



Dirt On the District

Welcome 2022

2022 is bringing with it an abundance of changes to the Lawrence County Conservation District. We hope this new year also brings positive changes to the community through our many programs and projects. As we transition to having the office staffed regularly, be sure to check our up-to-date Staff Contact Information on our webpage at www.lawrenceccd.org



Spring Tree Seedling Sale

Every year the Conservation District distributes thousands of trees, shrubs and plants through our Tree Seedling Sale. The annual sale is now open for orders - **Deadline to place order is April 1st, 2022.**



Order forms have been mailed out to those who have purchased in the past. If you have not ordered from us before, you can access an order form on our website at www.lawrenceccd.org - Click the tab “**Get Involved**” then “**Annual Seedling Sale**”. Simply fill out the form and either mail in with payment or use the PayPal option and email your form and receipt to mburris@lawrenceccd.org

Tree seedlings available for 2022 include: White Pine, Balsam Fir, Hazelnut, White Spruce, Douglas Fir, American Redbud, Flowering Dogwood, Shagbark Hickory, River Birch, Spicebush, Pussy Willow, and Winterberry.

Additionally we are offering Elderberry, Asparagus and Everbearing Strawberries.

Pick-up will be held **Saturday April 16th, 2022 from 9:00am - 12:00pm** at the County Warehouse, 202 Milton Street (next to Lawrence County Jail)

Proceeds from the Tree Seedling Sale fund our Environmental Education Programs.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

~Chinese Proverb



Lawrence County Conservation District

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Website: www.lawrenceccd.org



@Lawrence County Conservation District



Instagram
LCCD_DOD

2021 Nature Photo Contest

The photo entries are being judged and results will be highlighted in the next newsletter.
Each year the District staff choose 5 of our favorites.
Keep watch on our social media and webpage for announcement of winners.

Staff Picks

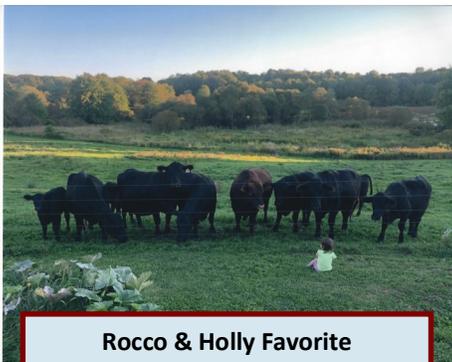
Shirley Crowe "All are Welcome"



Jeanette Robison "Fall Treasure"



Jeanette Robison "Quaker Falls"



Rocco & Holly Favorite
"A Girl and her Cows"



Denise Guthery "Fancy"

Changes to District Staff

As some may have heard, there have been a few recent staff changes here at the District. Jo Ann McCready has held the role of District Manager in Lawrence County for over 30 years and has decided it's time to focus on family and grandchildren. She will retire in December 2022.

Our Board Members took on the important task of selecting the right person to succeed JoAnn. After careful consideration, the Board offered the position to Mary Burris. She will serve as the new Assistant District Manager for 2022 and take over officially as our new District Manager in January 2023

Mary was Watershed Specialist for 4 years and is happy to soak up all the knowledge she can this year before JoAnn retires.

This left the Board Members with another decision, how to fill the Watershed Specialist position.

This job is multifaceted and will manage all Education Programs. Jeannie Shay was already managing and facilitating Nature Camp and our local Envirothon for the past 3 years as our Education and Outreach Technician, so she was a natural fit as Watershed Specialist.

Both are excited about the future adventures and wealth of knowledge to be gained as they strive forward.



Mary Burris
Assistant District Manager



Jeannie Shay
Watershed Specialist

Annual Awards Luncheon

On January 5th, 2022 the Lawrence County Conservation District held it's Annual Awards Luncheon at Grace United Methodist Church. We had an excellent turnout for this event. In addition to Board Members and Staff, attendees included; County Commissioners – Morgan Boyd, Loretta Spielvogel, and Dan Vogler, PA Game Commission – Jeff Kendall, Penn State Extension – Cassidy Baker, Jan Blair and Craig Conforti, and many others from State and cooperating agencies.

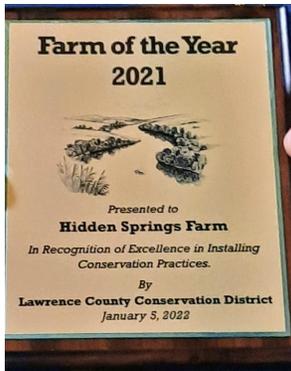
As our Keynote Presentation, we were excited to have representatives from DON Services (Disability Options Network). Each representative gave a detailed presentation of the different aspects of DON Services including the new Re-Claim store, PA Hemp House, Keystone Elm Street Project and Community Gardens.

Mary Burris, Assistant District Manager, presented them with the 2021 "Conservation Stewardship Award".

