

The Hillsider

Conservation News in Lawrence County

Summer/Fall 2021

LAWRENCE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

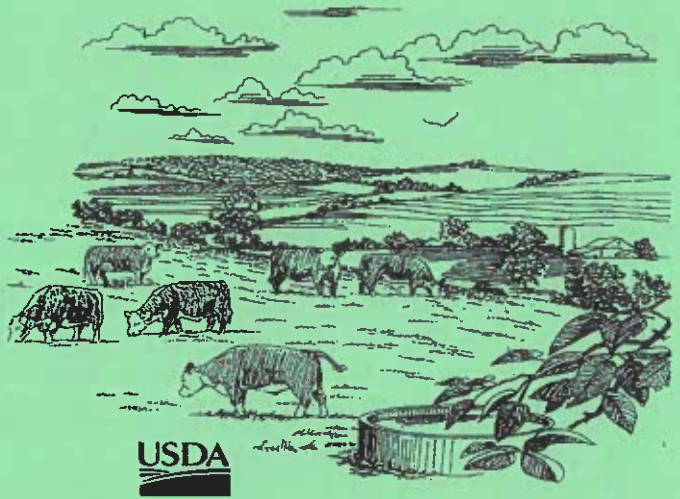
Phone: 740-867-4737 or Fax: 740-867-5513

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

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:
DAVID KLINE
LARRY BARE
STEVE LAMBERT
TERRY PORTER
WILLIE FLANNERY

DISTRICT PERSONNEL:
MATTHEW A. CAPPER, OFFICE MANAGER
KIMBERLY CARRICO, URBAN/EDUCATION SPECIALIST
PEGGY REYNOLDS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ALLEN COOK, DISTRICT TECHNICIAN

NRCS PERSONNEL:
RALPH CRAWFORD, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST



74th Annual Meeting and Banquet:

This year's 2021 Annual Meeting and Banquet will not be the usual set down dinner. Instead, it will be a no charge **Customer Appreciation Drive-Thru Event**. It will be held on Saturday, October 9, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (SWCD Board of Supervisors Voting will take place from 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.). This will take place in the parking lot of the Lawrence SWCD Office located at 5459 State Route 217 in Willow Wood. The menu will consist of hotdogs, chips, drink and a dessert. To assist us in preparing for the event we ask that you please RSVP by the close of business on Friday, October 1, 2021. This can be done by calling 740-867-4737.

2021 Board of Supervisors Election Notice:

The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of Supervisors of the Lawrence Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to be held in accordance with Chapter 940 of the Ohio Revised Code. Individuals who own or occupy land within the Lawrence Soil and Water Conservation District and are 18 years of age or older may vote for Supervisor.

There are 3 ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot:

- 1.) At the SWCD office from Friday, September 10, 2021 until Friday, October 8, 2021 during normal business hours; or
- 2.) At the SWCD Annual Meeting, which will take place at the District Office on Saturday, October 9, 2021, from 4:00-4:45 p.m.; or
- 3.) Voting absentee from Friday, September 10th until Saturday, October 9, 2021, by requesting the ballot application and election ballot from the SWCD office at the following address:
P.O. Box 144, Willow Wood, OH 45696, by calling 740-867-4737, or email m.capper@lawrenceswcd.com. Absentee ballots must be received by the SWCD office by the close of voting on Saturday, October 9, 2021.

2 Supervisors will be elected to a three-year term commencing on January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2024.

Nominees are:
Steve Lambert
Terry Porter
Randy Thompson

Meet the Candidates:

Steve Lambert

Steve Lambert and his wife Cindy reside in Lawrence Township. He has a family farm where he gardens and raises beef cattle. Currently they have 50 cows and heifers that include registered Angus and some crossed. Steve farms over 200 acres, raising corn and hay and harvesting corn silage. Steve is a graduate of Ohio University with a BA in Education and a Masters in Administration from the University of Dayton. He is a retired coach, teacher, and principal with 38 years experience. They are members of Mamre Baptist Church. They have three children and six grandchildren. He has served as a Lawrence SWCD Board Supervisor for 9 years.



Terry Porter

Terry Porter and his wife Jackie are lifelong residents of Lawrence County. They currently live on their 67 acres farm in Aid Township where they raise Angus beef cattle. Terry is a 1977 graduate of Symmes Valley High School. He went on to attend Marshall University and Ohio University. He has worked at CSX Raceland car shops and at the Dennis J. Boll Group and Shelter Home before going to the Lawrence County Department of Job and Family Services. He has recently retired as Agency Director from LCDJFS after nearly thirty years. Terry also served 28 years as a Union Township Trustee. Terry and Jackie attend Linville Baptist Church and Freedom Church. They have three children, seven granddaughters and one grandson. He also participates on several community boards to serve the people of Lawrence County. His true passion is farming. He is a current District Supervisor of six years and would like the opportunity to continue this service.



Randy M. Thompson

Randy Thompson and his wife Sara have a farm in Aid. They have three children: Jacob, Lindsey, and Tanner. They currently raise several breeds of lambs, Boer goats, Black Angus cattle and German Shepherd Dogs. They also plan on raising a few pigs. Randy is a supervisor for Lawrence County Children Services. He also pastor's a church in Crown City. He also served as the Humane Agent for Lawrence County. Sara teaches reading at Symmes Valley. 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.



