

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

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Crawford SWCD Annual Meeting to Be Held August 30th

All are welcome to join the Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District at the 78th Annual Meeting on **Wednesday, August 30th**. 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 \$16.00 and they must be reserved by August 18th.

The Crawford SWCD supervisor election will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 6:45 p.m. All owners and occupiers of land at least 18 years of age or older within Crawford County are eligible to vote for SWCD board supervisors. Eligible voters can register at the door in order to receive a ballot. Voters may vote in the Crawford SWCD supervisor election and leave without purchasing an annual meeting ticket.

This year's events at the meeting include the SWCD Supervisor Election 5:30 - 6:45 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. catered by Rock Run Catering and Mark's Homemade Ice Cream for dessert, SWCD Conservation Slide Show, and featured speaker Scott Shearer, Chair of the Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering at The Ohio State University. We are looking forward to his discussion on autonomous equipment and other automated ag technologies that farmers could be using in the future.

Plan now to attend by contacting the Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District office at 419-562-8280 extension #3.

Spring Conservation Tillage Survey Results

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

Soybeans were the crop most planted this spring at 44.2% (-5.1% over 2022) of the row crop acres, followed by corn at 35.9% (-2.1%) and wheat at 6.8% (-0.1%). The latest figures show that 57.9% of row crop acres were in conservation tillage - either no till or tillage that left >30% residue after planting. The survey revealed 81.7% (-4.2%) of soybeans planted with >30% residue while 20.6% (-2.9%) of the corn acres were planted in >30% residue.

Soybeans topped the no tillage category with 45.8% (+15.0%) of soybeans no tilled. No till corn acres decreased from 14.5% in 2022 to 10.8% in 2023.

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



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E.Q.I.P.

Are you interested in trying cover crops, developing a rotational grazing plan for your cattle farm, building a manure storage barn, or developing your woodland for future timber harvest? All these and more are available for funding assistance through the EQIP program! Sign ups are happening now and throughout the year, culminating in an expected cut-off date in November when applications for EQIP are ranked based on cost effectiveness and ability to address resource concerns on your property.

The EQIP applications are separated based on land use: cropland, pasture, farmstead, and forest. All these land uses may qualify for cost share through the program. If you are interested in signing up for the EQIP program, call the office at 419-562-8280 and talk to Kelby Fetter or Brad Van Voorhis. We can start the process, including site visits from us or the Ohio Service Forester, and make sure that when the application cut-off date rolls around, you are ready!



Calendar of Events

July 11th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting 5:30 PM
July 15th: H2Ohio - Last day to turn in crop year 2023 nutrient application records
July 16th-23rd: H2Ohio - Crawford County Fair - Visit our booth in the Old Merchants Building
August 3rd: Manure Science Review, Bryan, Ohio
August 8th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting 5:30 PM
August 9th: Crawford SWCD Elected Officials Tour
August 30th: Crawford SWCD Annual Meeting - Pickwick Place
September 4th: Crawford SWCD & NRCS Closed in Observance of Labor Day
September 12th: Crawford SWCD Board Meeting 5:30 PM

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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.
2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM.
SWCD Staff:
Mike Hall
Program Administrator
Diane Aubrey
Education Information Coordinator
Monica Finney
Administrative Assistant
Megan Brown
Technician
Brad Van Voorhis
District Conservationist
Derek Beal
H2Ohio/Ag Tech
Kelby Fetter
Soil Conservationist
NRCS Staff:
Ben Stuckey, Fiscal Agent
Eric Hanes, Secretary
Dave Paynter, Treasurer
Larry Leonhardt, Vice-Chair
Adam Spiegel, Chairperson
Mike Hall
SWCD Staff

H2Ohio Reminders

As wheat harvest is upon us, this is a reminder that if you have plans to implement the **Manure Incorporation** practice for H2Ohio.

- ❖ Notify the office prior to application.
- ❖ Location of field
- ❖ Date of application
- ❖ Rate of application
- ❖ Manure nutrient analysis
- ❖ 24-hour forecast for your location (noaa.gov)
- ❖ Surface applied manure must be incorporated within 24 hours
- ❖ Subsurface placed manure does not require additional tillage
- ❖ A cover crop or double crop must be planted by November 1st
 - ❖ This cover crop does not have to be overwintering unless you are working towards the overwintering cover crop payment as well.
 - No tillage to double crop stubble until March 15th the following spring.

Seeding an overwintering cover crop or cover crop mix, after the harvest of small grains, is a great opportunity to reduce erosion, increase soil tilth, and possibly grow a cover that fixes nitrogen. Please keep in mind the following requirements for the **Overwintering Cover Crop** practice.

