FAIRFIELD FEATURES



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 76TH ANNUAL MEETING

Join the Fairfield Soil & Water Conservation District and Fairfield County Farm Bureau for this year's 2019 Annual Meeting. Enjoy an evening of fellowship at the Mill Event Center in downtown Lancaster on Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

The keynote speaker will be Mike Bailey, Vice-President of strategic partnerships for Ohio Farm Bureau. Mr. Bailey served as deputy director at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, executive director of the Livestock Care Standards Board, senior program manager for the marketing division and executive director for the Office of Farmland Preservation, and chief of the Division of Soil and Water Resources and the Division of Parks and Watercraft. Please make your reservations by Wednesday, September 4 (reservation form can be found inside).

When: Tuesday, September 10, 2019

Where: The Mill Event Center

431 S. Columbus Street, Lancaster

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Cost: \$15 for adults, \$7.50 for children 10 and under

Agenda: 5:30 - 6 p.m. -- Meet & Greet

Board of Supervisors Election

6 - 7 p.m. -- Buffet Dinner 7 - 8 p.m. -- SWCD Program Short Intermission

Farm Bureau Program



Visit us in the AGmazing Agri-Center (Ed Sands Farm Bureau Building) October 6-12 at the Fairfield County Fair.

DISTRICT HIRES ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

Carrie Brown joined Fairfield SWCD in March as Engineering Technician and brings with her a diverse background and array of experiences. With an undergraduate degree in middle childhood education from Ohio University, Carrie spent six years teaching in Fairfield County. Following her passion for science and the environment, she pursued her master's degree in biology, completing Miami University's Advanced Inquiry Program in 2015.

While she enjoyed working with middle school students, Carrie decided to explore what lay outside of the classroom and accepted a position at The Dawes Arboretum as Conservation Project Manager. While much of her role focused on habitat restoration, she is excited to be balancing that experience and broadening her knowledge in a new area of conservation.

As Engineering Technician, she is happy to be working with landowners to install practices that allow them to conserve soil, protect water quality, and work *with* Mother Nature.

Outside of work, Carrie enjoys hiking, camping, biking, reading, and photography. She resides in Lancaster with her spouse, their two dogs, and a newly adopted flock of chickens.



SUDDEN OAK DEATH CONFIRMED IN OHIO

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA), in coordination with USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS), has detected sudden oak death caused by *Phytophthora ramorum* on rhododendron plants shipped to Walmart and Rural King stores throughout the state. Both retailers have agreed to initiate a voluntary recall of plants from their stores.

It was recently confirmed that Ohio is one of several Midwest states that have received infected plant material. Approximately 1,600 rhododendron plants from the infected nursery were shipped to Ohio retailers. This shipment went to at least 17 other states.

Gardeners and homeowners who have recently purchased a rhododendron from Walmart or Rural King should monitor the plant for signs of disease, including leaf spots and shoot dieback. It is also advised that Ohioans who purchased rhododendrons or lilac plants from these stores between March and May of this year to dispose of them to prevent further spread of the disease. Plants can be destroyed by burning, deep burial or double-bagging the plant, including the root ball, in heavy duty trash bags for disposal into a sanitary landfill (where allowable).

Consumers should not compost or dispose of the plant material in municipal yard waste. Garden tools used on any affected plants should be sanitized with bleach or 91% (or higher) alcohol before they are used again.

If you have any questions about *Phytophtora* ramorum you are welcome to contact the Division of Plant Health by email at <u>plantpest@agri.ohio.gov</u> or 614-728-6406.

Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District's 76th Annual Meeting/Banquet Tuesday, September 10, 2019

Name		Number of reservations:
Address		Adults @ \$15 ea. = \$
Сіту	State Zip	CHILDREN @ \$7.50 ea. = \$
Phone		(10 years and under) Total Enclosed \$
PLEASE MAIL AND MAKE CH	IECKS PAYABLE TO: Fairfield SWCD	

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2019

831 College Ave., Suite B Lancaster, OH 43130

MEET THE CANDIDATES

WENDY LARUE

Wendy is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a B.S. in Business Administration. She spent 8 years as a Program Assistant with the Pickaway Farm Service Agency. After several years as an at-home mother, she completed Post Degree Teacher Licensure through Capital University for grades 4-9 with concentrations in math and science. She has recently earned an M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction through Western Governors University. Wendy taught 7th and 8th grade math and science in Columbus City Schools and currently teaches 5th grade math at Amanda-Clearcreek Elementary.

Wendy has been a resident of Clearcreek Township for nearly 32 years with her husband, Dean, who continues a multi-generational grain farming operation. Wendy and Dean are the parents of three grown children. Wendy has volunteered over the years in various ways including PTO, Girl Scouts, VBS, and local food assistance. She has served as member and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and is currently the Secretary.



CINDY MONTONEY

Cindy Montoney has been a resident of Fairfield County for the last eighteen years, and resides in Amanda Township with her husband Andy. Their daughter Josie is a student at The Ohio State University, and their son Michael is enlisted in the Marine Corps. Cindy is a graduate of The Ohio State University, where she received a degree in Natural Resources with a major in Wildlife Management.

She currently works as a biology teacher at Amanda-Clearcreek High School, and has previously been employed as an agricultural educator, zookeeper, and naturalist. Cindy strongly believes that the education of all ages plays a critical role in creating citizens that are good stewards of our natural resources. FSWCD designated her as their "2016 Teacher of the Year" on account of her work on multiple projects that immersed students in activities and lessons to develop their appreciation for the environment.

