



# Conservation In Action

**Spring  
2025**

Your  
Soil & Water  
Conservation  
Specialists!

## Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District

### SWCD Supervisors

Beth Mullen - Chairperson  
Greg Waters - Vice Chair  
David Lapp - Secretary  
Kristy Leindecker - Fiscal Agent  
Jordan Olinger - Treasurer

### SWCD Staff

Ryan Medley - District Administrator  
Kelsey Saylor - Admin. Assistant  
Zach Wallace - District Technician  
Michaela Savage - District Technician

### NRCS Staff

Josh Britton - District Conservationist  
Matt Hursey - Resource Conservationist  
Derrick Hill - Natural Resources Specialist

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

### Celebrating National Ag Day 2025: Honoring the Heart of Agriculture

On March 18th, the community gathered in celebration of National Agriculture Day, a day set aside to recognize and honor the invaluable contributions of America's farmers, and agribusinesses. This year's event was a true testament to the strength and unity of our local agricultural community.

Schumaker Farms proudly catered the event, offering a hearty farm-to-table meal that showcased the very best of locally sourced ingredients. Guests enjoyed a warm, welcoming atmosphere while connecting with fellow producers, ag professionals, and community members.



The luncheon featured an insightful presentation spotlighting this year's theme; Agriculture, Together We Grow, from the President and General Manager of Gerber and Sons Inc., Seth Gerber and the Operations Manager, Travis Hahn, both respected leaders in high quality, locally manufactured feed services. Seth and Travis shared their perspectives on the evolving needs and demands of agriculture, highlighting both the challenges and innovations that are shaping the future of farming. Their message centered on sustainability, quality feed, and the critical role of ag development and the growth of their new Feed Mill.

National Ag Day serves as a reminder of the essential role that agriculture plays, not just in providing food, fiber, and fuel, but in shaping communities and supporting local businesses. We are proud to be part of this celebration, recognizing the dedication and hard work of our ag community. We'd like to thank everyone who joined us and those that made this luncheon possible, your support and presence honor the vital role agriculture plays in all our lives!



## River View & Coshocton County Career Center Fierce Competition at Envirothon

Five teams of students from River View High School and the Coshocton County Career Center traveled to Monroe County to participate in the Area 3 Envirothon, held at the scenic Shadow Lake RV Park on April 23rd. The Envirothon is an annual environmental education competition that challenges high school teams to apply their knowledge of natural resources in a series of hands-on field tests. The event brought together 44 teams from schools across the region to test their knowledge in forestry, wildlife, soils, aquatic ecology, and a current environmental issue.



*RV FFA Blue*

Although River View and Coshocton County Career Center did not place among the top teams, both represented their schools with dedication and a strong effort, demonstrating teamwork and a commitment to environmental stewardship.

The competition was intense, with top honors going to four standout teams who will move on to represent Area 3 at the Ohio Envirothon. A fifth team was selected as an alternate and may compete at the state level if needed.

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to the top five teams as they prepare to compete at the Ohio Envirothon. Good luck, and continue making your communities proud with your passion for the environment!



*CCCC Natural Resources  
Big Oaks*



*CCCC Natural Resources  
Bull Frogs*



*CCCC Natural Resources  
Chatterbaits*



*CCCC Natural Resources  
Grasshoppers*

## MWCD Cover Crop Program Available Again for 2025

The Cover Crop Cost Share program will again be coordinated by the Coshocton SWCD in 2025. We look forward to working with local producers on this program which is made possible by the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) and the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) who provide cost share for the seeding of cover crops on approved crop fields.



Applications will need to be filled out at the Coshocton SWCD office, or can be sent electronically via email. Completed applications will be ranked against others in the watershed and ODA has the final decision of who gets cost share. Applicants may choose to broadcast or drill their cover crop, or have the seed applied via airplane. Coshocton SWCD will facilitate the aerial application.

The cost share rate is \$12 per acre with a cap of 175 acres per applicant. Any field signed up in the watershed behind one of MWCD's lakes will be automatically approved for the program. USDA-NRCS standards must be followed for seeding rate and seeding dates. Soil test results must be supplied to SWCD staff for fields signed up to be eligible, and must be current within the last 4 years. Applications without soil tests will not be considered for ranking in 2025. Cover crop application deadline is Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

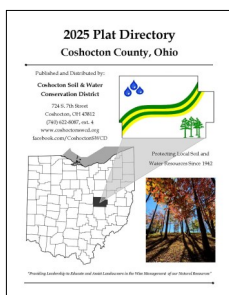
## 2025 Coshocton County Plat Books

The new 2025 Coshocton County Plat Books are now available! All maps are in color. You can purchase them at our office for \$10.00 each (\$9.28 plus 7.75% sales tax). A mailed copy of the plat book is an additional \$5.00. To see sample pages visit our website, [www.coshoctonswcd.org](http://www.coshoctonswcd.org), under "Available Items."

For a mailed copy, please send a check to the Coshocton SWCD for \$15.00 (\$9.28 + \$0.72 sales tax + \$5.00 mailing fee) with a note that you want a plat book. Be sure to also provide your mailing address.

The plat book will be sent to you when we receive payment.

Contact our office at (740)622-8087 ext. 4 or email [kelseysaylor@coshoctoncounty.net](mailto:kelseysaylor@coshoctoncounty.net).





## New Soil Testing Cost Share Program

The Coshocton SWCD will be offering a new program to reimburse qualified applicants for pulling new soil tests in 2025. Using H2Ohio grant funding distributed by the ODA, applicants may sign up at the Coshocton SWCD office to be reimbursed for the cost of having soil samples analyzed. This program is meant to be a simple way to assist people with updating soil tests, and also educating on the importance of proper sampling methods and interpreting the results of a soil test.

Acres eligible for the program will only be those in production agriculture (row crop, hay, pasture) as determined by Coshocton SWCD staff. Upon submitting the application, the applicant will have 12 months to pull the samples and have them analyzed. The program is for new samples to be pulled only, existing soil samples taken in 2023 or newer will not be eligible because they are still current. **The cost share rate will be 100% of actual cost, based on receipts, capped at \$17.00 per soil sample and \$2,000 per applicant.** Soil sampling procedures must follow the NRCS Nutrient Management Standard (590) which states:

-Samples should be pulled at a depth of 8 inches

-Samples should not represent more than 25 acres per sample. If using Zone management no more than 12 acres per sample. If using Grid management no more than 6 acres per sample.

-For soil test analysis, use laboratories successfully meeting the requirements and performance standards of the North American Proficiency Testing Program under the guidance of the Soil Science Society of America and NRCS.

Please stop in at the Coshocton SWCD office for more information or to sign up. Sign up deadline will coincide with the Cover Crop program deadline of July 15, 2025.



### 2025 Affiliate Members

#### Diamond

Coshocton County Beacon  
Eastern Ohio Ag  
Judge Tim & Daphne France

#### Platinum

Coshocton Grain Company  
Gerber & Sons, Inc.  
Heritage Cooperative  
Hidden Spring Farms, Tim Rogers  
Home Loan Savings Bank  
McWane Ductile - Ohio  
Pony Field Farm LLC

#### Gold

Charlie & Ruby Helmick  
Cosh. Co. Chamber of Commerce

Coshocton County Farm Bureau  
Coshocton Foundation  
Dr. Rob & Sheri Stout and Family  
Endsley Insurance Agency  
Frontier Power Company  
Gottlieb, Johnston, Beam & Dal Ponte  
Harold's Equipment, Inc.  
Hupp-Stiverson Company  
Gail Piper, In Memory of Jim Piper  
Larry A. Frye Farms  
Lynn Wells - In Memory of Ray Griffith  
McCoy Homestead, Keith & Denise McCoy  
Owens & Manning, Attorneys  
Peoples Bank  
Rock Hill Farms, Stevens Family  
Sturtz Farm, Larry & Maureen Sturtz  
The Garden Patch Greenhouse  
Thousand Oaks Farms  
TMK Bakersville  
Tumblin Farms, David Tumblin Family

WenMar Farms, Inc.  
William Albert, Inc.  
Wills Transport & Excavating

#### Silver

Baird Concrete  
Cosh. Co. Engineer Fred Wachtel  
Dane & Amy Shryock  
Daugherty Farms  
Deb Bigelow  
Garber Brothers Farms LLC  
Gary & Michelle Fischer  
Jacobs Vanaman Agency, Inc.  
Knotty Nuff Acres  
Lity Scrap Yard  
Scheetz Marketing  
Steven Oster

