

Conservation News

Defiance Soil & Water Conservation District | Summer 2023

06879 Evansport Road, Suite C, Defiance, OH 43512 | Phone: 419.782.1794 | Fax: 419.782.1791 | defianceswcd.org
Office Hours Monday-Friday 7:30 am- 4:00 pm



2023 SWCD SUPERVISOR ELECTION

Each year the Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District holds a public election for open positions on the Board of Supervisors. Board member positions are voluntary and elected members serve a three year term commencing January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2026. Individuals who own or occupy land within Defiance County and are 18 years of age or older may vote for their choice of Supervisor.

There are 3 ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot:

1. At the SWCD office, 06879 Evansport Road, from 8/15/2023 until 9/13/2023 during normal business hours; or
2. At the SWCD Open House, which will take place at 06879 Evansport Road on 9/13/2023 from 4:00pm - 7:00pm; voting time is 5:00pm - 6:30pm, or
3. Voting absentee from 8/15/2023 until 9/12/2023, by requesting the ballot application and election ballot from the SWCD office at the following address 06879 Evansport Road, Defiance, OH, by calling 419-782-1794, or email baschemeier@defiancecounty.oh.gov. Absentee ballots must be received by the SWCD office by 9/12/2023 at 3:00pm.

Nominees are listed below.

»»» Robert Bostater

Rob Bostater is a first generation farmer in Defiance County with 16 years of experience farming and being involved in agriculture. Rob attended Edgerton High School and after graduation went to work full time for Cardinal Creek Farms and Seed. Since then, he has taken over the farming operations and employs many conservation practices including no-till, cover crops, and variable rate fertilizer. By serving on the soil and water board, Rob hopes to find new solutions for farmers to conserve resources and still maintain profitability.



»»» Michael Benecke

Michael Benecke is a full-time farmer. He has been farming for 35 years and farms approximately 750 acres. Mike, and his wife, Mary Ann, reside in northeast Defiance County. Mike is a member of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. He is Secretary/Treasurer of the Ridgeville Telephone Company. Conservation practices on Mike's farm include, strip-till on all corn acres, no-till on all soybean acres, and has used some cover crops.

»»» Jeffrey Hange

Jeffrey Hange is a full-time farmer. He farms approximately 700 acres of corn and soybeans. In addition, Jeff also assists his uncle with his farming operation. Jeff, and his wife, Lesley, reside in Delaware Township near Sherwood. They have two daughters, Sophie 4 and Hallie 1. He is a choir member and serves as President of St. John Lutheran Church in Sherwood. Jeff is currently vice-chairman of Defiance SWCD and is in his third, three-year term.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SWCD SUPERVISOR ELECTION VOTING | AUGUST 15-SEPTEMBER 13

DEFIANCE COUNTY FAIR | AUGUST 19-26

LABOR DAY | SEPTEMBER 4
OFFICE CLOSED

OPEN HOUSE | SEPTEMBER 13

FARM SCIENCE REVIEW | SEPTEMBER 19-23

COLUMBUS DAY | OCTOBER 9
OFFICE CLOSED

VETERANS DAY | NOVEMBER 10
OFFICE CLOSED

THANKSGIVING | NOVEMBER 23-24
OFFICE CLOSED

CHRISTMAS DAY | DECEMBER 25
OFFICE CLOSED

NEW YEAR'S DAY | JANUARY 1
OFFICE CLOSED

A large pumpkin is the central focus, surrounded by green leaves and a string of colorful bunting flags. A smaller pumpkin is in the top right corner. The background is a warm orange with white polka dots. A pink scalloped-edged shape contains the year '2023'.

2023

DEFIANCE SWCD

OPEN HOUSE

September 13

ENJOY THE FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

AT DEFIANCE SWCD OFFICE
06879 EVANSPOUR ROAD,
DEFIANCE, OH 43512
4:00PM - 7:00PM



- FREE HOT DOGS & BRATS
- KETTLE CORN
- APPLE CIDER
- ICE CREAM BAR
- PUMPKIN PAINTING & OTHER KIDS ACTIVITIES
- SWCD SUPERVISOR ELECTION VOTING, 5:00PM - 6:30PM
- COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call: 419-782-1794

<https://www.defianceswcd.org/>



DEFIANCE
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

AREA 1 ENVIROTHON

Students from 20 counties across northwest Ohio participated in the Area 1 Envirothon in Mt. Gilead, Ohio. Envirothon is a fun competition that allows high schoolers to test their knowledge on Soils, Aquatics, Forestry, Wildlife and a current issue. The 2023 current issue was "Adapting to a Changing Climate". Defiance County was well represented in the competition by 4 teams between Tinora, Hicksville, and Fairview schools. Congratulations to these 4 teams on all of their hard work!



