



Conservation In Action

**Banquet
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
Mathew Hursey - Resource Conservationist
Derrick Hill - Natural Resources Specialist

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

Soaring into Conservation: SWCD 83rd Annual Meeting & Banquet Takes Flight



The Coshocton SWCD invites the community to attend its **83rd Annual Meeting and Banquet on Thursday, October 16**, at the Lake Park Pavilion in Coshocton, OH. Doors open at **6:00 p.m.** for supervisor election voting, followed by dinner at **7:00 p.m.**

Dinner will be catered by **Theo's Restaurant of Cambridge** and will feature a hearty buffet and a tempting selection of homemade pies. Tickets are **\$15 per person**, with children **10 and under just \$6**. Reservations must be made by **October 6**.

This year's program will offer something truly unique. Guests will enjoy a live presentation by **Raptor Hallow Sanctuary**, featuring several native raptors such as owls, hawks, and other birds of prey. The Raptor Hallow team will share fascinating insights into these powerful hunters of the sky, their adaptations, and their role in maintaining healthy ecosystems. The program is designed for all ages, offering an up-close experience with these magnificent birds while learning how to help protect their habitats.

In addition, the Coshocton SWCD will present awards to the **Outstanding Conservation Farmer, Big Tree Contest winner**, and **Jr. Fair Hay Show winners**.

Tickets may be purchased by mail using below form or at the Coshocton SWCD office, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

83rd Annual Meeting & Banquet Ticket Order Form

To have your tickets mailed, please remove this portion and send with payment to the Coshocton SWCD Office.

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Number of Adult Tickets at \$15 each _____

Number of Children's Tickets (age 10 & under) at \$6 each _____ **Total Cost of Tickets: \$** _____

Return to **Coshocton SWCD, 724 S. 7th Street Room 120, Coshocton, OH 43812** by **October 6, 2025**

Thank You to the Endsley Agency and Home Loan Savings Bank for helping sponsor this year's Annual Meeting and Banquet!

Meet the Supervisor Candidates



KRISTY LEINDECKER moved to Coshocton County in 1997, growing up in Butler County and attending Lakota High School. She has been married to Brian for 29 years and they live on the family farm in White Eyes Township. Kristy and Brian have two sons, Keith and Marcus and the addition of two Daughter-In-Laws, Makayla and Aliya. The Leindecker Farm has been a cooperator since 1981, installing tile drainage and a grassed waterway.

Kristy has been co-owner of the Garden Patch Greenhouse for the past 25 years, with the Greenhouse contributing as a SWCD Affiliate Member since 2005. She graduated from OSU-Agricultural Technical Institute in 1995, majoring in Greenhouse Production and

Management. She and her family are members of the Fresno Bible Church. Kristy has been a Coshocton SWCD Supervisor since 2014.



JORDAN THOMPEN was raised on his family farm in Bethlehem Township. He met his wife, Stephanie, while he was earning his Forest Management Associates degree at Hocking College and obtaining both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Forest Management at West Virginia University. They welcomed their daughter, Raegen, in March of this year. Throughout his ventures in life, he has practice with rotational forest management and utilizing EQIP to tackle resource concerns like invasive plants and tree removal. Jordan's experience includes completed CRP tree planting and established warm-season grasses as well as row crops such as corn and beans and participates in the Cover Crop Program.

While Jordan is working as a Consulting Forester, he serves on the Coshocton County Career Center Natural Resources Committee, WVU Forestry Management Program Board, and Chairman of the OFA Education Committee.



PAUL SNYDER was raised on the family farm in Baltic and has dedicated his life to agriculture and conservation. He was part of the first graduating class of ATI in Wooster in 1974, earning a degree in Dairy Management. Over the years, he transitioned from dairy farming to raising beef cattle and producing hay and corn, now managing a herd of 40 head. Committed to conservation, Paul has implemented numerous practices on the farm, including spring developments, a manure pit, heavy use roads, and a complete no-till cropping system since 1981.

He and his wife, Catherine, have three daughters and are proud grandparents to six grandchildren ranging from ages 6 months to 8 years old. Beyond the farm, Paul is active in the community, serving as both Deacon and Elder at the First United Church of Christ in Sugarcreek.

Election of Supervisor

The Ohio Soil & Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of the Coshocton SWCD to be held in accordance with Chapter 940 of the Ohio Revised Code. Anyone that owns land or lives in the City of Coshocton or Coshocton County and are 18 years of age or older may vote for Supervisor. Two candidates will be elected to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2028.

There are 3 ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot:

1. At the SWCD office (724 S. Seventh Street Room 120, Coshocton, OH 43812) during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) starting September 17 and ending at noon on October 16.
2. At the SWCD Annual Meeting, which will take place at the Lake Park Pavilion on October 16, with voting from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. You do not have to purchase an Annual Meeting ticket to come and vote for Supervisor.
3. Voting absentee from September 17 until October 16 by requesting the ballot application and election ballot from the SWCD office by calling 740-622-8087 ext. 4 or email ryanmedley@coshoctoncounty.net. Absentee ballots must be received by the SWCD office by noon on October 16, 2025.

