

# FAIRFIELD FEATURES



August 2018  
Volume 20 Issue 2

The Fairfield Features is published quarterly by the Fairfield Soil & Water Conservation District  
831 College Avenue, Suite B, Lancaster, Ohio 43130 (740) 653-8154

## FAIRFIELD SWCD CELEBRATES 75 YEARS

The Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District was established in 1943. We have aided Fairfield County residents and agencies with drainage issues and provided guidance for the past 75 years!

Please join us for a special evening as we welcome back past employees and board members to help us celebrate at our 2018 Annual Meeting/Banquet. Please note that this year's event will be held at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds in conjunction with the Fairfield County Farm Bureau's Annual Meeting. Please make your reservations by Friday, September 7 (reservation form can be found inside).

**When:** Thursday, September 13, 2018

**Where:** Fairfield County Fairgrounds, Ed Sands Farm Bureau Building  
157 E. Fair Avenue, Lancaster

**Time:** 5:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$14 for adults, \$7 for children 10 and under

**Agenda:** 5:30 - 6 p.m. -- Board of Supervisors Election  
6 - 7 p.m. -- Buffet meal  
7 - 8 p.m. -- SWCD video presentation & awards  
8 p.m. -- Farm Bureau



Visit us in the AGmazing Agri-Center (Ed Sands Farm Bureau Building) October 7-13 at the Fairfield County Fair.

## MEET THE CANDIDATES

### LINDA CLAYPOOL

Linda is a lifelong resident of Hocking Township in Fairfield County. She graduated from Lancaster High School and Ohio University. Linda and her late husband Dan have a son Jason, his wife Michelle and two granddaughters Ashley and Carley. She started as a legal secretary before spending 15 years in commercial banking as a loan officer and manager. Prior to retiring in November 2017, she spent more than 26 years with USDA, Farm Service Agency assisting farmers with financial needs related to farm operating and real estate purchases. Linda provides Notary Public service and is a licensed real estate salesperson. She has been an instructor for Ohio Bankers Association and Advisory member for the Lancaster FFA.



Linda is currently a Farm Bureau member and a member of the Hocking Township Board of Appeals, having served the township on various boards for several years. In past years she has been a member of the American and Ohio Bankers Association, National and Ohio Realtors Association and National/Ohio Association of Credit Specialist.

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### PAUL KEMMER



Paul and his wife Annabelle moved to Fairfield County in 2006 with their 3 children. Their youngest son is an honor student at Fairfield Union High School and their eldest children have graduated from Fairfield Union and Fairfield Career Center.

Paul has worked for a family owned construction business for over 15 years. He is an avid gardener specializing in growing heirloom tomatoes and saving seeds from over 25 different cultivars. Paul has been a member of the Ohio Onsite Wastewater Association and has completed over 80 state certified continuing education hours in the past 3 years. He is well versed in state and local rules and regulations and has completed State of Ohio training and testing for both sewage treatment installers and service providers, as well as being active in the state's rule making process. Paul enjoys fishing, camping, grilling out and spending time with his family.

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### MATT REESE

Matt grew up on a small Christmas tree farm in northwest Ohio where his family has a long history of conservation in agriculture. He lives on a small farm in Fairfield County with sheep, rabbits and chickens and has two children.

Matt has worked for *Ohio's Country Journal*, a statewide agricultural publication, since 1999 and currently serves as the editor. He covers a wide range of farm, policy and conservation related topics in his writing. In his profession, he works closely with a broad range of agricultural operations and organizations, which gives him a unique perspective of agricultural land management challenges in Ohio.

Matt attended The Ohio State University where he earned degrees in agricultural communication and agricultural education. He continues to work on the family Christmas tree farm in Hancock County. Matt also does freelance writing, photography, speaking and coaches youth sports. He has written and self-published six books to date.



## SWCD ELECTION...CAST YOUR VOTE

The Fairfield SWCD will be holding an election for two Board supervisors on Thursday, September 13, 2018, from 5:30 to 6 p.m. at the 75th Annual Meeting/Banquet being held at the Ed Sands Farm Bureau Building at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds. The nominees for this year's election are Linda Claypool of Lancaster, Paul Kemmer of Lancaster and Matt Reese of Baltimore.

