

CRAWFORD SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
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BUCYRUS OH 44820-9601

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Floyd Cox Named Outstanding SWCD Cooperator for 2022

The SWCD Outstanding Cooperator chosen this year was Floyd Cox of rural Galion. Ag Credit once again is the sponsor for the SWCD Outstanding Cooperator Award. The SWCD Outstanding Cooperator award recognizes individuals who promote the importance of conservation in maintaining the productivity of the land as well as improving soil and water quality.



Floyd became an SWCD cooperator in 2003. Since that time, he has adopted a variety of conservation best management practices on his farms. These practices include conservation crop rotation, no-till, cover crops and 4R nutrient management planning including grid soil testing and variable rate fertilizer applications for greater fertilizer efficiency. Over the years he has installed several grassed waterways, rock chutes, subsurface drainage tile, and CRP grass filter strips to reduce soil erosion and improve water quality.

Congratulations to Floyd Cox for being selected as the 2022 Crawford SWCD Outstanding Cooperator!

Forestry Workshop

The 2022 Crawford SWCD Forestry Workshop will be October 22nd from 10AM to noon. We will have ODNR Forester, Katie Gerber, speaking on timber stand improvement, marketing, and controlling invasives species and the various programs available for forestry assistance. This will be an opportune time to have any forestry management questions you have answered. This workshop will be held outdoors and participants are to dress according to weather conditions. This tour will require participants to traverse uneven terrain and hills. The woodlot is located at 1349 Olentangy Rd, Galion (See map for location). Please RSVP by October 21st to the Crawford SWCD office by phone at 419-562-8280 ext. 3.



Windbreak Program Available to Landowners

The Northwest Ohio Windbreak Program (NOWP) is a great opportunity for landowners to establish tree windbreaks in the county to help reduce soil erosion, control drifting snow, and/ or improve wildlife habitat. The program is offered through ODNR Division of Forestry and provides assistance with planting windbreaks. SWCD/ NRCS staff will work with the landowner to design the windbreak and determine the type and number of trees necessary. ODNR forestry staff will then plant the trees in Spring 2023. One of the unique aspects of this program is the Survival Guarantee. ODNR will provide the landowners replacement trees at no cost for any that do not survive the first year. The cost for the 2023 Northwest Ohio Windbreak Program is \$0.35 per row foot, cost share is available for the program through the Lake Erie CREP Program, that helps offset the cost of planting the windbreak. Certain eligibility requirements do apply for the NOWP program. Applications will be accepted until December 1, 2022. Contact the Crawford SWCD/NRCS office for more information or for eligibility requirements at 419-562-8280 ext. 3.



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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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**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 PM.

<p>SWCD Staff: Mike Hall Program Administrator Adam Speigel, Vice-Chair Diane Awbrey Education Information Coordinator Monica Finney Administrative Assistant Megan Brown Technician Brad Van Voochis District Conservationist Derek Beat H2O/Ag Tech Duane Shawk Nutrient Management Tech</p>	<p>Board of Supervisors: Nathan Brause, Chairperson Mike Hall Program Administrator Adam Speigel, Vice-Chair Diane Awbrey Education Information Coordinator Monica Finney Administrative Assistant Megan Brown Technician Brad Van Voochis District Conservationist Derek Beat H2O/Ag Tech Duane Shawk Nutrient Management Tech</p>
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Calendar of Events

<p>October 10th: Office closed in observance of the Columbus Day Holiday</p> <p>October 11th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting 5:30 PM.</p> <p>October 22nd: Forestry Workshop 10:00-Noon</p> <p>November 8th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting 5:30 PM.</p> <p>November 11th: Office closed in observance of the Veterans Day Holiday</p> <p>November 24th-25th: Office closed in observance of the Thanksgiving Day Holiday</p> <p>December 1st: NOWP Application Deadline</p> <p>December 13th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting 5:30 PM.</p> <p>December 23rd and 26th: Office closed in observance of the Christmas Day Holiday</p>	<p>October 10th: Office closed in observance of the Columbus Day Holiday</p> <p>October 11th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting 5:30 PM.</p> <p>October 22nd: Forestry Workshop 10:00-Noon</p> <p>November 8th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting 5:30 PM.</p> <p>November 11th: Office closed in observance of the Veterans Day Holiday</p> <p>November 24th-25th: Office closed in observance of the Thanksgiving Day Holiday</p> <p>December 1st: NOWP Application Deadline</p> <p>December 13th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting 5:30 PM.</p> <p>December 23rd and 26th: Office closed in observance of the Christmas Day Holiday</p>
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H2Ohio Reminders & New Updates

There have been a few changes and additions made to the H2Ohio Program for the 10 County Expansion Area. Below are the updates.

- Overwintering Cover Crop seeding date extended to **November 1st** for the rest of the program.
- Manure Incorporation practice date has also been extended to **November 1st**. That includes the incorporation and the seeding of the cover crop after incorporation.
- For the \$10 interseeded. cover crop bonus, that seeding must be completed by September 30th.

