

# The Hillsider

Conservation News in Lawrence County

Summer/Fall 2020

## LAWRENCE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

5459 State Route 217 P.O. Box 144 – Willow Wood, Ohio 45696

Phone: 740-867-4737 or Fax: 740-867-5513

HOURS: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

DAVID KLINE

LARRY BARE

STEVE LAMBERT

TERRY PORTER

WILLIAM FLANNERY

### DISTRICT PERSONNEL:

MATTHEW S. CAPPER, OFFICE MANAGER

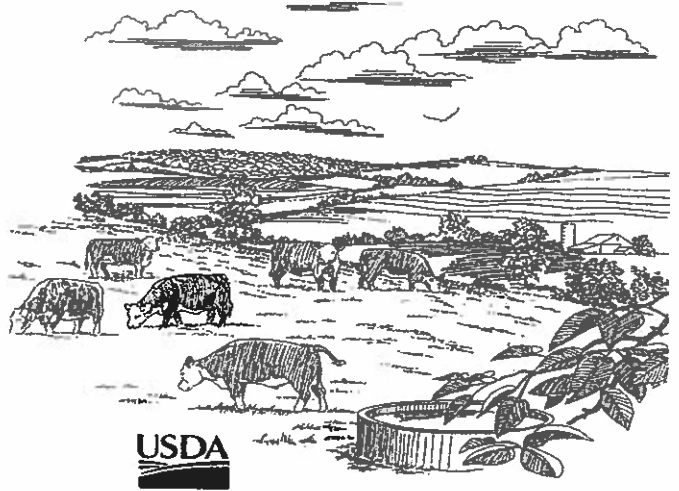
KIMBERLY CARRICO, URBAN/EDUCATION SPECIALIST

PEGGY REYNOLDS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

ALLEN COOK, DISTRICT TECHNICIAN

### NRCS PERSONNEL:

RALPH CRAWFORD, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST



### 73rd Annual Meeting and Banquet:

The Lawrence SWCD Board of Supervisors and Staff are sad to announce that this year's Annual Meeting and Banquet has been cancelled due to COVID-19.

### 2020 Board of Supervisors Election Notice:

The Lawrence SWCD, due to COVID-19, will be conducting the 2020 Supervisor Election by absentee voting only. The election is for one (1) Supervisor to serve a three (3) year term beginning January 1, 2021. The term of Willie "Bill" Flannery will end on December 31, 2020. Nominees are Willie "Bill" Flannery and Randy M. Thompson.

Absentee voting will be open **September 3, 2020 and will run through October 16, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.** Contact the Lawrence SWCD by calling 740-867-4737 or emailing Matthew A. Capper at [m.capper@lawrenceswcd.com](mailto:m.capper@lawrenceswcd.com) to request an absentee ballot. Voter eligibility and requirements are listed below.

Absentee voting can be done by mail or at the District Office. Mail-In Absentee Ballots are only valid if received at the District Office between September 3rd to October 16th, 2020. Allow enough time for USPS processing and delivery. You can stop by the District Office to cast an Absentee Ballot from 9:00am to 4:00pm, Monday-Friday: September 3rd to October 16, 2020. Contact the Lawrence SWCD at 740-867-4737 if you have any questions. Check our website, [lawrenceswcd.com](http://lawrenceswcd.com), for any possible office hour changes due to COVID-19.

### Voter Eligibility:

All owners and occupiers of land at least 18 years of age or older within the SWCD/county are eligible to vote for SWCD board supervisor. This includes legal residents of the SWCD/county, non-resident land-owners, non-resident land occupiers, and representatives of firms, corporations, limited liability companies (LLC), or trusts located within the SWCD/county. All eligible voters must certify their status as an eligible voter by signature on the ballot application. Individuals may vote under each of the above listed applicable categories only once regardless of the number of parcels owned, or number of leases or properties rented. One LLC officer or representative may vote on behalf of an LLC, but members may not. A trustee or designee may vote for a trust, but not a beneficiary.

### Requirements:

Mail-in Voting – All eligible voters may obtain an official application for ballot and ballot by requesting one from the SWCD by the following request methods:

- A. Contact the Lawrence SWCD office during the published election period. The SWCD will then mail the ballot application, election ballot and official election envelope to the person making the request. The ballot application and election ballot must be received by the last day of the 14-day election period. A person shall limit their request for their own personal ballot and to any qualified electors in the same household.
- B. In person at the SWCD during regular business hours within the published election period.

### Meet the Candidates:

#### Willie "Bill" Flannery

Bill and his wife, Mary Ann, reside in Union Township on their 82-acre "Bear Creek" farm. Bill and Mary Ann along with their granddaughter, Alex, raise Black Angus beef cattle on an old dairy property that they have been reclaiming since 1998. Bill and Mary Ann have three children, five grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Their daughter, Jennifer, and oldest son, Mark, and his family have relocated next door and are enthusiastic about life on "the farm". Bill is a retired therapist/educator and has served as a United Methodist pastor for 40 years. He is currently the pastor of Defender United Methodist Church. Bill graduated from, and is a former professor at, Marshall University. Bill is a current District Supervisor.



