Miami
Soil & Water Conservation District

September/October 2026 ~ Vol. 75 No. 5

Cooperator Newsletter

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Board of Supervisors

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Andy Shuman
Diane Yingst

22ND ANNUAL ALL AG MEETING AND BANQUET HIGHLIGHTS

On August 27th at Heritage Hall at Lost Creek Reserve in Troy, 100 people attended the 22nd Annual All Ag Meeting and Banquet, combining business for Miami SWCD, Miami County Farm Bureau, OSU Extension Miami County and the Miami County Ag Society. Those attending enjoyed speaker Donald Jones, Executive Director USDA-Farm Service Agency, a great meal catered by Graze On and Stevens Pies for dessert!

The program portion of the evening included presenting awards for Miami SWCD Cooperators of the Year, Dickerson Family LLC. Robbie and Tommy Dickerson accepted the sign, plaque and sweatshirts. Dad Joe is also included in the award, but could not attend the evening. Presenter Diane Yingst relayed that the Dickerson Family hopes to return their land on Snyder Road back to what it once was, getting rid of the invasive species and returning the land to its natural state with Honeysuckle removal, planning pollinator habitat patches and even restoring a wetland on the land their family has owned for decades.

Educators of the Year, Chris and Laura Weddle were recognized for their efforts with the Miami East pollinator garden, butterfly house and work on the established neighboring prairie. In addition, Chris is approaching 30 years of teaching K-5 music and Laura is nearly a decade in teaching 4th grade. The area has been included in classwork by them and other teachers at the school, inviting kids to embrace what this area offers and encourage them to help keep it as beautiful as it is. Miami SWCD Elections resulted in the re-election of Bill Hershberger and Jeff Shoup to additional three-year terms.

The remainder of the evening was spent by our event partners, Miami County Farm Bureau, OSU-Extension Miami County and Miami County Ag Society relaying news and information to the audience. Cynda Renner once again provided the beautiful flowers for the tables and Savannah and Braiden Pellman with Miami East FFA helped with dinner. We appreciate all who attended and very much look forward to the next All Ag Annual Meeting and Banquet!

Upcoming Events

SEP 12 Troy PorchFest hosted by Troy-Hayner Cultural Center

SEP 12-13 Autumn Madewell Market at WACO
WACO Air Museum 1865 S County Rd 25A, Troy

SEP 17 Sip & Shop Artisan Market @ 21 Barrels
4 - 8PM https://www.21barrels.com
9717 Horatio-Harris Creek Rd, Bradford

SEP 18-20 WACO Fly-In Air @ WACO Air Museum
1865 S County Rd 25A | Troy, OH 45373

SEP 19 Texas Tenors at APAC
7 - 9PM Arbogast Performing Arts Center,
500 S. Dorset Rd, Troy

SEP 25 Downtown Piqua Chocolate Walk
3 - 7PM 326 N Main St., Piqua

SEP 26-27 Tipp City Mum Fest @ Tipp City Community Park
225 Parkwood Dr., Tipp City

SEP 26 Dancing Through The Decades
7 - 10PM Troy REC 11 N. Market St.Troy

OCT 3 Autumn Evenings on Johnston Farm & Indian Agency **1 - 7PM** 9845 North Hardin Rd., Piqua

OCT 3 Downtown Troy Chocolate Walk @ Prouty Plaza **1 - 5PM** 1 W. Main St., Troy

OCT 4 Food Truck Rally at The Exchange
11AM - 6PM 210 W. High St., Pleasant Hill

OCT 10 2nd Saturday Vendor Show
10AM - 5PM Piqua Center 987 E. Ash St., Piqua

OCT 12 **Columbus Day Office Closed**

OCT 13 District Board of Supervisors Meeting
8am District Office. Public Welcome

OCT 13-17 Bradford Pumpkin Show DT Bradford
www.bradford-pumpkin-show.org
115 N. Miami Ave., Bradford

OCT 23-24 Ghost Tours Of Troy DT Troy
6:30PM • 9:30PM troymainstreet.org

OCT 24 Hometown Halloween DT Troy
9AM - 1PM Prouty Plaza 1 W. Main St. Troy

NOV 5-8 Hometown Holiday in Troy

NOV 7 Holiday Craft & Vendor Show
9AM-3PM Miami County Fairgrounds, Troy

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FORMER MIAMI SWCD SUPERVISOR MELVYN ROETH LEAVES A LEGACY JAN 20, 1941 — AUG 17, 2026

When looking up the years that Melvyn served on the Miami SWCD Board of Supervisors, we were reminded it was actually for a very short time really. It was just one term, 2007-2009, but he had left such a mark on our office and our hearts. Anyone who has spoken to Melvyn knew he possessed true and profound intelligence, but the man also had a way of sneaking in humor, random facts, and sometimes making rather clever points about life, the world, nature, etc. The man he presented to us was a well-rounded, extremely well-spoken man who was also extremely kind, generous and supportive. For workshops, trainings, soils judging practices and more, he'd offer the beautiful property he and the lovely Marilyn called home for decades. It was evident he was proud of the place and rightfully so. The thriving wetland, prairie and woods that surge with life next to Spring Creek and amid the farm fields allow a person wandering the place such a feeling of peace and possibility. It was also evident that Melvyn loved his family and had the extraordinary ability to express his pride in them and their accomplishments with humility and grace. It would not serve him in any way to try to whittle down to one word a descriptor of the man; I suppose all we can do is just be grateful we knew him. Rest easy, Melvyn. Along with the family we know loved you and was so proud of you, your friends at Miami SWCD will miss you, too.

