

FOCUS ON CONSERVATION LOGAN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Summer 2018



IT'S LOGAN SWCD'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY!!!



LOGAN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

75th ANNUAL MEETING

LOGAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING

Please join us for the Logan County Farm Bureau and the Logan Soil and Water Conservation District annual meetings at the Winner Harvest Barn on September 13th. The meeting is a year-end celebration of the activities, policies and events for these local organizations.

The meeting is being held at the Winner Harvest Barn, 7075 State Route 47 W., DeGraff, Ohio 43318 and will begin at 6:30 p.m. with an election for 2 Logan Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor positions, voting taking place between 6:15-7:15 PM. Candidates running for the Supervisor positions include: Eric Johnson, Tim Lyden and Judy Skidmore. (Please look further in this newsletter for the supervisor candidates' bios). Annual Meeting registrations are \$13.00 per person, children 10 and under eat for free. We will enjoy a delicious meal of pork loin, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans and salad.

Those attending will be able to participate in the organizations year end celebration of our programs and business. Farm Bureau members will be voting on policies, elect board members and the Farm Family will be showcased.

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 positions. 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 may be obtained by requesting a ballot, in writing, from the Logan SWCD office, 324 Co. Rd. 11, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311. Absentee ballots will be accepted from August 23rd through September 13th until noon. 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, call the Logan Soil and Water Conservation District at 937-404-3150 or the Logan County Farm Bureau County office at 1-877-775-7642 or contact a Logan SWCD Supervisor or Logan County Farm Bureau board members. Registration deadline is September 6th.



FOCUS ON CONSERVATION

Please Join Us In Welcoming...



Jennifer Snipes –Logan SWCD Administrative Assistant

Jennifer recently joined the Logan SWCD staff as the District's Administrative Assistant. She has an Associates Degree in Office Administration . She comes to us from the Indian Lake area and resides outside Lewistown with her husband Jeremy and their nine year old son Jaxon.

When Jennifer is not working she is involved in the community with her son's recreational sports associations, participating in 4-H, and attending the Huntsville United Methodist Church. Her family also enjoys traveling around the United States in their free time.



Abbi Hastings –Indian Lake Watershed Coordinator

Abbi Hastings is the new Watershed Coordinator for Indian Lake.

She grew up in agriculture and conservation. Her family goes back many generations as farmers in Hardin County, where they continue farming today. She was introduced to conservation early on and knew she wanted to help farmers take care of the land and the water.

Abbi graduated from The Ohio State University in 2013 with a degree in Agriculture Systems Management and a Minor in Soil Science. While she was there she participated on the OSU Soil Judging team for 3 years.

After graduating Abbi worked out of the Seneca County Soil and Water office on a grant doing soil testing and monitoring in five counties in the Lake Erie Watershed. After that she was in the Wyandot County Soil and Water office as a District Technician for three years. There she designed waterways, tile and ditch projects.

You can reach Abbi in the office or leave her a message if she is in the field.

LOGAN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Charlie Allen Pheasants Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist



Charlie recently joined the Pheasants Forever team as a Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist. He will be working out of the USDA service centers in Champaign, Clark, Logan, Madison, and Union Counties. He graduated from Denison University in 2014 with a BA in Environmental Science and has gained experience for the past four years working with two of Pheasants Forever's many partners, Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He is looking forward to becoming a teammate with all of Pheasants Forever's partners and creating strong relationships with land-owners and conservationists.

In his free time, he enjoys floating down a river in a canoe with a fishing pole, going on bike rides, and hikes through the woods. If he isn't exploring nature, you can probably find him on the soccer field, either on the sideline coaching or in the mess running around in circles.

You can reach Charlie at (614) 707-3791 or callen@pheasantsforever.org

A Big Thank You to our outgoing PF Biologist Linnea Rowse who has moved on to The Audubaun Society in Michigan. She contributed the following article before leaving us,

After a cold and wet spring, and before the scorching hot days of late May this spring, participants in the USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and other landowners successfully planted native wildflower plugs in Logan County, and across the state of Ohio. This was part of a large scale effort to improve habitat and food resources for pollinators, including the declining Monarch butterfly, beginning with existing CRP fields up for their "Mid-contract Management" activities. In this first season of implementing pollinator plug planting in Ohio as a part of CRP contracts, the cooperation of all partners and landowners was critical to be successful. Pheasants Forever, the Natural Resources Conservation District, Farm Services Agency, and the Logan County Soil and Water Conservation District worked together to promote successful site preparation, planting methods, considerations about wildlife and pollinator habitat, and information about the native wildflowers. The SWCD ordered nine species of native wildflower plugs, and participants picked up their orders on May 8th. Check out the photos of the plugs on the delivery date, as well as a photo from one participant who planted 320 Common milkweed plugs in his CRP fields!

Logan County SWCD, in partnership with Pheasants Forever and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, plans to continue offering information and bulk ordering times next spring – we look forward to seeing more participants! Ask us how you can join this effort!

What is Your Soil Wearing This Year?

A workshop on Cover Crops and Soil Health

September 6, 2018

5 – 8 pm

Tom and Nancy Smith Farm

2684 Mt Tabor Road,
West Liberty, OH 43357

Presented by:

Logan County Land Trust
Ohio Farm Bureau
Farm Credit Services
Heritage Cooperative
Logan County Farm
Bureau
Dallas Ag, LLC
Indian Lake Watershed
Logan SWCD/NRCS

Directions:

Take SR 68 South out of West Liberty to SR 507 & turn left. Go approximately 3 miles to where 507 becomes Mt. Tabor Road, proceed ¼ mile to your destination.
SR 68 north out of Urbana, turn right on SR 507 and follow above directions.

Featured Presenters:

Dave Brandt – Fairfield County

Dave has been no-till farming since 1971 and has been using cover crops since 1978. He has participated in yield plots for corn, soybeans and wheat into various covers. Dave is currently working with Ohio State University's Randall Reeder and Rafiq Islam on reducing input costs of fertilizers and herbicides using various cover crops, which improve soil health.

Frank Gibbs – Rawson, OH

Frank owns Wetland and Soil Consulting Services, LLC, which he formed after retiring from USDA where he worked for 36 years. Frank has an extensive background in Hydric Soils, Wetlands, Water Tables in the Soil, Soil Compaction, Soil Health, Cover Crops, Manure Disposal, Preferential Flow and Drainage Problems.

Aaron Heilers – Shelby County

Aaron is the Project Manager for the Blanchard River Watershed Demonstration Farms Network. Previously employed by Auglaize SWCD as a Nutrient Mgt. Tech and the Miami SWCD as a Drainage Tech. He is a certified conservation planner with a specialty in nutrient management planning.

Dinner Provided by Dine and Dash Food Truck, Urbana, OH

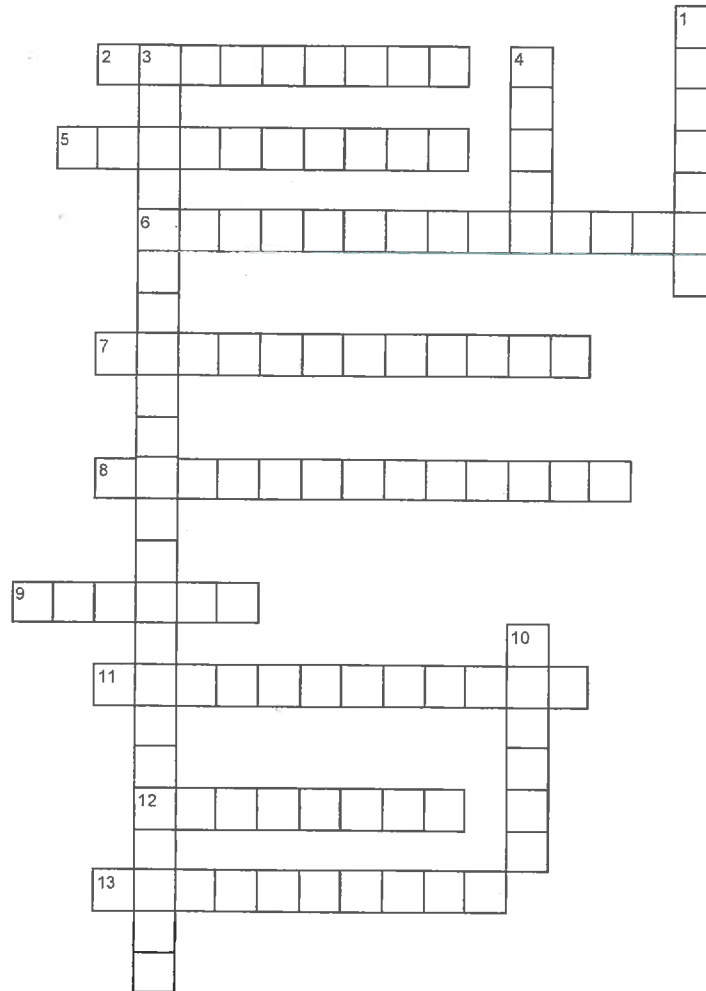
Register ahead \$10, At the door \$12.

