



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 81st Annual Meeting of the Clark SWCD on August 15, 2023. This event will be held at the Hollenbeck Bayley Creative Arts and Conference Center located in downtown, 275 South Limestone St., Springfield, Ohio.

We will be serving a buffet style dinner at a cost of \$10.00 per ticket served by Christian Brothers. The menu will include grilled chicken and boneless pork chop, 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.

Greg McGlinch will be the Keynote Speaker for the evening. Greg McGlinch, PhD, is an Assistant Professor at Wright State University Lake Campus Agriculture Program. Greg is also a Darke County Farmer with a diversified, family farming operation that has implemented a number of conservation practices. He will be the Keynote Speaker for the evening and will be discussing economical ways to maximize the benefits of cover crop.

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 calling Clark SWCD or by e-mailing cperkins@clarkcountyohio.gov by **Monday, August 7, 2023**. For more information regarding the annual meeting, please call the Clark SWCD Office at 937-521-3880.



2023 Annual Meeting Agenda

5:30-6:30pm	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:20pm	7:45pm	8:30pm
Doors Open	Dinner	Clark SWCD Updates & Awards	Keynote Speaker: Dr. Gregory McGlinch	Clark County Trivia	Election Results
Voting for Supervisor					Adjournment

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Board of Supervisors Election

An election for Board Supervisor will be conducted at the Clark SWCD's Annual Meeting. This year's election has **Kevin Mattinson, Glen Courtright, and Roger Wright** vying for two positions on the elected five-member board. The elected candidates will serve a three-year term starting in 2024.

The election will be held on August 15, 2023 at the Annual Meeting or you may vote via absentee ballot prior to that date. Information concerning the nominees along with voting procedures are featured below.

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 non-resident voters, LLCs, corporations, & partnerships, must complete the voter verification form (EL-7) before voting, absentee or in-person. Voters that are required to complete the voter verification form should also have their first and last name listed on the election registry.

There are three ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot

1. In Person

At the SWCD office from **July 17 until August 15 during normal business hours.**

2. At the Annual Meeting:

At the SWCD Annual Meeting, which will take place at The Hollenbeck Bayley Creative Arts and Conference Center, 275 South Limestone St., Springfield, Ohio on August 15 from 5:30 pm until 6:30 pm.

3. Voting Absentee:

Vote absentee from July 17 until August 15, by requesting the ballot application and election ballot from the SWCD office at the following address:

**Springview Government Center, 3130 East Main St.
Springfield, Ohio 45505**

By calling **937-521-3880**, or emailing **cperkins@clarkcountyohio.gov**. Absentee ballots must be received by the SWCD office by noon on August 15, 2023 at 12:00pm.

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

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.



2023 Board of Supervisors



My name is **Glen Courtright**. I'm married to Sarah Wildman-Courtright, and we live in rural South Charleston, OH. Together, we have three adult children and two grandchildren. We own Green Plains Farm on which we operate a boutique lodging business, produce forage crops, manage timber, and raise bison. I'm a lifelong musician, playing mandolin and trumpet; I currently play with the "Charleston Brass" at First Presbyterian in South Charleston, where we attend church.

I served in the United States Air Force from 1980 to 1988. I received my BS degree in Electronics Management from Southern Illinois University in 1989. I was commissioned as an intelligence officer in the US Naval Reserve in 1990, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Commander. I was honorably discharged in 2002.

From 1988 to 2008, I worked as a systems engineer and as an executive in the aerospace, automotive, and energy industries. I founded EnviroFlight, LLC in 2009 where I developed and patented the biological and engineering processes to transform food by-products into sustainable animal and plant feed ingredients using insects. I sold EnviroFlight in 2016 and retired in 2017.

As a member of the District Board of Supervisors, I understand the economic uncertainties facing agriculture and the goals of environmental advocacy. I'm a consensus builder and will provide the district staff with unbiased, evidence-based recommendations. My career in engineering, proven entrepreneurship, and hands-on regenerative farming can bring a fresh perspective to the Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Kevin Mattinson, his wife, Deanna and their five children live on their family farm near South Charleston, Ohio. Kevin farms full time and works as a crop insurance adjuster for Rain and Hail. Deanna is the church organist/pianist, for the traditional service at the First Presbyterian Church in South Charleston. The Mattinson children are homeschooled and help with the work on the farm. When Kevin is not working, he enjoys antiquing, wood working and spending time with his family.

