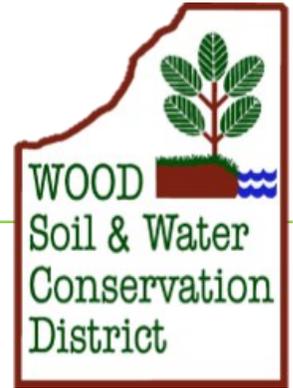


Eye On Conservation



Wood Soil & Water Conservation District



Hello Spring!

Wood County growers are anxious for good weather. Whether you are a large scale grain farmer, livestock producer, or backyard gardener, there's plenty of prep work to be done. Sunshine and warmer temperatures make the task easier and more enjoyable. Taking good care of equipment and tools makes your work more efficient and saves money; but, taking good care our soils isn't something we usually think about.

The 3,000 conservation districts that make up National Association of Conservation Districts manage soil and water conservation programs in virtually every community in the United States. Since 1955, NACD has sponsored the national Stewardship Week program by selecting a theme and developing materials for schools, communities and churches of all denominations. The theme this year is Healthy Soil: Healthy Life.

It can take up to 1,000 years for a half-inch of topsoil to form, which can be blown or washed away in seconds. A quarter of the earth's species are found in soils; over a million earthworms can be found in an acre of cropland. One teaspoon of healthy soil can contain more microorganisms than there are people on earth. Soil is a foundation on which we build. Soil filters and stores water. 95% of food production relies on soil. Each product we use can be traced back to the soil.

Once spring has arrived in Ohio and you are planting your fields, gardens, and flower beds take time to appreciate the ground in which it's planted and handle with care. We all need to understand the important link between healthy soil and healthy life. Soil can't be treated like dirt!

Visit the Wood Soil & Water Conservation District for soil health educational materials for all ages.



Thank you to Wood County Commissioners Dr. Ted Bowlus, Craig LaHote, and Doris I. Herringshaw for the continued support and concern of your local natural resources.

OFFICE HOURS
7:30 AM —4:30 PM
MONDAY—FRIDAY

The Wood SWCD Board of Supervisors holds regular monthly meetings the third Friday of each month at 8:00 AM at the district office.

2021 Board of Supervisors

Front L to R: Matt Davis, Lee E. Sundermeier, and Dylan Baer
Back L to R: Logan Riker-Chamberlain and Kris Swartz



“Boots on the Ground” by Logan Riker Chamberlain

A highlight of each winter is the opportunity to head west to Big Sky, MT for a week of mountain views, skiing and a snowmobile trip into Yellowstone National Park. While I go for the 5,000+ skiable acres at Big Sky Ski Resort – a trip through Yellowstone quickly stole the show!

We booked a snowmobile excursion out of West Yellowstone, and had the opportunity to explore 75+ miles of Yellowstone in 7 hours, while having the park practically to ourselves. Stops along the tour included Firehole Falls, Fountain Paint Pots, a drive-by of Grand Prismatic, and lunch at Old Faithful. The best part of the guided excursion was the knowledge our guide was able to share with us about the park, and each of the attractions in the Upper/Lower Geyser Basin.

While Yellowstone is known for having half of the world’s hydrothermal features in one park, the Lower Geyser Basin includes all four types of geothermal features: fumaroles, hot springs, geysers and mud pots.



Hands down, my favorite stop was the loop around the Fountain Paint Pots. The piercing blue of the Celestine Spring, and the constant eruption of the Clepysdra Geyser were only made better by a herd of Bison running by seconds after we stepped off the boardwalk.

It’s hard to explain the thrill of hearing and seeing Old Faithful come to life. She was exactly on time during our trip, and we learned that each eruption can emit 3,700 to 8,400 gallons of water skywards, with water temps around 200°F.

If there is anything that will encourage conservation practices for Mother Earth – it’s visiting any of the incredible U.S. National Parks. Go explore!

Some National Park Fun Facts:

- ⇒ The National Park Service protects over 84 million acres of wild landscapes and historic sites.
- ⇒ Yellowstone National Park (in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana) is the oldest U.S. national park, founded in 1872.
- ⇒ You can visit two parks in a day if you visit Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park. They are just 10 miles apart in northern Wyoming.
- ⇒ The smallest national park is Hot Springs National Park in Arkansas, coming in at about 5,500 acres. This was actually the first federally protected piece of land in 1832. It was not named a national park until 1921.
- ⇒ There are over 18,000 miles of trails in the national parks just waiting for you to explore them!

outdoorproject.com

“Boots on the Ground” highlights experiences, quotes, quips, and commentary offered by the supervisors and staff of the district.

