

FOCUS ON CONSERVATION LOGAN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

"It is the goal of Logan Soil & Water Conservation District to promote the stewardship of soil, water and other natural resources."

"It is the vision of Logan Soil & Water Conservation District to provide technical assistance and education for the protection of Logan County's natural resources making Logan County a great place to live for future generations."



Summer 2016

LOGAN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

73rd ANNUAL MEETING

LOGAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING

Please join us for the Logan County Soil & Water Conservation District and Logan County Farm Bureau annual meetings that are being held at the Winner's Harvest Barn, Thursday September 8, 2016. Doors open at 6:00 PM. The meal and social time begins at 6:30 PM and the meetings begin at 7:00 PM. An election for one Logan Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor position will be held with voting taking place between 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM. Candidates running for the 1 supervisor position include: David Knight and Mark Vernon (*Please look further in this newsletter for the supervisor candidates' bios*). Annual Meeting registrations are \$12.00 per person; children under 10 years of age eat free. Registration by August 26th is appreciated.

Those attending will be able to participate in each organization's year end celebration of their programs and business. Farm Bureau members will be able to vote on policies, code change and board members.

Residents or landowners, firms, and corporations that own land or occupy land in Logan County and are 18 years of age and older may vote for the Logan SWCD Supervisor position. A non-resident landowner, firm or corporation must provide a notarized affidavit of eligibility, which includes designation of a voting representative prior to casting a ballot. Absentee ballots will be accepted until noon September 8, 2016. You may request your ballot by writing or contacting the Logan SWCD office at (937) 404-3150. To vote for the Logan SWCD supervisor candidates you can also vote at the Annual Meeting but are not required to attend.

For more information or to register for the Logan SWCD and Logan County Farm Bureau Annual Meetings, call the Logan Soil & Water Conservation District office at (937) 404-3150 or the Logan County Farm Bureau office at 1-877-775-7642.



Logan SWCD and USDA/NRCS employees had a great time at the Logan County Fair educating children and parents about the components of soil. Each child made their own personal edible "soils horizon" with granola representing bed-rock, pudding representing the subsoil and crushed Oreo cookies serving as topsoil. Colored shredded sugar and gummie worms topped off the profile. Logan County Farm Bureau held a cookie decorating contest and handed out free tee-shirts.



FOCUS ON CONSERVATION

LOGAN SWCD 2017 SUPERVISOR CANDIDATES

David Knight



David lives in rural DeGraff, Ohio with his wife of 52 years, Nancy. David and Nancy are the parents of three children; Brian (Stephanie), Kevin (Jan), and Kelly Kauffman (Eric). They are blessed with nine grandchildren.

David graduated from Indian Lake High School and attended The Ohio State University where he earned a Bachelors Degree in Industrial Management. He was drafted into the United States Army in 1966 where attended Officer Candidate School and was 1st Lieutenant with the lead Personnel Management Inspection team. After serving in the Army, David worked at International Harvester (Navastar) and retired from there after working for the company for 37 years. He was elected as Logan County Commissioner in 2003 and served as Commissioner until 2010. David has been a Logan SWCD Supervisor for 3 years.

David and Nancy live on his family home place where his great grandparents raised their children over 100 years ago. They currently have head of beef cattle, 250 acres of crops, hay and pasture and have installed waterways through the CRP program.

David attends the DeGraff United Methodist Church and serves as the Chairman of the Trustees.

Mark Vernon



Mark Vernon and his wife Nyla live in rural West Liberty. They have one son, Bryce.

Mark is a graduate of West Liberty-Salem High School and Urbana University, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. Mark retired recently from Honda of America Manufacturing where he worked as a Quality Engineer. Mark currently works part-time for Yoder's Ag hauling and spreading lime.

Mark and Nyla farm 200 acres, all no-till with a rotation of corn, soybeans, wheat and hay and also have a small herd of beef cattle where they utilize intensive grazing practices. They also plant cover crops to reduce erosion and compaction of the soils and add organic matter to the soils.

