



Soil & Water Conservation District

1330 N. County Rd 25A Ste. C
Troy OH 45373

Cooperator Newsletter

May/June 2026 ~ Vol. 75 No. 3

Published Bi-Monthly

Website: www.miamiswcd.org
E-mail: info@miamiswcd.org

Phone: 937/335-7645

STAFF – MIAMI SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (Miami SWCD)

Kreig Small - District Administrator | Kristin Lewber - Administrative Assistant | Linda Raterman - Information/PR Spec
Jennifer Korte - District Technician | Grant Clawson - Urban Technician

STAFF – USDA NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

Gunnar Young – Soil Conservationist | Renee Buck - Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist

Board of Supervisors

Don Hiegel
Bill Hershberger
Jeff Shoup
Andy Shuman
Diane Yingst

ANNUAL TREE SEEDLING & PERENNIAL SALE A SUCCESS

In Miami County, 7200 trees and nearly 500 perennials were sold during this year's event and it couldn't have been done without the help of some fantastic volunteers who not only helped count the trees into their packets, but stuck around to help separate them into the individual orders and distribute them to customers! We want to thank the Upper Valley Career Center Landscape & Natural Resources students and Master Gardeners from OSU-Extension Miami County for helping out.



Administrative Assistant, Kristin Lewber, and her husband John, once again traveled to Michigan to pick up trees not only for our county, but for quite a few neighboring SWCDs as well. All told, they transported over 40,000 trees! Fingers crossed the majority will be successfully planted and grow to keep the area thick and vibrant with trees!

STILLWATER EDUCATION FLOAT JUNE 5TH

Darke and Miami SWCDs and Park Districts are once again teaming up for another Education Float in the Stillwater River Watershed.

Our trip isn't quite set in stone, but the plan is to be on a stretch of the Stillwater River we haven't floated before.

Cost will be \$5, which will be some form of a lunch (depending on where we are putting in and taking out).

When a location has been confirmed, we'll ask you to arrive at the take-out point on FRIDAY, JUNE 5 by 8:30AM with the goal of getting our last boat on the water by 9:30AM. More than likely, only canoes will be available this year, but attendees are more than welcome to bring their own kayaks.

Experience the watershed you live in and enjoy a day on the river with Darke and Miami County SWCDs and Park Districts. To register, visit www.darkeswcd.com or call the Darke SWCD office at 937-548-1715, extension 3



Upcoming Events

- MAY 8** Troy Truck Yard Concert and Food @ Herrlinger Park, 302 Union St. Troy 6 - 9PM www.homegrowngreat.com/event/troy-truck-yard-concert-and-food/
- MAY 9** Mother's Day at The Exchange 11AM - 5PM, 210 W. High St., Pleasant Hill
- MAY 9** Stories on the Stillwater – Underground Railroad 6 - 8PM 5 N. Miami St., West Milton
- MAY 10** Happy Mother's Day!
- MAY 12** Miami SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting 8AM District Office. Public Welcome
- MAY 13** Miami SWCD Tire Recycling Drop Off Day Miami County Fairgrounds
- MAY 15-16** SchoolHouse Park Rocks Festival! Covington Follow Covington Events Association on Facebook for more info
- MAY 16** Food Truck Rally & Competition @ Miami County Fairgrounds 11AM - 9PM <https://miamicountyohiofair.com/food-truck-competition>
- MAY 20** Miami SWCD Fish Fingerling Pick Up District Office
- MAY 21** Aviation Lecture Series at WACO 7 - 8:30PM 1865 S County Rd 25A
- MAY 23** Barnyard Babies & Mother's Day Blessings 11AM - 5PM Johnston Farm & Indian Agency
- MAY 25** Memorial Day Office closed
- MAY 29** McGuffey Land @ Lock 9 Park 7-9PM Check out full concert schedule @ piquaoh.gov/1572/Lock-9-Park
- JUN 5** Stillwater Education Float
- JUN 9** Miami SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting 8AM District Office. Public Welcome
- JUN 10** Evening in the Garden @ Johnston Farm & Indian Agency 6 - 7:30PM
- JUN 12-13** Lost Creek Garden & Antique Show @ Lostcreek Reserve
- JUN 19** Juneteenth Office Closed
- JUN 20** Vintage in the Village in DT Tipp City 10AM - 3PM <https://downtowntippcity.org/>
- JUN 21** Happy Father's Day
- JUN 28** George and Martha Washington's Love Story (Eliz. Twp Historical Soc.) 5 - 7PM Lost Creek Reserve, 2385 St. Rt. 41, Troy
- JUL 4** Happy Independence Day Office Closed 7/3.

