



# PICKAWAY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## 75th ANNIVERSARY

### 1944-2019



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Pickaway Soil & Water Conservation District, 110 Island Road, Suite D, Circleville, Ohio 43113

### Upcoming Events



**October 14**  
Columbus Day  
OFFICE CLOSED

**October 15**  
Board Meeting - 7:30 a.m.

**November 11**  
Veterans Day  
OFFICE CLOSED

**November 19**  
Board Meeting - 7:30 a.m.



**November 28**  
Thanksgiving  
OFFICE CLOSED

**December 10**  
Board Meeting - 9 a.m.

**December 25**  
Christmas  
OFFICE CLOSED

**January 1**  
New Year's Day  
OFFICE CLOSED



## 75th Jubilee Celebration

On Thursday, August 8 we celebrated 75 years of the Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District with a 75th Jubilee Celebration at the Lightning Tree Barn. Our evening festivities included a fabulous dinner catered by Elegant Eats, an antique tractor show provided with the support of several community members, displays from our Best and Runner Up Overall 4-H Natural Resource Project Winners, and a demonstration of our new augmented reality sandbox set up inside our soil tunnel. Thank you to everyone who came out to spend the evening with us!





## 75th Jubilee Celebration

### 2019 Conservationist of the Year - Matt Waidelich

Matt Waidelich was named our 2019 Conservationist of the Year. Since his first commitment to establish conservation methods on his farm, Matt has installed various methods of conservation including installing waterways, utilizing conservation crop rotation, and practicing integrated pest management and nutrient management through the latest technology. Matt has embraced good soil health practices through no-till and planting cover crops. He has also implemented wildlife and pollinator habitats on his farm through the Conservation Stewardship Program and Conservation Reserve Program. Our office has enjoyed working with Matt over the past 31 years, and we are excited to continue working with him to conserve our natural resources here in Pickaway County. Congratulations Matt!



### Supervisor Election Results



Matt Anderson

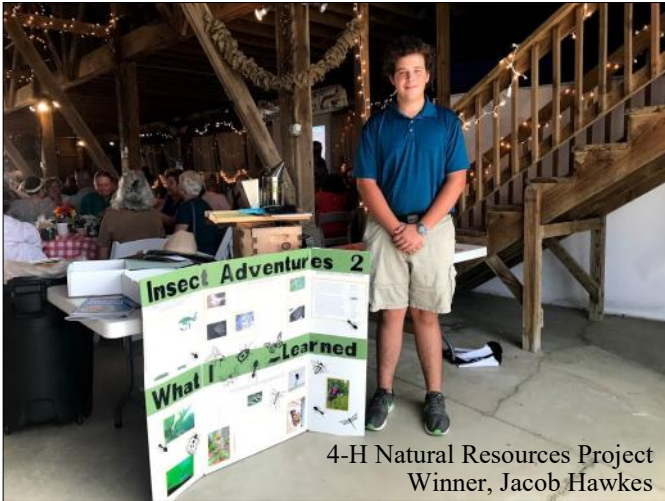


Clyde Ohnewehr

The Annual Meeting was also the setting for the election of two supervisors to the Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District Board. Ballots were cast in the hour prior to the meeting and through absentee voting by mail and in the PSWCD office in the weeks before the annual meeting. The election was presided over by Cody Hacker, Area 5 Program Specialist. Matt Anderson and Clyde Ohnewehr were both re-elected to serve a second three-year term, beginning January 1, 2020. Congratulations!



