

February 20, 2023

Monday

4:00-6:00

Directors Meeting – Executive Meeting Room

February 21, 2023

Tuesday

9:00-10:00

Welcome & Agency Updates

(General Session) Hear from State Conservationist John Wilson, USDA-NRCS, Chief Kirk Hines, ODA ,and President Matt Peart, OFSWCD on updates from their respective agencies. As an added bonus, Etta Reed, Chair of the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will be our guest. In addition to being Chair, Etta is also a Principal with Bayer Becker and will give us her perspectives on how companies like hers can engage with Soil and Water Districts throughout the state.

10:00-10:45

TikTok with Ty

(General Session) Ty Higgins, Senior Director of Communications and Media Relations at the Ohio Farm Bureau, addressed a breakout session at Summer Supervisors School and many felt that his message deserved a bigger audience, so we have invited him back to discuss how social media tools (TikTok and others) can be used to broaden your outreach and engagement efforts. Farm Bureau has seen tremendous engagement through their social media outlets and he will explain how they are using these tools to reach out to a broader audience.

11:00-11:45 Breakouts

ODA H2Ohio Update: Join some of our favorites from the division for an update on H2Ohio enrollment and activities. Room 20

How to Run a Successful Fish Sale: Fish sales can be a great way to connect with landowners and put a positive light on your district. Let Suzanne Westlake, District Technician of Ashtabula SWCD show you how to have a successful fish sale that keeps your fish supplier and customers happy while still being stress free and fun for you. Room 21

Taming Individual Lot Controls – Stark SWCD - For conservation districts that provide MS4 services, dealing with individual lots in an allotment is both challenging and vexing. In this workshop, learn what are the requirements for individual lot controls under the Ohio EPA General Permit Construction, strategies to encourage the installation of best management practices on individual lots after sold to a buyer or home builder, and what must happen before the district can “walk away” from an individual lot. Room 22

Expanding Forestry Assistance in Lake Erie Watersheds – Cotton Randall will discuss the newest program from ODNR. Room 30

New Programs at Rural Development – Jonathan McCracken, State Director of USDA-RD, and his team will be here to discuss new programs districts can engage in with Rural Development. Room 31

Integrated Vegetation Management – Evolving the Pipeline Landscape: In 2021, Marathon Pipe Line LLC (MPL) set a biodiversity target to apply sustainable landscapes to 50% of compatible rights of way by the end of 2025. Scott Sharpe, MPL's sustainable landscapes coordinator, will outline how sustainable landscapes allow MPL to operate safely, reliably and efficiently while providing high quality habitat for species and promoting long-term environmental and ecological health along our rights of way. In addition, Mr. Sharpe will share initiatives in practice through real case studies, discuss benefits, and share lessons learned on MPL's journey to lead in sustainable energy.

Elevated P Research – Dr. Jay Martin - To test the potential for management practices to reduce nutrient runoff from legacy phosphorus fields we formed a public-private partnership with agricultural retailers to identify, manage, and monitor runoff from these fields. While these settings have the potential for large nutrient reductions, their closely guarded locations have prohibited past research. Results confirmed that this partnership was effective at locating and installing management practices at these fields and that large nutrient reductions are possible at these locations. Continued monitoring and analysis will identify additional guidance for the installation of management practices for legacy phosphorus fields. Room 33

Awards Luncheon – Ballroom

*Join the Federation officers, Employees Association and ODA for a presentation of awards, as well as comments from Ohio Department of Agriculture **Director Brian Baldridge**.*

1:45-2:45

Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission Meeting – Ballroom (one section)

Cost Sharing on a District Level – Katie Kovaly of Monroe SWCD will share ideas on cost share for smaller producers – from soil testing, lime, grazing and cover crop cost share. – room 21

Basics of Wetland Delineations - Mark A. Dilley - Wetlands are an essential component of our landscape and knowing how to properly recognize them is integral to effective resource management. In

this presentation, Mark will share some helpful "pro-tips" on what to look for to make good field calls on what is (and isn't) a wetland. Room 22 -

Tree Carbon – Forest carbon projects are an innovative approach to addressing climate change by using forests to store carbon dioxide. In this presentation, we will explore how these projects work, the different types of forest carbon projects that exist or will soon exist in Ohio, and how interested landowners can enroll their properties in these projects. With Tom Rooney TBD – Room 30

MyFarms – ODA and MyFarms will discuss plans to integrate MyFarms with Beehive. (This session will repeat) room 31

H2Ohio – ODNR – come get the latest update on ODNR's H2Ohio programs from Eric and Rachel and team. Room 32

