



Ag NEWS AND VIEWS

3rd Quarter
2018

For Crawford County's Agricultural Producers and Stewards of the Land

Coyote Researcher Stan Gehrt will speak at the 73rd Crawford SWCD Annual Meeting

All are welcome to join the 73rd Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting on **Thursday, August 30, 2018**. The meeting will be held at The Pickwick Place, 1875 N Sandusky Avenue, Bucyrus, Ohio. The doors will open at 5:30 p.m. Dinner tickets cost \$12.50 and must be reserved by August 16th.

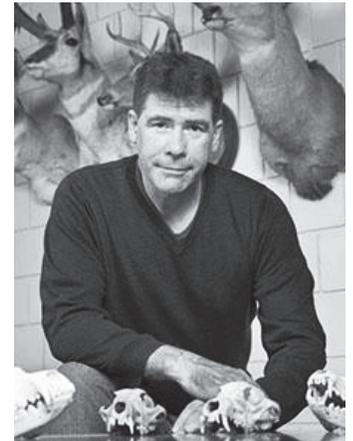
The Crawford SWCD supervisor election will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 6:45 p.m. All Crawford County residents who are a minimum of 18-years of age are eligible to vote in the SWCD election. Residents can register at the door in order to receive a ballot. Any eligible voter may vote in the Crawford SWCD supervisor election and leave without purchasing a ticket. Non-resident landowners may vote by filing a notarized affidavit (SEL-8) form certifying land ownership prior to registering to vote.

The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be catered by Katering Kountry Style with baked steak and chicken cordon bleu, hash brown casserole, green beans, tossed salad, rolls, lemonade, iced tea, and coffee. Mark's Homemade Ice Cream will be served for dessert.

This year's events following the election and dinner will include the photo contest voting, the SWCD Conservation Slide Show, featured Speaker Stan Gerht, the SWCD Outstanding Cooperator award sponsored by Ag Credit, affiliate members' recognition, Crawford SWCD Supervisor election results.

Featured speaker Stan Gerht is a professor and wildlife extension specialist at The Ohio State University. He has a very interesting presentation on the urban coyotes and their adaptability to their environment. Stan's research has been conducted on the long-term population ecology and disease dynamics of coyotes in the Chicago Metropolitan area. His research team has been monitoring coyotes in this highly urbanized landscape for the past 12 years, having marked nearly 700 coyotes, making this the largest urban study of its kind. The general objective is to provide a better understanding as to how coyotes are successfully exploiting the urban landscape, and the implications of this trend for people, pets, and other wildlife.

Plan now to attend. Contact the Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District office at 3111 State Route 98, Bucyrus, Ohio at 419-562-8280 extension 3 or get your tickets from one of the ticket sellers in your neighborhood.



Stan Gehrt

2018 County Tillage Survey Results

The Crawford SWCD completed their annual cropland tillage survey for Crawford County. For the survey, each year a predetermined route is driven throughout the county. At known points along this route, crop residue and tillage information is recorded. Data collected at each point includes current crop, previous year crop, percent residue, and tillage used. This data is then compiled and compared to previous years to determine trends in crop, tillage and planting methods. This survey has been completed using the same points since 1987, with the exception of slight changes due to new US 30.

The 2018 figures show that 43% of all cropland (97,610 acres) were in conservation tillage (>30% residue) this spring. Soybeans were the crop most planted at 49.8% of cropland acres (113,046 acres), followed by corn at 40.6%

(92,162 ac). Wheat acres accounted for only 3% of points surveyed (6,810 acres).

Conservation tillage (>30% residue) over all crops increased by 10% over 2017. Soybeans again topped the no tillage category with 32% of soybeans no tilled, a 7% increase over 2017. No till corn acres doubled over last year's acres, an increase from 2.2 % in 2017 to 4.4% in 2018.



For more information or more detailed survey data, contact the Crawford SWCD office at 419-562-8280 extension #3.

New Administrative Assistant - Monica Finney



I have recently been hired to replace retiring Administrative Assistant, Liz Miller, at the Crawford Soil and Water District. Some of you may recognize me from my days as a temp at the Crawford Farm Service Agency. I have also worked at Sacred Heart Catholic Church and St. Joseph Catholic Church for the last 9 years as their Business Manager. Before that, I

was employed with United Bank in Bucyrus for 22 years. I have a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Mt. Vernon University and I have been involved with Farm Bureau, 4-H, United Way, Buckeye Central Athletic Boosters, as well as active with our parish, Sacred Heart.

I am married to Bob Finney and we have a small farm north of Crestline where we raise corn, soybeans, wheat, hay, and a herd of brood cows that we consider one of our hobbies. We have two sons and a daughter-in-law that help us farm: Chase owns his own trucking company and helps Bob on a daily basis with the farm; Alex, who works as an agronomist and salesman at Morral Companies near Marion and our daughter-in-law, Brandie, who is a stay-at-home mom for their children Addie (2) and Brantley (8 months). Along with spending time with my family, I enjoy working in my yard, traveling, going to sporting events, playing euchre, and riding with my husband on our Harley Davidson.

I look forward to working with the farmers and citizens of Crawford County and learning more about the programs that the Conservation District has to offer. I know I have big shoes to fill as Liz has been here many years and has seen the activities and programs expand to many more residents of Crawford County over the years. Liz and I will work together until November 30th which is scheduled to be her official retirement date.