## 75th Jubilee Celebration



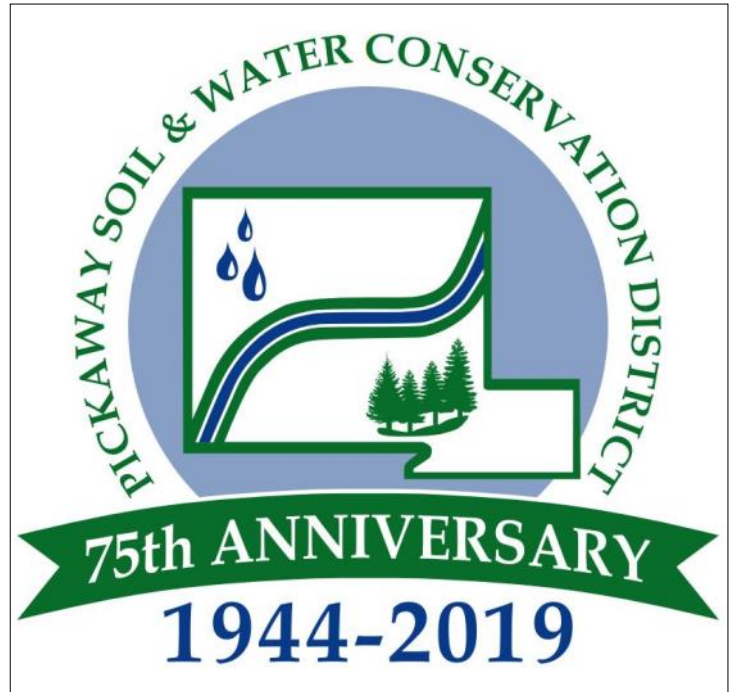
4-H Natural Resources Project  
Winner, Jacob Hawkes



Augmented Reality Sandbox in the Soil Tunnel



Terry Wright presenting award to Matt Waidelich



Check out our website at [www.pickawayswcd.org](http://www.pickawayswcd.org)  
for resources such as:

- Office News and Events
- Rental Equipment
- Residential Resources
- Education Program Info
- Scholarships
- Newsletters
- Tree and Fish Sales
- Contractor and Vendor Lists
- Poster Contest
- Affiliate Members
- Lending Library Book List
- Photo Gallery!



Like us on Facebook!  
@ Pickaway Soil and Water Conservation District

# Milkweed Pod Collection

## Through October 31st

Pollinator species are experiencing population declines across the United States. In particular, the Monarch butterfly has drastically declined in Ohio, the Eastern U.S., and in their wintering grounds of Mexico. Experts estimate that over the past 20 years, the eastern population of Monarchs has decreased by 90%.

To help foster habitats for the Monarch butterflies, the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative (OPHI) is organizing a statewide milkweed pod collection, which began on September 1st and will run until October 31st.

Everyone is encouraged to collect Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) pods. Milkweed is essential to the survival of Monarch butterflies. It is where they lay their eggs and, once the eggs have hatched, caterpillars depend on the milkweed leaves as their main source of food.

This collection is taking place in cooperation with Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Districts, where milkweed pods can be dropped off through the 31st. Simply stop into the SWCD office during regular business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.), to drop off your milkweed pods.

All milkweed pods collected during this time will be processed by OPHI partners and all of the seeds collected will be used to establish new plantings and create additional habitat for the Monarch butterfly throughout Ohio.

## Helpful Hints for Milkweed Collection



- \* **Pick pods when they are dry and when they are grey or brown in color. Green seedpods are NOT ready for collection.**
- \* **Center seam of pod should pop with gentle pressure when it is time to collect.**
- \* **Collect pods in paper lunch bags or paper grocery bags. Avoid using plastic bags, as they attract moisture.**
- \* **Please mark paper bag with the collection details: county where milkweed was collected, date and time of the collection, species (if something other than Common Milkweed).**
- \* **Store seeds in a cool, dry area until you can deliver them to the SWCD office.**
- \* **Harvesting milkweed pods does not destroy or have any lasting impact on the milkweed in an established area.**

# Education & Outreach Events

## Friday in the Park

This summer's Friday in the Park took place at Mary Virginia Crites-Hannan Park on Friday, July 12.