Residents or landowners, firms and corporations that own land or occupy land in Fairfield County and are 18 years of age and older may vote. A non-resident landowner, firm or corporation must provide an affidavit of eligibility, which includes designation of a voting representative, prior to casting a ballot. There are three ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot: 1) at the annual meeting; 2) at the SWCD office until 3 p.m. on Thursday, September 13, 2018; 3) vote absentee by requesting the proper absentee request forms from the SWCD office at the following address: Fairfield SWCD, 831 College Ave., Suite B, Lancaster, OH 43130, by calling (740) 653-8154 or downloading the form from our website at [www.fairfieldswcd.org](http://www.fairfieldswcd.org).

If you would like more information about the election or have questions, please contact the SWCD office at (740) 653-8154.



## NEW COUNTY CAUV ADMINISTRATOR

Fairfield County Auditor, Jon A. Slater Jr., has appointed Gregory Forquer as his new CAUV Administrator. Greg has served the County for nearly 10 years as a Real Estate Appraiser. His new responsibilities include the administration of the Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV) program for the County as well as assisting with general real estate work of the office. Greg can be contacted at (740) 652-7036 or [gregory.forquer@fairfieldcountyohio.gov](mailto:gregory.forquer@fairfieldcountyohio.gov) located within Fairfield County Auditor, Real Estate office at 210 E Main Street, Room 204, Lancaster.

## 2018 SWCD SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Caleb Swick of Pleasantville was chosen to be the recipient of the Fairfield SWCD 2018 annual college scholarship.



Caleb is a graduate of Fairfield Union High School. He will be attending The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute where he will be majoring in Livestock Management and Production, specializing in Beef. After graduation, he hopes to continue his education and eventually work as a self-employed beef cattle farmer.

## FAIRFIELD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S 75TH ANNUAL MEETING/BANQUET THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

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### NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS:

\_\_\_\_\_ ADULTS @ \$14 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN @ \$7 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(10 years and under)*

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2018.**

SORRY, TICKETS CANNOT BE REFUNDED.

*Please note: You will not receive a confirmation notice.*



## FARMS PROTECTED THROUGH EASEMENT PURCHASE

The Board of Fairfield County Commissioners and the Ohio Department of Agriculture closed their 22nd & 23rd agricultural easements earlier this year. The easements with Larry & Nellie Reinheld at Carroll-Eastern Road and S.R. 158 along with Walter & JoAnn Bader's farm near Rauch Road and Pleasantville Road are both in Greenfield Township. We thank both families for their conservation choices over the years and now this step to permanently protect their prime and unique soils for future generations through the Clean Ohio Fund. Fairfield County ranks 6th in the State for acres protected through the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program and 3rd in dollars invested through Clean Ohio to protect soils from non-agricultural development.



*Pictured left to right: Jonathan Ferbrache, FSWCD; Walter Bader, landowner; Bill Myers, Fairfield Land Preservation Assoc. (FLPA); John Stitzlein, FLPA*



*Larry and Nellie Reinheld*

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## SWCD STAFF CHANGES

Amy Boyer, Engineer/District Manager, has taken a Conservation Engineer position with the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Amy had been with the District since 2000, starting as an Urban Specialist, then District Engineer and eventually adding the Manager title. Amy will be missed by staff and producers; however, in her new role, we still work with her occasionally for training and to get some engineering plans approved. Congratulations, Amy!

Nikki Drake has taken on the District Manager position along with being an Engineering Technician. Nikki began as Secretary/Receptionist in 1999 and switched roles to Engineering Technician in 2002. She will continue to work closely with producers on engineering projects.

The District hired Aaron Friend as Engineering Technician in mid-May. Aaron grew up in a rural area of Wooster, Ohio. His two passions were fine arts and environmental conservation. While he liked to draw and create sculptures when he was younger, later his interests and concerns lie in a healthy community and environment. So, he pursued a career focused on environmental stewardship at Ohio State. While receiving a B.S. degree in Environment & Natural Resources, Aaron first found himself working in education at the Columbus Zoo. "It was a great first start to my career." From there he eventually ended up working for ODNR Caesar Creek State Park as a Program Coordinator, doing everything from education programs to coordinating clean-up programs for the park.

