

CLARK Conservationist

CLARK SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Clark SWCD Annual Meeting

The Clark SWCD Board and Staff would like to invite you to attend the 77th Annual Meeting of the Clark SWCD on August 20, 2019. This event will be held at the Hollenbeck Bayley Creative Arts and Conference Center located downtown at 275 South Limestone St., Springfield, Ohio.

We will be serving a buffet style dinner at a cost of **\$8.00** per ticket served by Lyons Catering. The menu will include pork chops and chicken breasts, along with several side dishes and desert.

We will also be hosting the **Feds Feed Families** food drive in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. Please bring a non-perishable food item to the meeting and you will receive a door prize. All donations will go to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Springfield.

Alex Ryan, Shawnee graduate and current student at Ohio State, will be the Keynote Speaker for the evening. Alex will be speaking on his work as Student State Specialist for Drone Education for OSU Extension and Ohio 4H.

We will wrap up the meeting with another exciting round of **Clark County Trivia!** Please contact the SWCD if you have a Clark County trivia question you would like to submit.

Registration to attend this year's meeting can be made in advance by sending in the reservation form, located on page 7, by **Friday, August 16, 2019.**

For more information regarding the annual meeting, please call the Clark SWCD Office at 521-3880.

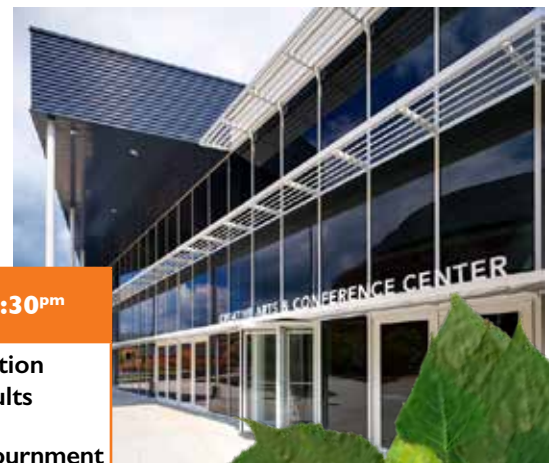
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2019 Annual Meeting Agenda

| 5:30-6:00pm | 6:30pm | 7:00pm | 7:20pm | 7:45pm | 8:30pm |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Doors Open | Dinner <i>Served by Lyons Catering</i> | Clark SWCD Updates & Awards | Keynote Speaker: Alex Ryan | Clark County Trivia | Election Results |
| Voting for Supervisor | | | | | Adjournment |





In Memoriam Dale Stewart

It is with heavy hearts we inform you that Clark SWCD Supervisor, Dale Stewart, passed on July 4, 2019.

He was a Supervisor with the Clark SWCD since 2014 and was honored as the Cooperator of the Year in 2001.

Dale was a steward of the land and a true conservationist of our soil and water resources. His generosity and kindness will be missed by all of us who were fortunate enough to know him.

Board of Supervisors Election

An election for Board Supervisor will be conducted at the Clark SWCD's Annual Meeting. This year's election has **Brenna Cross, Brian Funderburgh, and Matt Furay** vying for two position on the elected five-member board.

The elected candidates will serve a three-year term starting in 2020.

The election will be held on August 20, 2019 at the Annual Meeting or you may vote via absentee ballot prior to that date.

Voting Procedures

County residents attending our annual meeting will find the voting process for SWCD board members will be similar to voting in previous elections. *You must be at least 18 years of age and reside within Clark County to be eligible to vote.*

However, those who are firms, corporations, LLCs, trusts and non-residents that own or occupy lands in Clark County can also vote. *These entities MUST have a signed and notarized affidavit designating a voting representative to be able to vote at the annual meeting or by absentee ballot.*

If you cannot attend the Annual Meeting, there are two different ways to cast an absentee vote:

1. By Mail:

Anyone who wishes to vote absentee by mail is required to fill out a Request for Absentee Ballot form no earlier than 21 days prior to the election and the Clark SWCD office must receive the request no later than 5 days prior to the election.

2. In Person:

An absentee vote may be cast in person at the Clark SWCD office. A completed Request for Absentee Ballot form must be received no earlier than 21 days prior to the election and no later than 2:00 P.M. on August 20, 2019.

For more information about the election or if you have questions about these proceedings, please contact our office at 521-3880.

