



# CONSERVATION TRAILS

“Follow the Trail of Natural Resource Conservation”

**Wayne Soil & Water Conservation District**

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Annual Meeting Ticket Order Form

## 64th Annual Meeting

We hope everyone enjoyed the Wayne County Fair and got a chance to visit our fair building. It is now time to look forward to our 64th Annual Meeting.

This year the meeting will be held at OSU ATI, 1328 Dover Road, Wooster. The banquet will begin at 7:15 p.m. on **Tuesday, November 15th.**

The meal will be catered by Des Dutch Essenhaus and consist of Swiss steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, salad, rolls, beverage and pie for \$12.00. Children age 7-11 will be \$7.00 and age 3-6, \$5.00.

There will be an election of one supervisor for the Wayne SWCD Board.

Voting will take place before the banquet from 6:30-7:30 pm.

Gerald Payn from Wayne County will be the speaker for the evening and will talk on the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War and Lincoln.

Several awards will be presented, including the Conservation Farm Award and Education Award. If you plan on attending the Wayne SWCD Annual Meeting and Banquet, you may purchase your tickets from any member of the Wayne SWCD staff or from any of the salesmen listed.

You can also make a reservation by sending in the form on page 4 with a check before November 7th. Be sure to join us to celebrate 64 years of Conservation in Wayne County.

The following are salesmen who have tickets for the banquet:



Jonathan Berger  
Terry Ewing  
Steve Grimes  
David Maurer  
Bill Moore  
Fred Myers  
Matt Peart

Nelson Ramsier  
John Redick  
David Rohrer  
Randy Tegtmeier  
Larry Wood  
Tom Zimmerman

## SWCD Election

Again this year, county residents attending our annual meeting will find the voting process for SWCD board members to be very similar to voting in the general election.

Upon arrival at our annual meeting, attendees will immediately be directed to the election registration table where election officials will find your name in the election registry. Voters will sign next to their name to verify your eligibility, be given a ballot and proceed to a nearby voting booth, where they will mark their ballot and deposit it in the

ballot box.

This year's banquet begins at 7:15 PM but registration and voting will begin at 6:30 pm. County residents and landowners have two other options for voting for SWCD board members. They may call or stop by the district office to request an absentee ballot or cast their vote at the district office on the day of the annual meeting between 8 AM and 4 PM.



If you would like more information about the election or have questions about the proceedings, please contact our office



# State Poster Contest Winners

Wayne County had three students who took honors at the State Conservation Poster Contest . They were awarded



Johnny Britton



Keeton Purvis

at the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation District's annual Summer Supervisors School. The SS School was held July 24th-

26th in Columbus, Ohio.

Johnny Britton, placed 1st in the 2nd-3rd grade category. He is a student at Hazel Harvey Elementary in Doylestown. Keeton Purvis, 4th grader from Parkview Elementary, received 2nd place in the 4-6th grade category, Diane Gress won 1st place in the 10th-12th grade category. She is in the 10th grade at Triway High School.



Diane Gress

The first place posters will go on to the National Association of Conservation District's contest which will take place in February of 2012. Congratulations!

## Contest Winner Guesses Right On...

Hopefully you were one of many that noticed and used the recycling receptacles located throughout the fairgrounds this year at the 2011 Wayne County Fair. Keeping with that recycling theme was the Wayne SWCD guessing contest at the fair. This year the contest was to guess how many small plastic bottles were shredded in a jar. We'd like to thank all the visitors that came through the building. The contest could not have been done without the help of Eddie Beard from Tri-County Recycling, as he was the one that shredded the bottles for us! With close to 900 guesses, we only had 1 exact winner! The person who won the \$30 gift card to Bob Evans restaurant was **Tamara Warren** of Wooster. She correctly guessed there were **119 small milk bottles shredded up in the jar**. The tie-breaker question was, "How many recycling containers are at the Wayne

County Fair? (Hint: green barrels & large black bottles)". The answer to the tie-breaker question is 40. We had 22 green barrels last year, and added another 10,



plus 4 black bottle receptacles and Ray and Allison Leisy bring in 4 more around the grandstands during the fair. Keeping on with the Soil & Water display of BMP's (Best Management Practices), for your home or for your farm, if you need information or are interested in improving your land, give us a call for some help and advise! If you missed us this year at the fair, be sure to stop by next year – we enjoy answering your questions and visiting with everyone! Thanks to all who took the time to guess at our contest!

## Manure Application

By John Knapp

Livestock farmers should take advantage of dry field conditions that we now have to empty their storage facilities. Fall months are typically the driest time of the year and a good time to get your manure storage facilities emptied before winter. With the wet spring and late planting of corn and soybeans those fields will not be available for at least another month so start applying now on harvested wheat, hay, or fallow ground.

Remember to follow best management practices when you are applying manure. All manure applications should be made in accordance with a nutrient management plan that balances crop nutrient needs and nutrient availability in the manure against your recent soil test values. Soil tests are recommended a minimum of every three years to maximize your nutrient management program.

Follow recommended guidelines to avoid runoff problems. If you are applying liquid manure you will need to monitor tile outlets. It is possible that the cracks in the soil will al-

low liquid manure to enter field tile and outlet directly into a ditch or stream. Reduced rates of ap-



plication can be used to lessen this risk. Also follow any recommended setbacks from streams or ditches. Depending on the slope it may be necessary to stay at least 100' from a stream or drainage area when applying manure to avoid runoff problems.

Emptying your storage facility now will save you problems this winter when storage capacity is no longer available. The goal is to apply manure on the fields when it can be best utilized and with the least chance of runoff. By following these guidelines you will greatly reduce the risk of runoff problems. Contact the SWCD if you need assistance with a manure management plan or storage facility.

# What's in Your Drinking Water, Do You Know?

By Duane Wood

It's hard to beat a cold glass of clear refreshing water to quench your thirst. I drank a lot of water this summer and I'll bet you did too. Most of us living in rural Ohio rely on ground water. We just go to our sink or refrigerator and fill a glass and don't give it a second thought. Maybe we should?

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Soil and Water Resources reports 700,000 domestic wells are used to supply individual homes throughout the state, which is over 40 percent of Ohioans.

The recent shale gas drilling in neighboring Pennsylvania is beginning to spill over into Ohio. Both Marcellus and Utica Shale formation leases are being sought and test wells drilled. It's very likely that drilling activity will increase in Ohio.

The Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District has had several inquiries about water testing because of the increasing interest in shale gas drilling. To help landowners find information we have established a page on our web site called Landowner Assistance,

Oil and Gas. We recommend as a precaution that landowners test private water wells prior to oil and gas drilling to establish baseline data.

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, The Ohio Department of Health, and ODNR Division of Mineral Resources recently released a new publication called

**“Recommendations for Water Well Sampling before Oil and Gas Drilling.”** This fact sheet indicates that the chances for groundwater contamination are small because it's a closely monitored process with regulations in place to protect underground sources of drinking water during and after the drilling process. “If ground water quality impacts from drilling activities occur, they most often are within a few hundred feet of the drill site.” The fact sheet also has

information on what parameters to test, who regulates oil and gas drilling, and a whole host of other interesting topics.

Water samples can be taken by the owner, however, it is recommended that a third party take the sample and follow a “chain of custody” protocol. A third party could be the well driller at the time of a pump test, an agent of a testing laboratory, or potentially a County Health Department employee. Chain of custody is important should the sample need to be used in litigation. The testing laboratory can provide more information on chain of



custody protocol. A laboratory should also be certified to perform chemical analyses on public drinking water by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

Deana Hudgins, OARDC is available to collect a water sample as a third party and follow the labs chain of custody protocol for an estimated \$50 in the Wayne, Holmes, and Ashland County area plus the cost of shipping and lab fees. To contact her call 330-202-3536 or e-mail her at [hudgins.5@osu.edu](mailto:hudgins.5@osu.edu).

Another aspect you may want to test is the water well yield in gallons per minute (gpm). We recommend that a baseline water level and pumping capacity for each homeowner's private water well be established prior to the start of natural gas drilling on or near their property. The water levels in the well should be measured before pumping (static water level), during pumping and for a period of time after the pumping ends (recovery). You can find information reported to ODNR by the well driller when the well was drilled on your well log. I checked my well log on-line and found I have a static water level of 145 feet, a test rate of 15 gallons per minute, and a test duration of one hour. You can find a copy of your well log at ODNR Division of Soil and Water Resources. If your well was drilled many years ago, which is often the case, it might be wise to obtain current data should a future change occur that you suspect is from drilling or some other activity.

The recent increase in oil and gas exploration has caused more of us to think about our water, especially groundwater. This isn't a bad thing because for the most part we take water for granted, maybe we shouldn't.

## Resource Web Sites

**Water Well Log Search:** <http://www.ohiodnr.com/water/maptechs/wellogs/app/>

**Wayne SWCD, Landowner Assistance, Oil and Gas:** <http://www.wayneswcd.org/landoilgas.html>

**Recommendations for Water Well Sampling before Oil and Gas Drilling:** [http://www.ohiodnr.com/portals/11/publications/pdf/water\\_well\\_sampling\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.ohiodnr.com/portals/11/publications/pdf/water_well_sampling_fact_sheet.pdf)

**What is Groundwater:** [http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/ContentApproval/GWPPMetaDataButtonScript3227/pubs/fs\\_div/fctst24/tabid/4109/Default.aspx](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/ContentApproval/GWPPMetaDataButtonScript3227/pubs/fs_div/fctst24/tabid/4109/Default.aspx)



## Calendar

September 30 - **District Land Judging Contest**  
October 11 - **Wayne SWCD Board Meeting**  
October 8-9 - **Wayne County Farm Tour**  
November 15 - **Annual SWCD Banquet & Meeting**

## Reminder .....

**No-Till Drills available for rent** - Call the office for details.

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

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

## Annual Meeting & Banquet Registration Form

Please fill out the form below and send it to Wayne SWCD, 428 W. Liberty St., Wooster along with your check made out to **Wayne SWCD** by **November 7th**.

### Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting

OSU ATI Skou Hall Cafeteria, November 15, 2011 7:15 PM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.00 Age 7-11 \_\_\_\_\_ @\$7.00 Age 3-6 \_\_\_\_\_ @\$5.00

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to Wayne SWCD and **return before November 7th**.

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](mailto: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  
Matt Peart, V-Chairman  
Fred Myers, Chairman  
John Redick, Public Relations Chair.  
David Rohrer, Secretary