Kevin, alongside his grandfather William Mattinson, farm over 700 acres of no-till corn, soybeans, and wheat, in Clark and Madison Counties. To reduce erosion and improve water quality, Kevin has incorporated cover crops and variable rate fertilizing into his no-till operation. Kevin is also working with the NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) to implement CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program) practices to enhance soil quality, reduce erosion, and to improve water and air quality. Mattinson Farms are also working with the FSA (Farm Service Agency) and Clark Soil and Water Conservation District to install and maintain grass waterways.

Kevin would like to continue to serve on the board to aid the local community and farmers in protecting and preserving our most precious resources, soil and water.



Roger Wright lives in Green Township. He is a full time farmer and practices no-till on the 980 acres he farms. Roger is a 2007 graduate of Greenon High School and also received an Associate in Applied Science, majoring in Agricultural Business from Clark State.

Roger has demonstrated a commitment to the community he farms and lives in. Last year he became our Cooperator of the Year, by implementing and improving on his conservation practices and ensuring continued stability for future generations. Roger is a member of several organizations where he uses his education, hands on experience, and the knowledge of others to continue to advocate and promote growth and sustainability within the farming community. Roger serves on the Clark County Farm Bureau as the Vice-President. He is also a member of Ohio Small Grains Board and a member of the Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers PAC Board.

Roger wants to join the Clark SWCD board to, "Give back to the community that provides me with the opportunity to do what I do."

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The regular meetings of the Clark Soil and Water Conservation District shall be held at 7:30 a.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month for the remainder of 2023. Unless otherwise advertised, all meetings will be held at the Springview Government Center, 3130 East Main St., Springfield, Ohio. Please go to www.clarkswcd.com to verify changes to meeting time and date.

A Special THANKS to John Ritter



The Clark SWCD Board and Staff would like to thank **John Ritter** for his service on the Board of Supervisors. John is finishing up his most recent term as a Supervisor. John has served Clark County for two terms, starting in 2018 through 2023 and previously served on the board from 1999 – 2013. He has been instrumental in guiding the Clark SWCD in keeping the District focused on putting conservation practices on the ground. John's leadership and knowledge will be greatly missed.

A Board Supervisor is a volunteer position elected to a 3-year term. The Board of Supervisors meet monthly and provides leadership and oversight in setting local priorities and guidance to carry out the mission of the Clark Soil and Water Conservation District.

Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker: Greg McGlinch



Greg McGlinch is a fifth-generation Darke County farmer and an assistant professor with the Wright State University Lake Campus Agriculture program. Greg, with his wife Janet and four children, raise corn, soybeans, wheat, cereal rye, medium red clover, oats, freezer pork, and pastured poultry. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family and brewing beer.

His family farming operation implements many diverse conservation practices such as no-till, cover crops, nutrient management, side-dressing with swine manure, termination of cover crops by crimping, habitat implementation, and innovative practices to improve soil health.

At the Wright State University Lake Campus, Greg teaches courses in agronomy, nutrient management, marketing, and brewing while providing guidance to students in the agriculture field.

Manure Science Review

Thursday, August 3 | 8:50-4:00 (EDT)

@ Innovative Ag | 10366 OH 249, Bryan, Ohio

Join us to learn about:

- Logistics of handling poultry litter
- Composting mass mortality from HPAI
- Best practices for manure spill response
- Liquid and solid manure application demonstrations
- Comparing P2O5 in manures
- And more!

Continuing education credits available.

For program and registration details, go to:

ocamm.osu.edu



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: <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/>.

Know Your Miami Valley Watershed



A watershed is an area of land that drains into a common body of water, such as a nearby creek, stream, river or lake. Watersheds

vary considerably in size. For example, when it rains, all the water from a small watershed may travel to a local creek. That creek, like Buck Creek, will flow into a larger stream, which in turn collects water from an even larger watershed. Buck Creek flows into the Mad River then to the Great Miami River, which then deposits into the Ohio River. **We all live in a watershed.**

What is the problem?

