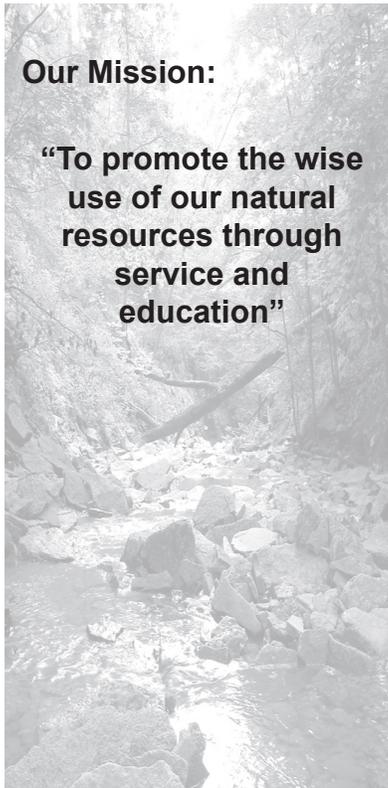




Autumn 2020

Our Mission:

“To promote the wise use of our natural resources through service and education”



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- David Anspach
- Joe Glassmeyer
- Connie O'Connor
- Steve Phillips
- Todd Winemiller

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

- Christina Gates
- Brittany McAdams

DISTRICT STAFF

- John McManus
- Susie Steffensen
- Becky McClatchey
- Jacob Hahn
- Kat Zelak

The Buzz on Bags: Keeping Bins Plastic Bag Free

If you use the recycling drop-off bins in Pattison Park or at the Fairgrounds, you have likely noticed the A-frame signs and electronic message board requesting that you keep the bins plastic bag free. If you haven't seen the signs, both are part of a messaging campaign that may soon be coming to a recycling drop-off site near you. Many of you have already made the switch and stopped putting your recyclables into plastic bags, and for that we are grateful. Keep up the great work! For those who aren't quite sold on why plastic bags can't go into recycling bins or anyone who likes to learn more about the latest and greatest recycling habits, keep reading!

While plastic bags, films, and wraps are recyclable by many manufacturers like Kroger, Meijer, and Home Depot, they are not recyclable by Rumpke. Throwing plastic bags filled with recyclables into drop-off bins can do more harm than good as the entire bag, contents included, are likely to be thrown away at the Recycling Sorting Center. If any plastic bags make it through this preliminary inspection, they bind up sorting machines and can wreck multi-million dollar equipment. Putting recyclables in plastic bags is not only

a waste of time and resources for you, but it also causes downtime, lost revenue, and risky working conditions for the recycling personnel who have to crawl into machines to pull out the tangled bags.

There are several great alternatives to using plastic bags to contain your recyclables. One option is to purchase a small trash can or plastic tub to hold loose recyclables. When the container becomes full, it's time to take the recyclables to the drop-off center. You can then dump your loose recyclables directly into the drop-off bin. Another option is to use paper bags or boxes to hold your recycling. Just don't forget to break down those boxes before you toss them in the bins!

No matter what option you choose, by keeping plastic bags out of recycling bins and leaving your recyclables loose, you are helping make Clermont County a little bit better for everyone. For more information on recycling in Clermont County, please visit www.oeq.net.





Supervisor Candidates

*2 Board Postions to be Filled *



Dave Anspach grew up on the family farm in Owensville, where he and his wife Pam reside today. Dave’s family has always practiced conservation on the farm, and his father Ray was the District’s Outstanding Cooperator of the Year in 1977. Installed practices include a WASCOB, several drainage/ditching projects and utilizing no-till in their operation. About 100 acres are rotated in soybeans and corn on the 125 acre farm.

Dave has a B.S. degree in Business from Miami University, and worked for the Farm Credit Services Agency for 15 years before serving as Clermont SWCD’s Administrator from 1990-97. During his tenure with the SWCD, Dave helped oversee the development of a full-time education program and helped coordinate the development of the Agricultural Center complex and movement of the District offices to the fairgrounds facility in 1995.

Dave has served on the Clermont County Park Board for 22 years, during which time he helped plan and direct the development of the new Chilo Lock #34 Museum and Visitor Center.

In 2006, Dave rejoined the Clermont SWCD family as a Board Supervisor. He is now completing his fifth 3-year term on the SWCD Board. Additionally, Dave serves as the Secretary-Treasurer for the Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts. Dave states that he would like to continue to use his conservation background and experience to serve the community.



Scott Jennings is a lifetime resident of Felicity (Franklin Township) where he lives on a generational family farm with his wife, Jill and daughter, Erin in southern Clermont County.

Scott has worked on the family farm of 400 acres since a young boy. He raises row crops, hay and has a 100 head beef production operation.

Scott has previously been a board member of the Farm Service Agency. He has worked with NRCS in prior years to construct fencing, develop a natural spring waterer for the cattle and numerous other waterway conservation measures. In 2008, he received the Cooperator of the Year award presented by Clermont SWCD.



Tim Rose is a lifetime resident of Clermont County and the Third generation Rose to operate Ohio Pike Farms in Bethel. Together, Tim and his father farm nearly 1,000 acres of corn and soybeans rotating crops annually and practicing no-till planting. With the recent addition of grass filter strips through multiple fields, Tim continues to practice conservation on the farm. Tim is a young farmer with big plans for caring for his land and positively impacting the community he lives in. Tim has dedicated his life to the farm and plans to pass his knowledge of agriculture and the industry onto his children as they grow.



If your address is incorrect or you would like to be added / removed from our mailing list, please contact us at (513) 732-7075.

All NRCS / SWCD programs and services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status.

Board of Supervisors Election Procedures

From September 26, 2020 through October 9, 2020 an election will be held to elect two individuals to the Clermont SWCD Board of Supervisors for a three year term commencing January 1, 2021. Candidates for the election include David Anspach, Scott Jennings and Tim Rose. Biographies for each of these candidates are found on page 2.

Due to COVID 19 we will not be holding an annual meeting this year, so voting for SWCD supervisors will be a bit different. County residents and landowners can request absentee ballots starting August 26 by phone (513) 732-7075, email, mail, or in person. The new ballot contains both the ballot and the registration information on one page to simplify the process. When absentee ballots are requested, the requester must provide information on who will be completing

the ballot. Clermont SWCD will keep a registration list to verify that the designated person filled out the pre-numbered ballot. Ballots must be postmarked by October 9 to be considered valid.

If you would prefer to vote in person, we will be holding 'Drive Thru' polling from September 26 through October 9 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Come to the Clermont County Fairgrounds, 1000 Locust St., Owensville, OH. Follow the signs to the area between the Agricultural Center and the Commercial Building. Here we will have signs with our phone number. Give us a call and we will bring you a ballot to fill out... that simple! There are special requirements for non-resident landowners and corporations. A notarized affidavit must be presented or on file prior to absentee ballot request. For more election and affidavit information call us at 513-732-7075 ext. 2 or send us an email at ssteffensen@clermontcountyohio.gov

Ohio "Mini-River Sweep" Taking Place Until November 15, 2020

Due to this pandemic, safety concerns for the coordinators and volunteers prohibit the large groups of volunteers that the Ohio River Sweep typically hosts. Despite these challenges, individuals, families and small groups have volunteered to do their own "mini-River Sweep" cleanups. These groups of 10 people or fewer can contact Penny Greenler with ORSANCO to sign-up for this event.

If you want to conduct your own river sweep, you will be supplied with a t-shirt and gloves (as long as supplies last) and lots of garbage bags.

Just follow these steps!!

- Email Riversweep2020@gmail.com to register
- Sign the waiver at <http://www.orsanco.org/ohio-river-sweep-volunteer-waiver/>
- Properly throw away litter
- Take photos and email to Riversweep2020@gmail.com

We hope that this year's Sweep can be conducted and fulfill its mission in this creative way, and continue engaging citizens in the importance of cleaning and protecting the Ohio River which is a valuable natural resource.

Christina Joins Clermont and Brown NRCS

Hello everyone! My name is Christina Gates and I am the new District Conservationist for Clermont and Brown Counties. I have just made the move to Ohio NRCS after working with Indiana NRCS for the last 3 ½ years and spent 2 ½ years prior to that with Shelby County Soil and Water Conservation District.



I am a Purdue University-Ag Economics alumnus and after being in the ag industry post-graduation, decided that I would like to have a career in conservation. At Shelby County SWCD I was the Natural Resource Specialist and wrote a Watershed Management Plan for The Lower Big Blue River (HUC-10) under the EPA Section 319 Grant. In 2016 I started as a Soil Conservationist with NRCS in Greencastle, Indiana and in 2019 became a District Conservationist in Greene County, Indiana.

Outside of work I enjoy the outdoors—boating, fishing, racing, hiking, concerts, and most recently shopping at Lowe's for new homeowner DIY projects. I am very excited to have the opportunity to join Ohio NRCS—to grow, learn, become involved, and share my knowledge of conservation!

Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 549
1000 Locust Street, Owensville, Ohio 45160
Phone: 513-732-7075
www.clermontswcd.org
<http://www.facebook.com/clermontswcd>
<http://www.twitter.com/clermontswcd>

2020 “Summer” Litter Clean-Up

Thank you to all of the volunteers that participated in the 2020 “Summer” Litter Clean-Up (SLC)! This year’s event was a virtual, ‘Do-It-Yourself’ event during the month of July. Volunteers were encouraged to find nearby areas, streams and parks in need of litter removal. Over 115 people registered to participate this year. Every little bit of trash collected makes a big difference! Roadways and streams are the areas most plagued with trash and debris.

According to Keep Ohio Beautiful, the yearly estimates for roadside litter in Ohio is over 12 tons (or, 51.2 billion pieces of trash), with cigarettes being the most problematic. Much of this trash originates from motorists and ends up washing into storm drains and streams. Unfortunately it’s not uncommon to find dumping areas near streams and lakes, where items such as old appliances or car parts are irresponsibly discarded. Events like the SLC and the upcoming Ohio River Sweep are so important for communities to take action to clean up unsightly trash and work towards litter prevention.

Clermont SWCD and the Valley View Foundation would like to extend a special thank you to the event sponsors: Duke Energy Foundation, Southern Ohio Association of Realtors and the Clermont County Convention and Visitor’s Bureau. Thank you also to the local businesses that donated prizes for the volunteers who reported their activities: Lykins Energy Solutions, Chick-fil-A (Milford), Chipotle, AMC Movies, Shell Gas, Cincinnati Nature Center and the Clermont County Park District. We’re looking forward to SLC 2021!

P.S. Check out some of fun pictures sent in by our volunteers!
<https://www.springlittercleanup.com/>

Calendar

Holiday (Office Closed)	Sept. 7
Monthly Board Meeting	Sept. 9 8am
Annual Meeting	CANCELED
Supervisor Voting Polls Start	Sept. 26
Supervisor Voting Polls End	Oct 9
Holiday (Office Closed)	Oct. 12
Monthly Board Meeting	Oct. 14 8am
Monthly Board Meeting	Nov. 10 8am
Holiday (Office Closed)	Nov. 11