- ❖ Must be overwintering, if a mix is used, at least 50% must be overwintering.
- ❖ Seeded by November 1st
- ❖ Turn in seed tag and bills for cover crop used
- ❖ Map of field where the cover is seeded
- ❖ Maintain cover crop until March 15th the following spring

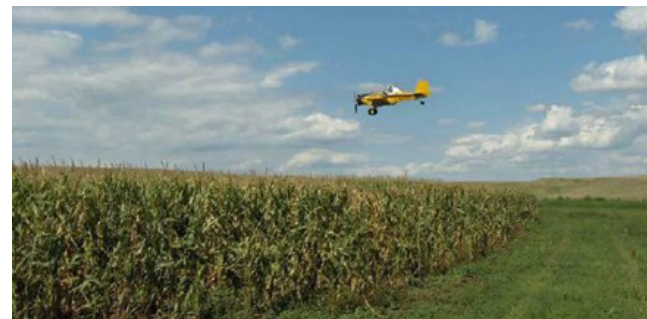
If you do not have manure but are enrolled in the small grains practice through H2Ohio, please keep in mind the following requirements for **Conservation Crop Rotation-Small Grains** practice.

- ❖ Maps of fields where the wheat was planted
- ❖ After the harvest of the wheat, a cover crop or double crop must be planted by November 1st.
 - ❖ This cover crop does not have to be overwintering unless you are working towards the overwintering cover crop payment as well
 - ❖ No tillage on double crop stubble until March 15th the following spring

If you have questions regarding these practices or any other practice that you may be enrolled in through the H2Ohio program, please stop in or contact the office!

New to H2Ohio

If you are interested in flying on or interseeding cover crops into standing corn or soybeans, or if you plant cover crops after wheat, there is a new bonus \$10/ac payment available to plant overwintering cover crops before September 30th. This bonus is in addition to the overwintering cover crop payment. This is a great way to help cover the cost of aerial application in standing crops and provides extra incentive to producers who do plant covers in the late summer. If this interests you, please contact the office to get signed up!



Election Notice

The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of Supervisors of the Crawford 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 Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District and are 18 years of age or older may vote for Supervisor.

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

1. At the SWCD office, 3111 State Route 98, Bucyrus, Ohio 44820, from 8/1/2023 until 8/30/2023 during normal business hours; or
2. At the SWCD Annual Meeting, which will take place at The Loft at Pickwick Place, 1875 N. Sandusky Ave, Bucyrus, Ohio 44820 on 8/30/2023 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. ; or
3. Voting absentee from 8/1/2023 until 8/30/2023, by requesting the ballot application and election ballot from the SWCD office at the following address of 3111 State Route 98, Bucyrus, Ohio 44820, by calling 419-562-8280, Ext 3, or email monica.finnery@oh.nacdnet.net. Absentee ballots must be received by the SWCD office by 4:00 p.m. on 8/30/2023.

Two Supervisors will be elected to a three-year term commencing January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2026.

2023 Crawford SWCD Supervisor Candidates



Braxton James would like to be on the board of supervisors because he is always willing to learn, especially about the agriculture industry. He would like to help others learn more about agriculture and be more active in the community. Braxton is an electrician apprentice for Studer Electric and sits on the St. John's UCC Board of Trustees when he is not working on the farm. He lives in Sandusky Township where the family farm is located. The conservation practices their farm has used over the years includes cover crops, no-till, crop rotation, strip-till and waterways. They participate in the H2Ohio Program, Manure Management Program and the Nutrient Management Program.



Larry Leonhardt is seeking his third term on the board of supervisors. "With farming in the local community, I strive to keep our land healthy. Being on the SWCD board currently, I enjoy the different techniques and programs our local office has to offer. I can continue building that partnership with other community members to keep our land and trees healthy for years to come". Larry is a full time grain and hay farmer with a small cattle operation. His conservation practices include utilizing cover crops, no-till crop rotation, fertilizer management with manure application practices and filter strips. Larry is active in the farming community and lives in Liberty Township. He is married to Jen and they have 3 children and 1 grandchild.

Summer Manure Management and CNMP Development

The conclusion of wheat harvest brings a prime opportunity to clean out livestock facilities. Special considerations should be taken to ensure the manure that is spread, stays on the field. A light tillage pass prior to liquid applications can help fill in the cracks so that the manure does not go straight for the tile lines and is absorbed by the soil. Paying attention to the forecast is imperative to make sure there are no chances of rain within at least 24 hours of application is recommended to reduce runoff.

A Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) can be used to help outline a plan for managing manure applications. Soil tests, crop rotation, manure analysis, and yield goals are all taken into consideration to develop a five-year plan to ensure the manure will be used most effectively and efficiently to maximize soil health and crop potential. Having a written plan in place can also be used as a first line of defense if there were to be a pollution complaint. A plan can be written by the Crawford SWCD office in as little as a few weeks with very little work on the producer's part. Contact the office today if you are interested in having a plan developed!

