

# Conservation News

Newsletter of  
the Defiance  
Soil & Water  
Conservation  
District



In Cooperation with the Defiance County Commissioners

## Summer 2010

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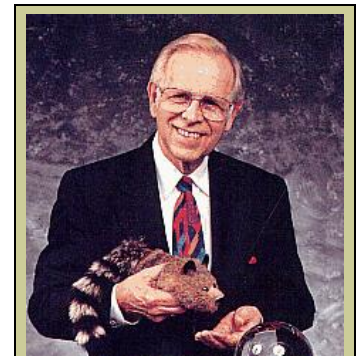
## 61st Annual Meeting Banquet

The Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District will be celebrating its 61<sup>st</sup> year at the annual meeting on Saturday, September 11, 2010. This year's meeting will be held at the Hicksville Village School, 958 East High Street, Hicksville. Appetizers will be at 5:00 p.m., followed by a steak dinner prepared by "Classic Catering by Kim Brown" at 6:00 p.m.

An election to the one expiring position on the Defiance SWCD Board of Supervisors will be held from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Following the election and dinner, there will be a short PowerPoint presentation of the District's highlights and accomplishments from the past year.

The featured entertainment this year will be Dick Stoner, presenting his very entertaining comedy magic show. Dick performs at meetings, conventions and trade shows all across the United States and Canada. In July, 2004, he received an award from the International Brotherhood of Magicians for his accomplishments in the field of magic over the past 50 years. He has recently appeared in New York, Las Vegas, Atlanta, San Francisco and now at the Hicksville School.

Don't miss this opportunity to be involved in your local SWCD—by electing future District leadership, reviewing accomplishments of the District, all while enjoying an evening of dining and entertainment.



Comedy magician Dick Stoner to perform at the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting Banquet.

## *Get Your Tickets Now!*

Please return by  
September 8, 2010

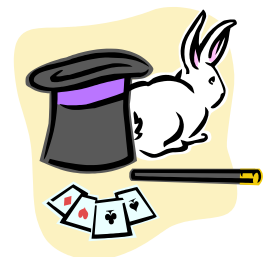
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$12.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:  
Defiance SWCD

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_



# Candidate Profiles



**Keith Schroeder** and his wife, Pamela, reside at 02821 Adams Ridge Road in Adams Township. They are the parents of 2 sons, Layne (20) and Lucas (18). Layne is currently a junior at OSU in Columbus and Lucas will be entering his freshman year at OSU Ag Campus (ATI) in Wooster.

Keith farms full-time and also works part-time for the Ridgeville Telephone Company. He farms approximately 750 acres of which some of the ground is owned and some is rented.

He attends Poplar Ridge Church of the Brethren and is a past Sunday School Teacher and Usher. He is a member of the Farm Bureau and the Tinora Academic and Athletic Boosters. Snow skiing is a hobby that Keith enjoys with his family and friends. He has served as SWCD Supervisor for the past 9 years.



**Gerald A. Zimmerman** and his wife, Franci, reside at 26519 Standley Road in Richland Township. They are the parents of 2 sons, Andrew (35) and Aaron (30) and 2 daughters, Becky Calvo (40) and Chris Shafer (39).

Gerry owns 473 acres and farms 2,300 acres with his sons. He has extensive field tile systems and have no-tilled their crops for 20+ years. Gerry is involved in the buffer strip program.

He attends Defiance St. John's Catholic Church is a choir member, past parish council and school council member. He is a member of the Farm Bureau and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

## *Duties of the Board of Supervisors*

The Board of Supervisors has the responsibility for the role of leadership in developing and implementing all short and long term goals for the Soil and Water Conservation District. Members of the Board are public officials responsible to the people of the District and the State. They employ and guide the staff of the District on workload priorities, manage the District funds, and are a source of feedback from the public on its needs for land and water assistance.