SWCD ELECTION...CAST YOUR VOTE

The Fairfield SWCD will be holding an election for one Board supervisor on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, from 5:30 to 6 p.m. at the 76th Annual Meeting/Banquet being held at the Mill Event Center in Lancaster. The nominees for this year's election are Wendy LaRue of Amanda and Cindy Montoney of Lancaster.

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 Tuesday, September 10, 2019; 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. If you would like more information about the election or have questions, please contact the SWCD office at (740) 653-8154.



FORMER SWCD SUPERVISOR INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

Jim Davis was recently inducted into the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (OFSWCD) Supervisors Hall of Fame during the 2019 OFSWCD Annual Partnership Meeting held in February. Jim served as a board supervisor for the Fairfield SWCD from 1998 to 2006. His passion about conservation and serving on the board gave Jim a feeling of accomplishment.

Jim was instrumental in obtaining funds to purchase the district's first Great Plains No-Till/Warm Season Drill. Jim was and remains an active member of the Pheasants Forever Ohio Chapter who donated a large portion of the funds toward the drill purchase. He continues to promote the annual youth event for the area, which the district provides educational displays. In 2017, Jim was able to secure funds from Pheasants Forever to assist the district in purchasing a new grass seeder that can plant warm season grasses. It is our good working relationship with Jim that has allowed our office to continue getting this support.

Even though Jim is no longer a supervisor, he continues to serve as a conservation advocate, encouraging landowners across the county to install conservation practices and refers them to our office if they have any questions.



Jonathan Ferbrache, Chad Lucht, NRCS State Conservationist Terry Cosby, Jim Davis, Tommy Springer and Nikki Drake.

STAFF RECEIVES SERVICE AWARDS



Commissioner Dave Levacy, C. Holt, N. Drake

Fairfield County Commissioners hosted the 2019 Public Service Recognition Breakfast on July 23rd. District Manager/ Engineering Tech. Drake was presented a 20year award and Admin. Asst. Christina Holt a 25-year award. In June, Chris became our longest term employee. Congratulations to Nikki and Chris for their service to Fairfield SWCD and Fairfield County.

2019 SWCD SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Noah Smith of Amanda was chosen to be the recipient of the Fairfield SWCD 2019 annual college scholarship.

Noah is a graduate of Amanda-Clearcreek High School. He will be attending The Ohio State University where he will be majoring in Plant Pathology.

VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION AND YOUR CAUV

To our Buckeye Lake producers and landowners, and all involved in agriculture for that matter, we'd like you to think about finding a way to continue the improvement in the watershed. Recent changes to the CAUV taxation allow up to 25% of the CAUV application to include conservation lands at a reduced taxation rate. This is a huge opportunity for voluntary conservation action to help reduce erosion and in turn improve water quality. It may be very clear after all our rains this year that gullies and scour erosion along streams may need a waterway or filter strips along the riparian area as a buffer.

We picked some typical farmland in the Buckeye Lake watershed to see what conservation opportunities existed for simple voluntary waterways and filter strips or riparian buffers.

In the western watershed, a 74 acre farm with a stream passing through, and adjacent pond, some swales that could use waterways had 17% of the land that might be eligible for the tax reduction if additional conservation measures were planted in these sensitive areas. Toward the south end of the watershed in a more headwater location, 6.5% of a 229 acre tract could easily seek the voluntary conservation on waterways alone.

These simple measures in areas where there are challenges to begin with could put money back in your pocket at tax time and reduce erosion that ultimately helps your watershed. We'd like to challenge you to find 10% of your land where critical area seeding could occur. We'll call it "10-4 the Lake."

Submitting maps and acreages to the Auditor with your CAUV renewal is required, so follow directions closely and plan ahead. This fall is a great time to plant those voluntary conservation measures for the good of the watershed and your bottom line! Contact your County Auditor for detailed requirements (www.co.fairfield.oh.us/auditor).

For more information on prevented planting, idle land and CAUV taxation visit: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog-tags/cauv

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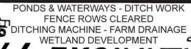
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HUNTER'S RUN CONSERVANCY DISTRICT UPDATES

Judge Trimmer has appointed three new directors for the Hunter's Run Conservancy District (HRCD) over the past year. HRCD has recently launched a new website to improve communications and education on their important role in catastrophic flooding control of the Upper Hocking Watershed.

Their regularly scheduled meetings are now held at the Fairfield County EMA Office at 241 W. Main Street, Suite 100, Lancaster, OH. The schedule of meetings can be found on their website at www.huntersruncd.org

Should you have an urgent issue related to any one of the twenty-nine dams in their system, you can also reach out to the directors by e-mail at: Lindel Jackson -President: lindel.hrcd@gmail.com; Mike Monnin Vice President: mike.hrcd@gmail.com; Heather Malinowski - Director: heather.hrcd@gmail.com; Cheryl Thomas - Secretary: cheryl.hrcd@gmail.com.

In continued cooperative partnership with the HRCD, the staff of the Fairfield SWCD have been dedicated this winter and spring at many of the dam inlets to clearing debris to help assure their proper function. Continued cooperation and partnership with Fairfield County EMA, Fairfield County and the City of Lancaster will help guide the HRCD into the next chapter of their near 70 years of L. Jackson, H. Malinowski, M. Monnin existence.



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To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington D.C. 20250 or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

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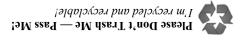
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NRCS PERSONNEL

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