



Conservation Notes

January 2019

“Local leadership for soil and water conservation”

Newsletter for the

Medina County Soil & Water Conservation District

2018 Annual Report

The Board of Supervisors are pleased to present the District’s accomplishments for 2018. We would like to thank the Commissioners, the State legislature, our NRCS partners, county agencies, and most importantly, the citizens of Medina County for helping us continue to conserve our natural resources.

District / NRCS Accomplishments

Landowner Direct Assistance

Ag Pollution Abatement Sites	4
Bluebird Houses	43
Concept Plan Reviews	4
Cover Crops	782.5 acres
Conservation Plans	9,850 acres
Conservation Tillage	1,249 acres
Conservation Crop Rotation	1,561 acres
Cropland Nutrient Management	119.8 acres
CRP Contracts	1
CSP Contracts	4
Drainage/Flooding Assistance	49
Erosion Issues	8
EQIP Contracts Completed	17
Fence	22,046 feet
Fish Fingerlings	41,817
Forage Biomass Planting	58.3 acres
Forest Stand Improvement	39.7 acres
Grapevine Removal	52.1 acres
Heavy Use Area Protection	2,400 sq feet
Leaving Standing Grain	40 acres
Pipeline	1,800 feet
Plant Tissue Testing	415 acres
Pond Management	17
Ponds Site Investigations	32
Ponds	16
Prescribe Grazing	11.3 acres
Pumping Plant	1
Reduced Air Drifting	1,100 acres
Roof Runoff Structure	52 feet
Seasonal High Tunnel	3
Strawblower Rentals	8
Streams	6
Tree Planting	17,490 seedlings
Water Facility	2
Wildlife Upland Habitat	150 acres

Landowner Training

Farmland Preservation workshop
 Forestry Event
 Pollinators
 Pond Clinic
 Soil Testing Clinic/4R’s
 Spencer Feed Open House
 Water Quality Event

Special Emphasis

4R Tomorrow Nutrient Concerns
 Big Tree contest
 County Expo
 Cover Crops
 Drainage
 Erosion
 Envirothon
 Officials Conservation Tour
 Pollinator Demos
 Pond Permits
 Soil Testing
 Streamside Naming Signs
 Tree seedling and Fish sales

Community Involvement

74th Annual Meeting
 Classroom Presentations
 Concept Plan Reviews
 County Fair & Hay Show
 Countywide Milkweed Pod Collection
 Displays
 Earth Day event
 Facebook, webpage
 Fall Foliage Tour
 Garden Clubs, Libraries and Parks
 Monarch/Butterfly Promotions
 National Wildlife Federation BYH
 Newsletters and News Releases
 New Phase II Stormwater activities
 Rocky River Watershed Council
 Science Olympiad, Envirothon
 Teacher Trainings
 Wild School sites

Soil Testing

Medina County SWCD is now accepting soil samples for testing.



Cost: \$18.00 per sample (includes shipping and handling)

For more information call the office at 330-722-9316.

Look for fish sale information in our upcoming newsletter!

2018 Annual Meeting & Election

Our Annual meeting was held on Wednesday, October 24th at the Medina County Career Center, with 112 people in attendance. Medina County Commissioner, Bill Hutson served as emcee for the night. The meeting began with a delicious buffet dinner that was prepared and served by the Chef Tony and the Medina County Career Center chef and restaurant management students.



Jacob and Clayton Boyert

Conservation awards were given to Jacob and Clayton Boyert for their Conservation Stewardship of the land. Bree McNeill from the Sacred Heart of Jesus School received the award as Conservation Educator of the year for her work in the classroom. Woodlawn Cemetery received the award for the Big Tree Contest for their Pin Oak, which measured in at 120 feet tall, 151 inches in circumference, and a crown spread of 86 feet. The Education Specialist announced that the American Basswood will be the big tree for 2019.

Historical presenter, Kathy Kraus portrayed Jeanette Jenkins, an Ohio woman who was a Women Air Force Service Pilot (W.A.S.P.) and explained the often forgotten story how officials decided to implement an experimental program to recruit women and train them to ferry military aircraft from factories to military bases and departure points across the country, which would release male pilots for combat duty overseas. More than 25,000 young women responded and of that only about 1,000 were selected.