2019 Board of Supervisor



Brenna Cross is a native of Clark County and a graduate of Clark-Shawnee Local High School. She earned a degree from The Ohio State University in Environmental Science with a focus on Water Quality. She started at the age of 15 in the family agricultural business and has worked as Assistant Manager and Vice President of Marketing since 2010. She actively promotes the use of cover crops and responsible nutrient management through her work with Blue Stone Solutions Ltd. Brenna also enjoys being outdoors, curling and spending time with friends and family.

Brenna has worked to educate the community on the water quality problems facing Ohio and agriculture, and to find potential solutions by participating in the Directors' Agricultural Nutrients & Water Quality Working Group for the State of Ohio.

Brenna has enjoyed serving on the Clark Soil and Water Board in various offices for the last six years. Upon reelection, she would utilize her unique background of Agriculture and Environmental Science to continue serving Clark County and its Soil and Water Conservation District.



Brian Funderburgh lives and farms near South Charleston with his wife Christine and 3 stepchildren. He is a full time farmer raising corn and soybeans on 800+ acres with his father Harold. Brian enjoys to hunt, fish and go snowmobiling when he's not farming. He takes an interest in teaching people to be humble and more respectful.

His family has farmed no-till for over 30 years, and they strive to not use full-rate chemical applications when spraying crops. They implement a variable rate fertilizer program based on soil tests, and manure is spread under optimum conditions in a manner to not compromise the local watershed. Brian has also assisted with the installation of waterways, tile and rock structures on his family farm.

Brian wishes to serve on the board to do his part as a local farmer and make sure his home County is operating in a conservative manner. He feels the best way to learn something is to jump right in, and he wants to learn more about conserving the natural resources of Clark County.



Matt Furay is a lifelong resident of Clark County and currently farms with his uncle in Mad River Township. After graduating from Shawnee in 2001, Matt decided to farm with his uncle on his grandparents farm raising grain and beef. Their grain operation consists of corn, wheat and soybeans. All of the ground they farm has been grid soil tested so they can apply fertilizer at a variable rate.

Matt also utilizes the acres he plants to wheat so he can properly apply the manure generated from his cattle operation. Over the years, Matt has installed best management practices on his farms to conserve soil and improve his pastures. He has installed the heavy use areas for his cattle, livestock waterers, manure storage areas and utilizes an intensive grazing system for his cattle production.

Most recently, Matt has been experimenting with cover crops to improve his soil health and reduce soil erosion when nothing is planted in their fields. When Matt is not working on the farm, he enjoys hunting and snowmobiling. Matt would like to serve on the Clark SWCD Board of Supervisors because he understands the importance of preserving our most valuable natural resource, soil. Soil is the life line for any farm, if soil leaves a farm due to erosion, no one benefits. Protection efforts must be put in place to conserve what we have now, because once we lose our soil its gone forever.

CLARK SWCD TO HOST MILKWEED SEED POD COLLECTION STATION



To help foster the creation of habitat for the monarch butterfly, OPHI in cooperation with Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Districts is organizing a **Statewide Milkweed Pod Collection** this year starting **September 1st and ending October 31st**.

Milkweed is essential to the survival of Monarch Butterflies in Ohio and Ohio is a priority area for Monarchs. The monarch butterflies that hatch here in the summer migrate to Mexico for the winter and are responsible for starting the life cycle all over again in the spring.

During September and October everyone is encouraged to collect milkweed pods from established plants and drop them off at the nearest pod collection station. The majority of Ohio Counties have a Milkweed Pod Collection Station most of them being located at the local Soil and Water Conservation District office.

You can find the location of your local SWCD office online at: <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/SWC/SearchLocalSWCD.aspx>



Collecting Seed Pods

- To collect the seed pods from a milkweed plant it is best to pick them when the seed inside is brown. Do not collect pods when seeds are white or cream colored. If the center seam of the pod pops with gentle pressure, they can be picked.
- It is best to collect pods into paper bags or paper grocery sacks.
- Greenish-yellow or yellowish-brown pods can have mature seeds in them so the best advice is to wait until they turn yellowish brown and then start checking the inside of the pods. If the seeds are dark brown (not milky brown) then the pod is ready for harvesting.
- Avoid using plastic bags because they attract moisture. Store seeds in a cool, dry area until you can deliver to the closest pod collection area.
- Harvesting pods from milkweed plants does not have any effect on the population of milkweed in established areas.
- All milkweed pods collected during this time will be processed by OPHI partners and all of the seed collected will be used to establish new plantings and create additional habitat for the Monarch Butterfly throughout Ohio.

When collecting milkweed pods wear appropriate clothing for the outdoors. It is recommended that you wear disposable gloves when picking and handling pods.

Questions or for more information on pollinators contact your local SWCD office or OPHI at (614) 416-8993 or go visit <http://www.ophi.info/>.

Thanks to the Clark County Commissioners

The Clark SWCD Board & Staff would like to thank the Clark County Commissioners for their continued support of local conservation. Funding for the Clark SWCD begins at the County level where appropriations are matched by the State through the Ohio Department of Agriculture-Division of Soil & Water Conservation



Clark County Farm Day

On June 26, over 300 school children from the City of Springfield, converged on the Clark County fairgrounds to participate in Farm Bureau's, Farm Day!

Students had the opportunity to visit several stations to learn about livestock, planting, harvest, farm implements and watersheds. Clark SWCD was happy to be a part of this day to promote the wise use of our natural resources.



FEDS FEED FAMILIES FOOD DRIVE

June 26, 2019 - U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue kicked off the 10th annual Feds Feed Families Campaign at the USDA headquarters in Washington, D.C. The food drive is an annual event in which federal employees around the country collect food for distribution by food banks, food pantries, and shelters.

Since 2009, federal employees and their partners have raised over 88 million pounds of food for Feds Feed Families. USDA hopes to bring that total up to 100 million this year.



NEW PLAT BOOKS AVAILABLE

Who owns Clark County? Thousands of people have a piece of it, and they are listed in the new plat book published by the Clark Soil & Water Conservation District with Mapping Solutions.

The 2019 book is available for purchase for \$20 at the Conservation District office in the Springview Government Center located at 3130 E. Main Street in Springfield. Premium wall maps are also available. For more information contact our office at (937) 521-3880.



2019 Conservation Scholarship Winner

The Clark SWCD Board of Supervisors and Staff are proud to announce Ethan Smith as the recipient of the 8th Annual Clark SWCD Conservation Scholarship for 2019. Ethan is a 2019 Graduate of Kenton Ridge High School and will be a Freshman at Wittenberg University with a double major in Geology & Environmental Science. He is a member of the Leo Club, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, his church youth group and was very active in competitive sports while at Kenton Ridge. Ethan plans to use his degree to help find ways to preserve the environment for future generations.

CONGRATULATIONS ETHAN!



Annual Meeting Registration

Please fill out and return form by Friday, August 16, 2019

Clark Soil & Water Conservation District 77th Annual Meeting

Reservation Form • Tuesday, August 20, 2019

Hollenbeck Bayley Creative Arts and Conference Center • 275 South Limestone St., Springfield, OH

Name(s) of Attendees _____ , _____ , _____ , _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

No. of Tickets _____ x \$8.00 = \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CLARK SWCD AND SEND TO:

Clark SWCD, 3130 East Main St., Springfield, OH 45505

Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker: Alex Ryan



Alexander Ryan is a student at The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, & Environmental Sciences, where he is finishing dual degrees in Agribusiness with Applied Economics, and Animal Sciences.

In 2018 Alex was named the Student State Specialist for Drone Education for OSU Extension and Ohio 4-H. As Specialist, Alex has worked with faculty and educators to develop a comprehensive curriculum for 4-Her's and other youth around the state from age eight to eighteen.

Over the summer of 2019 Alex has conducted Drone Education Programs throughout the state of

Ohio reaching over ten thousand youth. Alex will be featured as a guest speaker and demonstrator at the OSU Farm Science Review, National 4-H Educators Conference, and many more engagements.

In December, Alex will be traveling to conduct a six month teaching fellowship at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich, Germany, where he will be teaching associated agricultural and legal classes.

Upon graduation in May, 2020, Alex will be attending Law School, with the hopes of becoming a trial attorney, and advocate for agriculture on the national level. As a Clark County Native and 4-H alumni, Alex is proud to give back to his roots, and hopes to educate all about the wonderful "field" of agriculture.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



**Clark Soil & Water
Conservation District**
3130 East Main St.
Springfield, Ohio 45505
(937) 521-3880

*** Return Service Requested**



Scan with your Smart Phone
to visit our Facebook page
from your mobile device!



**NEW 2019 Plat books
are available for \$20!**

If you are interested, please stop by the office
or contact the Clark SWCD @ 937-521-3880.

Board of Supervisors & Staff

District Staff

Chris Simpson
Diane Lokai
Jereme Best

NRCS Staff

LaRae Baker
Will Cook

Supervisors

Brenna Cross
Brian Funderburgh
Brent Pence
John Ritter



Don't forget to Like us on Facebook!



Clark Soil and Water Conservation District

All NRCS/SWCD Programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis
without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual
orientation, marital or family status.