



Conservation In Action

**Summer
2026**
Your
Soil & Water
Conservation
Specialists!

Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District

SWCD Supervisors

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

SWCD Staff

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

First FARM Friday: Where Main Street Meets the Farm

Get ready for some good old-fashioned farm fun! We invite you to join us on Main Street and 4th Street in downtown Coshocton for First FARM Friday on August 7 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. It's an evening packed with big tractors, friendly farm animals, and plenty of reasons to celebrate the farmers who help keep our community growing.

Ever wondered how big a tractor tire really is? Want to pet a cow or see a spray drone in action? At First FARM Friday, you'll get up close with the people, animals, and equipment that make agriculture Coshocton County's number one industry. From fields to



forks, you'll discover just how much local agriculture impacts your everyday life.

And yes—there's ice cream! Bring the kids to complete a fun farm-themed stamp card, and they'll earn a free cup of custard from Whit's Frozen Custard. Learning about agriculture has never tasted so good!

While you're exploring the displays, visiting with the animals, and talking with local farmers, don't forget to check out the delicious food available for purchase from local 4-H clubs, The Real McCoy BBQ trailer, Williamson's Kettle Korn, the Sno Shack trailer, River View FFA and MORE!

But it's not just about the food and fun—First FARM Friday is your chance to meet the local farmers who work hard every day to grow the food, fiber, and fuel we all depend on. Got a question about crops, cows, or combines? Ask away! These folks are volunteering their time because they love what they do and want to share it with you.

So grab your friends, bring the family, and head downtown for an evening of hands-on learning, fun, and maybe even a little mooing. First FARM Friday is all about connecting our community to its agricultural roots—and we can't wait to see you there!



SWCD Seeking Candidates for the Board of Supervisors



Coshocton SWCD is seeking candidates for its Board of Supervisors. **Two** supervisors will be elected to a three-year term beginning in January 2027.

Board Supervisors guide the district, its staff, and cooperating agencies in efforts to implement conservation programs in the county that address management and conservation of soil, water, and related resources. Board members should have a

sincere interest in conservation and must have the enthusiasm, dedication, and time to serve as an elected official. This is a volunteer position, but supervisors can be reimbursed for mileage & expenses related to events involving soil and water professionals.

- Candidates must be over 18 years old and a resident of Coshocton County.
- This is a volunteer position with a 3-year term.
- Regular Board Meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00 p.m. April through November and 12:00 p.m. December through March; meetings normally run about 2 hours.
- Attendance at occasional outside meetings, events, or trainings is required.

If you are interested in running to become a Supervisor or would like more information, please contact Ryan Medley at ryanmedley@coshoctoncounty.net or 740-622-8087 x 4 by **Wednesday, August 12.**

The Hunt for Coshocton County's Biggest Trees is on!



The search is on for the biggest trees in Coshocton County! The Coshocton SWCD Big Tree Contest is now accepting entries for 2026. This annual event celebrates the beautiful, towering trees that add character and history to our community.

All species of trees growing on private property in Coshocton County are eligible. Property line trees and trees growing on government-owned land are not eligible. Anyone can enter a tree, even if they don't own the property where it's growing, as long as the tree is located in Coshocton County.

The two biggest trees will be selected, one, from within the county and one, sponsored by the Coshocton Tree Commission, within Coshocton City limits. There is no limit for number of entries.

Entries will be measured by Coshocton SWCD staff using national standardized measurement criteria. The owners of the two winning Big Trees will each receive a plaque and 2 tickets to Coshocton SWCD's Annual Meeting & Banquet on October 15 at the Lake Park Pavilion. Think you know a winner? Entry forms and contest details are available at our office or on our website. Deadline to enter is **Tuesday, August 25.** Let's see how big Coshocton County has grown!

Cost Share for Cover Crops

The Coshocton SWCD in partnership with the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) and the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) will once again offer a cover crop cost share program in 2026. The cost share rate is \$12 per acre with a cap of 175 acres per applicant. USDA-NRCS standards must be followed for seeding dates and planting rates. Aerial, broadcast, or drilling methods can be used to plant the cover crop.

Deadline for program applications is **Friday, July 10.** SWCD staff can assist you with the application process. Call the office at 740-622-8087 x 4 or email zachwallace@coshoctoncounty.net for assistance or further details.



Conservation Progress Report: The Work Behind the Scenes



Stormwater Inquiry



Newly Installed Livestock Fencing



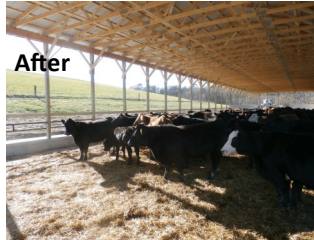
Completed Spring Development Watering Facility



Before



During



After

Roofed Heavy Use Pad to assist winter feeding of cattle.

- Practices Installed**
- 1,084 Soil Tests Submitted
 - Brush Management 191ac
 - Fencing 16,786ft Installed
 - Forest Stand Improvement 20.9ac
 - 2 Heavy Use Area Protection
 - Livestock Pipeline 2,534ft
 - Nutrient Management 1,529.6ac
 - Pasture and Hay Planting 53.5ac
 - Pest Management 1,297.6ac
 - 12 Youth & Adult Education Events
 - 4 Watering Facilities

Welcome Carah Mladek!

