

The Warren Report



Warren County
Soil & Water
Conservation District

ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION Stories and Sounds of Bluegrass

The Annual Meeting brings together the residents and landowners of Warren County to celebrate the stewardship and conservation of our natural resources. This year's event at Valley Vineyards will focus on the stories and sounds of bluegrass and the community's connection to the land. There will be excellent music, good food, and great community. We are excited to welcome the bluegrass band, Jake Speed and the Freddies, in providing entertainment and music for the evening. Visit our website to hear samples of their music. We also want to give a big thanks to Valley Vineyards for allowing us to hold our meeting at their beautiful space in Morrow.

This year's summer contests include Hottest Day Contest, Coloring Contest, and Biggest Tree Contest (2017 Tree: American Beech). All winners will be recognized during the program. We will also announce our Teacher of the Year, Cooperator of the Year, and Conservationist of the Year during the meeting. And don't forget about our excellent door prizes! We encourage you to visit the more than 20 local business that have made donations to this year's takeaways. This year we will also be collecting non-perishable food items for local food banks during the event (see more information on page 3).

The voting begins at 5pm, dinner and grilling begins at 6pm, and our program will start at 7pm. If you would like to share a meal with us, the cost will be \$19.95. Please visit our website to purchase a meal and save your seat! You will choose your entree now, and pay online with Pay Pal. If you don't want a meal, attending the event and election is free. However, we cannot guarantee a seat without a dinner purchase. We hope that you will join us this year!

Purchase your dinner online
www.warrenswcd.com/annual-meeting.html
or call us for assistance at 513-695-1337

Jake Speed and the Freddies



Inside This Issue

Board of Supervisors Candidates - page 2

Election Legal Notice - page 2

Donor Thank You - page 3

Feds Feed Families - page 3

Cover Crops - page 3

Upcoming Events in 2017

Deerfield Township Touch-A-Truck

Saturday, September 9
Deerfield Towne Center
Mason, Ohio

Mason Heritage Festival

Saturday, September 16
Mason Municipal Campus
Mason, Ohio

EcOhio Native Plant Sale

Saturday, September 23
EcOhio Farm and Wetland
Lebanon, Ohio

Backyard Conservation Workshop

Tuesday, October 3
Location TBD

For more information about upcoming events or important dates, please visit our website or sign up for our email newsletter on the homepage.

For more information and helpful tips on what you can do to protect our local water and soil resources, please visit our website and conservation blog at:

warrenswcd.com



Roy Miller. Roy Miller and F & R Miller Farms were recognized as Warren SWCD's 2012 Conservation Farmers of the Year. Roy, who graduated from O.S.U. in 1987, his late father Fred and mother Ruth, have partnered with the District on many conservation practices in the past, including tile drainage, grassed waterways, pond management, animal waste storage and nutrient management. The Millers continue to operate their farm with a good conservation ethic to this day, employing no-till on much of their acreage, and cover crops. The Miller farm operation encompasses over 1000 acres, with grain, hay, pasture, beef and hogs in and around Clearcreek Township. Roy and his wife Lorena have five sons. Throughout the years they have been very involved in many 4-H activities and still raise 4-H animals to this day. Roy asks for your vote for the 2017 annual election to serve on the Board of Supervisors to aide in the district's conservation activities.



John Tkatschenko. John Tkatschenko was born in Heidenau, Germany 40 miles south of Hamburg and saw the Statue of Liberty in December 1950. After an introduction to the plains of South Dakota on a beef ranch his family moved to Salem, Ohio where they lived on a 60 acre general agriculture farm. John earned a B.A. from O.S.U. in Russian, and then served in the U.S. Army as battalion clerk. He returned to O.S.U. to earn an M.S. in Soil Classification and Land Use. He then began to work as a Soil Conservationist in Seneca and Huron Counties. In March 1981 he became the District Conservationist for Warren County and served until 2008. During these 27 years he and the office staff rated 60,000 acres of cropland for the 1985 Food Security Program; administered Ohio's largest fly-on cover crop program of 3,500 acres; surveyed, designed, and applied hundreds of waterways, ponds, structures, WASCOS, and many other conservation practices; and met the majority of Warren County's farm owners and operators. John currently resides on a 10 acre farmette with his wife Patty, 3 cows, a handful of chickens, 20+ fruit trees, and a bramble fruit. He has found it to be a pleasure working with Warren County's best; its farmers!