ITEMS FROM MIAMI SWCD ANNUAL REPORT

Part of the All-Ag Annual Meeting is our Annual Report, compiling data and information about our year assisting in putting conservation on the land and promoting our natural resources. Below are a few items relaying our efforts. If you'd like the full report, please contact Linda at lraterman@miamiswcd.org.

Miami SWCD

- H2Ohio Contracts (Nutrient Management): 20+ landowners totaling 15,712 acres
- Storm Water (SW) Management Maintenance (Bethel, Concord, & Monroe Townships)
- Pond Assistance: 2 Pond Permit: 3 visits
- Grassed Waterways: 8 totaling 11,944 ft.
- ODA-LAEPP (Farmland Preservation) Local Sponsor (LS) 2016–2026. Completed Easements: 18 (4 pending). Total Protected Ac.: 1729
- Monthly urban construction BMP inspections: 16 sites
- SWPP Plans checked for new construction: 5 sites
- Volunteer Drainage Project installation: 4,650 ft of 12 in. & 15 in. pipe installed
- 1 wetland construction = 1.5 acres
- Outfall Structures Mapped Out: 91
- Urban site reviews: 31

NRCS/Pheasants Forever

- Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)
  - New Obligations (2026):13 Contracts = $800,568
  - Total Contracts Managed - 43 Contracts Totaling $2,896,625
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
  - New Obligations (2026): 3 Contracts = $539,767
  - Total Contracts Managed:18 = $677,519.14

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Wildlife CRP

- 9 New Contracts = 160.02 Acres, All Pheasant Safe
- 30 Re-Enroll Contracts = 169.33 Acres, Field Borders Wetlands, Pheasant Safe.
- Grassed Waterway CRP
- 16 Re-Enroll Contracts = 19.94 Acres
- 6 New Contracts = 12.04 Acres

2026 Farm Science Review
September 22-24
Molly Caren Agricultural Center
Tickets available through
OSU-Extension office
until September 21st for $10
937-440-3944 | Gate prices: $15

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ANOTHER BUSY AND HOT SUMMER!

July 17th: Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River, as of August 31st, 9.77 tons of trash has been taken out of the Great Miami River from Indian Lake down to just south of Dayton over the course of a month or so with nearly 1 ton of that amount taken from the Miami SWCD section from Farrington Road south down to Treasure Island in Troy! The Southern Section holds their event on September 19th. There may still be time to register: www.cleansweepofthegreatmiamiriver.org!

July 28th-29th: Our yearly Multi-County Educators Workshop for 2026 was titled 'America: WILD & Tree' and while it was a hot two days, it was also a great two days with 19 educators being absolute troopers. On day one, we traveled to tour the Miami County Park District Garbry Preserve and Hartzell Hard Woods in Piqua. On Day 2, with much cooler temperatures, we heard from Jasmine Grossnickle, ODNR-Division of Wildlife office and Angela Manuszak representing Miami Conservancy District regarding an opportunity to 4th grade teachers to guide curriculum regarding watershed and river systems. The majority of them then took to canoes and enjoyed a relaxing and informative trip along the feeder canals of Swift Run and Echo Lake while a smaller crew counted a portion of the trees in the nearby city park. Those who wished, acquired 1 credit hour of continuing education through Ashland University. Educators represented Shelby, Darke, Montgomery, Miami, Green and other counties.

August 4th: National Night Out Against Crime at Troy City Park attracted hundreds of folks to enjoy dozens of displays and tents.

August 8th-14th: Miami County Fair week was made slightly less fun by an incredible amount of rain! The rain garden sure didn't mind all that water and we still had great conversations with folks inside and outside our building. We thank Miami County Park District, Miami County Fair Housing and Planning & Zoning, ODNR-Division of Wildlife, Miami County Recycles, Miami Conservancy District, Miami County Pheasants Forever and Miami County Farm Bureau for joining us inside the Conservation Education Area. See you next year!

August 27th: The 22nd Annual All Ag Meeting and Banquet at Heritage Hall @ Lost Creek Reserve took place with 100 attendees.

Miami Soil & Water Conservation District
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Vision: To be responsible leaders in promoting innovative stewardship of natural resources through the development of conservation partnerships to enhance the quality of life.

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MIAMI COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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

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