2022 Wood County Ag-Venture



On Saturday, September 17, 2022 the local agriculture industry invites the public to take a hands-on and inside look at the diversity of agriculture with the Wood County Ag-Venture, self-driving farm tour. Nearly 2,000 visitors participated in the 2018 Wood County Ag-Venture with the goal of hosting the event every four years. A special thank you goes out to our many volunteers, sponsors, and hosts for such a successful event.

This year, Wood County Ag-Venture is featuring Benschoter Hay & Straw; Buckeye Seafood Company, LLC; Harrison Farms; Weber Ranch, LLC; and the Wood County Museum. Highlights at these stops include farm tours, a hay maze, petting farm, and various kids crafts. We will also be adding at least one food option during the tour this year. Trippin' Biscuits, a local food truck serving biscuits of all kinds, will be at Weber Ranch, who supplies the eggs for their business. The Wood County Museum will also be the site of the annual election of two Wood Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors on this day.

We are also excited to continue an initiative started in 2018 with the American Farm Bureau Book of the Year. Members of the Ag-Venture team along with ag community volunteers will be taking this book into elementary classrooms and reading it to students. *How to Grow A Monster* by Kiki Thorpe and Illustrated by Barbara Bongini, follows the story of a family growing a giant zucchini and entering it in the county fair. Copies of the books, along with the complimenting educator guides, will be donated to each school library after the readings.

Follow Wood County Ag-Venture on Facebook and visit the www.woodswood.com for additional information about each stop, sponsor highlights, and exciting announcements in the coming weeks!

Increase Productivity and Protect the Value of Your Land through USDA's Conservation Stewardship Program



The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Ohio is accepting applications for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). While applications are accepted throughout the year, interested producers should submit applications no later than May 13, 2022, to be considered in the current ranking/funding period.

CSP rewards producers for the good conservation they are already doing and asks for at least one new practice per land use. Various resource concerns such as soil and water quality and wildlife habitat are reviewed and have enhancements that can be done to improve those resources.

Payments are based on the number of resource concerns addressed at application (good conservation already being done) and the number of resource concerns that are met or exceeded upon the contract's implementation.

CSP can be done in conjunction with H2Ohio. NRCS and your SWCD will work closely to ensure the programs are compatible for your operation.

If you are interested in CSP, please give Kelly a call at 419 807 8533 or drop an email to Kelly.copeland@usda.gov

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/oh/programs/financial/csp/conservation+stewardship+program/>



H2Ohio Commitment

Although enrollment for the H2Ohio program was announced two years ago, Wood County farmers are just now completing the first year of conservation practices that are eligible for cost share reimbursement. So far, producers who manage over 57,000 acres of Wood County farmland (about 1/5 of our farmed acres) have documented that their nutrient applications are limited to only the amount of phosphorous and nitrogen needed to maintain yield in the next two years of crops. Those who use manure as a nutrient source took the additional steps of applying manure to growing corn or in the summer after wheat harvest, limiting the application rate to two years of crop needs, injecting or incorporating the manure into 2" of soil within 24 hours, and establishing a cover crop or commodity crop afterwards.



These practices reduced the risk of runoff on over 1100 acres of cropland that received manure. Over 5000 acres of overwintering cover crops were planted, despite the late harvest and wet conditions in fall of 2020. These cover crops have helped hold soil particles and nutrients in place all winter, and will improve soil conditions for the 2022 crops. Farmers have also invested in intensive grid or zone sampling on over 18,000 acres, allowing them to more accurately place chemical fertilizers on only the parts of a field that need nutrients, sometimes on grids as small as 2.5 acres per sample.

From the Farm Meetings



Wood county farmers met in January, February, and March for Wood SWCD's "From the Farm" meetings held at Buffalo Wild Wings in Bowling Green. The purpose of the meetings is to get area farmers and Wood SWCD staff together for casual conversations on current topics of interest in the agricultural community.

At the last three meetings, the group touched on a number of topics including cover crops, crop diseases, and spring planting prep. Attendees shared their success stories and struggles from their own experiences with the goal of learning from other's

experiences and brainstorming new creative solutions to common problems. Another popular topic of the last three meetings was the adjustments being made to management decisions in an effort to cope with the rising costs of chemical fertilizer and herbicides.

After taking a break this spring for planting, we plan to resume the monthly meetings in June with the intent to meet at different farms in Wood County. The meetings are free and open to the public. If you're interested in attending or hosting one of the meetings at your farm and would like to be included on any future communication, please contact us.



2022 Poster Contest

The Wood SWCD is offering an opportunity for Wood County students to create a poster focusing on a conservation message.

This year the theme is "Healthy Soil, Healthy Life."



The student posters representing each grade category will be judged at the county level. The county winners will be selected for the state competition. Officials from the state will then select winners to move on to the national competition.

County winners from each grade category will win a prize from Wood SWCD.

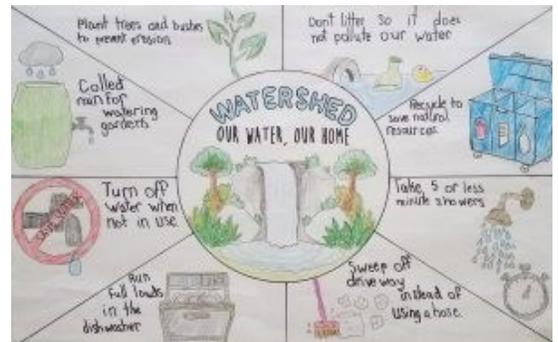
Find the poster contest guidelines on the district website at woodswcd.com or contact Julie Lause at the district office 419-354-5517 #4, julielause@woodswcd.com. Visit nacdn.org, too, for additional education resources from past conservation themes.

2018 National 1st Place Poster Winners

National Association of Conservation Districts



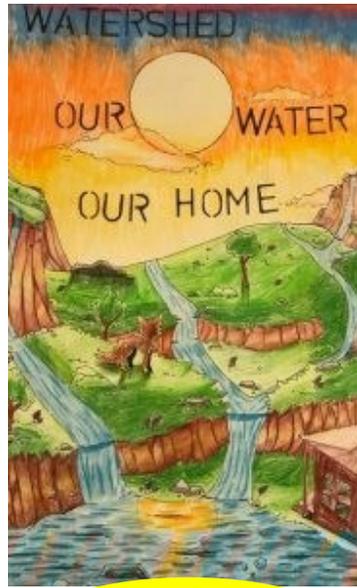
K-1: Elizabeth Jueneman, Washington County CD, KS



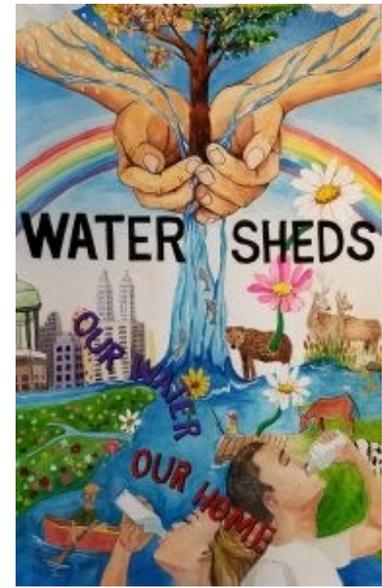
4-6: Kelsen Baughman, Rutherford County SCD, TN



2-3: Eva Alvarez
Conservation Districts of Iowa



7-9: Haylea Knisley
Pickaway SWCD, OH



10-12: Sarah Kim
Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

Fact Sheet



Ohio Department
of Agriculture



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has been detected in a backyard flock in Franklin County, Ohio. HPAI is a contagious, infectious disease of all avian (bird, poultry) species. It can be transmitted from wild birds to domestic birds like chickens and turkeys and amongst commercial/backyard birds. It can also be transmitted via human fomites (inanimate objects) like boots, clothing, tires, and vehicles.

What you can do to prevent HPAI from entering your flock:

- Bring all of your birds inside an enclosed structure and away from wild birds and waterfowl
- Practice good biosecurity including:
 - Have a designated set of footwear and clothing to wear around your birds
 - Wash your hands frequently while around poultry
 - Keep visitors to a minimum
- Watch your birds for signs of illness
- Isolate new arrivals to your flock

Clinical Signs of HPAI:

- Lethargy
- Decreased appetite
- Decreased water consumption
- Respiratory signs including nasal discharge
- Purple discoloration of wattles and combs
- Swelling of head and eyelids
- Drop in egg production
- Sudden death

What should you do if you have sick birds?

- Do NOT bring sick birds to ADDL. Please call ODA first.
- Call ODA at 614-728-6220 or after hours at 888-456-3405 OR USDA at 614-856-4735
- USDA/ODA will send out a field veterinarian or inspector to your premise to ask questions about your flock and to collect samples of your birds.