The district is pleased to welcome Carah to the team as our new Stormwater Technician. Carah grew up on a small beef farm in Bakersville and graduated from Ridgewood High School in 2022. She continued her education and athletic career at Hocking College, where she earned an Associate Degree in Natural Resources Law Enforcement. After graduation, she completed an internship with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and continues to volunteer with the Corps. She began her conservation career with Muskingum SWCD before joining Coshocton SWCD.

Carah's love for the outdoors started when she was very young, as she would find herself outside all the time on her parent's farm. In her free time, she enjoys hiking with her family, hunting, fishing, and traveling to new places. She appreciates being able to step out of her comfort zone and learn new things, and hopes to gain many great experiences with Coshocton SWCD.



2026 Affiliate Members

Diamond

- Buckeye Brine LLC
- Coshocton County Beacon
- Centerra CO-OP
- Judge Tim & Daphne France
- McWane Ductile - Ohio

Platinum

- Buckeye Forestry Service, LLC
- Hidden Spring Farms, Tim Rogers
- Home Loan Savings Bank
- Pony Field Farm LLC

Gold

- Bakersville Garage, INC
- Baltic Bank
- C & R Helmick Farms
- 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.
- Gail Piper, In Memory of Jim Piper
- Jacobs Vanaman Agency, Inc.
- Larry A. Frye Farms
- Lynn Wells - In Memory of Ray Griffith
- McCoy Homestead, Keith & Denise McCoy
- Steven Oster
- Owens & Manning, Attorneys
- Rock Hill Farms, Stevens Family
- Scheetz Mark
- Sturtz Fam, Larry & Maureen Sturtz
- The Garden Patch Greenhouse
- Larry & Teresa Bradford
- Thousand Oaks Farms
- TMK Bakersville
- Tumblin Farms, David Tumblin Family

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


Silver

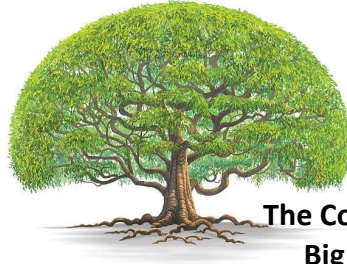
- Baird Concrete
- Cosh. Co. Sportsman Association
- Dane & Amy Shryock
- Daugherty Farms
- Dave & Darla Markley
- Deb Bigelow
- Garber Brothers Farms LLC
- Gary & Michelle Fischer
- Knotty Nuff Acres
- R Family Farm LLC
- Schumaker Farms

Bronze

- Alan Donaker Surveying
- Bob & Kathy Bigrigg
- Cosh. Co. Treasurer Janette Donaker
- Gerber & Sons, Inc.
- Saylor Wealth Strategies
- Vic Allen Construction & Excavating

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

 www.coshoctonswcd.org
facebook.com/CoshoctonSWCD



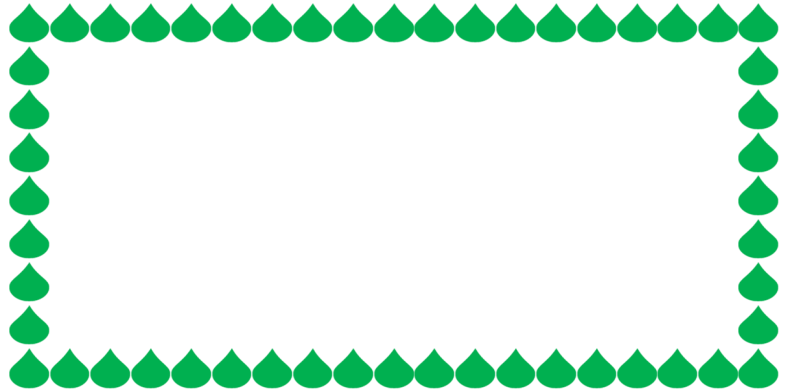
The Coshocton County
Big Tree Contest
Entries are due by August 25

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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 received your newsletter via e-mail. Contact kelseysaylor@coshoctoncounty.net



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



August Pasture Walk

Pasture Walk will be held on **Tuesday, August 25, at 6:30 p.m.**, on the Martin Farm, Larry & Todd Endsley (25513 TR 322 Coshocton, OH 43812). Hear from the Endsley's as they walk through their seven-paddock rotational grazing system, discuss cropland conversion, explore the flexibility of grazable hay fields, and share winter feeding insights. Jordan Penrose, Ag Educator, Morgan County OSU Extension, will lead discussion. There will be signs posted to help you find the farm. Reservations are not required. If you would like more information or to receive a postcard for pasture walks please call us or email kelseysaylor@coshoctoncounty.net.

Applications for Soil Testing Program

We are still taking applications for the Soil Testing Program to reimburse qualified applicants for pulling soil tests. If you would like more information, please come visit us at the office or call us at (740)622-8087 x 4.

2026 Save the Dates:

First Farm Friday	Pasture Walk	84th Annual Meeting	Fall Foliage Tour
August 7	August 25	October 15	October 17 & 18

More information on these events will be in later newsletters.

Calendar of Events

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

August 7
First Farm Friday,
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

August 12
SWCD Board Meeting,
8:00 p.m.

August 25
Pasture Walk,
6:30 p.m.

August 25
Big Tree Contest Deadline

September 7
Labor Day,
Office Closed

September 9
SWCD Board Meeting,
8:00 p.m.