To fully complete each practice for H2Ohio, the following documentation is required:

- Overwintering Cover Crops: Seeding date, rate, seed tags and quantity used, map of field
- Manure Incorporation: manure application date, rate, manure analysis, weather forecast, location, cover crop or double crop, seed tags, seeding rates, map of field.
- Nutrient Management Plan Implementation, Variable Rate Phosphorus, and Subsurface Phosphorus: all applications of Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium, bills for fertilizer, and/or application maps.

For other practice documentation requirements, please consult the copies of practice standards given to you at sign up or contact our office and we can assist you with all the H2Ohio program requirements that pertain to your contract.

Crawford SWCDD 77th Annual Meeting Held August 31, 2022

The Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) recently held their 77th annual meeting at The Loft at Pickwick Place. The supervisor election preceded the meeting along with a slide show of activities and projects from the last year. Special Occasions catered the meal and Mark's Homemade Ice Cream served dessert.

Ag comedian Jay Hendren was the featured entertainment for the evening. Jay has traveled the nation appearing in comedy clubs and corporate events working with Ron White and Larry the Cable Guy.

Eric Hanes and Ben Stuckey were elected to the board of supervisors with their terms commencing January 1, 2023. Floyd Cox of Galion was announced as the Crawford SWCD 2022 Co-Operator of the Year (see related article).

Special recognition was given to our SWCD affiliate members who assisted the district by donating \$5,517 to the upcoming 2023 programs. Their donations help the District provide the many outreach programs that educate current and future landowners about the importance and techniques of using conservation practices on the land.

The Crawford Soil & Water Conservation District appreciates all of the individuals who have cooperated with the district over the last 77 years by realizing the importance of conservation practices on the land and recognizing that our current generation must continue to work to protect all of our natural resources for future generations!

High School Forestry Contest Held

High school students gathered Tuesday, September 20th at Camp Michael for the Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District's Forestry Contest. Five schools competed: Colonel Crawford, Wynford, Buckeye Central, Western Reserve and Lucas. The day began with educational sessions on general forestry and tree identification led by Katie Gerber, ODNR Division of Forestry, and timber cruising led by Tyler Pope and Mike Hoffman, Vocational Ag teachers.

Each student was individually tested in their knowledge of timber cruising, tree identification, general forestry, chain saw parts and troubleshooting.

The top school honors went to Colonel Crawford which had the highest average score. Second place was awarded to Wynford and third was Buckeye Central. The top four individuals were: 1st place tie Caleb Kueuele and Mason Kinney –Western Reserve, 3rd place Nate Eachus – Colonel Crawford, 4th place Nate Schiefer – Wynford.

Crawford SWCD Holds Election of Supervisors

The election of the board of supervisors began on August 2, 2022 and concluded at the district's annual meeting on August 31, 2022. Ben Stuckey and Eric Hanes were elected to the Crawford SWCD Board of Supervisors for a three-year-term commencing January 1, 2023.



Ben Stuckey was re-elected to his second term as a supervisor. He is a dairy farmer and lives in Holmes Township with his wife, Meredith, and their daughter, Maren. He volunteers and is active at his church. Ben's family farm practices no-till and minimum tillage, cover crops, planting green, waterways, low disturbance manure injection, and participation in the hay buffer program. Ben enjoys refining proven methods of conservation and finding new ways to care for the land that we all depend on and love. He believes serving on the Board of Supervisors is an opportunity to work with the Crawford SWCD staff and the landowners and producers of Crawford County to support the efforts of conservation throughout our community.

Eric and his wife Mackenzie reside in Chatfield Township near the family farm on which he is very active. Eric assists with the family excavating business as well as when help is needed to construct waterways, blind inlets and other conservation practices. On the farm, they practice minimum tillage, some no till and cover crops, as well as participate in H2Ohio. When Eric is not farming, he is a Farm/Crop Insurance Producer for CSI Insurance. Eric is also the current president of the Crawford County Farm Bureau. Eric stated he is always willing to learn about new conservation practices such as increasing soil health to help the family farm as well as other farms become more resilient and sustainable as agriculture continues to evolve.



Eric replaces Nathan Brause, who decided not to run for re-election after serving on the board for almost 20 years. Nathan has held the position of Chairman of the Crawford SWCD Board since 2017 and has served on multiple boards and committees over the years. The board and staff would like to thank Nathan for his dedication to the Crawford SWCD and his passion and efforts towards conservation of the land.

Manure Workshop

Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District recently partnered with The Ohio State University Crawford Extension office to hold a field day focused on manure application. Jennifer Yost, a research soil scientist from Temple, Texas, discussed her findings relating to the increases in microbial activity on fields receiving regular manure applications. Dr. Scott Shearer from The Ohio State University taught about soil compaction and best practices to limit the amount of harm to the soil when conducting field activities. Taylor Dill from OSU Extension discussed the keys to utilizing poultry litter. Jason Hartschuh and Eric Richer taught about applying manure based on manure analysis and the economical benefits to composting. J Star Equipment, Hord Family Farms, and Ag-Pro were also on hand to display some of the latest designs and functions of both dry and liquid application equipment.



We would like to thank our host sponsor, Reinhard-Scott Seeds, and our meal sponsors, Ag Credit and Burkhart Farm Center.