

2018 Annual Report

Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District

110 Island Road, Suite D, Circleville, Ohio 43113 | 740-477-1693 | www.pickawayswcd.org

Our Vision and Mission

We are a professional team leading the community in the conservation of our natural resources.

Our mission is to encourage and assist the people of Pickaway County in applying conservation practices, which conserve, preserve, and protect our natural resources for present and future generations.

The Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District was organized under Ohio law on December 9, 1944. On April 14, 1945, the district was approved by referendum vote of the people and became the 32nd Soil and Water Conservation District in Ohio.

The Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District, a political subdivision of the State of Ohio, is managed by five supervisors, who are elected by Pickaway County landowners. Supervisors serve without pay and are responsible for developing the local programs, obtaining and disbursing funds, and setting priorities. They also have the authority to hire district staff and to oversee all district activities.

All District programs are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, political beliefs, marital or familial status, or handicap.

2018 Board of Supervisors

Matt Anderson, Chairman

Clyde Ohnewehr, Vice-Chairman

Barbara Martindale, Secretary

Steve Hawkins, Treasurer

Bill Black, Member/Fiscal Agent

NRCS Staff

Justin Armintrout, District Conservationist

Lindsey Shaffer, Civil Engineering Technician

Phil Roe, Agriculture Conservation Experienced Service Enrollee

Eliezer Ortiz-Barbosa, Soil Conservationist

Pickaway SWCD Staff

Tawn Seimer, District Administrator

Cheyenne Jepsen, District Technician

Zachary Smith, District Technician

Rob Skidmore, District Technician

Aaron Mosley, District Tech (left March 2018)

Arista Hartzler, District Tech (left May 2018)

Katerina Sharp, Education/Outreach Coordinator

Montana Seidel, Education/Outreach Coordinator (left August 2018)

Pheasants/Quail Forever Staff

Hannah Mullally, Ohio Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist

Will Newman, OFB Wildlife Biologist (left 2018)

Thank You!

The Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors would like to thank County Commissioners Harold Henson, Brian S. Stewart, and Jay Wippel for their continued support and dedication to our local conservation efforts. Their financial support at the county level draws matching funds from the state, enabling the SWCD to provide conservation assistance, information, and education to all Pickaway County residents.

The Board would also like to thank the Governor and the Legislature of the State of Ohio for their continued acknowledgement and support of the conservation of our natural resources.

Pickaway SWCD Operating Fund 2018

Pickaway SWCD operates on funding provided by the Pickaway County Commissioners and matching funds from the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil and Water Resources.

- Pickaway County Commissioners \$184,000
- State Matching Funds \$122,839

2018 Resource Concerns

1. Soil Erosion
2. Water Quality Degradation
3. Soil Quality Degradation
4. Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife

District Initiatives:

1. Agricultural Conservation and Water Quality

- No-till drill rentals: 14 customers for 176.9 total acres
- Grassed waterways: Built 8 waterways across 13.5 acres of land with 16 stabilization structures
- Conservation plans (EQIP, CRP, CSP): 63
- Pollution abatement projects reviewed: 5
- Signed up 2 new Cooperators

2. Forestry and Wildlife Conservation

- Tree Sale: sold 3,666 seedlings to 76 customers

3. Resource Conservation

- Urban and rural site evaluation for drainage: 44
- Pond assistance: 6

4. Education and Public Information

- Published quarterly newsletters (all four were emailed, two were mailed)
- Education programs: 49 programs, 3,715 students
 - Spring 2018: 21 programs (usually multiple classes), 1,973 students
 - Fall 2018: 28 program, 1,742 students (may have seen some students multiple times)
- Created and distributed brochures for PSWCD, Education & Outreach Programs, Affiliate Memberships, and Tree & Fish Sales
- Redesign and update resource books: Pond Management, Land Ownership, Erosion Control
- Manage District Facebook page
- Manage District website and Area 5 Envirothon website
- NACD Poster Contest: 110 Pickaway County students participated
- \$500 college scholarships were given to 3 graduating high school students
- Signed up 15 affiliate members
- Sponsored 2 4-H Natural Resource project awards at the Pickaway County Fair
- Helped with the Area 5 and Ohio Envirothon contests
- Fish Sale – sold 18,846 fingerlings to 37 customers
- Worked with Annie’s Project in conjunction with Pickaway County Farm Bureau
- Maintained a presence on the FFA Advisory Committee
- Other Education/Outreach events assisted with: Friday in the Park, Darby Creek Field Day, District 8 Science Fair Judging

5. Administrative Policy

- Held 12 board of supervisor meetings
- 5 staff attended total of 37 online and in class trainings, workshops, etc.
- Supervisors attended 3 trainings
- Held the 74th Annual Meeting and Banquet with 57 guests

2018 Affiliate Members

Corporate Members

The Savings Bank
Honeyrun Farms
C. Randall & Cindy Metzger
Vickers Farms
Pickaway Farms - Jay & Marci Wippel
Gregg & Teresa Mayberry

Steward of the Land

Hartsock Ag
John & Curtis Drummond
Clyde & Leslie Ohnewehr
Don Shaw

Soil and Water Protector

Wiseheart Farms
Ashley Hansen
Doug & Vicki Kohli
Anita Kohn

Student Member

Shelby Pennington