Bree McNeill



Jim Brandenburg, accepting award for Big Tree

Incumbents Steve Fulton and Celia Kruggel were re-elected to a three year term as Board Supervisors, starting January 1st 2019. A Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor has the important task of coordinating the efforts of all agencies, organizations, and individuals with responsibilities in natural resource conservation and development.

Regular Board Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the conference room at the office of the Medina County Soil & Water Conservation District located at 6090 Wedgewood Road in Medina.



Guest Speaker, Kathy Kraus

Big Tree Contest

The last seventeen years the Medina County Soil and Water Conservation District along with the Medina County Gazette has sponsored a big tree contest for Medina County. Winning trees have been the White Oak, Shagbark Hickory, Sycamore, Beech, Black Walnut, Ash, Black Cherry, Eastern Cottonwood, Northern Catalpa, Northern Red Oak, Sugar Maple, Yellow Poplar, Buckeye, American Sweetgum, Pin Oak and for 2019 the **American Basswood** (*Tilia Americana*). We have had hundreds of entries over the years. It has been a wonderful opportunity for the staff to meet the proud stewards of these County Champions. We would like to thank all of those who entered the big tree contest over the last Seventeen years.

American Basswood has alternate, ovate leaves that are about as wide as long, with a truncate (flattened) or heart-shaped base, finely serrated margins, and a short tip at the apex of the leaf. American Basswood has perfect, small, creamy flowers that open in early summer. These are noted for both their fragrance and for their nectar, which is a favorite of bees in the production of honey. Flowering is obvious from a distance—not because of the actual flowers, but due to the showy, lime-colored, curving bracts that contrast against the background of dark-green foliage.

This year's winner will receive a plaque with the tree dimensions and a \$25.00 gift certificate to the District's 2020 tree seedling sale.

The tree must be located in Medina County but does not have to be owned by the nominator. Permission must be obtained from landowner. Qualified District personnel will measure the tree and the decision of the District will be final. Nominations will be accepted through the closing of business on August 15, 2019.

For more information on the American Basswood or any Ohio tree, log onto the State forestry website, www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry

For an entry form or questions please give Jim a call at the office (330) 722-9316 or you can download an entry form from our website. www.medinaco.org

Moving on down the road.....

Community Coordinator, Gary Norcia has been with the District since 2002. He has decided to move on down the road to be closer to his children and grand kids. Gary's last day was December 12, 2018. We wish Gary well in his continuing life as a full time grandparent.

New to the District

Eric Hange was hired by the District as the new District Technician this past October. Eric will work to promote, assist and educate landowners about best management practices for maintaining clean water, healthy soils, and a sustainable landscape on behalf of the District Board of Supervisors.

Eric can be reached at (330) 722-9315.



**Medina County Soil & Water
Conservation District**
6090 Wedgewood Road
Medina, Ohio 44256
330-722-9316
www.medinaswcd.org

**Seedling Sale
Information Enclosed**

Non-Profit
Organization

U.S. Postage
PAID

Medina, Ohio
Permit 62

CURRENT RESIDENT or



Board of Supervisors

Celia Kruggel—*Chairman*
Bill Jordan—*Vice Chairman*
Zach Albrecht—*Secretary*
Steve Fulton—*Treasurer*
Charles Pope—*Fiscal Officer*

District Staff

Jim Dieter—*District Manager*
Mary Aungst—*Administrative Assistant*
Eric Hange —*District Technician*
Linda Schneider—*Education Coordinator*
Beth Schnabel—*Education Specialist*

NRCS Staff

Derrick Harmon—*District Conservationist*
NRCS: 330-241-6428

Member of:

Medina County Farm Bureau
Medina County Township Association
National Association of Conservation Districts
Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts
Rocky River Watershed Council

6090 Wedgewood Road, Medina, OH 44256
Phone: 330-722-9322
Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
www.medinaswcd.org

Farm Service Agency: 330-722-2628 option 2

NRCS: 330-722-2628 extension 110

