



Soil & Water Team Members Recognized



The Soil & Water team is celebrated for their exceptional hard work and commitment! Kristy Hawthorne, District Program Administrator, was honored with the Leadership in Sustainability Award by MORPC. This prestigious award recognizes an individual or entity exemplifying outstanding leadership and innovation in seeking comprehensive sustainability solutions to address the region's key challenges.

Additionally, Deirdre Wise, Conservation Educator, was part of a team recognized with the Project WET Facilitator of the Year Award. Nancy Gregory and Anne Balogh were also part of the recognized team. This accolade highlights outstanding teachers and community educators who utilize the Project WET curriculum to teach students the importance of water conservation.

Board of Supervisors Election Results



Congratulations to Seth Dobbelaer and Ron Thompson on their re-election to the Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors for a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2025! As unpaid Public Officials, the Board members are responsible for conducting business within the scope of the laws and administrative rules that govern Soil & Water. Board members also help guide Soil & Water’s mission with professionalism, efficiency, and effectiveness.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Board Members Rodney Tornes and Kim Byce resigned from the Board. At the December 18th board meeting, Jeff Carr, a previous board member, and Jeff Baker, an associate board member,

will be sworn in to fulfill the rest of Kim and Rodney's terms. Kim and Rodney will be missed, but we are excited to welcome Jeff Baker and Jeff Carr!

Farmland Preservation Pre-Application



Soil & Water receives funds from Clean Ohio as the local sponsor to preserve farmland under the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP). An agricultural easement is a voluntary and legally binding restriction placed on a farm. The easement limits the use of the land to predominantly agricultural activity. The land remains under private ownership. The farmland can be sold or passed along as a gift to others at any time, but the restriction prohibiting non-agricultural development stays with the land.

The Licking Soil & Water Farmland Preservation Program has preserved farmland since 2009. There are 32 agriculture easements totaling 4,400 acres, bringing over \$5 million in Clean Ohio funds to Licking County.

The pre-application deadline is **Friday, January 24, 2024**. For additional information or the application, contact Briana Hodgson at (740) 670-5330 or BrianaHodgson@LickingSWCD.com.

Pre-Application

Welcome Our New Team Member



Licking Soil & Water is happy to introduce the new Administrative Assistant.

Danielle Nethers is originally from the Columbus area and attended Kent State University. She worked for REACH as a special education teacher and administrative assistant.

Danielle lives in the Hanover area with her husband and son. She enjoys farm life with her family and taking care of their animals. She loves making memories with her baby boy and is an avid runner.

Danielle will be in charge of day-to-day office tasks and manage the phone and front desk. Contact her at (740) 670-5330 or DanielleNethers@LickingSWCD.com.

Call before you Cut!



Interested in harvesting your woods? Here's what you should know before you cut to avoid loss of profit and damage to your woods.

- Be aware of scams. Many people will attempt to offer you a low price and not the true value of your trees.
- Ensure your resource is reputable and check the call before you cut website.
- Know your objectives, why do you want to harvest? Forest health, profit, safety? A professional forester will help you reach your goals.
- Be knowledgeable about the value of your woods, and have an inventory. It is important to work closely with your forester and logger on your plan.
- Contact a local forester for more information and start the harvest process.

Pass the Salt?



Removing or preventing ice and snow doesn't have to be difficult -- by following these simple steps, you can save time and money while protecting people, property, pets and the environment!

Shovel early & often – Remove snow and clear pavement before snow turns to ice.

Consider Green Alternatives - Many organic, salt-free and pet-safe deicers are on the market today. Products containing calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) are eco-friendly. Remember to use these products sparingly, and don't expect them to replace the need for shoveling. In addition, scattering sand on icy surfaces can provide temporary traction and reduce the danger of slipping.

Know when to treat – Deicers and salt are not meant to replace the work of shoveling. They are meant to loosen ice so it can be shoveled away.

Go easy! – Sprinkle deicers sparingly and evenly. Read the directions carefully and apply the least amount necessary. More is not better. When applied properly, it won't take much to get the desired results. Leave space between the grains. Using a lawn spreader can help spread deicer evenly and prevent clumping.

Check the temperature and weather conditions – Let the sun be your friend! It can do the work for you. If temperatures are expected to rise, deicers or salt may not be needed.

Choose wisely – Weather conditions can change the effectiveness of certain deicers. Check that your deicer is designed to work for the current temperature and conditions. Only apply to surfaces that are already icy. When pavement temperatures drop below 15°, salt doesn't melt ice.

Sweep – At the end of a weather event, sweep and collect any sand, salt, or undissolved deicer. Any excess can be reused for the next storm. Letting them run off into our waterways is harms our drinking water and wildlife.



Native Tree & Shrub Sale Mid-January!

Mark your calendar! Tree sale opens mid-January. We are finalizing orders with the nurseries. Check our website and be on the look out for the order form!



Important Dates

December 5 - World Soil Day

December 13 South Licking Watershed Conservancy District Annual Meeting

December 14 - Davis Shai House Christmas Craft

December 18 - Soil & Water Board Meeting and New Board Members Sworn in

December 25 - Office Closed

January 1 - Office Closed

January 15 - Tree Sale Starts

January 28 - South Licking Watershed Conservancy District Meeting

*Registration Required

Visit our calendar for all upcoming events!

www.LickingSWCD.com

Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District

771 East Main Street Newark, OH 43055

Mon - Fri 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

www.LickingSWCD.com



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