BETHEL HIGH SCHOOL TEAM #1 PLACES 3RD AT 2026 AREA IV ENVIROTHON

We had quite a representation of Area IV with 61 teams totaling 305 students in grades 9-12 all competing in stations covering soils, forestry, aquatics, wildlife and a current environmental issue.

Congratulations to Summit Country Day, Benjamin Logan, Bethel and Miami Valley CTC as they qualified for state competition to be held at Franciscan College in Steubenville, June 1st-3rd.

Bethel Team #1 Team members are: Patrick Firstenberger, Hunter Webb, Eli Lammers, Kade Schweikhardt, Addisyn Kohorst.



Other placements are: Bethel teams placed 29th and 46th, the Covington team placed 51st, Milton Union teams placed 30th and 39th, and UVCC teams placed 11th, 24th, and 40st. Great job and well done to all of you!

Montgomery and Preble SWCD's hosted the Area IV Envirothon at the Preble County Historical Society in Preble County. To learn more about the event, photos and placements of other teams in the area, please go to www.areaenvirothon.org.



Another Great Flood?
Not on our watch.



**THE MIAMI
CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT**

MCDwater.org



Marty Spitler
Res: 937/676-2010
Mobile 937-238-7139

S & S Excavating



Pleasant Hill, OH

COVINGTON AND MIAMI EAST FFAS GO WILD!

FFA students from two Miami County High Schools went WILD for natural resources education this past month and then became teachers to their school's select elementary classes!



On Thursday, April 23rd, sophomores from the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter made the walk down to Miami East Elementary School to share what they had just learned during a week-long PROJECT WILD workshop.

On April 24th, Covington FFA invited their 3rd classes to the Miami County Park District's Stillwater Prairie to do the same after their Freshman students took part in a Project WILD workshop held in March. Both workshops were facilitated by Linda Raterman with Miami SWCD.



Linda is a workshop facilitator for Project WILD, a program endorsed through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife and its mission to assist learners in developing awareness, knowledge, skills, and commitment to result in informed decisions, responsible behavior, and constructive actions concerning wildlife and the environment.

Both schools organized games like Quick Frozen Critters, a game of freeze tag highlighting predator/prey relationship and Carrying Capacity-How Many Bears, where students act out how bears would seek their food source hoping to find enough food to sustain them for 10 days, highlighting limiting factors like habitat loss, food shortage, and competition.

Thanks to Covington FFA Instructor Jessica Helsinger and Miami East FFA instructor Marie Carity for allowing Miami SWCD to be a part of such wonderful programs!



We are the voice of agriculture

Farm Bureau is at the forefront of the top issues impacting agriculture in Ohio. We are committed to keeping our farm and food communities strong and successful. Farm Bureau continues to...

- Advocate for farmers at the local, state, and national levels
- Support our farmers in pursuing their passions
- Work with state and federal legislature to preserve our farmland

Become a member today by calling 937-335-1471 or by scanning the QR code below



Membership matters!



FROM OUR FRIENDS AT FARM SERVICE AGENCY

The Farm Service Agency would like to remind producers that farm maps for the 2026 acreage reporting season are now ready for pickup. Producers are encouraged to stop by the county office to review their maps and ensure all field boundaries and land uses are up to date. Having accurate maps in hand will help streamline the reporting process and prevent delays.

As a reminder, the acreage reporting deadline is July 15, 2026, for most spring planted crops. Timely reporting is essential to maintaining eligibility for FSA programs, including safety-net, disaster assistance, and crop insurance programs tied to acreage certification. Producers will be receiving a postcard with an appointment time to report acres, please contact the office if this time does not work for you.

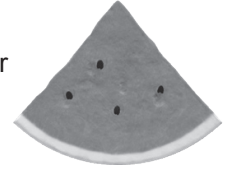
Additionally, Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) Stage 1 and Stage 2 additional payments are now being issued. Producers who have already enrolled and determined eligible should watch for payment notifications or direct deposits over the coming weeks.

If you have questions about acreage reporting, farm maps, or the status of your SDRP payments, please contact the Miami County FSA office at 937-335-1918 ext. 2.

