



Ag NEWS AND VIEWS

3rd Quarter
2019

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

Climate and Weather Expert, Aaron Wilson, PhD will speak at the 74th Crawford SWCD Annual Meeting

All are welcome to join the Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District at the 74th Annual Meeting on **Tuesday, August 27th**. This event 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. They must be reserved by August 16th.

The Crawford SWCD supervisor election will be 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.

This year's events include the SWCD Supervisor Election 5:30 - 6:45 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm catered by Katering Kountry Style and Mark's Homemade Ice Cream for dessert, SWCD Conservation Slide Show, featured speaker Aaron Wilson, SWCD Outstanding Cooperator Award sponsored by Ag Credit, affiliate members' recognition, and the supervisor election results.

Featured speaker, Aaron Wilson, is an Atmospheric Scientist at The Ohio State University (OSU), holding a joint appointment as a Senior Research Associate at the Byrd Polar & Climate Research Center (BPCRC) and OSU Extension-the outreach arm of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. He is also a contributing member to the State Climate Office of Ohio. He will be discussing **Ohio's Changing Climate and Impacts on Ag, Soil, and Water**. This will include providing a global context and a closer look at changing weather patterns close to home. He will highlight observed changes, projected changes in the future, and the various ways in which these changes have and will continue to affect agriculture, soil, and water. He will also discuss items around adapting to our changing climate and the role soil health can play

in mitigating future climate change.

Plan now to attend by contacting 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. (see page 2)



Aaron Wilson, PhD

Employment Opportunity

Want to work with a great team of conservation minded professionals? Do you want a job where you make a difference in local ag communities? The Crawford SWCD is looking for a highly qualified, self-motivated individual for full time employment. This new position will work with livestock and crop producers in Crawford, Marion and Wyandot counties, assisting with nutrient management and conservation practice implementation. Job qualifications include a Bachelor's (or Associate's degree with experience) in a livestock and/or crop production related field. Extensive experience may be considered in lieu of a degree. This position will require knowledge of current agricultural practices relating to crop/livestock production along with strong written and verbal communication skills. This is a full time position (40 hrs /week) offering competitive pay, flexible schedule, and a full benefit package including PERS retirement; paid vacation, sick and holiday leave; and health and life insurance options. Interested individuals should visit the Crawford SWCD website at www.crawfordswcd.org for an application packet or contact the office at 419-562-8280 ext #3 for more information. The Crawford SWCD is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

74th Crawford SWCD Annual Meeting Tickets are on Sale Now

Tickets for the 2019 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, Mark Gwirtz, Larry Leonhardt, Joyce Schimpf, Adam Spiegel, Zach Stuckey, Louise Ulmer, Brad Van Voorhis, and by calling 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.**

Manure & You Nutrient Management Workshop

Tuesday, August 20 (Register by August 13)

Cost: \$10.00

9:00AM - 3:00PM

Buckeye Community Center
79 Noble Rd. East, Shiloh, OH 44878

Topics include: manure vs. commercial fertilizer value, how to take soil and manure samples, reading sample results, understanding Tri-State Fertilizer recommendations, and Nutrient Management Plans.

For more info contact our office at 419-562-8280 ext. 3.

Crawford SWCD Supervisor Election to be Held on August 27th

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 Crawford 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.

Two (2) supervisors will be elected to the Crawford SWCD Board of Supervisors this year. This is a three-year term of office commencing January 1, 2020. This year's candidates are Nathan Brause, Shawn Rowlinson, and Ben Stuckey. The election will take place on August 27, 2019 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 – 6:45 p.m. Residents just have to register at the door in order to receive a ballot.

Those unable to vote on August 27th may vote by absentee ballot beginning August 6th. Voting may be done in person at the Crawford Soil and Water office, 3111 State Route 98, Bucyrus Ohio; or by mail. Contact the Crawford SWCD at 419-562-8280 extension 3, or check our website at www.crawfordswcd.org for details.

CRP Sign-up is Open

Sign-up for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is underway now thru August 23, 2019. Practices such as grassed waterways, filter strips, tree field windbreaks, riparian buffers and wetlands are available. This program is offered county wide. To be eligible, the land must meet cropping history requirements and been farmed or considered farmed four out of the six years between 2012 & 2017. The CRP offers a rental payment each year it is under contract and 50% cost share to install the practice.

If you noticed gullies in your fields after this winter, CRP can help you construct a grassed waterway to safely take the water off your fields. You receive an annual rental payment for the areas taken out of production and provide 50% cost share on the cost of installing the waterway.



*Which would you
rather farm with?*

Sign-up for Lake Erie CREP before August 23rd

New program incentives make this a great time to get into the Lake Erie Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Get paid to protect water quality, take marginal return acres out of production and reduce flooding. CREP Sign-up is on a continuous basis, as funding permits. Do you have a ditch or stream running through your farm that needs a filter strip? How about a hard to farm area because it's always wet?

Eligible land must be in the Lake Erie Watershed and must meet basic eligibility criteria for the USDA's Conservation Reserve Program. Eligible practices for the LE CREP program include: filter strips, riparian tree plantings, wetland restoration, and tree windbreaks.

In return for establishing the grass or tree cover, you will receive an annual rental payment that average rental payments and financial incentives, participants convert the land to grasses, trees, or other conservation vegetation.

New for 2019 is the \$200 per acre incentive which will be provided for all newly enrolled filter strips and riparian area practices enrolled by August 23, 2019. For more information call 419-562-2203 or stop by our office.

Conservation Opportunities Through The Ohio Working Lands Programs

The Ohio Dept. of Ag's Working Lands Program have been a new choice for conservation on many farms in Crawford county. Just as the name implies, these programs are designed to work on your farm...to add value to the land you operate...while at the same time improving water quality in the Lake Erie watershed. The **hay buffer program** works for the producer through incentive payments to convert row cropland into forage production. Eligible acres will receive \$120/acre/year (\$600/ac total) incentive for leaving the acreage in hay for 5 years, the operator can still work the land, harvesting the hay for either personal use or to sell. The **small grains program** provides incentives to producers who harvest small grains, apply manure and then establish a double crop (like soybeans), a cover crops or a forage crop. Eligible acreage receives a \$75/ac payment. If you have questions or are interested in any of these programs or would like to talk about how they may fit your operation, contact the SWCD office.

NRCS announces Disaster Recovery Funding to plant Cover Crops on flooded cropland

Extreme weather conditions like the recent excessive rains have negatively impacted Ohio farmers. Financial assistance is now available to plant cover crops on land where producers were unable to plant their crops, or who experienced crop loss due to flooded or wet fields. Cover crops provide an alternative to fields going fallow and remaining uncovered. Cover crops reduce erosion and suppress weed growth on unplanted acres as well as improve soil vitality by adding nutrients and organic matter. Cover crop roots reestablish soil health and create pathways for air and water to move through the soil, which is key to restoring it.

Landowner's should coordinate with other USDA farm agencies when participating in related program. It is the producer's responsibility to work directly with their insurance agent and RMA to ensure they understand their policy.

To apply for this special EQIP opportunity, visit our office. Applications for this special EQIP will be **accepted beginning July 1, 2019** until funding is exhausted. For more information or to apply for this program visit or contact our office at 419-562-2203, ext. 3.

Cover Crop/ Weed Control for Unplanted Acres Workshop

Wednesday, July 10th; 6:30 – 8:00PM
Lower Level Courthouse Meeting Room
Bucyrus, OH

Crawford SWCD/ NRCS/ OSU Extension/ Crop Insurance Agents presenting on:

- Prevent plant acres
- Cover Crop opportunities
- Weed management
- Soil health management
- Forage opportunities

Register by July 9th for seating availability
Look for more information on our website
or stop by the office!

Calendar of Events

- July 4th: Crawford SWCD and NRCS Closed in Observance of the Independence Day Holiday
- July 9th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
- July 10th: Cover Crop/Weed Control for Unplanted Acres Workshop
- July 14-20: Crawford County Fair, visit our booth in the Old Merchants Building
- August 7th: Manure Science Review, Strasburg OH
- August 13th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
- August 20th: Manure Nutrient Management WKSP, Shiloh, OH 9 A.M.-3 P.M.
- August 23rd: Lake Erie CREP Sign-Up Deadlin
- August 27th: Crawford SWCD Annual Meeting, Pickwick Place
- August 29th: Ohio No-Till Field Day, Nathan Brause Farm
- Sep. 2nd: Crawford SWCD and NRCS Closed in Observance of the Labor Day Holiday
- Sept. 10th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
- Sept. 17-19: Farm Science Review, London OH

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.

Board Meeting Dates: (Public Welcome)

2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 P.M.

Board of Supervisors:

Nathan Brause, Chairperson
Adam Speigel, Vice-Chair
Larry Leonhardt, Fiscal Agent
Mark Gwartz, Secretary
Zach Stuckey, Treasurer

NRCS Staff:

Brad Van Voorhis
District Conservationist
Kelby Fetter
Soil Conservationist

SWCD Staff:

Mike Hall
Program Administrator
Monica Finney
Administrative Assistant
Megan Brown
Technician
Diane Sand
Education Information Coordinator
Morgan Metzger
MNM Specialist

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To subscribe, contact the Crawford SWCD office at 3111 State Route 98, Bucyrus, Ohio 44820-9601; phone 419-562-8280 or 419-562-2203 extension 3.

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Address Service Requested

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BUCYRUS OH 44820-9601