The position of Supervisor is totally voluntary; therefore, a Supervisor does not get paid for his or her service. Each Supervisor is expected to attend all regular Board meetings and other special meetings as requested. A Supervisor is dedicated to giving freely of his or her time to District business and seeing to the conservation and development of the natural resources of the county.

## *Thank You for Your Continued Financial Support*

The Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District would like to express our gratitude to the following entities for their financial assistance:

**Defiance County Commissioners**  
**City of Defiance**  
**Adams Township**  
**Defiance Township**  
**Delaware Township**

**Hicksville Township**  
**Highland Township**  
**Mark Township**  
**Milford Township**  
**Noble Township**

**Richland Township**  
**Tiffin Township**  
**Washington Township**  
**All Affiliate Members**  
**ODNR—Soil and Water Resources**

## Notice of Election

The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of Supervisors of the Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District to be held in accordance with Chapter 1515.01-14 of the Ohio Revised Code, at their 61st Annual Meeting Banquet, Hicksville Village School, Hicksville, Ohio, September 11, 2010.

One Supervisor will be elected for a three year term beginning January 1, 2011. You may cast your vote at the Annual Meeting, or if unable to attend, at the Defiance SWCD office, located at 06879 Evansport Road, Defiance, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Absentee ballots can be cast by mail or in person; however, they must be received by 4:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election. To receive an absentee ballot you must request it in writing and must include a signature of each person requesting a ballot.

The voting process will be similar to past SWCD Supervisor elections and will take place from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This will enable others to come and vote even if they choose not to stay for the evening activities. When you arrive at the Hicksville School, you will sign in at the registration table, and you will be given a ballot to cast your vote. Once you have done this, you will place your single ballot in a ballot-type box; thus, your voting is completed with absolute secrecy! At 6:00 p.m., the ballots will be counted, and the outcome will be announced later that evening.

## 2010 Photo Contest Winners

Each year, the Defiance SWCD sponsors a student photo contest that is oriented to Conservation, Education, Trees and Plants, Wildlife, and Landscapes. The contest is open to students in grades Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> who are residents of Defiance County or attend a Defiance County School. Photos must have been taken in Defiance County. We look forward to seeing your 2011 photo entries!

### Education

1<sup>st</sup> Maticyn Gentit - Tinora Jr. High 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Education Workshop"

2<sup>nd</sup> Elias Coe - Tinora Jr. High 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Science Lab"

### Conservation

1<sup>st</sup> Renae Cramer - Ayersville High 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Riverside Evening"

2<sup>nd</sup> Katelyn Smith - Fairview Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Thinking Snow"

3<sup>rd</sup> Maticyn Gentit - Tinora Jr. High 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Planting Trees"

### Landscapes

1<sup>st</sup> Emily Cramer - Ayersville High 9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Snow Perspective"

2<sup>nd</sup> Maticyn Gentit - Tinora Jr. High 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Beautiful Sunset"



3<sup>rd</sup> Brandon Fitzwater - Tinora High 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Iced Over"

### Trees and Plants

1<sup>st</sup> Taryn Nicely - Ayersville High 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Climbing up to Heaven"

2<sup>nd</sup> Emily Cramer - Ayersville High 9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Bean Field with Sunset"

3<sup>rd</sup> Katelyn Smith - Fairview Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Beauty"

### Wildlife

1<sup>st</sup> Maticyn Gentit - Tinora Jr. High 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"A Squirrel in Search of a Nut"

2<sup>nd</sup> Elias Coe - Tinora Jr. High 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Swan Serenity"

3<sup>rd</sup> Taryn Nicely - Ayersville High 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
"Bees in the Trees"



## Congratulations!

The Spring Issue of "Conservation News" prize giveaway was awarded to James Sarka from rural Defiance. James received a 55 gallon Rain Barrel for sending in the completed water conservation word puzzle.

James' name was drawn from hundreds of puzzles submitted by newsletter readers. We thank everyone for their participation and wish everyone good luck on future contests!