#### Randy M. Thompson

Randy Thompson and his wife Sara recently purchased a farm in Aid. They have three children: Jacob, Lindsey, and Tanner. They currently raise St. Croix/Katahdin lambs, Boer goats, ISA Brown chickens, and German Shepherd Dogs, but plan on raising a couple of head of cattle and a few pigs. Randy is a supervisor for Lawrence County Children Services and the Chief of Police for the Village of Chesapeake. He also pastor's a church in Crown City. He also served as the Humane Agent for Lawrence County. Sara teaches first grade at Fairland. Randy has been involved with 4-H since he was a child, and his children have been actively involved for the past several years as well. His family really enjoys raising a variety of animals.

### **Board Meeting Notice:**

The Lawrence Soil and Water Conservation District will hold its regular monthly meetings on the last Friday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the District office in Willow Wood.

### **Planning Commission Meeting Notice:**

The Lawrence County Regional Planning Commission meets the third Thursday of every month (except December – there is no meeting) at 11:00 a.m.. Due to COVID-19 the meetings will be held in the large animal barn at the Lawrence County Fair Grounds until further notice. Not only does the planning commission regulate the development of subdivisions but also the splitting of lots. If you have any questions, please call the office at 740-867-4737 or come to a meeting.

### **Storm Water Task Force Meeting:**

The Lawrence County Storm Water Task Force has quarterly meetings that are held on the second Tuesday of March, June, September and December.

### **Tips to Keep Soil on Land and Out of Water:**

- Carefully plan any activity that will expose soil. Plan to limit areas of exposed soil by working on small sections, reseeding, and then work on the next section.
- Seed and mulch bare areas of soil as soon as possible.
- Cover piles of dirt (or mulch) being used in landscaping projects.
- When possible, use equipment that limits soil disturbance, such as no-till.
- Don't mow all the way up to streambanks and other areas near waterways (referred to as riparian areas), because grass and other vegetation helps to hold soil in place. Its also filters pollutants and provides shade that keeps waterway temperatures cooler.
- Plant trees and shrubs along shorelines that aren't already covered with vegetation.
- Slow and reroute storm water away from disturbed or exposed areas of soil using water bars and ditches.
- Minimize driving equipment through wet areas or construct stream/wet-area crossing to limit erosion and physical damage to waterways,
- Become familiar with any storm drains, ditches, or bodies of water located on or near your property. Once they are located, you can take measures to protect these waterways from sediment anytime construction or other dirt work is happening on your property. Hay bales can also be used as sediment barriers and filters near waterways, and specialized materials, like a product called silt fencing, can also be purchased and installed.

### **Build Your Own Rain Barrel:**

Supplies you will need to get started:

55 Gallon food-grade barrel — 15/16" drill bit/hole saw — Needle-nose pliers — Drill — 3/4" Pipe Tap — Teflon Tape — 3/4" Male spigot— Hose barb — 3/4" Thread (male) to 1/2" hose connection

Instructions:

With a drill bit or hole saw, drill a hole about 2" from the bottom of barrel for the spigot. Drill a second hole near the top of the barrel for the hose barb (keep in mind which side you want the hole on to connect to the diverter from the downspout). You can also drill the hole for the hose barb on the top of the barrel. If you are using a hole saw, remove plastic after drilling hole with needle-nose pliers, as plastic will be hot to the touch. Thread both holes with the pipe tap. Wrap threaded ends of spigot and hose barb with Teflon tape and insert into appropriate holes. You will need to elevate your rain barrel. The higher you put it, the better water pressure you will get from it and you can fill a watering can underneath the spigot. Concrete blocks or bricks work well to elevate a rain barrel. Be sure the rain barrel is on solid ground as you will not want to move it once it is full. A filled rain barrel weighs over 400 lbs. If your rain barrel is on soil, put gravel down to stabilize the ground before adding concrete blocks or bricks to elevate your barrel.

Downspout Diverter:

There are several different diverters you can use to get the water from your downspout over to your barrel.

Maintenance:

In the winter, empty out and store your rain barrel in a basement, garage, or ideally somewhere temperature controlled. If you don't have a place to store it, you can leave it outside, just be sure to turn it upside down.

### **Storm Water Runoff - Slow It Down, Spread It Out, Soak It In:**

What is storm water runoff? Storm water runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent storm water from naturally soaking into the ground.

Why is stormwater runoff a problem? Storm water can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water.

How can you help slow it down, spread it out, and soak it in? Your township can work with the Lawrence SWCD to reduce storm water runoff by installing rain gardens, hosting rain barrel workshops and providing opportunities to learn about the effects of storm water.

Check out our website at [www.lawrenceswcd.com](http://www.lawrenceswcd.com) for more information or to watch the 9 minute video by the Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov/owow/nps/lid/video.html](http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/lid/video.html).

### **Equipment Rental Rates:**

2 – John Deere No-Till Corn Planters - \$10.00/acre - \$50.00 minimum.

2 – Tye No-Till Drills - \$10.00/acre - \$50.00 minimum.

1 – Stoltzfus 2 Ton Lime Spreader - \$2.00/ton spread - \$50.00 minimum.

1 – Drum/Fertilize Spreader - \$30.00 per day.

**On Sale Now!**  
**The New 2019 Plat Book**

Smart Maps available online at [www.lawrenceswcd.com](http://www.lawrenceswcd.com)

Featuring 3D LiDAR aerial maps

Wall Maps Available

Now Available at:  
Lawrence SWCD  
5555 State Route 217 - PO Box 144  
Willow Wood, Ohio 43086  
740-867-4737