Mark is a member of Quest Church and a member of the Ohio Cattlemen's Association.

LOGAN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Planting milkweed for Monarchs is vital. Milkweed is the sole host plant for Monarch butterflies. This particular plant is lacking on the landscape and has had a direct effect on Monarch populations.

Please join us in our effort to replenish this essential plant in Ohio by collecting milkweed pods in your area.

All You Can-When You Can!

Logan SWCD will be a collection sight for milkweed pods starting September 1st and ending October 30th. For additional information please contact the Logan SWCD office at (937)- 404 3150 or visit our website at:

www.co.logan.oh.us/454/Soil-Water-Conservation-District

Proper Management of CRP Grass Cover

In the past, aesthetic mowing of CRP grass cover was a widely accepted practice by many participants. Today with more research and understanding, it has been shown that properly managed grass cover will reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and is more beneficial to wildlife than annually mowed grass covers.

Wildlife, especially grassland birds including pheasants and quail, and pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, view properly managed CRP cover as a source of food and habitat suitable to raise their young. Wildlife will not be attracted to CRP cover if plants are not allowed to mature. Game birds and bees are disappearing because of habitat loss. Properly managed grass cover does not include noxious weeds such as thistle and teasel or woody species like trees and multiflora rose. These noxious weeds must be controlled. This can be done in several ways. Mowing of CRP cover, not to exceed 20% of the total CRP acres in a field, is permitted. This activity must be included in your conservation plan and be conducted outside of Ohio's primary nesting season (March 1st – July 15th). The location of this mowing should be changed from year to year. Another option to control noxious weeds is by spot mowing affected areas or spot spraying of an approved herbicide. These treatments will have a minimal effect on the CRP practice cover's ability to meet the purposes of erosion control, water quality, and wildlife habitat. Please call with any questions you may have on your CRP contract.

Unauthorized disturbance of CRP cover is considered a violation of the terms and conditions of the CRP contract and conservation plan. Violations could potentially result in hefty penalties including contract termination and refund of all contract related payments. Properly maintained CRP cover can be very attractive if noxious weeds and invasive species are controlled and grasses and wildflowers are allowed to mature. Please scout your CRP fields before weeds go to seed. Contact your local FSA office for permission to spot treat your CRP grass cover during Ohio's primary nesting season (March 1st – July 15th). Plan to have your CRP cover assessed for the need of mid-contract management activities that are designed to enhance your CRP cover for wildlife. Mid-contract management is a contractual obligation that is outlined in your CRP-1 Appendix and conservation plan.

Contact the Logan County FSA office at 937-592-8896 for more information on proper maintenance and management of CRP practice cover.

Logan SWCD
324 Co. Rd. 11
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U S POSTAGE
BELLEFONTAINE, OH
PERMIT NO. 324

LOGAN SWCD SUPERVISORS

Eric Johnson David Knight Tim Lyden
Frank Phelps Joe Ramsey

LOGAN SWCD STAFF

Lorre Culp—Secretary/GIS
Deb Roberts-District Administrator
Steve Searson-District Technician

USDA/NRCS STAFF

Leisha Billenstein -District Conservationist
LaRae Baker-Resource Conservationist
Randy Smith --Soil Conservation Technician
Brian Leptak --Civil Engineering Technician

INDIAN LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT

Vicky Boots-Executive Director

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
|------------------|---|
| August 9- Sept 2 | Logan SWCD Cover Crop Mix Sale Begins |
| August 12 | Manure Science Review |
| August 16 | Logan SWCD board meeting 5:00 PM - Logan SWCD office |
| Sept. 1-Oct. 30 | Milkweed Pod Collection-Logan SWCD office |
| September 5 | Labor Day -Office Closed |
| September 8 | Logan SWCD & Logan Co. Farm Bureau Annual Meeting |
| September 20 | Logan SWCD Board Meeting & Pasture Walk both held at the VanWinkle Farm |
| September 20-22 | Farm Science Review |
| September 29 | Cover Crop Training/Field Day |
| October 10 | Columbus Day-Office Closed |
| October 18 | Logan SWCD board meeting 5:00 PM - Logan SWCD office |
| November 15 | Logan SWCD board meeting 5:00 PM Logan SWCD office |

