

Your
Soil & Water
Conservation
Specialists!

Conservation In Action

January /
February
2008



Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District

SWCD Supervisors

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

NRCS Staff

Tim Halt—District Conservationist

SWCD Staff

Teresa Bradford—District Administrator
Mary Thomas—Administrative Assistant
Barbara Mainwaring—GIS Specialist
Ryan Medley—District Technician

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

2008 Coshocton SWCD Board of Supervisors

The Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors reorganized at their December meeting. Positions for 2008 are as follows: Knox Porteus of 2430 Otsego Avenue, Coshocton is Chairman serving his eighth term; Greg Waters of 53750 TR 1214, West Lafayette is Vice-Chairman serving his second term; Adrian Garber of 34595 TR 89, Fresno is Secretary serving his second term; Garry Derr of 18494 CR 106, Coshocton is Fiscal Agent serving his third term; and David Lapp of 44772 US 36, Coshocton is Treasurer serving his fifth term.

Supervisors are elected to the board by county residents and serve a three-year term without pay.

Thank You for your dedication to our SWCD Program!

Pictured left to right are David Lapp, Adrian Garber, Greg Waters, Knox Porteus and Garry Derr.



Soil Survey of Coshocton County Now Available on Compact Disc

A new digitized soil survey of Coshocton County that allows for easy access to information about soils and other natural and cultural resources is now available on compact disc. The CD's user-friendly Geographic Information Systems software is compatible with most home or office computers.

The program, which will be particularly useful to farmers and developers, opens with a map of Coshocton County. Users can simply click on the data they would like to see, including aerial photography, roads, towns, slopes, drainage, soils types and crop yields. The program then redraws the map with the selected information.

"This tool gives a broad view of soil conditions for planning purposes," said David Hanselmann, chief of the ODNR Division of Soil & Water Conservation. "It is a land-use planning tool so development and farming can be done in a way that is environmentally responsible."

Hanselmann added that in about a month, the Division plans to

have soil survey information available in the same format for all 88 Ohio counties. So far this information is available for 86 counties. Ohio's soil digitizing project is part of a nationwide Soil Survey Geographic Database Initiative managed by the Natural Resource Conservation Service. NRCS, The Ohio State University School of Environment and Natural Resources, and ODNR are cooperating on the project with help from the Ohio Department of Transportation, U.S. Forest Service, county soil and water conservation districts, and other local agencies. Locally, Coshocton SWCD, Coshocton Foundation, Coshocton Port Authority, Coshocton County Commissioners, Coshocton Health Department and Coshocton County Regional Planning Commission have provided funding.

Coshocton County's computerized soil survey information is certified. The CD and information on how to access related information online are available through the Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District by calling 740-622-8087, extension 4.

When It Rains, Coshocton Drains

10 Easy Things You Can Do to Stop Pollution of Our Creeks and Rivers



1. Recycle your used motor oil and antifreeze. Some auto parts stores accept these. *Never dump oil or antifreeze down the storm drain, which flows into the creeks or rivers.*



2. Reduce auto emissions through regular auto maintenance, ride sharing, and use of public transportation. Fix oil, radiator and transmission leaks in your car. *Don't let your car leave ugly oil slicks behind.*



3. Use a garbage can for your trash. Recycle reusable materials. *Don't put trash and litter in the street. It will be washed to the river.*



4. Sweep the dirt from your walk or driveway back into the yard with your broom. Pick up pet waste and dispose of it in the toilet or trash. *Hosing dirt and pet waste away sends it into the drainage systems and directly to the creeks and rivers.*



5. Dispose of any hazardous home chemicals at approved household hazardous waste collection sites. *Use the least toxic products available in your home and garden.*

6. Choose water-based paints such as latex. Wash brushes in your sink with water. If using paint thinner, reuse and recycle it. Solidified paint can be disposed of in regular household waste. *Don't pour any paint or toxic material down the storm drain.*



7. Use pesticides and other lawn chemicals sparingly. Never double the dose! *Follow the directions and do not apply if rain is forecasted.*



8. Go to a car wash or wash your car in the grass. *Don't wash that grimy road dirt and chemical cleaners down the drive and into the storm drain.*



9. Pick up and properly dispose of leaves and grass clippings. Start a compost pile with yard waste. *Never use streams or gutters to dispose of yard waste.*



10. Maintain your septic system. Have it pumped out to remove sludge and scum. How often the system should be pumped depends on the tank size and number of people in the house. See OSU's Septic System Maintenance bulletin number AEX-740-01 at <http://ohioline.osu.edu> for more information. Do not use tank additives, and practice water conservation to prevent overworking your system. *Repair or replace malfunctioning septic systems.*



Educate your family, friends and neighbors. Spread the word.
Water pollution is everyone's problem. Water quality is everyone's responsibility.