What is a Supervisor's Role?

Supervisors are the key to the success of a Soil and Water Conservation District. The credibility and achievement of districts is based upon this local leadership. Board supervisors serve a 3-year term without pay, volunteering their time. They have many responsibilities as a supervisor; some of the key roles are listed below.

- Meet at least monthly as a board to carry out the official duties of the office; know thoroughly the powers, authorities, and responsibilities placed upon them by the State soil and water conservation district law.
- Request appropriate local leaders meet with the board to discuss particular conservation needs and to inform them of the district's programs; develop and carry out the annual plan of work for reaching goals of the district.
- Enter into working agreements with agencies as appropriate to coordinate the SWCD program.
- Hire capable district employees to carry out the daily work of the district. Provide proper oversight for all employees. Ensure employees are evaluated at least annually and provide them with adequate training opportunities to allow them to remain current with the skills they need to be successful in their position.
- Manage all funds, facilities and equipment belonging to the district. Establish business procedures as necessary to facilitate planning, record keeping, and sound financial procedures.

SWCD Board members are the foundation of the SWCD program. These 5 local leaders are the governing body that formulates policy, prepares workload, develops the information and education programs, and manages the business affairs of the District. Our board members serve our community and give generously of their time and talents to make the SWCD program successful.

You do not have to attend the Annual Meeting and Banquet to participate in the Supervisor Election on **October 16**. Voting options are listed in the Election of Supervisor article of this newsletter.

1964 Board Supervisors



2000 Board Supervisors

2025 Current Board Supervisors



Cover Crop Program Update - 2025 Enrollment Closed

Coshocton SWCD staff once again assisted crop producers in signing up for the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) cover crop cost share program. 4,600 acres of row crops were signed up to have cover crops planted for erosion control and to enhance soil health. The first round of seeding will take place the week of September 8th when Fisher's Crop Care by Air will apply cover crop seed to standing soybeans out of the airplane. The remaining fields will be seeded by the crop producer, either by drone or by drill or broadcast after the crop is harvested.

The MWCD cover crop cost share program is a competitive program that awards \$12 per acre of cost share to approved fields to seed cover crops. The program is funded by the MWCD and follows NRCS standards and specifications. Sign up for the program typically takes place in May and June, and fields must have a current (no more than 4 years old) soil test to be eligible. For more information please call our office, or email zachwallace@coshoctoncounty.net.

Farm Equipment, Food & Fun Highlight First Farm Friday

This year's First Farm Friday took place on August 1st stretching clear down Main street and across 4th Street, with volunteers set up on both sides of the Court Square. The event featured impressive equipment displays, including a John Deere Sprayer owned by Warren Lapp & Son, a John Deere Combine from Daugherty Farms, a John Deere Tractor and Planter provided by Porteus Farms, and—and new this year—a John Deere Skidder owned by Rocky Ridge Forestry and livestock trailer from Kimberley Transport.

With the added displays came more variety for families to enjoy, including several new food vendors and inflatables generously donated by Mooving-N-Grooving Inflatables. The event was very well attended; we even had Royalty there! We sincerely thank the many volunteers who make First Farm Friday possible each year, as well as the community members who come out to celebrate agriculture and make it all worthwhile!



June Pasture Walk at J.D. Lawrentz Farm



On June 24th, we had 19 fellow livestock producers in attendance for the Pasture Walk at the J. D. Lawrentz Farm located in Coshocton. Bob Hendershot educated attendees on the best practices for sheep grazing. Attendees learned how to identify different types of grasses, legumes, and forbs, as well as, common weeds that are found in pastures. Specific management styles were outlined on how to increase forage productivity and sheep and goat performance on pasture. As a bonus, Mr. Hendershot also spoke about parasite control and nutrient management.

August Pasture Walk at Floyd Yoder Farms



On August 26th, 24 attendees visited Floyd Yoder's farm, south of Fresno, for the final pasture walk of the summer and received education and a show with beautiful rainbows. Attendees were able to see how Floyd and his son, Lavon, use warm season annuals in their pasture to boost production and mitigate overgrazing cool season forages. ODA grazing specialist, Jarrod Hittle, led the discussion on management techniques and shared insight on how to incorporate some of these practices on different operations.

We **thank you** for your interest and support of our programs and ask that you continue to work with us to wisely use Coshocton County's natural resources!

Local Leaders Explore Conservation Practices During County Official's Tour



Coshocton SWCD hosted an Officials Tour on July 23rd, showcasing several conservation practices highlighting the work of the Soil and Water Conservation District. Coshocton Public Transit provided busing to the various sites for over 40 participants.