Dan Koopmans. Dan Koopmans and his wife, Vonda, are owners and operators of Mohrfield Farms, LLC located in Pleasant Plain. They farm a little over 1,000 acres of crops consisting of corn, beans, wheat and hay. Dan also manages a Hay Packaging Company that produces packaged hay products for the pet food industry. The company employs 12 people and produces products that are used throughout the U.S. and Canada, as well as some European countries. Dan grew up a cheese head in southern Wisconsin, but has been a Warren County resident for the past 22 years. Dan has served on the Warren County Farm Bureau board and the Ohio Holstein Association board and served on several committees for National Holstein Association, World Dairy Expo. Dan and his wife are members of the St. Mark's Lutheran Church. They have a son, Alex, who will be a freshman at The Ohio State University this fall.

Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission Election Legal Notice

The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of Supervisors of the Warren County 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 Warren County 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.

There are three ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot: (1) at the SWCD annual meeting/election event, which will take place August 23, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. at Valley Vineyards, 2276 E US Hwy 22 & 3 Morrow, OH 45152; (2) at the SWCD office until 3:30 p.m. on August 23,

2017; or (3) vote absentee by requesting the proper absentee request forms from the SWCD office at the following address:

Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District
320 East Silver St.
Lebanon, Ohio 45036
513-695-1337

Two(2) Supervisors will be elected. Nominees are:

1. Roy Miller
2. John Tkatschenko
3. Dan Koopmans

Rain Barrel Workshop, June 2017



THANK YOU TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING DONORS

We encourage you to visit these wonderful businesses in our community!



Winans Chocolates & Coffees

Lebanon Feed Store

Clarksville Ag Service

McHenry Equipment Co

Lebanon Electric Motor

FEDS FEED FAMILIES

Donate non-perishable food items

We are collecting non-perishable food items on behalf of the Natural Resources Conservation Service from now until August 31. Please bring your non-perishable food items to our office during regular business hours at 320 E. Silver Street in Lebanon. We will also be collecting food items at the upcoming Annual Meeting on August 23. There will be a box to place your food items during the event at Valley Vineyards.



Feds Feed Families was created to help food banks and pantries stay stocked during summer months when they traditionally see a decrease in donations and an increase in need. The most desired items include: canned or dry beans; peanut butter; canned vegetables; grains; cereal; canned tuna, salmon, or chicken, healthy snacks, canned fruits, and 100% juice. By donating food, you're helping to get meals to children, seniors, and families in our area who need them.

COVER CROPS

Fly-over seeding available

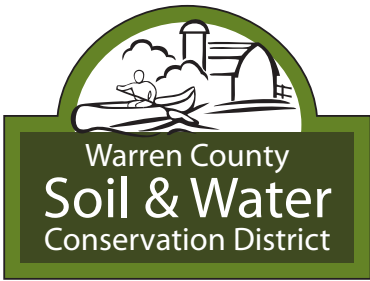
This year we are offering an aerial seeding of cover crop seeds for farm fields in Warren County. Cover crops are fundamental, sustainable tools used to manage soil erosion and nutrient runoff while also providing benefit to soil structure. Conservation practices such as this result in cleaner water in the Little Miami and Ohio Rivers. The cost to the farmer is calculated by seed type, number of acres, and lbs used. Contact our office at 513-695-1337 for questions about aerial seeding, or to sign-up for this year's seeding options. We are also open to assisting with alternative cover crop seeding options.



You will need to set-up a meeting with our field technician to map your field and discuss logistics. We take pride in assisting property owners with cover crops and hope you will consider taking advantage of this conservation practice.

Warren County Fair, July 2017





NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CINCINNATI, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 4403

320 E. Silver St.
Lebanon, OH 45036

USDA/SWCD are Equal
Opportunity Providers and
Employers.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Bruce Goodwin
Roy Miller
Samantha Steiner
John Tkatschenko

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISORS

Marian Chace
Mark Steiner
Vince Uetrecht

DISTRICT STAFF

Caitlin Botschner
Molly Conley
Marta Farrell
Don Norman
Melissa Proffitt
Kara Schirmer
Shaun Stephens
Dawn Stiles
Jeff Thomas

**NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION SERVICE**

Layne Garringer
John Lafferty
Beth Lessick

BACKYARD CONSERVATION

When completing outdoor chores it's easy to forget we all have complex mini-ecosystems in our yards. Each decision we make on how to care for our home and yards has a direct impact on the health of our soil and water.

On Tuesday, October 3 at 6:00pm residents of Warren County are invited to participate in a backyard conservation workshop that will allow them to carry-out one of three different conservation practices at their home. Practices include gardening/composting, installing a rain barrel, or installing a bat house. Keep an eye on our website under the Events tab for more information and to RSVP.

Our mission is to promote the wise stewardship of our natural resources through cooperative partnerships, educational programs and technical assistance in land and water management.