Hicksville Team, 11th Place



Fairview Team, 6th Place



Tinora Team 1, 9th Place



Tinora Team 2, 20th Place

DEFIANCE COUNTY HOSTS OHIO ENVIROTHON

Defiance SWCD was honored to host the State Envirothon Competition that took place June 11-13. Nineteen teams from across Ohio traveled to Defiance College where the event took place. Each of those teams had qualified to compete in the state competition by placing in the top four at one of the five area contests which took place earlier in the spring.

For the 2023 competition, participants were taken to Penney Nature Center where stations were prepared and teams were given 45 minutes to complete each of the tested topics. In late afternoon, they returned to Defiance College where each of the 19 teams were placed in a classroom with materials and a computer to create their presentation for the next days' judging. This year's presentation scenario focused on "Adapting to a Changing Climate".

Fort Jennings High School was the winner of the event, followed by Lynchburg Clay in second place, and Upper Sandusky

Team 1 in third. The Fort Jennings team traveled on to compete at the National Envirothon Competition held in New Brunswick, Canada on July 23-29. They placed 21st overall in this competition with the Massachusetts team taking first place for the second year in a row.

Defiance SWCD would like to thank Defiance College for partnering with us in hosting this event. We are also grateful to all the volunteers, local businesses, and agencies who provided support. A special thank you goes to Ryan Mack, Bruce Clevenger, Sabrina Brown and Mick Pocratsky for their outstanding dedication and investment to this event and our future conservation leaders.



PENNEY NATURE CENTER CAMP

Penney Nature Center Camp hosted 77 campers during its two separate camp adventures: June 20-22 and June 27-29. "Wetland Wonders" was the theme of this year's camp, offering the attendees multiple learning sessions about Penney's wetland animals, plants, soils and importance to our groundwater quality. Campers enjoyed learning about many of the wetland creatures such as frogs, snakes, turtles, fish and birds. Because ticks are a common inhabitant of wetlands as well as a health risk, attendees were instructed how to remove ticks safely as well as identify and care for any illnesses caused by tick bites. ODNR was on hand both weeks to supply campers with nets and instruction as they gathered macroinvertebrates, tadpoles, salamanders, frogs, and toad larvae from the wetland vernal pools. ODNR also brought the archery trailer, giving the campers the chance to try out their archery skills. Crafting opportunities offered by Defiance OSU Extension allowed kids to make bottle bugs and wetland suncatchers while Defiance 4-H members served as excellent group leaders. Snacks were provided daily with the additional treat of ice cream provided to all campers and their families at the conclusion of camp each week. Thank you to all the parents that helped make this camp possible. We are looking forward to another great camp next year!



K - 1st Grade



3rd - 5th Grade

RENTAL EQUIPMENT

Brillion Grass Seeder

- 10-foot seeding width with 2 separate seed boxes
- Must have ground tilled, level and loose
- Seed is dropped between 2 sets of rollers and covered with loose soil
- Delivery and return fee applied. No charge if picked up - returned by renter
- Must have equipment agreement and liability form signed

Haybuster All-Purpose Drill

- 10-foot seeding width with a broad range of seeding options
- Designed to efficiently seed no-till, minimum till or conventionally tilled fields
- Offers the flexibility of seeding alone or planting 2 different seeds
- \$75 minimum rental fee or \$15 per acre
- Delivery and return fee applied. No charge if picked up - returned by renter
- Must have equipment agreement and liability form signed

Straw Mulcher (Blower)

- Pull-behind a pick-up truck with a 2-inch ball
- Straw mulcher fuel tank must be refilled
- Recommendations of 2 tons straw per acre or 80 bales per acre (50 pound bales)
- \$75 minimum rental fee or \$12 per hour if run over 6.25 hours
- Must be picked up - returned by renter
- Must have equipment agreement and liability form signed

Tree Planter Pull-Type

- Road transport behind pick-up truck with 2-inch ball
- \$30 minimum rental fee or \$30 per 1,000 trees planted
- Must be picked up - returned by renter
- Must have equipment agreement and liability form signed

Delivery and return fee will be based on mileage from the SWCD office

\$20 for 5 mile radius
 \$30 for 10 mile radius
 \$40 for 15 mile radius
 \$50 for 20 mile radius
 \$60 for 25 mile radius

All rentals will be charged tax.
 If tax exempt, please complete a tax exempt form and turn into the swcd prior to renting equipment.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Overview: Ohio Department of Agriculture's H2Ohio program provides cost-sharing funding for farmers to implement proven, science-based best management practices (BMPs).

H2Ohio is Governor Mike Dewine's comprehensive, data-driven water quality plan to reduce harmful algal blooms, improve wastewater infrastructure, and prevent lead contamination. ODA is leading efforts to minimize agricultural loss of nutrients from farm fields.

Program Benefits: The H2Ohio program provides producers with financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices.

- Reducing financial risk of trying new conservation practices on their cropland
- Increasing the effectiveness of recommended systems or individual conservation practices
- Scheduling practices that fit the cooperator's timetable and resources

Together, the SWCD and the producers are working to reduce phosphorous loading by implementing conservation practices and may reduce nutrient applications on their cropland.

Eligibility: Producers in Allen, Auglaize Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Hardin, Hancock, Lucas, Mercer, Putnam, Paulding, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood Counties.

How do I enroll? Please visit the Defiance Soil & Water Conservation District for more information.

For More Information: Visit <http://H2.ohio.gov>

PRACTICE	COST-SHARE
VOLUNTARY NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION	\$10/ACRE - BASIC \$15/ACRE - PRECISION
SUBSURFACE PHOSPHOROUS PLACEMENT	\$20/ACRE
MANURE INCORPORATION AND UTILIZATION	\$35/ACRE - POULTRY LITTER AND SOLID MANURE \$60/ACRE - LIQUID MANURE
OVERWINTERING COVER	\$40/ACRE

Best Management Practices:

Practices have been modified to better suit the needs of producers. A Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan (VNMP) is required for all cropland enrolled in Ohio.

2023 TREE SALE

The 2023 tree sale was held on April 12-14, 2023. There were 19 varieties of trees and deciduous shrubs offered and new this year was 5 varieties of berries for sale for a combined total of 7,750 seedlings sold to 170 customers.

2023 FISH SALE

The 2023 fish sale was held on April 25, 2023. Fenders Fish Hatchery brought 10 species of fish and sold 9,615 fingerlings to 31 customers.

2023 NACD POSTER CONTEST - ONE WATER

Congratulations to Abraham Garcia from Hicksville High School for winning our annual poster contest.

The annual NACD Poster Contest provides students from kindergarten through 12th grade the chance to have their art displayed as part of a national conservation outreach initiative. Each year, the winning posters reflect the NACD's annual Stewardship theme and highlight the work of conservation districts and their state conservation associations, auxiliaries and agencies to protect and enhance natural resources. The contest starts at the district level; winners advance to the state level, and then to the national level, where they receive recognition at NACD's annual meeting.

Abraham's winning poster can be viewed during the month of August on a billboard located on State Route 2 south of Hicksville.



CLETE VETTER MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED....

Congratulations to Molly McGuire and Carrie Zeedyk

This annual \$1,000 college scholarship is meant to bring back into focus the vital necessity and passion for resource conservation by encouraging college-bound students to consider a career in conservation, natural resources, agriculture or a related field. The scholarship committee reviewed many applications and based their decision on the course of study and the desire for higher education along with academic achievements, extra-curriculum activities and determination. The scholarship committee decided to award 2 - \$1,000 scholarships this year. The 2023 winners are Molly McGuire and Carrie Zeedyk.

Molly McGuire graduated from Fairview High School and plans to attend The Ohio State University-Newark to study College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences.

Carrie Zeedyk graduated from Fairview High School and plans to attend The Ohio State University to earn a degree in Agribusiness and Applied Economics.

The Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District and the Defiance Area Foundation partnered to raise funds to establish the Cletus Vetter Memorial College Scholarship for a Defiance County student/resident. The SWCD was fortunate to have Clete as a very active Supervisor for over 20 years. He gave endless hours of volunteerism and was active in many other organizations as well. Throughout Clete's lifetime, he made an impact on soil and water conservation through his farming practices and his leadership capabilities.