## Rain Barrels

Are you a gardener looking for a way to water your plants and not run up your water bill? Well, then, maybe you should think about installing a rain barrel or two (or four) around your house. Rain barrels are an easy and inexpensive way to catch and reuse the water that runs off of your roof during a storm event. Normally when it rains, water runs off of your roof into your gutters and eventually into the storm drain system. Once it stops raining, that water is no longer available.

During dry weather, wouldn't it be nice to be able to water your garden without running up your water bill? Why not capture that water and put it to good use? Rain barrels are designed to be convenient ways of storing rainwater so that it can be used later to water your plants or lawn.

The idea of storing water for later use has been around for a long time. In the past, people stored water in cisterns and ponds for use.

### 60 Gallon Rain Barrel



**\$70.00**

### 50 Gallon Rain Barrel



**\$65.00**

These rain barrels are food grade high density polyethylene barrels previously used for food. They are cleaned and rinsed with rainwater. A spigot, linking and overflow fittings and screens are then added to the barrels.

1 inch of rain on a 1,000 square feet roof yields 623 gallons of water

## 4,000 Acre CREP Award

Defiance County is the first and only county to reach over 4,000 *CREP* acres in the Lake Erie Watershed. It is a huge accomplishment, and our staff is very proud of what has been completed so far with this conservation program. That amounts to over \$1,000,000.00 in monies to the landowners of Defiance County. We continue to work very hard to enroll acres into this valuable conservation program.

Lake Erie *CREP* is a partnership involving USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), NRCS, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever, Ducks Unlimited, and other local organizations.

For additional information or to signup, please contact Jason at the Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District at 419-782-8751.



## *Black Swamp Educators Extravaganza*

Another year of the Black Swamp Educators Extravaganza has passed and the experience was in the words of the participants, "Variety of activities, & enthusiastic staff. I enjoyed the tours because I teach middle school."

The activities targeted the industries in the Defiance area that practice "Green Technology". The in-classroom sessions centered on Geo Thermal, SK Worm, "Growing Up Wild", Windows on Waste, and Corn Cob Products. The field trips included: Custom Ag of Napoleon's wind turbine facility, Bryan City Power Dam, GM Power Train's Reclamation Project, Bridgewater Dairy, Canal Junction Meats, Cooper Hatchery, LaFarge Cement Plant, Sauder's "coffin" tour and Wild Winds Buffalo Reserve.

Pictured is Carol Benner from Ottawa SWCD introducing S.K.Worm, the official annelid, or worm, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service. He answers student's questions about soil. The S.K. stands for "*Scientific Knowledge*." But you can call him *Skworm*, as in squirm around and wiggle all over the place. Contact our office if you would like to have him visit you.



## *Recognized Wildlife Site in Defiance County*

The Hicksville Board of Education was recognized by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources recognizing the new Land Lab at the school as a *Wildlife Site*. Moving the Land Lab from the former elementary school to its current location involved much support from the community and many other organizations, including the Scouts, Master Gardeners, LaFleur de Terre Garden Club and the Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District.

Hicksville students are able to experience "hands on" learning using this outdoor facility along with the walking trail. Students obtain valuable lessons about how to plant and care for flowers, shrubs and trees. Popcorn seeds are planted by kindergarten students and then harvested by those same students in the fall as first graders.

First graders plant tomatoes and harvest them in the fall. The first grade class makes vegetable soup and the second grade class makes salsa. Third grade students study soil and rocks. Apple trees were planted at the school from graftings that were actually taken from Johnny Appleseed seedlings. These trees are registered with the historic tree society. Fourth grade students study and maintain records of the growth of these apple trees. At this time an area along a creek that is planned to attract butterflies and birds will be maintained by the fifth and sixth graders.

The garden area includes herbs and perennials. Future plans for the Land Lab is to install a wetland area to be used for science studies. The school has a recycling program that helps fund science and math activities for the elementary school. Many of the Land Lab expenses are covered by this program also.



