



CONSERVATION TRAILS

“Follow the Trail of Natural Resource Conservation”

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

Supervisors Sworn In

David Maurer and David Rohrer, both re-elected supervisors from Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District were sworn in on January 11, 2010 at the Wayne SWCD Board meeting. They were re-elected at the Wayne SWCD Annual Meeting in November. Elected to a three year term, Maurer and Rohrer join Fred Myers, Matt Peart, and John Redick in administering the Wayne SWCD's natural resource conservation programs. The Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts was organized in



David Maurer

1943 to further the natural resource conservation mission of the state's 88 county-based SWCDs.

As subdivisions of state government, soil and water conservation districts have legal authority to assist landowners with a wide range of soil, water, woodland and wildlife conservation objectives. Another important goal is to provide information and education programs on natural resource conservation management topics for county residents.



David Rohrer

Soil & Water Stewardship Week April 24 - May 1

In 1955, the National Association of Conservation Districts began a national program to encourage Americans to focus on stewardship. Stewardship Week is officially celebrated from the last Sunday in April to the first Sunday in May. It is one of the world's largest conservation-related observances. The program relies on locally-led conservation districts sharing and promoting stewardship and conservation. The Stewardship concept involves personal and social responsibility, including a duty to learn about and improve natural resources as we use them wisely, leav-

ing a rich legacy for future generations. This year the Stewardship theme is **"Forests for People - More Than You Can Imagine"**.



Each and every day, we all have a connection to forests. This connection includes things as obvious as paper products we use at work and school; the food and spices we eat; the furniture we sit on and the houses we live in. But trees also provide other critical benefits that we often take for granted including clean water and clean air. Forests also offer families the opportunity to take a peaceful walk and picnic on a sunny afternoon; provide children

with the perfect atmosphere to learn about the great outdoors; and serve as a refuge for animals and plants.

Take some time to explore the great outdoors. 2011 marks the 56th year of the National Association of Conservation Districts National Stewardship Week. Help us celebrate National Stewardship Week, April 24 to May 1.

Inside This Issue Spring 2011

| | |
|---|---|
| Annual Poster Contest | 2 |
| No-Till Drills & Planter for Rent | |
| Ohio Conservation Farm Family Award | |
| Ohio Forestry Scholarship | |
| Tree & Fish Pickup Reminder | |
| New Website <i>by Duane Wood</i> | 3 |
| You Can Do Something About Those Washouts <i>by John Knapp</i> | |
| Dealing with Storm Water on Your Property <i>by Rob Kastner</i> | |
| Pond Clinic <i>by Kelly Riley</i> | 4 |
| Calendar | |

Email Edition of Newsletter

Would you like to help Wayne SWCD save resources and money? Sign up to receive an email newsletter instead of a paper copy. Please email us your name, address, and email address to sbeck@wayneoh.org. We will email the next Newsletter to you which will also be in **color!** Thanks for helping us conserve!

K-12 Conservation Poster Contest

The Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District is sponsoring our annual poster contest for grades K-12. The 2011 stewardship theme is "**Forests for People - More Than You Can Imagine**" or "**Forest for People**". Cash awards will be given for 1st and 2nd place in the following categories: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12.

All winners will be sent on to the District contest and also featured in the Wayne SWCD Fair Building September 10-15.

Contest rules:

Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect (paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper or other materials) on regular posters (no computer only special category)

- Poster size must be between 8.5" x 11" and 22" x 28".
- Posters should be packaged so they remain flat when sent for judging.
- All posters must be created by an



individual student rather than a team of students.

- The 2011 Stewardship title "Forests for People - More Than You Can Imagine" or "Forest for People" must be on your poster. (Don't use any other title)
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, NACD encourages each student to do as much of the work as possible by him/herself. Entries completed by students in their

handwriting and coloring will score better than those designed, drawn and colored by adult assistance.

On the back of each poster, please print:

- Student's name
- Student's age
- School grade
- Student's home address
- Student's phone number with area code

- School's address and phone number with area code
- Teacher's name
- Conservation District (county in which school is located - **Wayne SWCD**).

Only one entry per student may be submitted.

Evaluation criteria:

- 50% Conservation message
- 30% Visual effectiveness
- 10% Originality
- 10% Universal Appeal

Judges will also evaluate posters on the following criteria:

1. Has the theme been clearly addressed?
2. Does the work demonstrate an understanding of the subject matter?
3. Is the work neat, organized and grammatically correct?