Bobcats and Black Bears in Ohio - In this presentation I'll provide an overview of the history of bobcats and black bears in Ohio, the circumstances surrounding their return to the state, and their current status with Catherine Dennison, ODNR, Room 33

A Roundtable Discussion with Friends of ORC 6131, 6137 and 940 CWI projects

Creating a network that we can all call upon to share our collective experience with those that may be new to the opportunities or looking to expand their involvement or for those of us that are longtime participants and are open to the idea that there may be a better way. The Roundtable will include discussion of possible legislative opportunities to clean up and further refine the process. Moderated by Scott Stephens, Room 34

3:00-4:00

Grant Programs for SWCD Educational Programs and Projects - Participants will learn about the Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF) and some dos and don'ts when researching funders/grants and applying to OEEF or to another source of funding. This session will give specific information on funded grants to Ohio's SWCD's and provide other educational resources the Ohio EPA has to offer. With everyone's favorite, Dennis Clement, Room 21

Ohio EPA Session – Led by Molly Conley, Jennifer Fish and Justin Reinhart – This team has been working on a guidance document for Soil and Water Districts and the Ohio EPA to further our relationship. Justin will also provides some OEPA updates., Room 22

Rebranding – Hamilton SWCD has gone through a rebrand. Hear from Sara Fehring on their team about the process and how they arrived at that amazing new logo. Room 30

MyFarms – Repeating session. Room 31

4:00-5:00

Roundtable Sessions

Urban Networking Committee – Room 22 (will move off sight, but meet here)

Administrators – Room 30

Educators – Room 31

Supervisors – Room 32

Technicians – Room 33

February 22

Wednesday

8:30-9:30

Legislative Breakfast – Please reach out to your legislators and ask them to join us for this event. Ballroom

10:00 -11:00

Delegate Session* Ballroom – One voting delegate from each county will vote on Resolutions and Officers. Voting delegates must be supervisors. Staff are not permitted to vote.

Long Term Changes in Grand Lake St Marys Water Quality – Join Dr. Stephen Jacquemin and Mercer County SWCD Engineer Theresa Dirksen for an update on GLSM. Grand Lake St Marys has historically experienced degraded water quality as a result of excess nutrient runoff from the surrounding watershed. Water quality issues have largely manifested in the form of elevated nutrient and sediment concentrations in the streams as well as persistent harmful algal blooms in the lake. As a result, the watershed was officially declared distressed in 2011, at which point a variety of conservation efforts including best management practices, stream and wetland

restorations, nutrient management practices and manure management policies, and communication initiatives began to be implemented. The implementation of these conservation measures continues today. As a result of these conservation measures, notable improvements in stream as well as lake water quality have been documented. And while Grand Lake St Marys watershed does not yet rise to the level of 'restored', real progress has been and continues to be made setting the stage for future improvements to be realized. Room 20

Urban Tech Roundtable – Led by John Nelson, this group gathers on a regular basis to share ideas and questions. Room 21

GIS Tech Roundtable* – GIS is becoming more and more important to the work we do. Led by our friends at Erie SWCD, this will be an extended session that is an open opportunity to share ideas and ask questions. Bring your computer if possible and work through some cool stuff as well as any challenges you may have. Executive Meeting Room

Locally-Led Working Groups – 'Tis the season to bring our working groups together and for many of us it may be a first time. Hear from NRCS on how to structure the agenda and conversation for your meeting. Room 31

Records Retention – Attorney Morgan Lyles – To keep or not to keep, that is the question. Morgan will be on hand to share thoughts on the things you should keep, the things you absolutely should throw away, the things that need to be archived, and digital records management. Room 32

PAX Training – Jim Posey from Sandusky Public Health will join us to lead a session in the PAX Good Behavior Game. The PAX Good Behavior Game® is an evidence-based universal preventive intervention applied by teachers in the classroom. This evidence-based practice consists of a set of research-based strategies with origins in behavioral science, neuroscience, and cultural wisdom that operate together to improve children's self-regulation. Teachers implement these strategies as part of their daily routines in carrying out tasks such as getting students' attention, selecting students for tasks, transitioning from one task to the next, working as part of a team, limiting problematic behavior, and reinforcing pro-social behavior.

The PAX Good Behavior Game® helps to build children's self-regulation, resulting in improved focus and attention, improved test scores and other academic outcomes, reduced alcohol consumption and other drug use, reduced psychiatric disorders, and reduced suicide. PAX is unique in arranging for peer reinforcement for exhibiting prosocial behavior and peer reinforcement for inhibiting problematic behavior. PAX truly benefits everyone by making the children the heroes of change.