## Defiance County Recycling Locations / Times

SITE	LOCATION	HOURS	Time
Ayersville	Firehouse	1st Monday	9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Evansport	Corner of 1st & Main	3rd Friday	8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Farmer	Firehouse	3rd Monday	9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Hicksville Transfer Station	Gingrich Road	1st & 3rd Saturdays April - November 1st Saturday Only December - March	8:00 AM - 2:00 PM 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Hicksville Village	Grace Methodist Church	1st Friday 4th Wednesday January - April 4th Wednesday September - December 4th Wednesday May - August	9:30 AM - 1:30 PM 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Mark Center	Church Parking Lot	3rd Tuesday	9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Milford Township	Township Building	1st Monday - Barrels Only	Unmanned Site
Ney	Ney Park	3rd Wednesday	9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Noble Township	Township Parking Lot	2nd & 4th Thursday	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Power Dam	Power Dam Plant	1st Wednesday	9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Richland Township	Richland Fire Station	2nd & 4th Tuesday	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sherwood	Sherwood Park Lot	3rd Thursday	9:30 AM - 1:30 PM



For in the end, we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught.

- - Baba Dioum

### SWCD Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The SWCD Board of Supervisors holds its regular monthly meeting the 3rd Tuesday of each month and is open to the public. Please call the office for starting time.

The Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibit discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. The USDA and Defiance SWCD are equal opportunity providers and employers.

# Family Vacation Disasters Word Puzzle

Complete the puzzle by filling in the blanks with family vacation disasters related words below. Then complete the sentence at the bottom using the letters in the numbered squares. Once you have completed the puzzle, mail it back to our office, and we will draw one lucky winner's name on September 3, 2010. The prize is a small travel bag. The winner will be notified and can pick up their prize at the SWCD office. Thanks for reading *Conservation News* and Good Luck!

WLO LEUF LIHTG

Name \_\_\_\_\_

TOLS EAGGLUG

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

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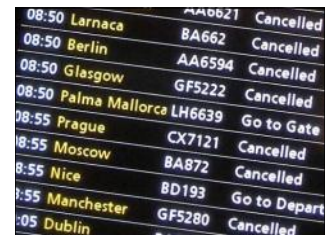
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# Conservation News

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DEFIANCE, OHIO

## Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District

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Phone 419-782-8751 Fax 419-782-1791  
swcd@defiance-county.com  
www.defiance-county.com/swcd

### Board of Supervisors

Louis Shininger  
Dan Vetter  
Keith Schroeder  
Gary Mavis  
Tom Beck

### District Personnel

Jeff Ankney  
Terri Agler  
Ben Gerken  
Deb Mosier  
Jason Roehrig  
Kip Studer (WLEB)  
Bill Grimes (part-time)  
Kevin Hancock  
Ed Walters  
Dave Sines (part-time)

### NRCS Personnel

Steve Snyder  
Lori Shank  
Mike Boff

## *UMWP Hosts Bi-State River Cleanup Day*

The Upper Maumee Watershed Partnership (UMWP) recently hosted a Bi-State River Cleanup Day on Saturday, July 24th at two sites along the Upper Maumee River. Beginning at 10:00 a.m., residents of both Indiana and Ohio joined forces to remove trash from the river at the Kreager Park area in Fort Wayne and from Riverside Park in Antwerp.

The UMWP would like to express our gratitude to everyone that took part in this event. Without the involvement and leadership of local stakeholders, this event and the partnership would not be possible. This event is the first of many activities to be conducted to help improve the overall quality of the river and to increase appreciation of the amazing natural resources that we have in our communities.

The UMWP meets the second Thursday of every month with meeting locations alternating between Ohio and Indiana. Please visit the website, [www.uppermaumeewatershed.com](http://www.uppermaumeewatershed.com) for meeting locations and for more information about the group.

