



2019 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.

Thank You!

The Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors would like to thank Pickaway 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 2019

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 \$139,958

2019 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: 11 customers for 195.1 total acres
- Grassed waterways: Completed 6 waterways and have 3 in progress
- New Conservation plan (EQIP, CRP, CSP) Contracts: 35
- Pollution abatement projects reviewed: 1 actual incident

2. Forestry and Wildlife Conservation

- Tree Sale: sold 4,808 seedlings to 74 customers
- Held a mid-contact management plug sale to fulfill requirements for CRP contracts

3. Resource Conservation

- Urban and rural site evaluation for drainage: 36
- Pond evaluations/assistance: 6
- Co-hosted a pond clinic with Hocking SWCD

4. Education and Public Information

- Published quarterly newsletters
 - Newsletters were emailed in January, April, July and October
 - Newsletters were mailed in January and July
- Education programs:
 - Spring 2019: 115 class programs, 2566 students
 - Fall 2019: 101 class programs, 2062 students
- Created/managed brochures, Facebook page and website for the District
- NACD Poster Contest: 119 Pickaway County students participated
- \$500 college scholarships were given to 3 graduating high school students
- Signed up 23 affiliate members
- Sponsored 2 4-H Natural Resource project awards at the Pickaway County Fair and sponsored 1 member to attend Ohio Forestry Camp
- Helped with the Area 5 and Ohio Envirothon contests
 - Pickaway County had 3 teams compete at the Area 5 Envirothon

- Fish Sale: sold 8,184 fingerlings to 22 customers
- Maintained a presence on the FFA Advisory and Pickaway WORKS committees
- Co-hosted Ag Day with Pickaway County Farm Bureau for all 4th and 5th grade students
 - Approx. 1500 students + 165 FFA members + 5 community volunteers
- Hosted a 3-day Experience Earth Day Camp for 30 campers at Mary Virginia Crites Hannan Park
- Other Education/Outreach events: Pickaway County Fair, Friday in the Park, Darby Creek Field Day, District 8 Science Fair Judging, Canal Days, FFA Career Development Events Judge, 4-H Natural Resource Projects Judge

5. Administrative Policy

- Held 12 board of supervisor meetings
- 7 staff attended a total of 62 online and in class trainings, workshops, etc.
- Supervisors attended 2 trainings
- Held the 75th Annual Meeting and Banquet with 101 guests at the Lightning Tree Barn

2019 Affiliate Members

Corporate Members

The Savings Bank
 Pickaway County Farm Bureau
 Pickaway County Banking Center
 Richard & Judy Clifton
 Honeyrun Farms
 C. Randall & Cindy Metzger
 Ruff Farms
 Vickers Farm

Steward of the Land

Hartsock Ag
 John & Curtis Drummond
 Wiseheart Farms
 John & Susie Dunlap
 Arnold & Diana Gabriel
 Gregg & Teresa Mayberry
 Clyde & Leslie Ohnewehr
 Don Shaw

Soil and Water Protector

Pickaway County Visitors Bureau
 Laurina Harper
 Doug & Vicki Kohli
 Paul Marshall
 Todd Millard
 Jane M. Poulson
 James Trimmer

2019 Board of Supervisors

Clyde Ohnewehr, Chairman
 Matt Anderson, Vice-Chairman
 Barbara Martindale, Secretary
 Bill Black, Treasurer/Fiscal Agent
 Steve Hawkins, Member

NRCS Staff

Justin Armintrout, District Conservationist
 Lindsey Shaffer, Civil Engineering Technician
 Phil Roe, Ag. Con. Experienced Service Enrollee
 Eliezer Ortiz-Barbosa, Soil Conservationist

Pickaway SWCD Staff

Tawn Seimer, District Administrator
 Cheyenne Jepsen, Technician (left Sep. 2019)
 Zachary Smith, Technician (left Aug. 2019)
 Rob Skidmore, District Technician
 Shelley Steele, Technician (started August 2019)
 Wesley French, Technician (started September 2019)
 Katerina Sharp, Education/Outreach Coordinator

Pheasants/Quail Forever Staff

Hannah Mullally, Ohio Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist