

Your
Soil & Water
Conservation
Specialists!

Conservation In Action

Winter
2012



Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District

SWCD Supervisors

Greg Waters—Chairman
Knox Porteus—Vice Chairman
Adrian Garber—Secretary
Garry Derr—Fiscal Agent
David Lapp—Treasurer

NRCS Staff

Chuck Reynolds
Acting District Conservationist
Tuesday and Thursday

SWCD Staff

Deb Bigelow—District Administrator
Mary Thomas—Administrative Assistant
Ryan Medley—District Technician
Barbara Mainwaring—GIS Specialist

Mission: Providing leadership to educate and assist landowners in the wise management of our natural resources.

2012 Coshocton SWCD Board of Supervisors

The Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors reorganized at their December meeting. Positions for 2012 are as follows: Greg Waters of Township Road 1214, West Lafayette is Chairman, serving his third term; Knox Porteus of Otsego Avenue, Coshocton is Vice Chairman serving his ninth term; Adrian Garber of Township Road 89, Fresno is Secretary serving his fourth term; Garry Derr of County Road 106, Coshocton is Fiscal Agent serving his fourth term; and David Lapp of US 36, Coshocton is Treasurer serving his seventh term.

Supervisors Adrian Garber and David Lapp were re-elected to the board at the SWCD's Annual Meeting and Banquet in October. They were sworn into office for their term beginning January 1 by Coshocton County Commissioners Gary Fischer, Dane Shryock and Curtis Lee. The Commissioners have always been very supportive of the district program. Their concern for the conservation of natural resources in our community is greatly appreciated.

SWCD Supervisors are elected to the board by county residents and serve a three-year term without pay. Their dedication to the Coshocton SWCD is very much appreciated by the SWCD staff and community members. Thank You Greg, Knox, Adrian, Garry and David and Commissioners Gary, Dane and Curtis.



Newly elected supervisors were sworn into office on January 11.

Pictured left to right are Commissioners Dane Shryock and Gary Fischer, SWCD Supervisors Adrian Garber and David Lapp, and Commissioner Curtis Lee.



*Thank You
for your support
and dedication*

2012 Coshocton SWCD Supervisors
L-R Garry Derr, Greg Waters, David Lapp, Knox
Porteus and Adrian Garber

It's Your Farm Bill, Too

By John C. (Jack) Fisher, OFBF Executive Vice President

Published in *Our Ohio* magazine, the official publication of Ohio Farm Bureau

The Farm Bill being written now will impact every American's economic opportunity, health, energy options and environmental priorities, not to mention influence the price and quality of every meal we put on our plates. In short, it's about

75% of current farm bill spending goes into nutrition and feeding programs, the biggest being food stamps.

the security of your food, family and community. So everyone, from giant philanthropies to concerned soccer moms, deserve a say. Farmers welcome the input, though they prefer dialogue over diatribe. Getting it right won't be easy. I'd like to share a few thoughts from a farmer's perspective.

First, the farm bill is not all about payments to farmers. Seventy-five percent (75%) of current farm bill spending goes into nutrition and feeding programs. The biggest is food stamps, now called the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Last year, 1.6 million Ohioans received \$2.7 billion from the farm bill to feed themselves. Nationally, a record 45.8 million Americans received SNAP assistance, 8% more than a year ago. Clearly, most of the money for the 2012 Farm Bill will be spent on feeding the needy, not for paying farmers.

Regarding the payments farmers do receive, critics like to call them "handouts," which suggests taxpayers get nothing in return. In reality, the public gets to weigh in on the operation



of privately owned farms. When a farmer opts to participate in a farm program, he agrees to meet public policy

goals for what type of food is grown, how much of it and sometimes even the specific farming practices used to grow it. Under these agreements, each American farmer produces enough food to affordably feed 155 people with less environmental impact than ever before. Taxpayers are getting a good return on their public-private partnership.