After that Aaron decided to pursue other areas of conservation and broadened his knowledge from GIS and grant writing to public outreach for energy efficiency and ecological restoration (most notable work involved constructing rain gardens and soil lift systems around eroding river banks). His active life outside of work includes fishing, camping, hiking, bike riding and woodworking. He also likes reading National Geographic and autobiographies of peoples' explorations into the unknown. "I feel very proud with what I have accomplished in my career", he says. "I'm grateful I can continue that trend working with Fairfield Soil and Water."



## WHO SUPPORTS LOGJAM REMOVAL?

The decline of ash trees in the State of Ohio since 2003 has accelerated the presence of woody debris moving in flood waters in Ohio's waterways creating logjams. We know from our partners at Emergency Management that the National Weather Service indicates flooding is the nation's most frequent and costly natural disaster. But currently, no governmental entities at the municipal, county, state and federal level have been assigned by statute the responsibility for such logjam removal activities. It has been 19 years since the State of Ohio made funding available for logjam removal.

The Fairfield SWCD office and partnering agencies have received numerous calls over the past year concerning logjams on the Hocking River, Walnut Creek, Sycamore Creek, the South Fork Licking River and numerous other small tributaries asking for funding or resources to assist in this private landowner challenge.

We encourage you to express your concerns and encourage State leadership to seek funding opportunities and partnerships to deal with this increasing concern in Ohio's waterways. We have expressed concerns at the Fairfield County Farm Bureau Policy meetings where elected officials could hear your concerns and our perspective. Please let your State Representative and Senator know of the issues.

### **Representative Ron Hood**

#### **District 78**

77 S. High Street  
12th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614-466-1464

### **Representative Tim Schaffer**

#### **District 77**

77 S. High Street  
11th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614-466-8100

### **Senator Troy Balderson**

#### **Senate District 20**

1 Capitol Square, 1st Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614-466-8076

### **Can I remove log jams?**

A property owner or a contractor with the property owner's permission may be able to remove logjams from a stream. Contact the US Army Corps of Engineers at 304-399-5710 to explain your method of removal and inquire about whether a permit is needed. Contact the floodplain administrator about where to place removed materials. In unincorporated areas of Fairfield County contact the Regional Planning Commission who serves as the Floodplain Administrator at 740-652-7110.

### **Can I remove fallen or leaning trees?**

Property owners can remove fallen trees from a river or stream. Removal is highly recommended in cases where the fallen tree lies partially or entirely across the water course and blocks flow. This blocked flow can lead to bank and floodplain erosion. If the tree roots are securely anchored in the bank, removing the tree top and leaving the roots will help stabilize the bank. Contact the floodplain administrator about where to place removed materials.

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## MILKWEED SEED PODS BEING COLLECTED

Fairfield SWCD will once again serve as a drop-off location for anyone who wishes to harvest milkweed seed pods and assist with the statewide effort to re-establish milkweed plant populations. The official collection event is scheduled to run from September 1 – October 31, 2018, but our office will be accepting donated pods at any time throughout the year.

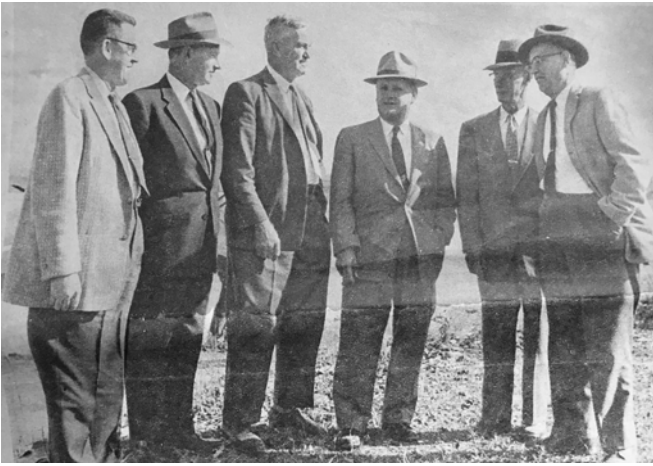
Only mature pods with viable seeds should be collected. Most pods will turn a gray or brown color and have a dry, rough feel when ready to be harvested. Some pods may remain a light, faded green color, but will readily split apart at the "seam" and contain brown seeds. These are also able to be collected. If the seeds inside the pod appear pale green or yellow, they are still developing and should not be picked. Pods should be placed into paper bags or cardboard boxes and be allowed to "breathe" in a dry, sheltered location until they can be delivered to our office. Avoid the use of plastic bags or totes that may trap moisture and allow mold to develop.