Posters must be turned in to the Wayne SWCD office, 428 W. Liberty Street, Wooster by **4:00 p.m. on Friday April 29th**. Contact the Wayne SWCD at 330-262-2836 with questions concerning the contest.

No-Till Drills and Planter For Rent

The Wayne SWCD has three no-till drills and a planter for rent. The no-till drills can also be used for late summer cover crops, or for double cropping soybeans after a small grain.

A 7' no-till drill can be rented and pulled with a tractor or accompanied with a ground driven hydraulic forecart for horse drawn compatibility. It has separate boxes for small grains and legumes or grasses. It rents for \$10.00 an acre with a minimum of 6 acres.

Also available are two larger no-till drills, 10' (8 acre min.) and 15' (15 acre min.), which rent for \$10 per acre and a three row horse drawn no-till corn planter (5 acre min.) for \$7.50 per acre. The equipment is for rent to the public in an effort to promote no-till planting in Wayne County.

Please call the Wayne SWCD office at 330-262-2836 to be scheduled for this spring.

Ohio Forestry Association Memorial Scholarship

The Ohio Forestry Association is offering a scholarship grant. To be eligible, the applicant must be an Ohio resident, U.S. citizen and high school graduate accepted for admission to an approved college or university, junior



college, or technical college with a two-year minimum program. Current college students must provide evidence of satisfactory scholastic advancement. Applications are available in the SWCD office or online at <http://www.ohioforest.org/pdf/2010scholarshipapp.pdf>

Applications must be returned to the Ohio Forestry Association by **April 15th**.

Ohio Conservation Farm Family Award

Nomination forms are available in our office for the Ohio Farm Family Award or at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/Portals/12/swcds/admin/forms/farmfamilyform.pdf>

The forms need to be sent to **Ohio Farmer** magazine by May 1, 2010

Reminder:

Tree pick-up - Wednesday, April 13th, 1:30 - 6:00pm
Wayne County Fairgrounds - Sheep Bldg.

Fish Sale Deadline - April 15th

Fish Sale Pickup - Tuesday, April 19th, 9:00 - 10:00 AM Wayne Co. Fairgrounds, Vanover St. Entrance

New Website for Wayne SWCD

By Duane Wood

It was time to upgrade our old website. We will be leaving Bright.net as our host. Bright.net has served us well over time, but we were limited to 25 megabytes of space. With our new location at wayneswcd.org we have 150 gigabytes of space. That is an enormous amount of space by comparison. We will also be saving money by moving to our new location.

More space for less money what a deal. The only down side is that we decided to make our web page in house to save money. Our learning curve has been steep but we feel we've made remarkable progress. We have added a lot more pictures as well as informational .pdf files. So check out our new webpage at www.wayneswcd.org and let us know what you think.



You Can Do Something About Those Washouts

By John Knapp

Anyone who has driven around the county recently will notice that there are a lot of washouts from the heavy rains we received several weeks ago. I haven't noticed any washouts in fields with heavy residue or cover crops, only those that were clean tilled in the fall or have little to no residue from corn silage or soybeans. If you see gullies in your fields this spring and want to do something about it consider installing grassed waterways in the more serious areas. Waterways typically do

not take up much acreage and are designed to be crossed by equipment. The average waterway is 30' wide and 1' deep but the actual size will vary depending on the watershed and slope. Crossing a waterway is easier than trying to cross a gully with every field pass. For other erosion problems consider changing your rotation or tillage to leave more residue on the soil surface or use a fall cover crop.

Cost share is available for waterways and other buffers through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Incentive payments may also be available for conservation tillage and cover crops through the EQIP program if this is a new practice for your farm. You can do something about those washouts. Don't hesitate to contact the office if you need conservation planning assistance or advice to solve erosion problems.

Dealing with Storm Water on Your Property

By Rob Kastner

On February 28th, approximately 2 inches of rain fell on Wayne County in an 8 hour period; 3/4" fell during a span of just one hour, according to the weather station on the OARDC campus. The rainfall combined with about 6 inches of snow already on saturated ground resulted in the flooding of basements and roads that have never been flooded before. In the aftermath of this flooding event, the question we ask ourselves is what steps can be taken to prevent this from happening again?

Step Number 1: evaluate the flow of surface water onto and off of your property. This recent storm event should have made it clear as to where the surface water runs on your property. Check to see that gutters and downspout drain lines are not leaking and are discharging the rainwater from your roof a safe distance away from your house's foundation. If possible, raise the elevation of the ground around your home or other structure so that the ground is sloped away from your foundation. If the water runs toward your house consider diverting it around your house or other structure by constructing a swale or shallow ditch to direct the water.

