



Conservation Close Up

Hancock Soil & Water Conservation

Winter 2020

Supervisors Organize

The Hancock Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors organized for 2020 during its regular board meeting on January 6, 2020.

Dave Reese was named Chairman of the Board, Linda Tuttle, Vice-Chairman, and Matthew Heitkamp Fiscal Agent, with Evan Jackson and Jason Bower rounding out the five-member board of supervisors.

The supervisors will hold regular board meetings on the first Monday of every month at 8:30 a.m. in the Hancock SWCD office meeting room at 7868 Co. Rd. 140, Suite E, Findlay, Ohio 45840.



Good Luck!

Richard Gassman was a vital member of the Hancock SWCD Board of Supervisors for 30 years starting in 1990. Richard decided to retire from the board as of January 1, 2020.

Richard will be missed for his leadership and willingness to assist with any activity or issue that presented itself to the District. Richard has been dedicated to preserving our natural resources and attended many state,

The 2019 Supervisor Committees are:

- 1) District Operations Committee—Jason Bower
- 2) Drainage Committee—Matthew Heitkamp
- 3) Conservation Programs Committee—Evan Jackson
- 4) Information/Education Committee—Dave Reese
- 4) Land Use Committee—Linda Tuttle

You may contact the Hancock SWCD office at 419-422-6569 for further information or visit our webpage at: www.hancockswcd.com.

Ohio Working Lands

Hancock SWCD currently has both the Ohio Working Lands Buffer Program and Small Grains Program open for applications.

The small grains program encourages the planting of small grains for conservation benefits and provides livestock producers with land to apply manure.

The buffer program aides in establishing a year-round cover on eligible croplands and aids in preventing the run-off of nutrients.

For more information contact Tyler Koenig at 419-422-6569.



Local and national meetings as a representative for the district.

Richard spent a majority of his 30 years as Fiscal Agent for the district. He and his wife, Diana, were always ready to help with educational programs, fair displays and of course the Hancock Farm Tour. While Richard is ready to spend more time with family and on his farm; he will still be a volunteer at the district! We will definite-

ly have him involved in the 2020 Farm Tour!

Thank you, Richard, for your time, dedication and friendship for the last 30 years!



Drainage Maintenance Updates

The following maintenance work has either been completed or is still planned on being completed prior to the spring planting season;

PLANNED MAINTENANCE:

Allen Township—Voorhees—Chopping

Amanda Township—Buck Run Jt.—Washout Repair; Jerry Stahl Jt.—Washout Repair

City of Findlay—Tall Timers—Chopping

Delaware Township—Stone Jt.—Tree Clearing & Chopping

Marion Township—W.B. Kring—Dip-Out

Portage Township—R.B. Worden—Bank Repair

COMPLETED MAINTENANCE:

Liberty Township—Lanning—Dip-Out

Madison Township—Rothlisberger Open Ditch—Dip-Out

Union Township—E.E. Urban—Dip Out; Steiner—Dip-Out

MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS:

We will continue our yearly maintenance ditch inspections throughout the next couple of months.

PETITION PROJECTS:

A.L. Pickett—Work is expected to begin this winter on the project and be completed prior to May 31, 2020.

E.E. Dreitzler—Bids have been received and work is anticipated to be complete prior to May 1, 2020.

G.N. Pugh—Additional survey work will be completed this winter and design will be completed in the Spring of 2020. Construction is expected for Fall of 2020 or Spring of 2021.

R.L. Adams—A petition to reconstruct/reshape an existing open ditch was received in December 2019. The view and first hearing for the project will be held February 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hancock Agricultural Service Center Building in the conference room. An overview of the anticipated project and preliminary cost will be shared with those impacted within the watershed.

S.W. Boyer—We will be performing additional survey work and finalizing the design this winter. Hancock SWCD plans on holding a meeting to review the design prior to sending the plans to the Commissioners for their approval. We anticipate bidding the project late summer and proceeding with construction in the Fall of 2020.

W.W. Fenstermaker—Survey work is complete and design is 70% complete. Similar to the S. W. Boyer, Hancock SWCD will hold a meeting to review the design prior to sending the plans to the Commissioners for their approval. We anticipate bidding the project late summer and proceeding with construction after the 2020 harvest.

If you have any questions regarding ditch projects, ditch maintenance, spraying or log jam removal; please, contact Greg Burks, Drainage Coordinator, at 419-422-6569 or gburks@hancockswcd.com.



Area I Envirothon

The 2020 Area I Envirothon is Wednesday, April 22nd at the Kalida Fish & Game Club, 16415 St. Rt. 694, Kalida, OH 45853.

The Area I Envirothon is one of five Area Envirothons to be held throughout the state. From here, winners proceed to the State Envirothon where they are given the opportunity to advance to the North America Envirothon.

Test Questions and study materials for the Envirothon are prepared and assembled by natural resource professionals from a variety of agencies, organizations, universities, and businesses. These individuals also staff the various resource stations at each competition.