Hempcrete -
used to insulate
Hemp Fibers and Canvas Bag
made from Hemp



DON Services: Kenny Rice, Ashley Stevenson and Lori Daytner.



Additional awards were presented to county farms by new Board Chairman, Cliff Wallace. 2021 "Farm of the Year" was presented to Hidden Springs Farm operated by Matt Blinn, Bryan Dean and Mike Gardner.

And Camp Run Farms - operated by the Sturgeon family, was awarded the 2021 "Conservation Farm Award"



Camp Run Farms Sturgeon Family



After lunch, FFA Teams from both Mohawk and Wilmington schools practiced their Demonstration Presentations in preparation for the State Farm Show.

Mohawk FFA demonstrated how to make a low cost Hydroponic Garden at home.

Wilmington FFA gave a demonstration on Making Recycled Paper to use for stationary and crafts.

Each team did a fabulous job!

Special Thank you to Faraone Brothers for catering our event. Your Cookies are the Best!

Also like to thank Trophy Case LLC for making our beautiful Awards!



Wilmington FFA



Mohawk FFA



Agriculture Best Management Practices (BMP)



Ever driven by a cow farm and enjoyed the fresh scent of freshly spread manure on a field?... It's likely you have if you live in Lawrence County. We have a great number of both Dairy and Beef farms that benefit our community producing and distributing food and milk. Each year our farms face the challenge of managing the abundant manure produced by their livestock.



The District's **Agriculture Conservation Technician, Travis Gates**, has been working with local beef and dairy farms over the past few years helping with the planning and construction of various types of BMP (Best Management Practices) such as manure storage tanks. These projects have been made possible by grant money awarded to our county through the Growing Greener Grant. Our District has the opportunity to apply every few years for funds that can be used to help our local farms make BMP improvements. This is one of those years that we can submit applications for funding!



Kenny Jersey Farm

A prime example of a successful BMP is the liquid manure storage tank on the Kenny Jersey Farm located in Enon Valley. This project was completed in 2019. Before the tank, the farm had to spend ample time and money on fuel and manpower to remove manure as a daily/weekly chore. As one can imagine this was costly and a waste of nutrients that would otherwise help with crops. Spreading manure is meant to fertilize spring and fall plantings. If done in the winter the ground is usually too cold for proper decomposition and therefore manure becomes runoff into our local waterways. This excess of nutrients can be harmful to water quality and wildlife.

Use of a manure storage tank is a huge benefit to both the farmer and the environment. The tank can hold up to 6 months worth of cow manure allowing the farmer to spread the nutrient-rich mixture over fields when it is most needed, saving the farm valuable time and money. Otherwise the farm would need to invest more money buying fertilizer.

Another success story is Camp Run Farm, in Fombell, that finished its manure storage tank in 2021. It is currently being filled with manure that will then be spread in the spring time with the planting of crops as free, high quality, natural fertilizer.



Camp Run Farm



Grassycrest Farm

Manure storage tanks are not the only BMPs we utilize. We have examples in the county of dry manure storage and bed-pack. Both of which are being utilized at the Grassycrest Farm in Slippery Rock. Additionally a buffer of trees was planted along the natural field stream to keep the livestock from ruining the waterway keeping it in prime condition.

Agriculture BMPs are available to all farms including but not limited to those with sheep, goats, horses and those only producing crops.

**If you would like more information please contact
Travis Gates, Ag Technician, for a Free Consultation Evaluation of what BMPs could benefit your farm.
Office Phone: 724-656-2473 Email: tgates@lawrencecd.org**

**Saving Money and Saving Time - which is priceless,
could be easier than you think.
Implementing a BMP could earn you the title of
Conservation Steward in the County.**



Summer Nature Camp -SAVE THE DATE



Do you have a child that loves playing outside or is curious about nature? If this sounds like someone you know, then consider registering them for our Summer Nature Camp put together by the Lawrence County Conservation District



2022 Nature Camp July 25th - July 29th

Nature Camp is a week long day-camp designed for children ages 8-12, where they can learn and discover the uniqueness and importance of water, soil, trees, plants, wildlife and much more. We engage children in fun and interactive hands-on lessons, activities, games and crafts that allow them to explore their natural environment.

Nature Camp will be held (**Monday**) **July 25th** to (**Friday**) **July 29th** at Ewing Park in Ellwood City, PA from 9am - 2pm.

Registration will open in May.

Keep an eye on our Social Media and Webpage for additional information.

Already our line up of special guests will include:

Naturalist - April Claus - With live animals

Forester - Dave Cole, DCNR

Wild Edible Educator - Andrew Palumbo

Beekeeper - Ted Starmack

Tamarak Wildlife Rehab - With live animals

Penn State Extension 4-H Educator - Cassidy Baker



Environmental Outreach

The District provides environmental education programs to both adult and youth audiences. The district hosts a variety of programs such as **Summer Nature Camps** but also conducts programs throughout the year by request.