Crawford SWCD Supervisor Election to be Held on August 30, 2018

The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of Supervisors of the Soil and Water Conservation District to be held in accordance with Chapter 940 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Residents or landowners, firms, and corporations that own land or occupy land in the Soil and Water Conservation District and are 18 years of age and older may vote for Supervisor. 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. Contact the Crawford SWCD office for more information and the proper forms.

One (1) supervisor will be elected to the Crawford SWCD Board of Supervisors this year. This is a three-year term of office commencing January 1, 2019. Paul E. Hartschuh's term expires on December 31, 2018. He is running for re-election.

The election will take place on August 30th at the Crawford SWCD office from 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and at the annual meeting held at The Pickwick Place, 1875 North Sandusky Avenue, Bucyrus, Ohio from 5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Residents can register at the door to receive a ballot. Nonresident landowners must bring a *SEL-8 nonresident affidavit form* (notarized proof of ownership) in order to vote.

Those unable to vote on August 30th may vote by absentee ballot beginning August 9th. Contact the Soil and Water office at 419-562-8280 extension 3, or check our website at www.crawfordswcd.org for details.

73rd Crawford SWCD Annual Meeting Tickets are on Sale Now

Tickets for the 2018 Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District annual meeting cost \$12.50. They may be purchased from the following individuals: Ben Ackerman, Nathan Brause, Megan Brown, Monica Finney, Mike Hall, Paul E. Hartschuh, Marvin James, Larry Leonhardt, Sandy Lyons, Liz Miller, Morgan Scheffler, Joyce Schimpf, Mike Shell, Mark Shumaker, Adam Spiegel, Zach Stuckey, Louise

Ulmer, Brad Van Voorhis, or at the Crawford SWCD office 419-562-8280 ext. 3.

You can also reserve your tickets for pick up at the door by mailing your payment to the SWCD office with a note stating for whom the tickets should be reserved. **Tickets must be reserved by August 16th.**



Neighbor to Neighbor Conservation Series

This workshop series is a chance to get to see what is happening around our county in the Conservation and Ag fields! Join us for one or all of these unique workshops. Each evening will begin at a local farm/residence and last no more than two hours. Each will offer information, tour, and a chance for questions and answers. Workshops will be held in the barn or outdoors, so dress appropriately.

Hops Farm

Wednesday, August 15th at 6:00 P.M.

Farm is located on Orr Rd, 1/4 mile east of Knauss Rd. in Lykens Twp. Learn how to grow, tend and harvest hops for your own home brews during this unique workshop hosted by Knauss Hops LLC. Farm owner Glen Tooman will lead an informative workshop that will cover sourcing and purchasing plants, preparing fields and infrastructure, growing and harvesting hops, and disease management.



Canning Basics

Wednesday, September 5th at 6:00 P.M.

Bucyrus Public Library, Meeting Room 200 E. Mansfield St, Bucyrus
Are you interested in learning about how to can foods at home, safely? If so, you should attend this hour-long session lead by Abby Snyder, food safety field specialist at The Ohio State University. You will learn about the different canning methods and equipment available, what foods are well-suited to food preservation, and how to minimize the risk of foodborne illness resulting from improperly canned foods.



Wine Making

Wednesday, October 3rd at 6:00 P.M.

1110 New Washington Rd, Bloomville

This program will be led by Ed Weisenauer, who has over 40 years of experience making home made wine. This evening will cover the basic wine making ins and outs.



Contact the Crawford SWCD for questions or to register for one or all of these workshops by calling our office at 419-562-8280 ext 3, emailing diane.sand@oh.nacdnet.net or stop in at 3111 State Route 98, Bucyrus.

Registration is required by the Friday before each workshop date.

**CRAWFORD SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**
3111 STATE ROUTE 98
BUCYRUS OH 44820-9601

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**Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District
and Natural Resources Conservation Service**
3111 State Route 98, Bucyrus, OH 44820-9601
Phone: 419-562-8280
Website: www.crawfordswcd.org
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 P.M.

SWCD Staff:
Mike Hall
Program Administrator
Monica Finney
Administrative Assistant
Liz Miller
Administrative Assistant
Megan Brown
Administrative Assistant
Diane Sand
Technician
Education Information Coordinator
Morgan Scheffler
MNM Specialist

Board of Supervisors:
Nathan Brause, Chairperson
Paul Hartschuh, Vice-Chair
Zach Stuckey, Treasurer
Adam Speigel, Secretary
Larry Leonhardt, Fiscal Agent

NRCS Staff:
Brad Van Voorhis
District Conservationist

Calendar of Events

July 4th: Closed in Observance of Independence Day
July 10th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
July 15-21st: Crawford County Fair
July 16th: Ask the Conservationist, Brad VanVoorhis, at the SWCD & NRCS Booth in the Old Merchant's Building from 6:00-8:00 PM
July 25th: Manure Science Review
August 14th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
August 15th: Neighbor to Neighbor Series: Hops Farm
August 30th: Crawford SWCD Annual Meeting, Pickwick Place, Bucyrus
Sept. 3rd: Closed in Observance of Labor Day
Sept. 5th: Neighbor to Neighbor Series: Canning Basics - Bucyrus Public Library
Sept. 11th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
Sept. 13th: High School Forestry Contest, Camp Michael
Sept. 18-20th: Farm Science Review
Sept. 20th: County Land Judging
October 3rd: Neighbor to Neighbor Series: Wine Making - 1110 New Washington Rd, Bloomville
October 8th: Closed in Observance of Columbus Day
October 9th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
October 15th-19th: Livestock Live