Farmers also would like to see some perspective brought to the topic of just how much these programs cost. The argument that eliminating farm payments will solve the nation's budget problems rings hollow when you consider they make up .0014% of the federal budget. That's 14 cents out of \$100. And the cost keeps going lower. Payments under the current farm bill are 45 cents less than the previous bill and are running 20% under the current budget. Farmers understand fiscal challenges and they're willing to do their share. They'd prefer it be a proportionate share.

There's a reason the farm bill comes up for debate every 5 years or so. Things change. Consumer expectations, budget realities and risks to farmers are different today than just a couple of years ago. What remains constant is the ability of sound farm policy to keep America secure. That's why farmers welcome smart people to the conversation. If you have some ideas for the farm bill, send them to me at info@OurOhio.org. I'll read them over and share them with Farm Bureau's leaders.

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Challenges of the Season

By Deb Bigelow

If this spring, summer, fall and early months of winter are any indication of the amount of precipitation we are going to have over the next few months, I think we are all in trouble! Driving around Coshocton County, it isn't hard to find the 'ruts' that Webster's dictionary describes as "a track worn by a wheel or habitual passage; a groove in which something runs." These ruts have been made by heavy harvest equipment on saturated soils. Anyone familiar with agriculture understands that is was difficult to prevent these ruts this year.

According to Mark Hanna from the Iowa State University Extension, "the consequences of such wet conditions include significant soil compaction caused by heavy equipment and yield reductions that will be realized next season. Soil compaction created beneath the rut may interfere with subsequent crop rooting and development. Ruts deeper than about 2 inches can also interfere with maintaining seed depth during planter operation next spring, unless ruts are leveled."

What can be done about these ruts? According to Melvin Lahmers, Certified Crop Advisor at TMK Bakersville, it would be best to wait until spring to try and correct the problem by using

light tillage to smooth over the ruts. Melvin commented "it will be tempting to do some tillage on mornings when the ground is firm. Although the top layer of the soil may dry, the soil underneath is saturated. I'm afraid we'll do more damage than good." Melvin agreed that compaction could have some affect in the coming year.

So, what impact does a fall harvest have that requires tracking of your fields as you combine or work fields? A recent article in the C.O.R.N. newsletter from The Ohio State University Extension lets you look at costs of tillage to smooth out ruts and lost production due to compaction. According to the article, a loss of \$50 per acre from rutting is not an unrealistic estimate. To see the complete article go to <http://corn.osu.edu/newsletters/2011/2011-40/#4>.

We are reminded to be thankful for the bounty of our harvest through a very difficult growing season. I'm always amazed at the patience of our agricultural producers, and this has been a year that has tested everyone. As we head into winter, please remember to wait until spring to fix those ruts.

2012 Affiliate Members

Diamond

Farm Credit Services

Platinum

Clow Water Systems Company
 Coshocton County Beacon
 Coshocton Foundation
 Coshocton Grain Company
 The Garden Patch Greenhouse
 Gerber & Sons, Inc.

Gold

Century National Bank
 Coshocton Co. Chamber of Commerce
 Coshocton County Sheriff, Tim Rogers
 Endsley Insurance Agency
 Finton Equipment—John Deere
 Larry A. Frye Farms
 Jim McKinney - TSI Vendor-EQIP
 Dr. Rob & Sheri Stout
 Thousand Oaks Farms
 Tumblin Farms, David Tumblin
 William Albert Inc.

Silver

Addy's Mower Sales
 Baird Concrete
 Cosh. Co. Commissioner, D. Curtis Lee
 Coshocton County Farm Bureau
 Home Loan Savings Bank
 Bob Nelson—Dale Gress Real Estate
 Ohio Heritage Bank

Bronze

Alan Donaker Surveying
 Bluck & Sons, Inc.
 Cosh. Co. Auditor, Chris Sycks
 Cosh. Co. Clerk of Courts, Janet Mosier
 Coshocton Co. Engineer, Fred Wachtel
 Coshocton Sportsmen Club
 Cosh. Co. Treasurer, Janette Donaker
 Fender's Fish Hatchery
 Frontier Power Company
 Owens & Manning Attorneys
 Scheetz Marketing

What's covering your soil?