Keep in mind that based on Ohio Drainage Laws, the water must enter and exit your property at the same location before and after constructing the swale and any work done shall not back water up on an adjacent property. As a point of reference, the Wayne SWCD office has a list of contractors that do this type work in the area. Prior to starting any earthwork on your property it is important to assure that the work will not affect your current or future septic system leach lines. Con-

tact the Wayne SWCD office before work is initiated so that we can review the proposed work and assist you in contacting the Health Department about the locations of your leach field lines.

Step Number 2: reduce the impacts on our local waterways. Getting water away from your house is priority number one; however, there are ways to accomplish this while reducing the effects on the receiving waterways. Slowing down the discharge of water from your property, once it is a safe distance away from your house, is one way each of us can reduce amount of pollutants discharged and the occurrences of downstream flooding in our streams and creeks. Low Impact Development (LID) practices can be employed at existing homes and businesses, as well as new construction, to slow down storm water discharges through retention, infiltration and evaporation.

For example, instead of discharging your roof downspouts through a pipe directly to the road ditch, consider installing a rain barrel to capture the first flush of water from the roof. The water stored in the barrel can be used to water plants, while the barrel's overflow can discharge on the ground and infiltrate into the soil a safe distance from the foundation. Installing a rain garden is another LID option for collecting roof runoff, creating a habitat with native plants and promoting groundwater recharge. Maintaining an undisturbed buffer of grasses and trees along a stream helps to filter out pollutants in addition to slowing down overland flow to the stream during rainfall events. More information on Low Impact Development is available on the Related Links section of the Wayne SWCD website. If you have any questions about drainage issues or implementing Low Impact Development practices on your property please feel free to call the Wayne SWCD office at (330) 262-2836.

Natural Resources Conservation Service
John Knapp, District Conservationist
Jeff Lefever, Civil Engineering Technician
Jonathan Mauk, Soil Conservationist

Wayne SWCD Staff
Sarah Beck, Administrative Assistant
Mark Duncan, Nutrient Management Specialist
Steve Grimes, No-Till Specialist
Rob Kastner, Water Management Engineer
Adam Liston, District Technician
Debbie Pettijohn, Secretary
Kelly Riley, Education Specialist
Duane Wood, District Program Administrator

Pondering Your Pond's Health

By Kelly Riley

The Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District will once again host a free educational pond clinic on Tuesday, April 5th 2011. Everyone is welcome to attend this educational clinic and learn more about pond management, pond design, fish stocking, water quality issues, and vegetation growth among other topics. Mark the evening of Tuesday April 5th on your calendar and plan on bringing some questions. This will be an informal question and answer session held indoors, with a very knowledgeable speaker, Mr. Steve Fender. Steve has recently published the book, *Farm*

Pond Management: A Common Sense Guide, and it will be available for purchase. Light refreshments will be provided. Even if you don't own a pond, but love to fish, or you don't own a pond, but are thinking of building one, this program is for you also! The program will be held at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in the Armstrong Building, 199 Vanover St. Wooster, Ohio starting at 7 pm. Please RSVP to Wayne SWCD before April 1st however, last minute attendees are welcome! There will also be information available to order fish to stock your ponds, as well as a list of experienced pond construction contractors. Please call Wayne SWCD at 330-262-2836 or visit their new website at www.wayneswcd.org for more information.

Calendar

- April 5 - Pond Clinic, Fairgrounds
- April 12 - Wayne SWCD Board Meeting
- April 13- **Tree Pickup/
Fairgrounds/Sheep Bldg
1:30 - 6:00 pm**
- April 15 - Deadline for Fish Orders
- April 19 - **Fish Pickup/Fairgrounds
9:00 - 10:00 am**
- April 22 - Earth Day
- April 30 - Arbor Day
- April 24– May 1 - Soil & Water Stewardship Week

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital and family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET CENTER at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District

428 W. Liberty Street
Wooster, OH 44691
330-262-2836
fax 330-262-7422
<http://www.wayneswcd.org>
e-mail - info@wayneswcd.org

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 150
Wooster, OH 44691

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Board of Supervisors
David Maurer, Fiscal Agent
Fred Myers, Chairman
Matt Peart, V-Chair.
John Redick, Public Relations Chair.
David Rohrer, Secretary