Practice Enhanced Biosecurity! If you suspect HPAI in your flock, please call Animal Health: 614-728-6220



EXTENSION

1890 LAND-GRANT INSTITUTION



April Small Farms Webinar Series

Join Central State University for a series of weekly online webinars with CSU Extension Educators on topics important to small farms. Each webinar features a presentation, followed by time for questions and discussion. Here is a list of our April presentations:

- **4/7 “Spring Checking Pastures, Fencing, and Forages”**
Presenter: Phil Hollingshead
- **4/14 “Government Cost-Share Options for Grazing Systems”**
Presenter: Denise Natoli Brooks
- **4/21 “Springtime Livestock Management (Cattle, Sheep, and Goats)”**
Presenter: Phil Hollingshead
- **4/28 “Setting Up Grazing Systems”**
Presenter: Phil Hollingshead

Central State University, an 1890 Land-Grant Institution, is committed to the full inclusion of all people, and does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, race, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status marital or family status, military status, national origin, political beliefs, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. If reasonable accommodations are needed, please contact the Department of Human Resources at 937-376-6540. Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution.

Date: Every Thursday in April
Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Virtual (Registration Link below)
Cost: No charge (NIFA/USDA grant)

Registration is required.

Register at bit.ly/csufarmsapril

For registration questions, contact Danielle Soroczak at dsoroczak@centralstate.edu

For program questions, contact Phil Hollingshead at phollingshead@centralstate.edu

This program is brought to you by CESTA/1890 Land Grant Programs at CSU.



United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Items for Sale

Floating Pond Filter	\$160.00
Pond Filter Float	\$100.00
Replacement Filter	\$ 45.00
Pond Safety Kit	\$150.00
Ring Buoy	\$ 70.00
Deep Water Sign	\$ 14.00
Rope (per foot)	\$ 0.25
Tile Probes	\$37 & 39
Soil Test Probe	\$ 63.00
Flags	\$ 0.10 ea
100 5x 8	\$ 10.00
6' field flag	\$ 7.00
Tree Protectors	\$ 3.00
Nut Wizards®	\$ 40-45
Compost Bin	\$ 50.00
Rat Guards	
4" stainless steel	\$ 8.00
6" stainless steel	\$ 10.00
8" stainless steel	\$ 12.00
10" stainless steel	\$ 18.00
12" stainless steel	\$ 28.00
15" mild steel	\$ 25.00
Wood County Plat Book	\$ 20.00

(Cash or Check payable upon receipt)

Equipment for Rent

Great Plains Drill

(for CRP Practices only)

- 10' working width
- 7 1/2" row spacing
- Minimum 65 hp with live hydraulics

Rental Rate is \$10.00/acre

(\$50 minimum)

Delivery Charge \$20.00

Cleanout Charge \$25.00

(if applicable)

Dibble Bar

\$40 Refundable Deposit

Tree Planter

(for large planting projects)

\$25.00 First Day

\$45.00 Each Additional Day

*For Use by Wood County
Residents and Landowners*

Beginning January 1, 2022, the Wood Soil & Water Conservation District will be collecting 6.75% sales tax on items for sale at the office.

Sales and use blanket exemption certificates are available for tax exempt entities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

POND CLINIC

April 7 6- 8 PM

Bradner Preserve

TREE SEEDLING

PICK-UP

April 14 10 AM - 6 PM

Wood County

Fairgrounds

FISH SALE

Orders and Payment due

April 18

FISH PICK-UP

April 26 9:30 AM

Wood County

Fairgrounds

OFFICES CLOSED

May 30

CONTACT US

Wood SWCD

1616 E. Wooster St.

Suite 32

Bowling Green, OH

43402

419-354-5517 #4

wcswcd@woodswcd.com

www.woodswcd.com

NRCS

kelly.copeland@usda.gov

District Staff

Jim Carter, District Administrator/Drainage & Engineering Coordinator

Jeremy Gerwin, Lead Technician

Beth Landers, Resource Technician

Julie Lause, Administrative & Outreach Manager

Sarah St. John, District Technician

Beth Anne Hermes, WLEB Nutrient Management Technician

NRCS Staff

Kelly Copeland, Resource Conservationist

Josh Gerwin, Area Resource Conservationist

Joe Rumschlag, Civil Engineering Technician

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Please contact the district office to update contact information or to be added to the email contact list. The majority of correspondence from the Wood SWCD is through email and social media.