The "Friday in the Park" summer program is designed for youth from pre-school through 5th grade. This event is free and has crafts, games, exercise and education. It offers several activity areas that are developed around a theme for each Friday.

Pickaway SWCD, OSU Extension, Parks District, and Solid Waste District partnered again this year to provide activities for our Friday. Our theme was "Nature Around the World."



Friday in the Park



Friday in the Park

## Pond Clinic

Thank you to those who joined Hocking and Pickaway SWCDs at our Pond Clinic on July 25!

Mike Greenlee from the Ohio Division of Wildlife was present for a discussion and to answer questions.

There were also refreshments and s'mores, and the kids got to fish in the pond. A great time was had by all!



Pond Clinic

## Experience Earth Day Camp

We were happy to host our Experience Earth Day Camp on July 23-25 at Mary Virginia Crites-Hannan Park. 30 incoming fourth and fifth grade students came out to learn about honey bees, archery, soil, monarch butterflies, rocks, wildlife, recycling, forestry, blue birds, macro-invertebrates, insects and so much more! There were many community agencies and volunteers who lead session and helped to make EE Camp a lot of fun for our students. Thank you!



EE Camp Campers and Counselors



Building Blue Bird Houses

# Education & Outreach Events

## Pickaway County Ag Day

On September 5 and 6, Pickaway SWCD, Pickaway County Farm Bureau, and FFA members from Logan Elm, Teays Valley and Westfall FFA Chapters hosted our annual Ag Day event for 1,600 fourth and fifth grade students at the Pickaway Agriculture and Event Center. Students learned about livestock, crops like corn and soybeans, farm machinery, environmental and natural resources, the importance of bees, and careers in the agricultural industry in a fun, hands-on way. The event was a great success, and we are very thankful to every one who helped to make this event happen!



# Technical Corner

## Grain Bin Hazards

**Respiratory:** Dust from grain can affect people in a variety of ways. Reduce and prevent by wearing protective gear or ventilation equipment so you won't suffer breathing issues from the dust.

**Fire or Explosion:** Build-up of grain dust can be ignited by a heat source such as fire, sparks or hot bearings. Don't weld or smoke in a grain bin containing grain.

**Falling:** Falls can occur as workers move from bin to bin, vertical exterior ladders, grain legs etc. Be aware of your surroundings while working.

**Entrapment:** Flowing grain, which is a down and outward movement, forms a funnel when grain flows to the center of the cone. It only takes 3-4 seconds to be knee deep and become "trapped" or suffocated. Never enter a grain bin when grain is being removed. Always use a safety line or have two observers during grain bin entry.



## Technical Staff

**We are excited to welcome two new District Technicians to our team: Shelley Steele and Wesley French. Please give them a warm welcome when you see them!**

### Shelley Steele

I have been a resident of Pickaway County for 22 years. I have had the pleasure of raising my family here and being a part of our community. I have worked in the agricultural industry for the past six years in our county. I am a proud student at Ohio Christian University in Circleville and I will soon have my Associate's Degree in Agricultural Business. I have a true love for the outdoors and spend much of my free time fishing our local creeks and streams. I am an avid horseman and love trail riding all over the state. I think my love for the outdoors will be a big part of my success here with Pickaway Soil and Water.



### Wesley French

I am from and currently live in Grove City, Ohio. I am a graduate of The Ohio State University with a degree in Agricultural Systems Management and Farm Management. I have worked the past two years at an agricultural cooperative in Derby, Ohio. In my free time I enjoy working on my antique tractors and my truck. I am also a fan of Ohio State football and the Columbus Blue Jackets and enjoy watching their games. I am excited to join the team and serve the county here at Pickaway Soil and Water.



# NRCS Updates

## Farmers' Guide to 2018 USDA Farm Bill Programs

This guide describes Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) assistance for farmers, ranchers, and forest managers available through the 2018 Farm Bill. To learn more, visit [farmers.gov](http://farmers.gov) or your local USDA Service Center by calling the office at 740-477-1693.

### MANAGE — Opportunities to mitigate risk on your operation.

Conservation Stewardship Program Grassland Conservation Initiative	Provides financial assistance to conserve grasslands through a single opportunity to enroll in a 5-year contract. Eligible lands are limited to cropland for which base acres have been maintained under FSA's ARC/PLC and were planted to grass or pasture, including idle or fallow, during a specific period. Enrolled acreage must be managed consistently with a grassland conservation plan.
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### CONSERVE — Opportunities to implement conservation on your operation.

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)	Helps landowners, land trusts, and other entities protect, restore, and enhance wetlands, grasslands, and working farms and ranches through conservation easements.
Agricultural Management Assistance Program (AMA)	Helps agricultural producers manage financial risk through diversification, marketing, or natural resource conservation practices. NRCS administers the conservation provisions while USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service and RMA implement the production diversification and marketing provisions.
Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)	Awards competitive grants that drive innovation and develop the tools, technologies, and strategies for next-generation conservation efforts on working lands. Grantees leverage the Federal investment through matching requirements. Through CIG's new On-Farm Trials, partners provide incentive payments to producers to offset the risk of implementing innovative approaches.
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority natural resource concerns. Participants earn CSP payments for conservation performance—the higher the performance, the higher the payment.
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits, such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, and improved or created wildlife habitat.
Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP)	Helps landowners restore, enhance, and protect forestland resources on private lands through easements and financial assistance. Through HFRP, landowners promote the recovery of endangered or threatened species, improve plant and animal biodiversity, and enhance carbon sequestration.
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	Promotes coordination between NRCS and its partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. Under partnership agreements, NRCS and its partners leverage and target their respective resources to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners to address priority natural resource concerns.
Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP)	Provides State and Tribal governments with funding or incentives to expand or improve habitat in existing public access programs.



PICKAWAY SWCD  
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CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO 43113

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## Affiliate Annual Membership

Future Conservationist (Student)	\$10.00
Soil & Water Protector	\$30.00
Steward of the Land	\$100.00
Corporate Member	\$250.00

If you are interested in becoming an Affiliate Member, please [contact the SWCD office](#). All affiliate members receive recognition in the Conservation News, on the District website, and at the Annual Meeting. Stewards of the Land receive a Certificate and a complimentary ticket to the Annual Meeting. Corporate Members will receive two complimentary tickets to the Annual Meeting and a Certificate. We renew memberships the beginning of each calendar year.

*Your membership contribution is tax deductible and is used to help provide educational opportunities on soil and water conservation practices in our community. Thank You!*

## In the January Issue of Conservation News

Information on ordering tree seedlings and fish fingerlings from the PSWCD!



### Pickaway Soil & Water Conservation District

Phone: 740-477-1693 Fax: 740-477-3327 Website: pickawayswcd.org

#### Office Staff

Tawn Seimer, District Administrator  
Shelley Steele, District Technician  
Wesley French, District Technician  
Rob Skidmore, District Technician  
Katerina Sharp, Education/Outreach Coordinator  
Justin Armintrout, District Conservationist  
Eliezer Ortiz-Barbosa, Soil Conservationist  
Phil Roe, Agriculture Conservation Experienced Service Enrollee  
Lindsey Shaffer, Civil Engineering Technician  
Hannah Mullally, Ohio Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist, Pheasants/Quail Forever

#### PSWCD Board

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

#### Pickaway County Agencies-Phone Numbers

Farm Service Agency	740-477-1694
Pickaway County Commissioners	740-474-6093
Mark Rickey-ODNR Service Forester	740-774-1596

#### Affiliate Members

##### **Corporate Members**

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

##### **Steward of the Land**

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

##### **Soil and Water Protector**

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



OSU Extension	740-474-7534
Pickaway County Engineer	740-474-3360
Division 1 ODNR	614-644-3925