The first stop of the tour was the Tim Olinger Farm to talk about crop and pasture nutrient management. Coshocton SWCD technicians explained how soil testing, crop yield goals, and new technology were used to more efficiently fertilize the various crops in a farming operation. Some of the programs the district utilizes to assist

landowners with this are: H2Ohio, EQIP, and MWCD Cover Crop Program. The next stop on the tour was Tim Cox's Farm to look at a log jam in Mill Creek that was removed utilizing assistance from MWCD's Obstruction Removal Program. Schumaker Farms catered a delicious dinner for participants in the Cox family's historic bank barn. Brain Baird's Farm was the next stop following dinner, showcasing a large intensive grazing management project currently in progress. Attendees saw a portion of the 30,000+ feet of fence installed, were filled in on plans for the planned livestock watering facilities, and NRCS staff explained the EQIP program assisting with this project. The final stop of the evening was Daugherty Farms where participants saw a completed MWCD Exclusion Fencing Project, how the SWCD can assist with engineering without utilizing cost share programs, and a guided tour of the dairy facility courtesy of the Daugherty Family.

Thank you to all of our tour hosts for allowing us to showcase the importance of conservation in our community. This includes Tim and Kay Olinger, Tim and Jodi Cox, Brian Baird, and Bill, Caroline, and Kyle Daugherty. Thanks also to all those that took time from their schedules to attend, Schumaker Farms for a delicious dinner, SWCD Technician Zach Wallace and District Administrator, Ryan Medley, for their explanations of the work done, and the Coshocton Public Transit drivers for transportation. Affiliate funds and H2O dollars are used for costs associated with the tour and we appreciate these generous donations for our educational program.

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
Cosh Clerk of Courts Camila Graham
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

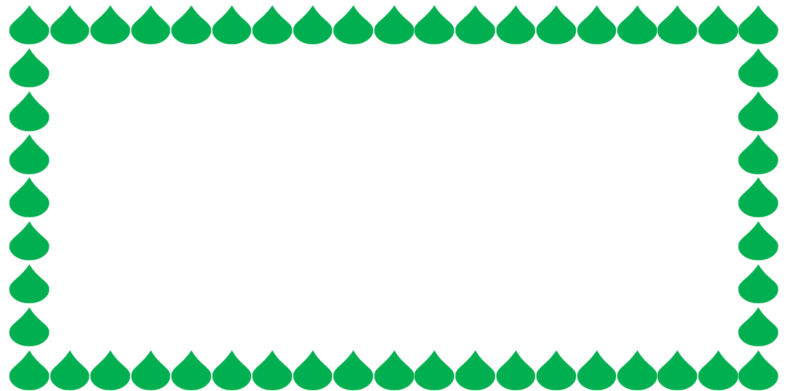
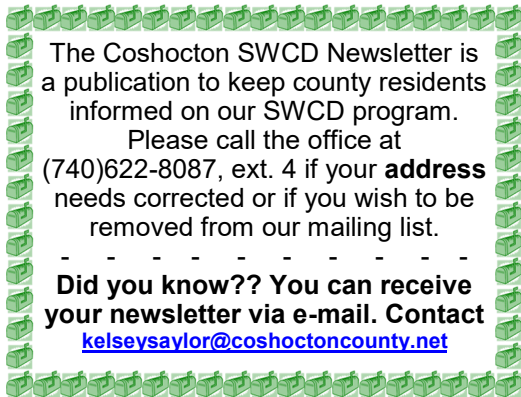
Alan Donaker Surveying
Bob & Kathy Bigrigg
Cosh. Co. Treasurer Janette Donaker
Saylor Wealth Strategies

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

 www.coshoctonswcd.org
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

Coshocton County Fall Foliage and Farm Tour



The 54th Fall Foliage and Farm Tour will be held on the weekend of **October 18 and 19, 2025**. This year's tour will focus on the northeastern area of Coshocton County. This drive-it-yourself tour is a great way to enjoy Coshocton's scenery and fall colors; the tour also showcases Coshocton's agricultural industry and local attractions.

Last year's tour had over 1,900 attendees that represented 33 counties in Ohio, 7 states, and 4 Countries. It was held in the northcentral part of the county, featuring Bethlehem, Clark, Keene, Millcreek, and Tuscarawas Townships.

Stops will be open **10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Saturday** and **12:00-5:00 p.m. on Sunday**. To pick up a tour map, stop at Hopewell School on Saturday from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and Sunday from 12:00-3:00 p.m. We ask all participants to stop there first so we can track the number of tour participants. The tour is free but donations are appreciated.

The Fall Foliage and Farm Tour is sponsored by OSU Extension, Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District, and USDA Farm Service Agency. These agencies would like to thank all the tour hosts and volunteers who make the tour possible!

Calendar of Events

September 10
SWCD Board Mtg, 8:00 p.m.

September 16-18
Farm Science Review

Sept. 26-Oct. 2
Coshocton County Fair

October 6
Annual Meeting
Reservation Deadline

October 8
SWCD Board Mtg, 8:00 p.m.

October 16
Coshocton SWCD's 83rd
Annual Meeting & Banquet,
7:00 p.m.

October 18-19
Coshocton County
Fall Foliage Tour

November 12
SWCD Board Mtg, 8:00 p.m.