Many times on farms the fall and spring months are spent plowing crop fields readying them for planting season. You may have heard of no-till and cover crops, but have you actually thought of how these conservation practices can help you improve your soil's health as well as save you money?

Think of nature in its natural state. Is it bare? Cover crops used in the fall and winter months help water infiltrate slowly through the soil rather than running off, taking precious top soil with it. These same cover crops, although burned down in the spring before planting, continue to make moisture more readily available to field crops.

Characteristics of no-tilled soil with a cover crop include: high organic matter; low wind and water erosion; high infiltration; low crusting; decreased runoff; low nutrient loss due to the plant's uptake; less weed and pest populations; and low fossil fuel dependency.

As these dreary winter days pass by and you make plans for spring, consider no-till planting and make plans to seed down fields with a cover crop after harvest. Maybe next winter you won't have as much mud to deal with, and your plants will appreciate the extra moisture and nutrients.

This example simulates a rain event on a field with a cover crop.



The top jar is runoff from the field. Notice the small amount of runoff.

The bottom jar is the water that infiltrated through the soil and was available for the plant's roots. Notice the large amount of water available for the plant.

This example simulates a rain event on a field with bare soil.

The top jar is runoff from the field. Notice the large amount of water and sediment runoff.

The bottom jar is the water that infiltrated through the soil and was available for the plant's roots. Notice the small amount of water available for the plant.



Save the Date for 2012 *First Farm Friday*

Mark your calendars for Friday, July 6, 2012! The Coshocton SWCD is once again hosting First Farm Friday in conjunction with Coshocton's First Friday event. We will have animals, farm equipment, displays, games for kids and free samples on Main Street between 3rd and 4th; but the most important part of this event is that knowledgeable people from Coshocton's largest industry will be there to educate the public about the importance of agriculture in our community and beyond. We look forward to seeing you July 6!

USDA Announces Ranking Dates for 4 Major Conservation Initiatives

If you submitted an Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) application to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) by the December 15, 2011 deadline, you may be wondering what to do next. Application ranking will take place over the next few months, and at the end of the ranking period NRCS will notify all applicants of the results of the rankings and will begin developing contracts with selected applicants.

EQIP is made up of 4 initiatives that offer technical and financial assistance. Three of the initiatives including Organic, On-Farm Energy, and Seasonal High Tunnel will have 3 ranking periods ending February 3, March 30 and June 1, 2012. Ranking periods for the fourth initiative, Air Quality, will end February 3 and March 30, 2012. If you have questions, contact the Coshocton NRCS office on Tuesday or Thursday between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. by calling 740-622-8087, extension 3.

**Coshocton Soil and Water
Conservation District
724 South Seventh Street
Coshocton, Ohio 43812
Phone (740) 622-8087, ext. 4
www.coshoctonswcd.org**

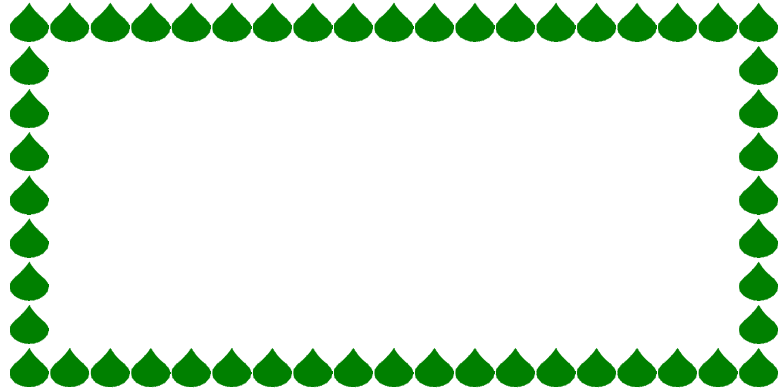


Deadline - March 30

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Coshocton SWCD Newsletter is a publication to keep county residents informed of our SWCD program. Please phone the office at 622-8087, ext.4 if your address needs corrected or if you wish to be taken OFF our mailing list.

Help us save \$\$\$ - Receive your newsletter via e-mail - contact marythomas@coshoctoncounty.net



Seeking Affiliate Members

The Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District is seeking 2012 Affiliate Members. These voluntary contributions help the Board of Supervisors continue their efforts educating people about protecting our natural resources. All Affiliate Members will be listed on our Annual Report, Annual Meeting Program, quarterly newsletters and the district's website at www.coshoctonswcd.org. All donations are tax deductible.

This year we have the following memberships available to anyone contributing:

- \$500 or more - DIAMOND membership
- \$250-499 - PLATINUM membership
- \$100-249 - GOLD membership
- \$50-99 - SILVER membership
- \$25-49 - BRONZE membership

In 2011, Affiliate Members contributed \$3,080. The Coshocton SWCD used these funds towards our educational program including Ag as Art Tribune to Agriculture, Ag Awareness Day, Area 3 Envirothon for high school students, Career Center Open House, classroom presentations, conservation education desk calendars to city and county school teachers, Contractor's Workshop, Coshocton County Leadership Class presentation, 5th grade poster contest, First Farm Fridays, Jr. Fair Hay Show, Coshocton County Fall Foliage Tour and PARK Rain Garden.

Coshocton SWCD Supervisors and Staff appreciate your support! If there are areas you feel we can improve upon, please let us know. We are always open to new ideas to improve our soil and water conservation district program.

Calendar of Events

February 8

SWCD Board Mtg 10:00 am

February 20

Office Closed - President's Day

February 27-28

OFSWCD Partnership Mtg

March 14

SWCD Board Mtg 10:00 am

March 23

Bulk Deciduous Tree
Order Deadline

March 30

Tree Packet and Bulk Conifer
Order Deadline

April 11

SWCD Board Mtg 8:00 pm

April 13

Tentative Tree Pick Up

April 25

Area 3 Envirothon
Tuscarawas County

2012 Tree Seedling Packets Seedling sizes listed next to variety in inches

Conifer Packet

10 ea. variety - 50 seedlings total
 Colorado Blue Spruce (9"-15")
 Douglas Fir (10"-18")
 Norway Spruce (10"-18")
 Scots / Scotch Pine (9"-14")
 White Pine (9"-15")

Flowering Tree & Shrub Packet

4 ea. variety - 16 seedlings total
 American Mountain Ash (6"-12")
 Black Chokeberry (6"-12")
 Silky Dogwood (6"-12")
 Washington Hawthorn (6"-12")

Native Hardwood Tree Packet

4 ea. variety - 16 seedlings total
 Black Walnut (6"-12")
 Red Oak (6"-12")
 Sugar Maple (5"-12")
 White Oak (6"-12")

Nut Tree Packet

4 ea. variety - 16 seedlings total
 American Hazelnut (6"-12")
 Black Walnut (6"-12")
 Butternut (6"-12")
 Northern Pecan (6"-12")

Shade Tree Packet

4 ea. variety - 16 seedlings total
 Red Maple (6"-12")
 River Birch (6"-12")
 Sugar Maple (5"-12")
 Tulip Tree (6"-12")

New for 2012

Pawpaw (6"-12") 10 or 100 seedlings
 Persimmon (6"-12") 10 or 100

Wildflower Seeds

1 ounce; plants 100 to 200 sq. ft.