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer and Lender

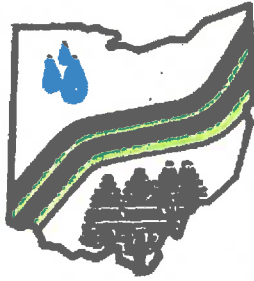


Want to be friends? We sure hope so! Please "Like" us on Facebook.

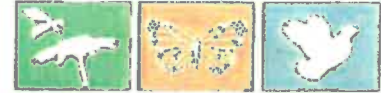
We're on the Web!

www.co.logan.oh.us/454/Soil-Water-Conservation-District

If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically, please send your request to:
deb.roberts@oh.nacdn.net



STATEWIDE POD COLLECTION 2016



**Ohio Pollinator
Habitat Initiative**

Annual Milkweed Pod Collection

September 1st through October 30th

Contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District
for more information

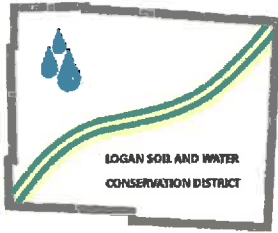
Pollinator Species are experiencing population declines across the United States. In particular, the monarch butterfly has drastically declined here in Ohio and in the wintering grounds of Mexico. In response to this decline the Ohio Division of Wildlife and other partners have created the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative (OPHI) to educate the public and help create beneficial habitat to pollinators such as the monarch butterfly. OPHI formed after the 2014 petition to list the monarch as federally endangered or threatened. The group's primary focus is to find opportunities and other partners to assist in the efforts to create habitat.

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 30th**. 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- 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>

To collect the seed pods from a milkweed plant it is best to pick them when they are dry, gray, or brown in color. If the center seam pops with gentle pressure, they can be picked. It is best to collect pods into paper bags or paper grocery sacks. 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 OPHI at (614) 416-8993 or your local SWCD office.



Cover Crop for Gardens

Order Form

324 Co. Rd. 11
 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311
 (937) 404-3150



We are pleased to offer-Cover Crops for Gardens

At the end of the garden season you may be ready to rest but your soil is not. One final effort can make a big difference -cover cropping. Cover crops help to reduce erosion and compaction, and increase water permeation in the garden. They also hold minerals normally leached from your soil over winter. Densely planted cover crops will suppress perennial and winter annual weed growth. The top growth and roots add organic matter to the garden soil. The cover crop's root system also opens passageways that help improve air and water movement and supports microbial life. This microbial life works synergistically with the roots, bacteria and fungi to improve soil health.

We are offering the mix in lb. packages. 1 lb. covers 250 Sq. Ft. All mixes contain untreated seeds suitable for organic gardens. **NOW OFFERING 2 PKGS. FOR \$10.00! LIMITED TIME! OFFER GOOD THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2, 2016!**

The WCS Garden Late Cover Mix is a 4 way mix of Legume, Small Grain, and Brassica plants. The combination may be planted up until November 1st in Zone 5. It will loosen topsoil, protect your soil from winter erosion and nutrient loss, suppress weeds and provide mulch in the spring and food for soil micro and macro organisms which are crucial for healthy soil.

This mix is winter hardy and will continue growth in the spring.

This Mix includes: 73% Cereal Rye 12% Crimson Clover 12% Hairy Vetch 2% Radish

•1 packet for \$10.00 (FOR A LIMITED TIME! 2 PKGS. FOR \$10.00)

•Payment must accompany order -cash or checks are accepted

•Deadline for orders is September 2, 2016

•Please make checks payable to: Logan SWCD

324 Co. Rd. 11

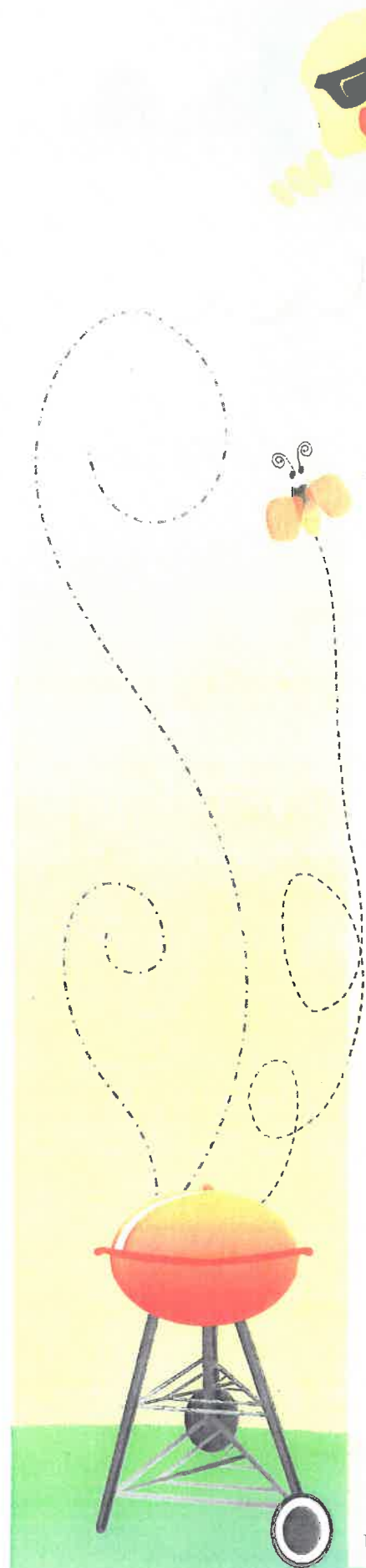
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311 *All Sales are Final - No Refunds

| Packet Mix | # of Packets | Price | Total |
|----------------|--------------|--------|-------|
| Late Cover Mix | | | |
| | | Total: | |

LOGAN SWCD OFFICE USE ONLY

Payment Date: _____ Total: _____

Receipt # _____ Cash _____ Check _____



Logan SWCD & USDA-NRCS

Cookout

Join us for a
cover crop
meeting!

September 29 from
6pm—8pm

Southview Park

601 West Lake Avenue

Bellefontaine, OH 43311

RSVP to : Deb Roberts at (937) 404-3150

By September 16th

Please request reasonable accommodations if needed
when making reservations.

USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER AND LENDER



LOGAN COUNTY 2016 PASTURE WALK

September 20, 2016

2:00 –5:00 PM –Rain or Shine

VanWinkle Dairy, LLC

13290 State Route 47, West Mansfield, OH 43358

Sponsored by: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Logan Soil and Water Conservation District, Top of Ohio Resource Conservation Development Council and Mike VanWinkle

AGENDA:

- INTRODUCTIONS –Leisha Billenstein and Frank Phelps
- VanWinkle Dairy Farm Background, Farm History from 2006 to present & Importance of Recover Periods–Mike VanWinkle
- Tour of Farm-
 - Forage Identification –Fencing Types –Pasture Improvement -Management Styles
 - LaRae Baker, Steve Searson and Nathan Rice
- Group Discussion and Refreshments—Grazing sticks offered to participants

The Logan Soil & Water Conservation District Regular September Board Meeting will be held immediately following the Pasture Walk at the VanWinkle's Dairy

RSVP TO: Deb Roberts at (937) 404-3150 by September 16, 2016

Please request reasonable accommodations if needed when making reservations

USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER AND LENDER