

The Warren Report



Warren County
Soil & Water
Conservation District

ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION

August 22, 2018

Join us for an evening at Valley Vineyards with great food, excellent company, and an up close look at an amazing Ohio fish! We will be joined by The WAVE Foundation's Freshwater Cart, featuring live Lake Sturgeon. The Freshwater Cart is a new program in 2018 where people can learn about the importance of freshwater conservation through the interaction with two native species! The Lake Sturgeon was once in the Ohio River, but is now locally extinct, and the Box Turtle is currently vulnerable to extinction. This program allows people to learn about these prehistoric animals, how they can help endangered animals in their area, and how they can help save their local waterways. This truly is a one-of-a-kind program!

This year's summer contests include Hottest Day Contest, Coloring Contest and Biggest Tree Contest (2018 Tree: Eastern Redcedar). All winners will be recognized during the program. Throughout the evening, attendees are encouraged to check out the table of this year's door prizes. All door prizes are donated by generous businesses in Warren County who are friends of conservation. We encourage you to visit these wonderful businesses in our community.

Voting begins at 5pm, dinner is at 6pm and our program will start at 7pm. Voting in the election is free. To stay and participate in the dinner and entertainment segment of the annual meeting, tickets can be pre-purchased until **August 17th** at a cost of \$20.00 per person. We hope that you will join us this year!

RSVP Online

www.warrenswcd.com/annual-meeting.html

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Annual Meeting Details

Date: Wednesday, August 22

Location: Valley Vineyards, 2276 E. US 22
& 3 Morrow, Ohio 45152

Voting: 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
(\$20.00 per meal, pre-purchase tickets at
www.warrenswcd.com)

Program: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Menu: Private cookout—steak or salmon,
salad, green beans or corn on the cob,
baked potato, fresh bread, dessert.

VALLEY
VINEYARDS
WINERY

2018 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CANDIDATES



David Brausch. David, along with his five siblings and parents, settled in Warren County Ohio back in 1971. Although his Dad did not farm their 80 acres, the family (girls included) learned the value of hard work in hay and straw fields across the county. Hauling hay and straw to horse farms helped put the six kids through college. By the time David reached high school, he realized he had a passion for agriculture. That passion led him to The Ohio State University where he earned a BA in Agricultural Systems Management. After graduation in 1994 he returned home to start building his farming business. David currently farms 1400 acres, with the support of his wife Stephanie and their two boys MJ who is 6 and Evan who is 5. In an effort to build organic matter in his clay soils, David started composting about ten years ago. The compost provides most of his potash and phosphorus. It also promotes water infiltration and water retention. Recently David has been involved with Howry Brothers Seed and Chemical retailing agricultural inputs. Earlier this year, he earned his certified crop advisor license. David has served on the Ohio Corn and Wheat grower's board and is a member of the Ohio Farm Bureau. David believes organic matter is the backbone of soil health. But even with his composting efforts, he will tell you he has a long way to go in regards to being a conservationist. Two things he will be trying to implement on his own acres would be decreased tillage and more utilization of cover crops. He feels water quality and soil conservation will continue to be under the microscope in Ohio for the foreseeable future. All sectors, especially agriculture, will be asked (if not mandated) to do more to protect water quality and conserve soil, according to David. His goal if elected to the board, would be to further educate himself with the issues and in turn be able to help facilitate conservation practices across all business sectors in the county.

Bruce Goodwin. Bruce, current Fiscal Officer for the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District believes that "Soil is Life." The Goodwin Family can trace their Harlan Township farming roots all the way back to the 1820's when their family came from West Virginia. Bruce is a graduate of Wilmington College, has three daughters and 5 grandsons. He and his wife, Carole, farm 2400 acres near Pleasant Plain as the Goodwin Farms Grain and Beef Operation. Farming's connection to soil has prompted Bruce to protect the soil resource base and water quality by installing installed waterways, WASCOD's, manure storage and heavy use pads for livestock. He has been no-tilling since 1984 and uses cover crops when at all possible. Bruce has been a Pioneer Hi-Bred Seed Sales Representative since 1984 and a council member for the Village of Pleasant Plain for over 30 years.



When asked about his work on the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation Board, Bruce responds that, "It is about giving back to the community, keeping water clean and soil on the ground." He believes that there is a disconnect between today's youth and our natural resources. He believes the solution is "kids need to turn off the screens and get outside." He also wants to re-connect residents back to soil. Bruce Goodwin was elected to the Board in 1995 and hopes for re-election so that he can continue to serve the community while promoting the wise use of Warren County's natural resources.



Samantha Steiner. Samantha is a lifelong resident of Warren County. She is a graduate of Fenwick High School and attended The Ohio State University where she received her B.S. in Animal Sciences and minored in Ag Business.

She is the owner of Dogwood Farm, where she raises and sells beef, chickens, goats, Thanksgiving turkeys, fresh eggs, and grows produce.

Samantha is a member of Farm Bureau and an advisor of the West Turtlecreek Hustlers 4-H Club. Over the past 6 years, she has served as chairman of WCSWCD, been an Area 4 Director, and served on committees at the state level for the OFSWCD.

THANK YOU TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING DONORS

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

Lebanon Feed Store



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 the Warren County 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.