Plantskydd Deer Repellent 11lb.
 powder treats 200-400 plants
 and helps prevent damage to
 seedlings from browsing deer,
 rabbits and opossum

Bulk Trees

Conifer Trees 25 or 100 Count:

Colorado Blue Spruce (9"-15")
 Douglas Fir (10"-18")
 Norway Spruce (10"-18")
 Scots / Scotch Pine (9"-14")
 White Pine (9"-15")

Deciduous Trees 100 Count:

Any Deciduous Tree species offered
 in any of the above packets can be
 ordered in 100 count only. Please
 indicate type on order form. **Bulk
 Deciduous tree order deadline is
 March 23, 2012.**

All trees and shrubs are state and federally inspected. We may need to make reasonable substitutions based on availability of certain species. All trees and shrubs are **bare root seedlings 5 to 18 inches in height.**

All orders are subject to availability. Orders are filled on a first-come first-served basis. There is no limit on the number of packets that can be ordered. Anyone can order trees regardless of county residence, but trees *will not be delivered or mailed.* **Payment must be included with your order.** Notices will be sent out in April specifying order pick-up date and location. Tentative pick-up date is April 13, 2012.

Name_____	Conifer Packet	#_____@ \$25.00 ea. _____
Address_____	Flowering Tree & Shrub Packet	#_____@ \$21.00 ea. _____
City_____	Native Hardwood Tree Packet	#_____@ \$21.00 ea. _____
State_____ Zip_____	Nut Tree Packet	#_____@ \$22.00 ea. _____
Phone_____	Shade Tree Packet	#_____@ \$21.00 ea. _____
Notification method for tree pick time (check one):	10 Pawpaw	#_____@ \$15.00 ea. _____
Postcard _____	10 Persimmon	#_____@ \$10.00 ea. _____
E-mail _____ include e-mail address below	25 Colorado Blue Spruce	#_____@ \$16.00 ea. _____
E-Mail_____	25 Douglas Fir	#_____@ \$16.00 ea. _____
	25 Norway Spruce	#_____@ \$16.00 ea. _____
	25 Scotch Pine	#_____@ \$16.00 ea. _____
	25 White Pine	#_____@ \$16.00 ea. _____
	100 Colorado Blue Spruce	#_____@ \$42.00 ea. _____
	100 Douglas Fir	#_____@ \$42.00 ea. _____
	100 Norway Spruce	#_____@ \$42.00 ea. _____
	100 Scotch Pine	#_____@ \$42.00 ea. _____
	100 White Pine	#_____@ \$42.00 ea. _____
	100 Pawpaw	#_____@ \$125.00 ea. _____
	100 Deciduous (kind) _____	#_____@ \$75.00 ea. _____
	100 Deciduous (kind) _____	#_____@ \$75.00 ea. _____
	Wildflower Seeds	#_____@ \$ 4.00 ea. _____
	Plantskydd 1# powder concentrate	#_____@ \$20.00 ea. _____

Mail with Payment to:

Coshocton SWCD
 724 S. Seventh Street, Room 120
 Coshocton, OH 43812

**Orders must be received by
 March 30, 2012 4:00 p.m.
 Orders are subject to availability.**

Bulk Deciduous order deadline is March 23.

If you have any questions, please call
 (740) 622-8087, ext. 4.

Order form also available online:
www.coshoctonswcd.org



TOTAL ENCLOSED \$_____

<i>Seedling Packet Information</i>		Mature		Soil		Growth		
Packet	Tree/Shrub Name (seedling size)	Height	Width	Moisture	pH	Rate	Light	Comments / Uses
Conifer Packet \$25 10 ea. - 50 Total								
	Colorado Blue Spruce <i>Picea pungens</i> (9-15")	30-60'	20-30'	W, M	N, A	S-M	S	Prefers rich soils, hardy, attractive color, landscape, wildlife
	Douglas Fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> (10-18")	40-80'	10-20'	M	N, A	M	S	Prefers rich soils, Christmas tree, wildlife, lumber, landscape
	Norway Spruce <i>Picea abies</i> (10-18")	60-80'	20-40'	W, M, D	N, A	F	S	Landscaping, wind-breaks, wildlife
	Scotch/Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> (9-14")	40-60'	20-30'	M, D	N	S-M	S	Winter hardy, tolerates dry conditions & wide range of soils, wind-breaks, Christmas tree
	White Pine <i>Pinus strobus</i> (9-15")	60-80'	20-40'	M	N,A	F	S	Windbreaks, timber, wildlife