Meeting Notices:

- The Lawrence SWCD has a regular meeting on the last Friday of every month at 10:00 a.m. at the District Office in Willow Wood.
- The Lawrence County Regional Planning Commission has a meeting the third Thursday of every month (except December – no meeting) at 11:00 a.m. Contact the District Office for meeting location as they currently vary month to month due to COVID-19. The Planning Commission regulates the development of subdivisions as well as the splitting of lots. If you have any questions, please call the office at 740-867-4737.
- The Lawrence County Storm Water Task Force has quarterly meetings that are held on the second Tuesday of March, June, September and December.

After The Storm: A Citizen's Guide to Understanding Storm Water from the USEPA

Agriculture - Lack of vegetation on streambanks can lead to erosion. Overgrazed pastures can also contribute excessive amounts of sediment to local waterbodies. Excess fertilizers and pesticides can poison aquatic animals and lead to destructive algae blooms. Livestock in streams can contaminate waterways with bacteria, making them unsafe for human contact.

- Keep livestock away from streambanks and provide them a water source away from waterbodies.
- Store and apply manure away from waterbodies and in accordance with a nutrient management plan.
- Vegetate riparian areas along waterways.
- Rotate animal grazing to prevent soil erosion in fields.
- Apply fertilizers and pesticides according to label instructions to save money and minimize pollution.

Forestry - Improperly managed logging operations can result in erosion and sedimentation.

- Conduct preharvest planning to prevent erosion and lower costs.
- Use logging methods and equipment that minimize soil disturbance.
- Plan and design skid trails, yard areas, and truck access roads to minimize stream crossings and avoid disturbing the forest floor.
- Construct stream crossings so that they minimize erosion and physical changes to the stream.
- Expedite revegetation of cleared areas.

Lawn Care - Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. In addition, yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute nutrients and organic matter to streams.

- Don't overwater your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible.
- Compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.

Septic Systems - Leaking and poorly maintained septic systems release nutrients and pathogens (bacteria and viruses) that can be picked up by storm water and discharged into nearby waterbodies. Pathogens can cause public health problems and environmental concerns.

- Inspect your system every 3 years and pump your tank as necessary (every 3 to 5 years).
- Don't dispose of household hazardous waste in sinks or toilets.

Planning Your Tree Planting by Perry Brannan – ODNR - Division of Forestry

Believe it or not, the work of a good tree planting project doesn't wait until spring, it begins at the end of summer. The key to the survival of transplanted tree seedlings is their ability grow new roots. If your tree-planting site is a field of grass, all the soil is already full of grass roots, leaving almost no chance for root growth of a new tree seedling. The first step to a successful tree planting is control of the grass and weeds already growing in your tree-planting area. This should be done in the growing season the year before planting the trees.

In August or early September, the tree-planting site should be mowed. You can mow the whole field, or just mow a strip three feet wide for each row of trees to be planted. After the mowing, additional work is needed to kill the grass and weeds, so your trees will have no competition when they are first planted.

If you're planting just a few trees, this weed control could be done by setting down patches of cardboard or black plastic to block the light getting to the grass. A heavy-duty black trash bag is about the right size for a single tree planting spot. The plastic or cardboard should be held down with landscaping staples or stakes.

For larger planting areas, grass & weeds should be controlled with an herbicide application, 2-3 weeks after the mowing. A strip of dead grass three feet wide for each row of trees, or a weed-free circle three feet across for each tree seedling should be prepared before the end of the growing season prior to tree planting. Your trees should be planted after the ground thaws at the end of winter (March/early April).

Another vital step to a good tree planting is ordering the right trees ahead of time. Most nurseries take orders in the fall for trees to be shipped out the following March. Shopping around and placing your nursery order in the fall is the best way to get the trees you need. Once you have your trees, keep the roots cool and moist. Plant each seedling at the same depth it grew in the nursery. If you're using a dibble bar or a planting machine, make sure the sides of the planting hole are sealed back together around the base of each seedling. It may be beneficial to do additional weed control for a few years after planting, but eliminating the weed competition before tree planting is far better than trying to do weed control after your trees are planted.

A successful hardwood tree planting creates forest conditions in 15 to 20 years, providing wildlife habitat and the potential for future harvests of wood products. If you need advice planning your tree planting, please contact:

Perry Brannan, ODNR – Division of Forestry
360 E. State St., Athens, OH 45701
(740) 589-9915
Perry.Brannan@dnr.ohio.gov

Equipment Rental Rates:

- 3 – John Deere No-Till Corn Planters - \$10.00/ac. - \$50.00 min.
- 2 – Tye No-Till Drills - \$10.00/ac. - \$50.00 minimum.
- 1 – Stoltzfus 2 Ton Lime Spreader - \$2.00/ton spread - \$50.00 min.

Contact Us For Permitting Requirements If You Are Doing Any Of The Following:

- Floodplain - Working inside a floodplain in the unincorporated areas of Lawrence County.
- Storm Water - Disturbing an acre or more in the unincorporated Urbanized MS4 areas of Rome, Union, Fayette or Perry Townships.
- Commercial Building - Doing any work on a commercial building /project inside the boarder of Lawrence County (incorporated and unincorporated areas).

On Sale Now!
The New 2019 Plat Book

1000+ Maps available online at dnr.ohio.gov/platbook

• View your location on a map using the built-in GPS device

• Measure distances and areas

• Add points of interest, photos, notes, notes and location pins

Featuring 3D LiDAR aerial maps

Wall Maps Available

Now Available at a special sale to all State Route 257 HO Biz FID within Grand, Union, & Rome