Useful Websites

Agency	Website	Information Available
Coshocton County Offices	http://www.coshoctoncounty.net http://gis.coshoctoncounty.net	Link to all County Departments New County Parcel Maps
Coshocton County Auditor-Public Access	http://www.coshcoauditor.org	Property Search
Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District	http://www.coshoctonswcd.org http://www.coshoctoncounty.net/agency/swcd	Conservation Programs, Technical and Engineering Assistance, Conservation Education Programs
Maptech Mapserver	http://mapserver.maptech.com	Find Longitude and Latitude of a Specific Location and TOPO Maps
Ohio Department of Agriculture	http://www.ohioagriculture.gov	Ohio Agriculture Information
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation	http://www.ofbf.org	Ohio Agriculture and Livestock
ODNR Division of Forestry	http://www.ohiodnr.com/forestry	State Tree Sale Information
ODNR Division of Mineral Resources Mgt	http://www.ohiodnr.com/mineral	Abandoned Underground Mine Locator
ODNR Division of Water	http://www.ohiodnr.com/water/maptechs/wellogs/appNEW	Water Well Log Search
ODNR Division of Wildlife	http://www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife	Fishing, hunting, trapping and wildlife information
OSU Extension-Coshocton County	http://coshocton.osu.edu	Agriculture & Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development, Family & Consumer Sciences, Master Gardener, Community Development
OSU Online	http://ohioline.osu.edu	Fact Sheets and Brochures
US Department of Agriculture	http://www.usda.gov	Farm Bill Programs USDA-NRCS, USDA-FSA
USDA Agricultural Research Service	http://www.ars.usda.gov/coshocton	Rainfall Data – Coshocton County North Appalachian Experimental Watershed
USDA-NRCS	http://www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov/programs	Ohio NRCS programs including EQIP and CSP

2008 Affiliate Members

Diamond

Clow Water Systems Company

Platinum

Chase Bank

Coshocton Foundation

Coshocton Grain Company

Farm Credit Services

Gerber & Sons, Inc.

Smurfit Stone Container Corporation

Gold

Baird Concrete

Century National Bank

Coshocton County Advertiser

Coshocton County Chamber of Commerce

Coshocton County Sheriff, Tim Rogers

Endsley Insurance Agency

Finton Equipment—John Deere

Larry A. Frye Farms

The Garden Patch Greenhouse

National City Bank

Tumblin Farms, David Tumblin

Silver

B & B Poured Walls

Garst Seed

Norma Koontz

Landschulz Farms, Paul Landschulz

Bob Nelson—Dale Gress Real Estate

Ohio Heritage Bank

Dr. Rob & Sheri Stout & Family

William Albert Inc.

Bronze

Alan Donaker Surveying

Bluck & Sons, Inc.

Coshocton County Auditor, Sandra Corder

Coshocton County Clerk of Courts,

Irene Miller

Coshocton County Engineer, Fred Wachtel

Coshocton County Farm Bureau

Coshocton Sportsmen Club

Fender's Fish Hatchery

Flint Run Valley Farms

Frontier Power Company

Home Loan Savings Bank

Ohio Power—AEP

Owens & Manning Attorneys

Scheetz Marketing

Fred Workman

Keys to Qualifying for the Conservation Security Program By Tim Halt, District Conservationist

Can you qualify for CSP?

The specific rules for the 2008 CSP sign up have not yet been announced. Jon Warner, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist (Programs), urges farmers to start talking now with their local NRCS office. "This can give you a good idea of what's required for eligibility," said Warner.

"To get into CSP, you must be a good steward of the land and continue to practice and maintain soil and water conservation on your farm." Warner adds, "You need to use minimum tillage, or better yet, no-till on your ground and be concerned with soil quality."

Warner encourages farmers interested in CSP to look at the 2006 CSP workbook (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/pdf_files/cspfy06self-assessment10_20.pdf). He says it shows producers what practices were important for 2006 CSP participation, and it will give farmers an idea of what is required for basic eligibility for CSP participation.

Do the Planning Now

Planning can be done right now to prepare for CSP. Some of the steps that can be taken include:

1. Do what it takes to meet soil fertility requirements. Are your soil tests up to date? If not, get the soil sampled and tested. Soil must have been tested within the past four years for each field you want to enroll in CSP.
2. Start thinking about the rate of nitrogen applied in the past. Look at what is planned for spring 2008.
3. Look at your ground and how you farm it. How can you improve it from a conservation aspect? Put buffer strips around creeks? Do everything you can to put your ground in better condition to be accepted into CSP.

USDA makes the CSP available in new watersheds annually on a rotational basis in as many watersheds as funding allows. CSP was first authorized by Congress in the 2002 Farm Bill.

CSP applicants participate in the program on three different levels reflecting both their documented historical conservation management as well as their agreement to do additional environmental enhancements. CSP contract payments are capped by law at \$20,000 for Tier 1, \$35,000 for Tier 2, and \$45,000 for Tier 3.

Currently there over 1,080 active CSP contracts in Ohio.