Flowering Tree & Shrubs \$21 4 ea. - 16 Ttl								
	American Mtn. Ash <i>Sorbus americana</i> (6-12")	20-30'	15-20'	M, W	N, A	M	S, P	White flowers, orange fruit, wildlife
	Black Chokeberry <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> (6-12")	3-8'	3-5'	M, W	N, A	S-M	P	White flowers, blue fruit, wildlife, hedge-row
	Silky Dogwood <i>Cornus amomum</i> (6-12")	4-10'	2-4'	M, W	N, A	M	P	Cream flowers, blue fruit, wildlife
	Washington Hawthorn <i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i> (6-12")	15-20'	10-15'	M	N	M	S, P	White flowers, orange-red fruit, wildlife

Native Hardwood \$21 4 ea. - 16 Total								
	Black Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i> (6-12")	50-70'	50-70'	D, W, M	N, A	F	S, P	Timber, wildlife
	Red Oak <i>Quercus rubra</i> (6-12")	50-60'	50-60'	M, D	N	F	S	Landscape, timber, tolerates dry
	Sugar Maple <i>Acer saccharum</i> (5-12")	60-80'	20-40'	M	N	S-M	S	Landscaping, timber, maple syrup
	White Oak <i>Quercus alba</i> (6-12")	50-70'	50-70'	W, M, D	N	S-M	S, P	Timber, wildlife, nuts

Seedling Packet Information		Mature		Soil		Growth		Comments / Uses
Packet	Tree/Shrub Name (seedling size)	Height	Width	Moisture	pH	Rate	Light	

Nut Tree \$22
4 ea. - 16 Total

American Hazelnut Corylus americana (6-12")	10-15'	10-15'	W, M, D	M	M-F	S	Shrub-like tree, nuts, wildlife
Black Walnut Juglans nigra (6-12")	50-70'	50-70'	D, W, M	N, A	F	S, P	Nuts, wildlife, timber
Butternut Juglans cinerea (6-12")	50-70'	50-70'	M	N	S-M	S	Nuts, specialty lumber, furniture, wildlife
Northern Pecan Carya illinoensis (6-12")	80-120'	60-100'	M, W	N, A	S	S	Nuts, wildlife, shade, fall color

Shade Tree \$21
4 ea. - 16 Total

Red Maple Acer rubrum (6-12")	50-70'	30-40'	W, M	N	M	S	Red fall color, landscaping
River Birch Betula nigra (6-12")	40-60'	30-50'	W, M	N	M-F	S, P	Interesting bark, landscaping
Sugar Maple Acer saccharum (5-12")	60-80'	30-40'	M	N	M	S	Landscaping, timber, maple syrup
Tulip Tree Liriodendron tulipifera (6-12")	70-90'	35-45'	M	N	F	S	Yellow-orange flowers, timber

New for 2012

Pawpaw Asimina triloba (6-12") 10 - \$15; 100 - \$125	15-20'	20-25'	M	N, A, B	M	S	Maroon flowers, edible fruit, wildlife
Persimmon Diospyros virginiana (6-12") 10 - \$10; 100 - \$75	4-10'	3-8'	W, M	N, A	F	S, P, SH	Edible fruit, wildlife, disease-resistant

Bulk Trees Individual species of conifers and deciduous trees are available
25 Conifer Trees \$16 100 Conifer Trees \$42
100 Deciduous Trees \$75 *deadline March 23

Wildflower Seeds \$4 - 1 ounce Plants 100-200 sq. ft.
High quality regional native wildflower seed mix. Mixture includes both native grasses and forbes.

Soil Moisture	Soil pH	Growth Rate	Light
W = wet M = normal D = dry	N = normal pH range (6.5-7.5) A = acidic (6.5 or less) B = basic / alkaline (7.5 or higher)	F = fast 12+ in./year M = medium 6-12"/year S = slow 2-6"/year	S = sun P = part sun/ shade SH = shade