Music was provided by "The Prospectors." Robert Dush, District Conservationist, SCS, also gave a short progress report of the past year's conservation activities. Floyd Gwin, Wayne Hostetler, Carl Swinehart, C.B. Geiser and Howard Martin were supervisors. The office was located at 2581 Cleveland Rd., Wooster, just north of Highland Ave. Lawrence Harrison of Fredericksburg received the Top Operator Award given by Goodyear Rubber & Tire Co. The staff consisted of Isaac Sheppard – Conservation Technician, Tom Prusa – Soil Conservation Trainee, Dan Rehm Conservation Technician, Maire Nussbaum -District Secretary, Jeanine Bureau, part-time Secretary, Robert Dush, District Conservationist. Nate McNeal representing the OFSWCD also attended the meeting. The meal was \$2.25 for adults and \$1.50 for children, and 435 guests attended the 25th Anniversary Annual Meeting.



During 1977, we moved to the County Administration Building Ag Center and Stan Behmer become the District Conservationist. On October 3rd the 30th Annual Meeting was held at Triway High School with the "Kin Tones" as the entertainment. The cost of the meal was \$3.85 and 250 guests attended. John Peachy was the Master of Ceremonies and Bill Moore received the Goodyear Farmer Award. Supervisors were Floyd Gwin, Howard Martin, Don Weygandt, John Peachey, and Harold Tegtmeier. Staff consisted of Stan Bahmer, Dan Ross-Soil Conservationist, Isaac Shepard, Tom Prusa, Marie Nussbaum, and Jeanine Bureau.

From July 1973 to October 1980, Soil Scientists mapped the soils for the Wayne County Soil Survey. Marvin Bureau was the party leader for the Wayne County Soil Survey Team with Tom Graham and Margaret Cashell assisting. **(Pictured)** On October 2nd, 1980 the "Last Acre Celebration" was held at the OARDC. Larry A. Tornes, SCS-USDA, presented the Commissioners with the soil auger. *The auger and historical photos are on display with the original signed letter of appreciation in our office!*

PLEASE STAY TUNED - IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WE WILL HAVE PART II OF THE HISTORY OF ANNUAL MEETINGS! HOPE TO SEE YOU NOVEMBER 3RD AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 75TH!

The Gazetteer or Atlas ~ Historically Speaking

Tucked away at many local tax map offices are old Atlas or Gazetteers. In addition to having all the parcels identified like today's plat books, they also had pencil drawings of the finest farmsteads in each township. An artist named **Ferdinand Brader** was responsible for many of them. He was a 19th Century immigrant from Switzerland that rode around the countryside drawing farmsteads on commission for the wealthy farmers of the day. Here's a [website about the artist, his art and the incredible effort](#) to which some have gone to recover the original drawings and catalog the location of the farmsteads. At least 10 of his drawings were done in Wayne County. (In Stark County, however, he drew 127!) Website <http://www.braderexhibit.com/>

Welcome Ricky Papay, Water Resources Specialist

Hello, my name is Ricky and I am the new Water Resources Specialist. In addition to the responsibilities of the Water Resources Specialist, I assist with agriculture-oriented work. I grew up in Wadsworth, Ohio, and am a recent graduate of the College of Wooster where I graduated with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Geoscience and a minor in Economics. I developed a passion for the outdoors and conservation during my years in school, and I am excited to work in a position where I can continue to pursue these interests as a part of my career. In my free time, I enjoy going on hikes, fishing, hanging out with my friends, and playing with my pets. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. <https://www.wayneswcd.org/home/storm-water-management>.



Ricky Papay

Good Luck Jeff (NRCS)



We would like to congratulate Jeff Lefever, Civil Engineer with [NRCS](#) on his retirement. Jeff was an integral part of the Soil and Water office for many years. Originally hired by Wayne SWCD in 1987, Jeff then went to NRCS still working out of the SWCD office. When NRCS was moved across town a few years ago it took awhile for staff and customers to adjust. We had always been a one stop shop to assist landowners. The two offices still work together, but the day to day interactions were truly missed. Jeff was known for his solid engineering knowledge, history of work and people, and was always the “go to” person. Pictured here is Jeff early on and then helping out with the 5th grade Ed Fishing Day! Jeff also has quite a witty sense of humor which brought a lot of laughs to the lunch table. It will be impossible to replace the knowledge and experience that walked out the door when Jeff retired. Jeff, we wish you all of the best!



Poster Contest Winner



Sara Blaz—1st place winner

We are excited to announce the county level winners of the 2022 Conservation Poster Contest. The contest was open to any Wayne County student in grades K-12. This year's theme was **“HEALTHY SOIL—HEALTHY LIFE.”** First place winner was Sara Blaz and second place was Jillian Luecke (grades 4-6). Both students are from Hazel Harvey School.

Each winner was awarded a cash prize and certificate. Sara's 1st place winning poster will also advance to the State level for judging. Posters will be displayed in the SWCD/STW Recycling Building during the Wayne County Fair. The Wayne SWCD sponsors this contest to help instill in our youth an appreciation and knowledge for the environment—conservation lies in the hands of our youth! [See our website—Education/Poster Tab](#).

The throw-back picture here is the 1958 Poster winners with [Mr. Herman Freedlander](#) handing out the awards. (Back row L-R Terry Etling, Mr. Freedlander Leonard Ward, and Front row L-R: Dan Tronge, David Miller, and Don Tronge)



Recycling! During the Fair...and Ag Tires on Nov. 19th



- DURING THE FAIR!** Please recycle clean, dry and empty plastic bottles and cans! Also any clean cardboard—flattened. Look for the recycling bins located all around the fairgrounds and thank the vendors that support our efforts, the FFA kiddos, as well as the Recycling Team doing the work! We THANK YOU for doing it the right way. Empty the liquids. No pizza boxes. No lemonade.
- AG TIRE RECYCLING** - Farmers, take note! Beginning Oct. 3rd you can call in to Register! The Date will be on Saturday Nov. 19th, 9 -2 , to bring your tires into the Wayne County Fairgrounds. You must pre-register by calling the Wayne County Farm Bureau—not until Oct. 3rd. Max # of tires is 50. Cost \$1 per tire 36” diameter & under, and \$5 per tire 37”- 60” diameter. Tires must be off of the rim. Wayne County farmers only. More details will be at wayne.ofbf.org or on our website and Facebook.

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Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

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John Knapp, District Conservationist

Ray Rummell, Conservation Specialist

Scott Kenreich, Resource Conservationist

Wayne SWCD Staff

Cody Beale, Nutrient Management Specialist

Kathy Burley, Secretary

Stacey Hiller, Administrative Assistant

Rob Kastner, Water Management Engineer

John Lorson, District Program Administrator

Ricky Papay, Water Resources Specialist

Kelly Riley, Education Specialist

Interested in WINNING a \$50 GAS GIFT CARD?

Try out the E-Newsletter! Give us your e-mail address to receive our newsletter electronically, and you will be **entered in a drawing to WIN a \$50 GAS GIFT CARD!**

Advantages: Newsletters delivered in **color**, and you receive it quicker than the mail.

PLUS: E- Newsletters are full of hyper-links, clickable texts, or pictures that take you to more coverage [or a video](#). You can try clicking on the butterfly below, or the word, [GAS CARD](#) to find out where you could win \$50 gift card from!

We will have 2 Drawings –on [FACEBOOK LIVE!](#) If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, need to update your address, or want to be entered and switch to an electronic newsletter, please let us know. E-mail Shiller2@wayneoh.org or call the office at **(330)-263-5376**. You can sign up at our Fair Barn too! Come visit us! **1st drawing will be OCT. 3rd!**



Photos: Wayne SWCD

“Native plants are the most environmentally-friendly choice.... Native plants are also the plants that native wildlife have formed symbiotic relationships with over thousands of years, and therefore the most sustainable way of offering habitat.” – National Wildlife Foundation.

Please STOP by our beautiful landscape area and see some Native plants including [MILKWEED](#), during the WAYNE COUNTY FAIR! The SWCD building(51) is located by the covered bridge. Learn more about [protecting Monarchs and conservation](#), or just enjoy the peace & quiet!



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Board of Supervisors

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