At this time, we are only looking for pods from common milkweed and swamp milkweed for the statewide program. If you have any questions regarding milkweed pod collection contact Tommy Springer our Wildlife Specialist at (740) 415-3905.





**PICTURES FROM THE PAST.....**



Original Fairfield SWCD Board of Supervisors. Clifford Coffman, Paul Thomas, Ralph Yingling, Dwight Heister and Russell Groves, with Pearl Fogle at right.



Roger Wolfe (center), past SWCD Supervisor, presented the 1984 Outstanding Cooperator award to Emerson and Lester Boyer.

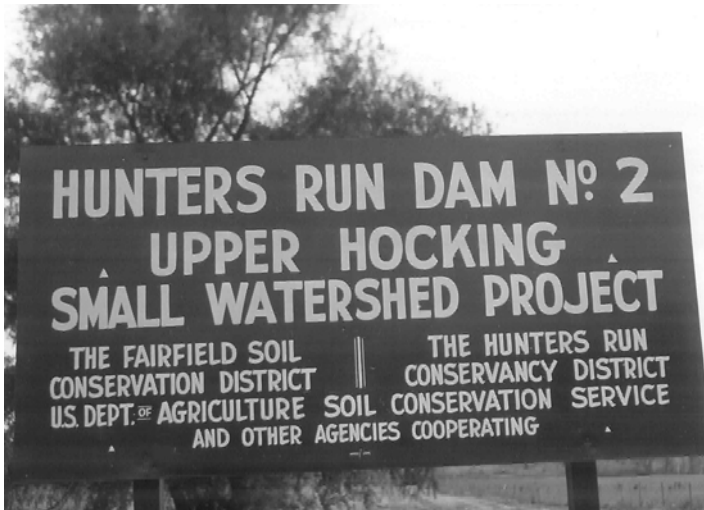


1987 Staff Photo

Back: Kurt Simon, William McMahon, Vince Messerly, Gary Smith, Mike Goudy. Front: Fred Gurile, Tony Kramer, Lillian Miller, LaVerna Ansel, Bonnie Dailey.



1954 Field Day—Safety



Annabelle Bright (center) and Lillian Miller distribute tree packets to a customer in 1979.



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## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our engineering project database has been completed. We scanned all conservation engineering plans from 1943-2018. Locations were then identified on aerial maps and coordinates assigned. We now have the capability to look at a parcel on our mapping system and pull up any associated plans with the click of a button. There are almost 3,000 records.

However, we need some help. Here is a list of a few stragglers that we were unable to identify the location of the plan. These plans had limited information for identification. Please contact us at 740-653-8154 if you are familiar with the landowner or their property. Several could be across the Perry or Licking County lines.

Name on Plan	Practice	Year Installed	Road
Mabel Baker	tile	1964	
Clarabell Bickel	tile	1962	
Boles Hebron	tile	?	
Clarence Heischman	tile	1966	88
Hiedorn	tile	?	
Wayne Taggart	tile	?	
Dora Taylor	tile	?	

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### DISTRICT SUPERVISORS


Mark Boving  
 Wendy LaRue  
 Don Rector  
 Matt Reese  
 Tim White

### DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Nikki Drake  
 Jonathan Ferbrache  
 Aaron Friend  
 Christina Holt  
 Chad Lucht  
 Tommy Springer

### NRCS PERSONNEL

Dave Libben  
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