Resources on the Web:

Self Assessment Workbook: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/pdf_files/cspfy06self-assessment10_20.pdf

CSP: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/>

Preparing for CSP

NRCS officials urge non-CSP watershed farmers to continue their conservation efforts and learn more about the CSP program. "You never know when CSP may be coming to your watershed," says Jon Warner, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist (Programs). "To qualify for CSP, NRCS asks farmers to apply and maintain soil conservation practices on your farm. This includes using conservation tillage and stream bank protection practices, cover crops, nutrient and pesticide management, and enhancing wildlife habitat."

"When and How to Market Timber" Forestry Field Day—January 12

The North Appalachian Experimental Watershed, the Ohio Division of Forestry, Coshocton SWCD, Ohio Farm Bureau and the Small Farm Institute will hold a Forestry Field Day January 12, 2008 titled "When and How to Market Timber." This event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Experiment Station at 28850 SR 621 in Coshocton County and will be held rain, snow or shine so come dressed for the outdoors.

The field day will be conducted by ODNR Service Forester, John Kehn. It will include an indoor session of 1-2 hours covering basic timber marketing and an outdoor session including knowing when a timber sale is needed, pre-sale preparations needed to prepare woods for a timber sale, identifying trees that should be sold and why, and marketing and measuring trees in the woods and determining volume and value.

Registration is limited to 40 participants. Depending on interest, overflow participants will be given an alternative date to attend. Registration fee is \$5.00 per participant. Make checks payable to Coshocton County Farm Bureau. Lunch will be provided courtesy of the Farm Bureau. For reservations contact the North Appalachian Experimental Watershed at 740-545-6349.



Calendar of Events

January 9th

SWCD Board Meeting 10:00 a.m.

January 12th

Forestry Field Day

Research Station 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

January 21st

Martin Luther King Day—Office Closed

February 13th

SWCD Board Meeting 10:00 a.m.

February 18th

President's Day—Office Closed

February 26th

Agronomy School—OSU Extension

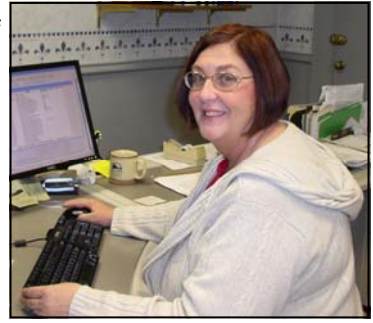
March 12th

SWCD Board Meeting 10:00 a.m.

My GIS Adventure

By Barb Mainwaring, GIS Specialist

My GIS adventure began November 1, 1999 when I was first employed by the County to learn the ESRI software and develop a parcel layer in the ESRI shapefile format. My first step was to take all of the surveys in the County's possession and sort them by quarter-township and the date of the survey, assign a numbering system and label each survey accordingly. That, along with learning the ESRI software by trial and error, took me until September of 2000, at which time I began to create the first parcels. Starting with the parcels located in the 4th Quarter of Millcreek Township, I used the 1996 digital ortho-photography as my basis and incorporated the survey records, plat records and paper tax maps to draw my parcel layer. While developing the parcel layer, it was necessary to develop other layers needed for mapping purposes, such as, incorporated areas, subdivisions, roads, rivers and streams, sections and lots, townships, school districts, and many more.



The next step was to make this information available to the public through an internet website. Additional hardware and software was purchased, and a consultant was hired to make this transition possible. After several months and a lot of hard work, we were up and running with a very user friendly application of which we are extremely proud. Everyone should visit this site at <http://gis.coshoctoncounty.net>.

Agronomy School to be Held

The Coshocton and Muskingum OSU Extension Offices will be holding an Agronomy School Tuesday, February 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Conesville United Methodist Church. Some topics to be discussed include soil fertility, weed control, cover crops and new markets for corn and soybeans. The cost is \$15 per person and includes a light breakfast, hot lunch and a weed control guide. Contact the Coshocton OSU Extension Office at 740-622-2265 for more information.



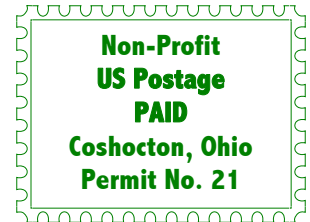
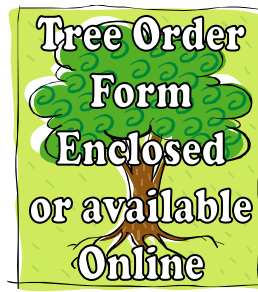
Newsletters, Workshops and Clinics

The Coshocton SWCD would like to update our records and keep you informed with material that interests you. If you would like to receive the livestock newsletter or teacher newsletter and currently do not, please contact the office. We also keep a list for workshops and clinics that may be held throughout the year. Please let us know if you would be interested in any of the following: contractor workshop, forestry workshop or pond clinic. You may contact the office by e-mailing teresa.bradford@oh.nacdnet.net or by calling 740-622-8087, extension 4.

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

E-Mail: teresa.bradford@oh.nacdnet.net



**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

The Coshocton SWCD Newsletter is a bi-monthly 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.