To help fund educational programs, the district has an **Annual Spring Seedling Sale**. The sale is between February - March with orders being available for pick up in April.

Donations Are Needed

Consider a Donation to our **Summer Nature Camp**.

Donations of Check or Cash can be mailed in or personally delivered to the Conservation Office.

Checks payable to *Lawrence County Conservation District or LCCD*

Credit Card Payments are also accepted through PayPal –
lcd@lawrenceconservationdistrict.org

Volunteers Needed

Summer Nature Camps are always in need of Formal and Informal Educators to offer 30 to 60 minute educational programs.

Those offering general help are also welcome.

Please Contact
jshay@lawrenceccd.org
for a Volunteer Packet

Must have Clearances Act 33 And Act 34

Sponsorship Opportunity

Our mission is to educate and promote interest in the conservation of our natural resources to all community members. Education efforts are made possible with your support and help sustain our organization and benefit the community we serve.

Thank you to our Winter 2022 Sponsors

Bald Eagle Level- \$1,000

Blue Heron Level - \$250

- * **Ben Franklin's Grille & Taproom**
- * **Preston Auto Group**
- * **Michael Joseph State Farm**

Great Horned Owl Level - \$500

Robin Level - \$100

- * **Tervo Masonry LLC**
- * **Living Treasures Wild Animal Park**
- * **Central Heating and Plumbing**
- * **North Memorial Animal Hospital**
- * **Riardos Bar & Grill**



Bald Eagle \$1000

- *Social media "Appreciation" on Facebook and Instagram
- *Recognition in Quarterly Newsletter and Annual Report
- *Advertisement on Nature Camp and Envirothon T-shirts
- *1 Year of Free Advertisement in Quarterly Newsletters



Great Horned Owl \$500

- *Social media "Appreciation" on Facebook and Instagram
- *Recognition in Quarterly Newsletter and Annual Report
- *Advertisement on Nature Camp and Envirothon T-shirts
- *Free Advertisement in 2 Quarterly Newsletters



Blue Heron \$250

- *Social media "Appreciation" on Facebook and Instagram
- *Recognition in Quarterly Newsletter and Annual Report
- *Advertisement on Nature Camp and Envirothon T-shirts



Robin \$100

- *Social media "Appreciation" on Facebook and Instagram
- *Recognition in Quarterly Newsletter and Annual Report
- *Advertisement on Nature Camp T-shirts

Detach form below to be mailed in with donation

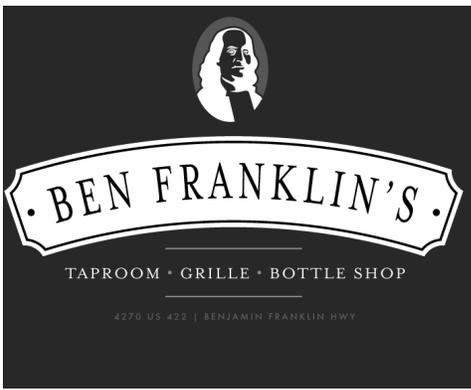
Lawrence County Conservation District Sponsorship Form

Donor Information:

Business Name _____
Last Name, First Name _____
Street Address _____ **City, State, Zip** _____
Email _____ **Phone** _____

Donation Amount (please circle one) : **\$1,000** **\$500** **\$250** **\$100**

- * Please make check payable to **Lawrence County Conservation District**
- * Any donations earning advertisement will be contacted for ad illustration.



Michael G Joseph, Agent
 1614 Highland Avenue
 New Castle, PA 16105
 Bus: 724-652-9806
www.agentmichaeljoseph.com

Your home and car are more than just things. They're where you make your memories – and they deserve the right protection. I get it. It's why I'm here. **LET'S TALK TODAY.**



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
 State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
 Bloomington, IL

1706811



2022 - Board of Directors

- Cliff Wallace - Chairman
- Blane Sturgeon - Vice Chairman
- Bruce Badger - Secretary
- Dan Vogler - Treasurer
- Don Hoye - Public Member
- Phil Dean - Ag Member
- Gary McConnell - Ag Member
- Frank Romeo - Associate Director

Conservation District Staff

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Joann McCready | District Manager |
| Mary Burris | Assistant Manager |
| Becca Naber | District Technician |
| Travis Gates | Agriculture Technician |
| Jillian Court | E & S Technician |
| Jeannie Shay | Watershed Specialist |

Would you like to see your business advertised in this email publication?

Contact us for rates!
Jshay@lawrenceccd.org

The "Dirt on the District" is emailed quarterly to over 400 individuals and businesses in Lawrence County and is published on our Webpage and social media outlets.



**FOLLOW US ON
 facebook**

Help our Facebook Grow!!

Invite your family and friends to "Follow" our page as we strive for 1200 Followers before January 2023!!!



**LAWRENCE COUNTY
 CONSERVATION DISTRICT**