**The PAX session will extend into the next time slot, you should plan to attend both sessions.*

Room 33

11:15-12:00

Solar Update – Dale Arnold from Ohio Farm Bureau will give us an update on Ohio's Solar Landscape; from legislative activity to current thoughts from landowners. Room 21

Total Maximum Daily Load and Integrated Report Programs – Rush Briland and Marianne Mansfield, Ohio EPA - *Description:* The presentation will provide an overview of Ohio's programs to assess, identify and restore waters throughout the state. The Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Integrated Report (IR) programs work in tandem to fulfill federal and state requirements to protect and restore the beneficial uses of streams, rivers, and lakes in Ohio. Public engagement, especially with soil and water conservation districts, is an important component of these programs. This presentation will highlight ways to participate in the process to achieve Ohio's water quality goals. Room 22

Partnering with NRCS to protect future agricultural viability. Abby McClain, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, Agricultural Land Easement (ACEP-ALE) Program Manager. Room 31

GIS Roundtable – extended Executive Meeting Room

eFields – Dr. John Fulton, The Ohio State University, will be on hand to discuss the latest on eFields and other current research. Room 32

PAX – extended (room 33)

Responsible Forestry Management – OSU's Dave Apsley will join us for "Tips that Pay" – how to counsel forestry landowners in making the best management decisions. room 34

HR Committee – Hear the latest update from the HR Committee and our consultant Bob Bethel. (This session will repeat) (room 35)

Luncheon – Guest Speaker Ryan Bergman, Danone Company, followed by the 'Passing of the Gavel' ceremony.

1:45-2:30

CAUV Mapping Technology – Monroe SWCD staff are using new technology through their local Tax Map Department to make tracking CAUV inspections easier and less time consuming. Room 21

Electronic Mail Products – Whether you are using MailChimp or Constant Contact, the folks at Inspire PR will be here to share with us which tools work best and how to maximize your outreach. Room 22

Forestry Pollution Abatement Program - Forestry Complaint Surprises and Disguises!

Wait! The Forestry Pollution Abatement Program covers issues other than logging? That's right. We'll discuss the wide range of silvicultural complaints that SWCDs and the Division of Forestry receive and determine what falls under the FPAP program and, (just as importantly), what doesn't. We will also explore the trigger points that may indicate that other agencies have jurisdiction on the complaint site and the influence that has on our BMP recommendations. Bob Mulligan, Forest Hydrology Manager, ODNR Division of Forestry, Room 30

Caring for our Watersheds – Gwen Roth from Hamilton SWCD will share information on the 'Caring for Our Watersheds' program. High School students all over the state of Ohio are asked to identify a concern in their watershed and write a proposal about how they would fix said problem. These proposals are reviewed by 2 sets of judges and narrowed down to the top 10 best proposals (we usually have an honorable mention or two as well). These top 10 teams are partnered with a mentor, given up to \$1,000 to actually go and implement their idea. Afterwards, they come to the final competition (held this year at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden on Saturday, May 6th) and give a 5-minute verbal presentation about their project in front of a group of judges. The verbal judges will score the presentations. Those scores will be combined with the scores from the written judging and prizes will be awarded. The school/club also receives matching monies. Room 32

Drones – Many Districts have drones while others may want to expand their workload to include drones. Join us for a roundtable led by Greg Rouse. Room 33

HR Committee – Hear the latest update from the HR Committee and our consultant Bob Bethel. (This session will repeat) room 34

Alternative Practice Delivery Models to Move the Needle for Adoption of Conservation Drainage Practices -

Traditional conservation practice delivery may not be equipped to handle scaled-up implementation demands needed to meet regional nutrient reduction goals especially when it comes to conservation

drainage practices. Barriers to conservation drainage practice adoption include lack of technical capacity and focused outreach, up front capital investments for landowners, managing contractors, and the timeliness of financial assistance contract approval. In this session you will learn from two alternative practice delivery models that have shown success in speeding conservation drainage practice implementation by addressing barriers to adoption to all stakeholders involved in the project.

Speaker: Keegan Kult, Executive Director for the Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition, Room 35

3:00-4:30 –

Urban Beehive Group – 12 districts have added an urban module to Beehive. If you are one of these districts, please join this session to share. If you are interested in adding this module, you are welcome to join us to learn more about what it does. Led by Molly Conley. Room 22

the Ohio Landowner – Hunter Access Partnership (OLHAP) program and the new Forestry and Wildlife Vendor Website. OLHAP is basically an opportunity for landowners to enter into an agreement with ODNR, Division of Wildlife for hunting access which pays \$2-30/acre/per year. I can provide more details if needed. With John Kaiser, Room 30

Youth Forestry Programs – DNR has put a lot of effort into their youth forestry programs. This presentation will focus on how you can engage youth in your area to participate. Room 31