MIAMI COUNTY FARMERS MARKETS

Cherry Street Local Farmers Market in Troy: From the 2nd Saturday in June through September from 9am-Noon. Location: Cherry Street, Troy

Piqua Farmers Market: Thursday from 3 - 6 p.m. from May 28 through October 8, 2026
Location: In front of the Piqua Public Library, 116 W. High St., Piqua



Tippecanoe Market Days: 1st Friday of June through 1st Friday of September from 5-8PM on Second Street in Downtown Tipp City.

Commercial & Residential
Sales • Leasing • Appraisal • Development

brunsrealty.com

Full-Service Design/Build Contractors
On Call 24/7 for Commercial
Emergency Response
1-855-885-9767

brungc.com

937-339-2300

EXCAVATING

HOMAN EXCAVATING

COMPLETE EXCAVATION & DEMOLITION
COMMERCIAL • FARM • RESIDENTIAL
FREE ESTIMATES

GARY HOMAN **937-214-1194**

Proven. Local. Performance.

Ebberts Field Seeds, Inc.
6840 North State Rt. 48
Covington, Ohio 45318

CHRIS SUBER
www.ebbertsseeds.com
(937) 473-2521

Seed Corn - Soybean Seed - Seed Wheat - Ag Chemicals

\\ Rus Ely \\ Excavating, LLC

6650 W. Versailles Rd., Covington, Ohio 45318

Agricultural • Residential • Commercial • Excavation Services
C: (937) 603-0055

DOUG SCHWIETERMAN
CEO & FOUNDER

4240 St. Rt. 49
Arcanum, OH 45304

doug@hlandworks.com

937-548-3965 (office)
419-953-5727 (cell)

*SYSTEMATIC DRAINAGE WORK
*LARGE DIAMETER MAIN INSTALLATION
*SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS
*BACKHOE AND EXCAVATION WORK

Real Estate Loans
Operating Loans
Equipment Loans
Building Loans

A 10539 Kley Road, Versailles, OH 45380
T 937-526-5705 | TF 800-206-3001 | F 937-526-5890
E e-farmcredit.com

**Miami Soil & Water
Conservation District**

1330 N. County Road 25-A
Troy, Ohio 45373



Nonprofit Org.
US Postage Paid
Versailles, OH
Permit No. 19

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Miami
AG DRAINAGE LLC

Making Moisture Managable

Wes Boothe

Tile Installation
GPS Mapping
Tile Sales

937.418.8293
fax 937.473.5730

5171 Farrington Road
Covington, OH 45318



PULLINS DRAINAGE & EXCAVATING
SINCE 1958

Pullins Drainage & Excavating LLC

Samuel Pullins
937.539.0370

John Pullins
937.539.0386

12662 Shanley Rd.
Quincy, OH 43343

937.362.3878 - Fax
pullinsdrainageandexcavating@gmail.com

VISION: To be responsible leaders in promoting innovative stewardship of natural resources through the development of conservation partnerships to enhance the quality of life.

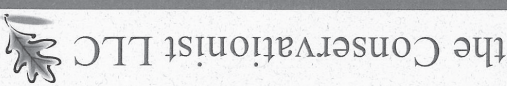
The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternate means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202/720-2600 (voice and TDD).



KSD
KOVERMAN STALEY DICKERSON
INSURANCE

HOME | AUTO | FARM | COMMERCIAL

Robbie Dickerson
Farm Agent
937-473-0330




the Conservationist LLC

~Wildlife habitat planning / establishment / maintenance~
~Invasive plant control ~ Consulting ~

"A Conservationist is one who is humbly aware that with each stroke he is writing his signature on the face of the earth." Aldo Leopold

Alex Kaiser
The Conservationist LLC


4560 Buckneck Rd
Bradford, OH 45308
Mobile: (937) 467-5327
Email: theconservationistalex@gmail.com



darke county tile company

JASON EDSELL
(937) 548-3425 - OFF.
(937) 548-8181 - FAX
dcttile1878@gmail.com
"FOR ALL YOUR DRAINAGE NEEDS"
- SINCE 1878 -

P.O. BOX 207
300 CHESTNUT ST.
GREENVILLE, OHIO 45331



AQUA DOC
LAKE & POND MANAGEMENT
800.689.LAKE
aquadocinc.com

FREE ON-SITE CONSULTATIONS

- Lake Studies & Much More!
- Fish Stocking Programs
- Metal Craft Dock Systems
- Floating Fountains & Aeration Systems
- Algae & Weed Control

Services & Solutions: