

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

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Crawford SWCD Announces New Board Member

The Crawford SWCD Board of Supervisors and staff are excited to welcome Jenna Delarber-Brause to the Crawford SWCD Board of Supervisors for a three-year term commencing on January 1, 2026. Jenna and her husband, Alex Brause, live near the family farm in Liberty Township. The farm focuses on soil health, sustainable agriculture practices, and forestry management. Jenna is an attorney with the Bucyrus law firm of Sears, Pry, Griebing and McBride, LLC, practicing in the areas of real estate, business formations and transactions, estate planning, and probate law. She also manages a few beehives and helps Alex with his maple syrup operation. In addition, Jenna serves as a board member for the local support group of Together We Hurt Together We Heal. When asked why she wanted to be on the board of supervisors, she replied, "I look forward to providing a unique perspective to the board that will allow this organization to further its goals and provide more benefits to the local community."



Jenna takes the place of Ben Stuckey who did not run for re-election after serving on the board for 6 years. Ben has held various positions on the Crawford SWCD Board and has served on multiple committees over the years. The board and staff would like to thank Ben for his dedication to the Crawford SWCD and his passion and efforts towards conservation of the land.

Crawford Soil & Water Conservation District board meetings are held at 8:00 a.m. on the second Friday of the month at the district office located at 3111 State Route 98, Bucyrus, Ohio and are open to the public.



Upcoming Events

Farmland Preservation and Conservation Easement Meeting

Learn the benefits of conserving your land for future farming generations.
Thursday, January 29, 2026 | 6:00-7:30pm
Bucyrus Community Library, Community Room
Reserve your spot before January 27, 2026

Winter Manure Meeting

Please join us for an evening of livestock manure related topics and discussion.
Thursday, February 19, 2026 | 5:30-8:30pm
Whetstone Township Hall
Reserve your spot before February 9, 2026

Calendar of Events

January 1: New Years Day – Office Closed
January 9: SWCD Board Meeting 8:00 AM
January 19: Martin Luther King Day – Office Closed
January 29: Conservation Easements Meeting, Bucyrus Library, 6:00-7:30 PM
February 13: SWCD Board Meeting 8:00 AM
February 16: Presidents Day – Office Closed
February 19: Winter Manure Meeting, Whetstone Twp. Hall 5:30-8:30 PM
March 4: OSU Woodland, Water & Wildlife Conference, Mid-Ohio Conference Center, Mansfield 8 AM-4 PM
March 8: Daylight Savings Time begins
March 10-11: Conservation Tillage Technology Conference, Ada, OH
March 13: SWCD Board Meeting 8:00 AM

Ag News & Views is published free of charge by the Crawford Soil and Water Conservation District with contributions by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
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 AM – 4:00 PM
Board Meeting Dates: (Public Welcome)
2nd Friday of each month at 8:00 AM






Board of Supervisors:
Larry Leonhardt
Eric Hanes
Braxton James
Dave Paynter
Jenna Delarber-Brause

SWCD Staff:
Mike Hall
Monica Finney
Financial Coordinator
Megan Brown
Technician
Derek Beal
H2Ohio/Ag Tech
Hannah Ziegler
Nutrient Management Technician
Allison Brause
Education/Outreach Specialist

NRCS Staff:
Ella Weaver
Soil Conservationist

Tips for Stocking a Farm Pond with Fish

Managing farm ponds can be tricky for many of us. Whether you are trying to manage weed growth, fish growth or both can be a tall task for many owners. Here are some simple tips for successful fish stocking.

-  **Time of Year** – Spring and early fall are the best times to add fingerlings to your pond, avoid hot summer days when oxygen levels may be depleted.
-  **Determine What Fish are Needed** – What fish does the pond need? Is the pond in need of more predator species like Largemouth Bass or are prey species like Bluegill lacking? A healthy prey-to-predator ratio is 3:1 or 3 prey fish for every 1 predator fish. A helpful rule of thumb is to achieve 100 prey species and 30 predator species per acre of pond.
-  **Purchase Quality Fish** – Buy fish from a reputable source to avoid introducing diseases to your existing fish population. Healthy fish will survive and thrive.
-  **Purchase Forage Fish** – Released fingerlings provide easy targets for existing pond predators. Releasing forage minnows immediately before fingerlings allows existing predators to gorge on the minnows and not your preferred fingerling stock. Release fingerlings in an area with protective cover like weeds, rocks or brush to hide in.
-  **Acclimate Fingerling Fish** – Float fingerling bag in pond or add pond water to bag a little at a time to reduce fingerling shock. Avoid hot sun cooking bagged fish.

Following these simple tips can lead to a more successful restocking and can provide many years of future fishing memories.

Fall Tillage Survey Results

The Crawford SWCD completed their annual fall cropland tillage survey for Crawford County. For this survey, a predetermined route is driven throughout the county recording data from 578 points. At these known points along the route, crop and tillage information is recorded. Data collected at each point is compiled and compared to previous years to determine trends in fall tillage practices. This survey has been completed using the same points/fields since 1987, with the exception of slight changes due to construction of US 30.

This fall’s survey showed a 13% increase in no-till and minimum tillage practices, commonly referred to as conservation tillage. Conservation tillage leaves 30% or more of the previous crop residue on the surface. This residue acts as armor for the soil, protecting it from erosion over the winter months. This year’s survey revealed 81% of corn stubble fields in conservation tillage followed by 78% of soybean stubble fields. Growing crops (hay, CRP or growing wheat) accounted for 9% of the points or roughly 20,400 acres, a decrease of 6% from last year.








Conservation tillage in corn stubble field. Conservation tillage increased 13% this fall compared to the previous fall.

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

2026 CRAWFORD SWCD TREE SALE

Return this form to the Crawford SWCD office with your payment. Limited supply, so be sure to get your order in early! Orders will be available for pick up at the office Thursday, April 23rd 7:30-6PM and Friday, April 24th 7:30-4PM. There will be no Wednesday pick up this year. We do not deliver or mail packets. Plant descriptions and additional information is available at www.crawfordswcd.org, or at the SWCD office, 3111 State Route 98, Bucyrus, Ohio 44820. Phone: (419) 562-8280 ext. 3.

			PRICE PER PACK	NUMBER OF PACKS	TOTAL (\$)
EVERGREENS (10/PACK) 	Norway Spruce (<i>Picea abies</i>)	(2-1), 8-12"	\$20.00		
	Arborvitae (<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>)	(2-2), 6-12"	\$20.00		
	White Pine (<i>Pinus strobus</i>)	(2-2), 12-20"	\$20.00		
	Douglas Fir (<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii glauca</i>)	(2-0), 12-18"	\$20.00		
HARDWOODS (10/PACK) 	Ohio Buckeye (<i>Aesculus glabra</i>)	(2-0), 12-18"	\$20.00		
	Black Maple (<i>Acer nigrum</i>)	(1-0, 2-0), 12-18"	\$20.00		
	Scarlet Oak (<i>Quercus coccinea</i>)	(1-0), 12-18"	\$15.00		
	Black Walnut (<i>Juglans Nigra</i>)	(2-0), 12-18"	\$15.00		
	Tulip Poplar (<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>)	(2-0), 12-18"	\$15.00		
SMALL TREES / SHRUBS (5/PACK) 	American Plum (<i>Prunus americana</i>)	(1-0), 12-18"	\$10.00		
	Highbush Cranberry (<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>)	(1-0), 12-18"	\$10.00		
	Sassafras (<i>Sassafras albidum</i>)	(1-0), 12-18"	\$10.00		
	Roselow Sargent Crabapple (<i>Malus sargentii 'Roselow'</i>)	(2-0), 12-18"	\$10.00		
	Ninebark (<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>)	(1-0), 12-18"	\$10.00		
LARGER STOCK (2/PACK) 	White Oak (<i>Quercus alba</i>)	3-4'	\$15.00		
	Black Gum (<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>)	3-4'	\$10.00		
	Persimmon (<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>)	3-4'	\$10.00		
	Common Apple (<i>Malus domestica</i>)	3-4'	\$10.00		
	Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>)	3-4'	\$10.00		
	Silky Dogwood (<i>Cornus amomum</i>)	3-4'	\$10.00		
	Sugar Maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>)	3-4'	\$10.00		
	American Chestnut (<i>Castanea dentata</i>)	(1-0), 18-24"	\$10.00		
GARDEN (5/PACK) 	Red Raspberry (<i>Rubus idaeus</i>)	(1-0), 12-18"	\$10.00		
	Asparagus - Mary Washington	Bare Root	\$5.00		

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