#### Bronze

Alan Donaker Surveying  
Bob & Kathy Bigrigg  
Cosh. Co. Treasurer Janette Donaker  
Saylor Wealth Strategies

**Coshocton Soil and Water  
Conservation District**  
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 [www.coshoctonswcd.org](http://www.coshoctonswcd.org)  
[facebook.com/CoshoctonSWCD](https://facebook.com/CoshoctonSWCD)

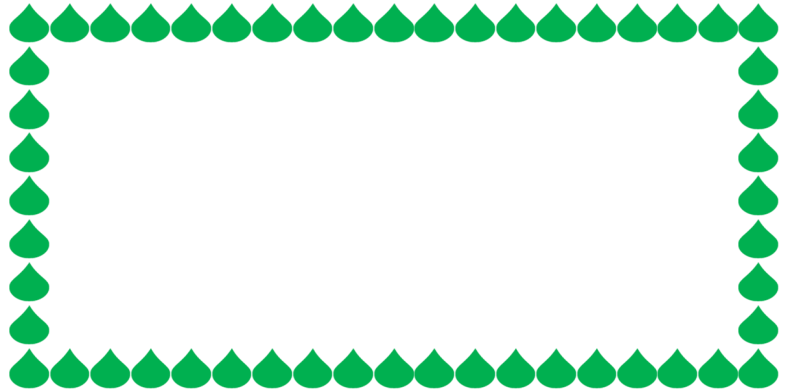


Soil Stewardship Week: April 27-May 4

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Coshocton SWCD Newsletter is a publication to keep county residents informed on our SWCD program. Please phone the office at (740)622-8087, ext. 4 if your address needs corrected or if you wish to be removed from our mailing list.

**Did you know?? You can receive your newsletter via e-mail. Contact [kelseysaylor@coshoctoncounty.net](mailto:kelseysaylor@coshoctoncounty.net)**



Coshocton SWCD and USDA-NRCS are equal opportunity employers and providers.

## Let's Walk the Pasture Together!

Coshocton SWCD has once again scheduled two pasture walks for this summer. These are great educational events to learn about livestock and grazing management.



June 24, 6:30 p.m.: J.D. Lawrentz Farm - 49073 TR 200 Coshocton, OH 43812

Jim is grazing 80 head of Dorset and Suffolk ewes. Bob Hendershot, ODA grazing specialist, is going to lead discussion on forage management and field questions from attendees. This event will focus on small ruminant grazing and animal husbandry.

August 26, 6:30 p.m.: Floyd Yoder Farm - 53320 TR 170 Fresno, OH 43824

Floyd is grazing 30 cow calf pairs and has improved his forage production and soil health since implementing a rotational grazing system. Floyd will also share how he was able to utilize warm season annuals to boost his forage production. Jarrod Hittle, ODA grazing specialist, will also be on hand to educate on grazing management and answer questions.

Reservations are appreciated but not required. Water and light snacks will be provided. Coshocton SWCD would also like to send out a big thank you to Jim and Floyd for hosting! If you would like more information or to receive a postcard for pasture walks, please call us at (740)622-8087 x 4 or email [kelseysaylor@coshoctoncounty.net](mailto:kelseysaylor@coshoctoncounty.net).

## 2025 Save the Dates:

Pasture Walk  
June 24

First Farm Friday  
August 1

Pasture Walk  
August 26

83rd Annual Meeting  
October 16

Fall Foliage Tour  
October 18-19

More information on these events will be in later newsletters.

## Calendar of Events

**May 8**  
Earth Day,  
Wills Creek Dam

**May 14**  
SWCD Board Meeting,  
8:00 p.m.

**June 2-4**  
Ohio Envirothon,  
Wilmington College

**June 11**  
SWCD Board Meeting,  
8:00 p.m.

**June 18**  
First Farm Friday Volunteer  
Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

**June 24**  
Pasture Walk,  
6:30 p.m.

**July 9**  
SWCD Board Meeting,  
8:00 p.m.