There are three ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot:
 (1) at the SWCD annual meeting/election event, which will take place on August 22, 2018 at 5:00 pm until 6:30 pm at Valley Vineyards, 2276 E US Hwy 22 & 3 Morrow, OH 45152
 (2) at the SWCD office until 3:00 p.m. on August 21, 2018
 (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

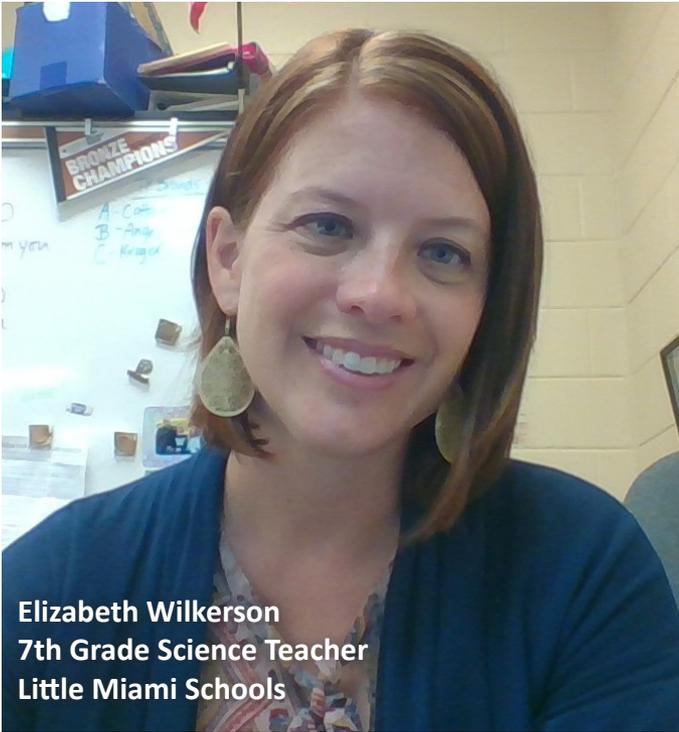
Two(2) Supervisors will be elected to a three year term.
 Nominees are:

1. David Brausch
2. Bruce Goodwin
3. Samantha Steiner

Kings High School Envirothon Team, 2018



WARREN COUNTY SWCD EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



Elizabeth Wilkerson
7th Grade Science Teacher
Little Miami Schools

Mrs. Wilkerson attended BGSU and received a Bachelor's of Science in Education and Masters in Curriculum and Instruction. In graduate school, she worked for and helped develop the curriculum for a program called Project EXCITE geared toward teaching middle school students about environmental health issues.

She grew up in Little Miami and graduated from LM, and has been teaching 7th grade science at LMJH for 15 years. For several years now she has been integrating stream quality monitoring trips through the Soil and Water Conservation district with her students. Prior to the first stream visit, she developed a variety of learning stations to help students understand how and why we collect macroinvertebrate data. Stations also included information on what types of water pollution there are, and which types of pollution are the biggest problem in our local Little Miami River Watershed.

Mrs. Wilkerson began a Nature Club this year to let students further explore our local stream and wildlife, and brought in guest speakers from the ODA to teach students about invasive species like the Asian Longhorn Beetle and how to use leaves to identify the trees that these beetles are found in. She is an inspiration to the future conservationists of Warren County!

WARREN COUNTY SWCD COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR

White Oak Farm is a 200 year old farm in Warren County with a rich history. Owned by Dick and Darlene Welling, the farm is worked cooperatively with Steve Edwards and Matt Tomaszewski. White Oak Farm operates using many conservation practices such as cover crops, bed shaping, grass fed beef with rotational grazing, and conversion of corn/soybean fields into organic vegetable farming. This beautiful farm also boasts 11 beehives which produce approximately 300 lbs of honey annually.

Besides using conservation practices in farm production, the property also utilizes solar panels and a windmill to generate sustainable electric power. White Oak Farm is a commendable example of how conservation practices can be successfully implemented on a multi-use farm.



Dick Welling, Steve Edwards, Matt Tomaszewski
White Oak Farm

Water Quality Monitoring on Little Miami River, June 2018



2018 SUMMER INTERNS



Emilie Fisher
Denison University

Hello! My name is Emilie Fisher and I am finishing my second year as a Summer Intern here at Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District. At the end of August, I will be returning to Denison University for my Junior Year where I am a double-major in Environmental Studies and Communication. When I am not busy with academic work and being active with my sorority and student-athlete organizations, you can find me on the softball field for the Big Red.

I am grateful for the vast amount of opportunities that WCSWCD has given me. From stream quality monitoring, basin and outfall inspections, to educational outreach, I am appreciative of the many experiences that I have been exposed to. During my time here at WCSWCD, I have applied office and field experiences into educational opportunities helping me on my path of earning a double-major. In turn, I have been able to relate my academic studies to help with the everyday responsibilities of this office that ultimately serves the citizens of Warren County.



Macenzie Reed
Wittenberg University

Hello, my name is Macenzie Reed, I grew up in Cincinnati and I just recently graduated from Wittenberg University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science with a focus in Conservation Biology. During my four years at Wittenberg I played college field hockey and was given the opportunity to study abroad for four months in Costa Rica. I would like to thank Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District for the opportunity to have interned with them this summer; I have gained a lot of knowledge and hands on experiences. I hope to use the skills I learned while I am pursuing my graduate degree in Environmental Science from Miami University, in the fall.

My favorite memory from my internship would have to be when the other intern, Emilie and I had to try and hide from deer that were trying to investigate us while we tried to do a basin inspection.

JF Burns Rain Garden Dedication, May 2018





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CONSERVATION SERVICE**

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John Lafferty
Beth Lessick

WANT TO GO PAPERLESS?

Sign up for our email newsletter by clicking the link on the bottom of the homepage of our website:

warrenswcd.com

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE
ANNUAL MEETING!**

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Ohio 45152

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.