The Envirothon is a competitive, academic outdoor event for high school students. The program has a number of goals and objectives, including:

- to promote greater awareness of natural resources and environmental issues
 - to heighten understanding of the interrelationships between plants, animals, humans and the environment they share
 - to increase student interest in further environmental and natural history study
 - to celebrate the spirit of competition and excellence
 - to encourage young people to become action oriented members of society
 - to interest students to explore natural resource environmental careers
- By preparing for and participat-

ing in the Envirothon, students will develop interpersonal skills by working with other student team members in cooperative decision making and problem solving.

Students will also meet professionals from a variety of federal, state, and local natural resource conservation and management agencies and organizations and private industry. Students will benefit from exposure to various approaches to environmental questions. They will also have an opportunity to learn more about environmental career opportunities and responsibilities.

The 2020 theme is: "Water Resource Management: Local Control and Solutions". Students will take a team test at each of four stations: Forestry, Soils, Wildlife and Aquatics.

The top two teams will move on to the Ohio Envirothon on June 7-9 2020 at Lake Erie College, Painesville, Ohio.

The winning team at state will go on to the North American Envirothon on July 26–August 1st at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska.

The Hancock SWCD will pay the \$40 registration fee for one team per Hancock County and Findlay City Schools. Contact Hancock SWCD at 419-422-6569 for more information or visit the Area I Envirothon website at:

<http://www.area1envirothon.org>.



Water Testing Update

Hancock SWCD is continuing with surface water quality testing throughout Hancock County.

We conduct our sampling quarterly and test for Phosphates (ppm), Ammonia (ppm), Temperature (F), pH, Conductance (SPC), and Turbidity (FNU).

We started conducting our testing in winter of 2017, current results are preliminary and will require additional testing before any kind of conclusions can be made with the data. Our goal is to use this data to see results from the different Soil & Water Conservation programs implemented throughout Hancock County. Any questions regarding our water quality testing should be directed to, Alex Wood at 419-422-6569 or email to awood@hancockswcd.com

Conservation Tillage & Technology Conference

The 2020 CTC will be held on Tuesday & Wednesday, March 3rd and 4th at McIntosh Center Ohio Northern University.

Daily sessions run from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Session titles include: Corn University, Soybean School, Cover Crops, Nutrient Management, Soil & Water Quality, Precision Agriculture, Soil Health, On-Farm Research and Decisions, Conservation Planning, and No-till Systems.

Early registration is \$70 per day or \$95 for both days and must be made by February 21, 2019. Later registrations after February 21st are \$85 per day or \$115 for both days. For more information call: Allen SWCD at 419-223-0040, Ext. 3.



Hancock SWCD - 2020 Tree Packet Program

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____



ORDER DEADLINE: March 19, 2020

CHECK MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER



Make checks payable to: Hancock SWCD, 7868 C.R. 140, Suite E, Findlay, OH 45840

ORDER FORM

(Download an Order Form @hancockswcd.com)

<u>PACKET</u>	<u># PKTS. ORDERED</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>SEEDLINGS</u> - Seedlings are 4"-12"			
Colorado Blue Spruce (25)		\$ 16/pkt.	
Norway Spruce (25)		\$ 16/pkt.	
American Red Pine (25)		\$ 16/pkt.	
Red Cedar (25)		\$ 16/pkt.	
American Arborvitae (25) - 3"-6"		\$ 16/pkt.	
<u>TRANSPLANTS</u> -Transplants are 6" -12"			
Blue Spruce (10)		\$ 16/pkt.	
White Spruce (10)		\$ 16/pkt.	
American Arborvitae—36"-48" (5)		\$ 16/pkt.	
<u>HARDWOODS</u> - Hardwoods are 6"-12"			
Swamp White Oak (5)		\$ 10/pkt.	
Pin Oak (5)		\$ 10/pkt.	
Red Oak (5)		\$ 10/pkt.	
Sugar Maple (5)		\$ 10/pkt.	
Marking Flags (100 per bundle)		\$ 10/pkt.	
		TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	

** Seedlings may arrive the first or second week of April; however, we do not have a definite delivery date. You will receive a letter telling you when to pick-up your order.



Hancock Soil & Water

Conservation District
7868 CR 140, Ste. E
Findlay, OH 45840



Phone: 419-422-6569

Fax: 419-422-0080

Website: www.hancockswcd.com

District Board of Supervisors

Dave Reese, Chairman
Linda Tuttle, Vice-Chairman
Matthew Heitkamp, Fiscal Agent
Evan Jackson, Member
Jason Bower, Member

District Staff

Jean Derr, DPA
Tyler Koenig, District Technician
Greg Burks, District Technician
Alex Wood, District Technician

NRCS Staff

All services of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) and Hancock SWCD are available to persons regardless of Race, Sex, Color, National Origin, Religion, Marital Status, Age, or Handicap.



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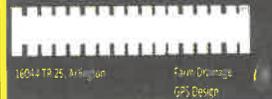


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