During the construction of homes, roads and office buildings, vegetation is often removed and replaced by large paved areas. These **impervious surfaces** keep rain from seeping into the soil and recharging groundwater supplies. Paved surfaces also increase the

speed and amount of water that rushes down gutters and into storm drains during a rain storm. **This stormwater runoff** picks up pollutants from motor oil, lawn chemicals, pet waste, salt, litter and soil along the way, before flowing to rivers, lakes and streams **untreated.**

What is the consequence?

The large amounts of untreated water entering the storm sewer system and eventually our streams and lakes has lasting health, safety, environmental and economic impacts on our watersheds and communities. Watersheds support a wide variety of plants and wildlife and provide outdoor recreation opportunities throughout the Miami Valley.

Protecting the health of our watersheds preserves and enhances the quality of life for Miami Valley residents and all those living downstream.

Thinking about watersheds helps remind us that our actions can impact for better or for worse all of the streams and rivers in our region.

FEDS FEED FAMILIES FOOD DRIVE



2023 marks the 14th annual government-wide Feds Feed Families (FFF) food drive, which encourages employees from all federal departments and agencies to give in-kind contributions -- food, services, and time -- to food banks and pantries. This year's campaign highlights a summer of giving in June through August, along with seasonal reminders to donate throughout the year

The 2023 campaign focuses on online donations and virtual food drives, while also providing guidance for in-person donations and events as appropriate. Federal employees can go to the website, the FFF Hub, to find out how and where to donate online or in-person at food banks and food pantries, how to organize virtual food-drives, how to find field or warehouse gleaning opportunities, and how to share donation success stories.

Since Feds Feed Families launched in 2009, this campaign has collected more than 17 million pounds of food for donation. In 2022 alone, federal employees donated more than 6 million pounds. USDA is the designated lead agency for the National Feds Feeds Families campaign for the U.S. government nationwide.

2023 Conservation Scholarship Winners

The Clark SWCD Board of Supervisors and Staff are proud to announce Aidan Harbage, Macy Young, and Paige Pence as recipients of the 12th Annual Clark SWCD Conservation Scholarship for 2023.



Aidan graduated from Global Impact Stem Academy this past spring and will attend Mississippi State University where he will major in Animal Science and minor in Production Management. While attending GISA and Clark State Community College, Aidan was involved as a volunteer for South Charleston Community Club, Christmas in South Charleston, South Charleston Park Board, and South Charleston Heritage Festival, he played Varsity Baseball and Football and was a member of the National Belted Galloway Junior Association and Ohio Cattleman's Association. Aidan accomplished all of this

while growing his own farming operation to forty-one acres, including livestock. This has given him hands-on understanding of the agriculture business and a solid foundation in economics which will guide his success in the future. ***Congratulations Aidan!***

Macy graduated from Greenon High School this year and will attend Oklahoma State University in the fall where she will major in Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering. While attending Greenon, Clark State Community College, and Sinclair Community College Macy participated in a host of activities at school, church, and in her community; which included Varsity Soccer, Basketball, and Softball, FHA and 4-H, and was a member of Student Council and Fellowship Christian Athletes (FCA). Macy accomplished all of this and was still at the top of her class. Her accomplishments have taught her valuable lessons and given her the necessary skills to pursue her degree. These skills have paved a path that will allow her to focus on her career efforts, designing farm machinery and assisting the farming industry run more efficiently, promoting everlasting growth. ***Congratulations Macy!***



Paige graduated from Lake Land College with her Associate Degree and will transfer to Western Illinois University this fall where she will major in Agricultural Business and minor in Animal Science. While attending school Paige started her own marketing business Ppence Designs and hopes to be able to put these skills to practical use towards her future career goals. Paige has recently been focused on giving back to the community. She hosted a goat showmanship clinic this past spring and she also joined YGB, You Gotta Believe, where they host livestock camps throughout the country to help youth with their showmanship skills. Her leadership and commitment to the youth aided Paige in being selected for the 2023 Aksarben Stock Show Internship where she will be able to apply her knowledge and skills. Her many accomplishments will lend her to a successful future. ***Congratulations Paige!***

CONGRATULATIONS AIDAN, MACY & PAIGE!



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Clark Soil and Water Conservation District

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