Name: _____ Number attending _____

Amount enclosed _____ Checks payable to Logan County Land Trust

Send to Logan County Land Trust, c/o Bob Stoll, 5952 State Route 540, Bellefontaine, OH
43311. 937-935-7505

Soil Conservation



Across

- 2 what are depressions in the land called?
- 5 Substance that is toxic to plants, it is used to destroy unwanted vegetation.
- 6 What is tilling at right angles called?
- 7 What is it called when crops are sown closely together?
- 8 What can tillage speed up?
- 9 What percent is cropland?
- 11 What is one thing compaction is caused by?
- 12 What common chemical is found in many herbicides?
- 13 What is it called when you plant trees to protect the bare soil?

Down

- 1 Used to loosen surface soil prepare the seed bed and control weeds and pest
- 3 A practice that reduces wind speed, rate and amount of water movement within the soil so that it can be used for human purposes.
- 4 If waterways are maintained correctly what does it speed up?
- 10 What percent of public water supplies contains atrazine

Eric Johnson



Eric Johnson is from the Zanesfield area and is currently seeking a 4th term on the Logan Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors. Eric live in rural

Middleburg with his wife of 48 years, Kathy. They have four sons and four daughter in-laws and have been blessed with 13 grandchildren.

Eric has recently retired from Heritage Cooperative where he was Chief of Staff. Due to his work at Heritage Cooperative, he has the opportunity to meet with and work with many farmers in Logan County.

Eric graduated from the Ohio State University with a degree in Agriculture Economics. He also served in the United States Army for three years. He spent 6 months in Brazil with the 4-H IFYE (International Farm Youth Exchange).



Tim Lyden

Tim Lyden is currently seeking a 6th term on the Logan Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors and has served as an Area IV Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation District Director. Tim lives in rural Bellefontaine with his wife

Mary. They are the parents of daughter Jennifer, sons T.J. and Dan, a daughter-in-law and are blessed with four grandsons.

Tim farms with his two sons and wife Mary. He no-till farms: 50 acres of corn, 100 acres of hay, 25 acres of wheat, 250 acres of soybeans and a 10 acre woodlot. Tim uses intensive grazing with his flock of 50 Polypay sheep and crossbred ewes as well as 25 crossbred cows. Tim has planted 200 acres of cover crops and has also installed 5,000 feet of waterways, tree plantings, windbreaks and a heavy use pad on his farm. Fifty acres of cover crops have been implemented in the farming operation. A new 40'X80' manure pack barn is being constructed with the USAD/NRCS EQIP program. He has been a member of the Logan County Sheep and Lamb Association and the Ohio Sheep Improvement Association for 42years.

Tim graduated from the Ohio State University with a B.S. in Animal Science. He is a retired vocational teacher after having taught a total of 35 years. He is a member of St. Patrick's Church where he was on the Parish Council for 8 years and taught Sunday School for 7 years.