National Parks Word Search

Take just a few minutes to complete the word search below and return it to our office by September 29th. The randomly drawn winner will receive a National Parks themed prize.
Good Luck!

06879 Evansport Road, Suite C, Defiance, OH 43512 | Phone: 419.782.1794 | Fax: 419.782.1791 | defianceswcd.org

W	A	Y	F	C	H	D	M	D	V	N	P	B	D	Z	E	K	D	I	A
R	F	G	E	R	I	I	S	M	C	G	O	O	M	Z	A	E	E	I	P
H	J	R	K	L	Z	P	J	R	W	P	G	T	G	T	N	D	O	Y	N
M	K	E	A	V	L	G	M	A	Q	T	L	R	E	A	D	U	P	I	R
I	J	A	L	T	O	O	Q	Y	E	Z	A	W	L	T	Q	G	A	K	V
Q	B	T	R	Z	O	J	W	P	L	N	C	I	R	E	D	T	D	E	H
Y	O	S	E	M	I	T	E	S	D	O	I	T	S	W	N	N	N	I	Q
R	N	M	T	Z	Y	I	E	C	T	C	E	F	S	U	K	T	A	K	E
E	O	O	A	K	V	U	A	I	V	O	R	B	O	H	G	R	F	R	Y
I	Y	K	R	F	T	N	U	Z	O	V	N	M	A	C	A	D	I	A	G
N	N	Y	C	X	Y	I	H	J	X	P	Y	E	D	D	O	X	H	J	X
I	A	M	P	O	X	A	L	U	E	K	C	T	R	O	L	Y	H	J	Y
A	C	O	N	Q	O	N	U	W	C	F	G	N	O	I	Z	A	Y	P	U
R	E	U	N	Y	V	Z	K	O	S	D	R	O	J	F	I	A	N	E	K
T	C	N	E	O	A	A	R	C	H	E	S	R	Q	U	U	B	W	D	D
N	Y	T	T	Q	Q	E	G	R	O	G	R	E	V	I	R	W	E	N	S
U	R	A	D	E	A	T	H	V	A	L	L	E	Y	J	G	W	G	O	B
O	B	I	I	E	V	A	C	H	T	O	M	M	A	M	G	K	C	V	O
M	K	N	J	O	S	H	U	A	T	R	E	E	M	M	D	F	D	M	Z
O	M	S	E	D	A	L	G	R	E	V	E	I	A	P	K	C	D	D	Z

- YOSEMITE
- YELLOWSTONE
- GLACIER
- GRAND CANYON
- ZION
- GRAND TETON
- BRYCE CANYON
- ROCKY MOUNTAIN
- ARCHES
- GREAT SMOKY
- MOUNTAINS
- DENALI
- KENAI FJORDS
- OLYMPIC
- MOUNT RAINIER
- SEQUOIA
- ACADIA
- NEW RIVER GORGE
- DEATH VALLEY
- BADLANDS
- MAMMOTH CAVE
- JOSHUA TREE
- EVERGLADES
- CRATER LAKE



Name: _____

Phone #: _____



The Defiance SWCD and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender, identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department.

CONSERVATION NEWS

DEFIANCE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

06879 Evansport Road, Suite C
Defiance, Ohio 43512
Phone: 419.782.1794
Fax: 419.782.1791
defianceSWCD.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Roger Zeedyk IV
Jeff Hange
Kyle Weber
Luke Case
Mike Benecke

DISTRICT/DITCH MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Kevin Hancock, Administrator
Brenda Aschemeier
Tyler Miller
Jason Roehrig
Amy Birtcher
Madison Gray
Wendy Baker
Josh Limber
Ben Gerken

COUNTY OFFICE PHONE NUMBERS

Auditor	419.782.1926
Board of Elections	419.782.2906
Clerk of Courts	419.782.1936
Commissioners	419.782.4761
Engineer	419.782.4751
Dog Warden	419.784.2335
Emergency Management	419.784.1130
Farm Service Agency	419.782.4781
Health Department	419.784.3818
Highway Department	419.658.2309
NRCS (Defiance)	419.782.8751
OSU Extension	419.782.4771
Recorder	419.782.4741
Sheriff	419.784.1155
Soil & Water	419.782.1794
Treasurer	419.782.8741

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #281
DEFIANCE, OHIO