Judy Skidmore

Judy lives in the City of Bellefontaine. She is the mother of Jill, Jocelyn and Jessica and the grandmother of Gavin, Lily, Abigail and Eden.

Judy retired in 2011 as Program Assistant with Farm Service Agency where she worked for 30+ years with the federal agency. She currently works as the Office

Associate with The Ohio State University Extension Logan County office.

She serves as secretary of the Benjamin Logan Alumni, has been a 4H advisor for 12 years and attends Union Chapel Church. She has made numerous presentations about bees throughout the county over the years including the Top of Ohio Ag Tour.

LOGAN SWCD AWARDED OHIO EPA EDUCATION GRANT

The Logan Soil & Water Conservation District was awarded the Ohio Environmental Education Fund grant from the Ohio EPA.

The project, "Exploring Effects of Water Quality in Western Ohio" focuses on educating 7th grade Science teachers from Logan, Auglaize, Darke, Hardin, Mercer, Miami and Shelby counties about reducing nutrient loadings to rivers and streams.

A curriculum was developed by Dave Shellhaas, Director of Curriculum with the Midwest Regional Education Service Center and along with Logan SWCD employees and Jill Smith, Logan County Farm Bureau Organization Director conducted a 2 day training for 15 teachers.

August 7th, teachers were educated about water quality, nutrients, from the developed curriculum to assist with the education of their students. They also received water quality test kits for their classrooms and assembled spectrometers developed by the University of Akron.

August 8th, the educators travelled to the Blanchard Watershed Demonstration Farms and learned about water quality.

Teachers were encouraged to reach out to their county Soil and Water Conservation Districts for assistance and guidance concerning water quality.

- Across
 - 2. Waterway
 - 5. Herbicides
 - 3. Agricultureconservation
 - 4. Water
 - 10. Eighty
 - 7. Stripfarming
 - 8. Decomposition
 - 9. Twenty
 - 11. Heavytraffic
 - 12. Atrazine
 - 13. Windbreaks
- Down
- Soil Conservation Crossword Answer Key

LOGAN SWCD/NRCS
324 C. Rd. 11
Bellefontaine, Oh
43311

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

Phone: 937-404-3150
Hours: Monday -Friday-7:30 AM-4:30 PM

LOGAN SWCD SUPERVISORS

*Eric Johnson David Knight Tim Lyden
Frank Phelps Joe Ramsey*

LOGAN SWCD STAFF

Lorre Culp –Secretary / GIS

Deb Roberts-Outgoing District Administrator

*Steve Searson-District Administrator /
Technician*

Jennifer Snipes –Administrative Assistant

USDA/NRCS STAFF

Leisha Billenstein-District Conservationist

LaRae Baker-Resource Conservationist

Charlie Allen—Pheasants Forever Biologist

Indian Lake Watershed Project

Abbi Hastings –Watershed Coordinator

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATES TO REMEMBER

- August 21 Logan SWCD Board Meeting-5:00 PM
Logan SWCD office
- September 3 Labor Day—office closed
- September 6 What is Your Soil Wearing This Year?
Workshop at Smith Farm in West Liberty
- September 13 Logan SWCD -Logan County Farm Bureau
Annual Meeting -6:30 PM, Winner's Harvest
Barn -Doors open at 6:00 PM
- September 18 Logan SWCD Board Meeting-5:00 PM
Logan SWCD Office
- September 18-20 Farm Science Review
- October 8 Columbus Day -Offices Closed
- October 16 Logan SWCD Board Meeting-5:00 PM
Logan SWCD Office
- November 12 Veteran's Day Observance-Offices Closed
- November 20 Logan SWCD Board Meeting-5:00 PM
Logan SWCD Office
- November 22 Thanksgiving Day - Offices Closed
- December 18 Logan SWCD Board Meeting-5:00 PM
Logan SWCD Office
- December 25 Christmas Day - Offices Closed

If you would like to receive the Logan SWCD newsletter electronically, please e-mail your name and address to: deb.roberts@oh.nacdn.net

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

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



**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER**