



Perry Soil and Water Conservation District  
 212 S. Main Street  
 New Lexington, OH  
 43764  
 Phone: 740-743-1325  
 www.perryswcdohio.org

Non-Profit Organization  
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 43764  
 Permit No. 16

Mission: To increase public awareness and provide technical assistance in conserving our soil, water, and other natural resources.

All SWCD & NRCS programs and services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, or handicap

### BUCKEYE LAKE AERATOR PROGRAM FINDS INITIAL SUCCESS

As part of Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow (BLT)'s efforts to reduce algae in Buckeye Lake's canals, the non-profit group installed bubbling aerators in select locations in March 2021. By introducing oxygen into the water, these bubbling aerators break up cyanobacteria blooms while reducing silt levels and deepening water for navigation. A perforated tube runs from an on-ground compressor into the canal, filling the water with small bubbles which stir up algae mats before they can form. One aerator was installed at Millersport Canal in March and another was installed in the canal behind Flip Flops Dockside Grill in July. Algae sampling has been conducted quarterly since fall 2020 to observe how these canals would react to the aerators. With Millersport Canal being the longest running aerator, we have two sample points that show that algae concentrations fell from spring to summer 2021. This is unusual because algae concentrations typically increase during the summer as shown by Buckeye Beach Park, one of the sampling locations that has not received an aerator yet. Algae concentrations there rose during the summer as expected. Even though we are only in the first year of seasonal data so far, early results suggest that the aerator at Millersport Canal has been effective at reducing algae.

Now BLT wants to expand their aerator program. Members of BLT are engaging with the Buckeye Lake community, educating residents about the benefits of canal aeration. It is BLT's hope to have over a dozen aerators running in some of the lake's most stagnant canals. And with Buckeye Lake's beaches being among the hardest hit areas of the lake when it comes to algae, the group would even like to see aerators placed on State Park grounds if possible. The beaches of interest are Fairfield Beach and Crystal Beach, two areas most historically afflicted by algal blooms. Both beaches have closed due to algae before and are sites that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) monitors regularly during the summer for toxin levels. Pending on a collaboration with ODNR, it could be to the lake's benefit to place aerators in these critical locations. As the year winds to an end, we are awaiting our most recent algae sampling results, which will be the final ones for 2021. If the current trends hold, the results should be promising for Buckeye Lake's canals and with hope, this time next year, BLT may even have conclusive evidence of their aerators' success.

December 2021

# PERRY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**Board of Supervisors:**  
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### NRCS ANNOUNCES CONSERVATION FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2022

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is announcing fiscal year 2022 assistance opportunities for agricultural producers and private landowners for key programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), and Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). While USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) accepts applications for these programs year-round, producers and landowners should apply by state-specific, ranking dates to be considered for this year's funding. For Ohio NRCS, this includes Jan. 14, 2022 for EQIP, CSP, and RCPP. ACEP ranking dates are Dec. 3 for Agricultural Land Easement and Dec. 17 for Wetland Reserve Program. CSP FY23 Renewal's ranking date is tentatively scheduled for March 32, 2022.

Through conservation programs, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to help producers and landowners make conservation improvements on their land that benefit natural resources, build resiliency and contribute to the nation's broader effort to combat the impacts of climate change.

"NRCS conservation programs are good for Ohio's natural resources and for your operation's bottom line," said Lori Ziehr, NRCS Acting State Conservationist in Ohio. "Whether this is your first time working with NRCS or you want to take conservation to the next level on your land, we encourage you to contact your local NRCS field office to learn more."

#### Applying for Assistance

NRCS accepts applications for its conservation programs year-round. State Technical Committees, composed of representatives from conservation and agricultural-related organization, work with NRCS to set state-specific, ranking dates to evaluate applications for funding. These dates account for producer needs, staff workload and ensure potential participants have ample opportunity to apply. Producers should apply by their state's ranking dates to be considered for funding in the current cycle. Funding is provided through a competitive process. State-specific, ranking dates for all programs are available. Applications received after ranking dates will be automatically deferred to the next funding period.

#### Program Options

EQIP provides cost share assistance for producers to use 170-plus conservation practices to address a wide variety of resource concerns. Within EQIP, Conservation Incentive Contracts allow producers to further target priority resource concerns. CSP helps producers take their conservation activities to the next level through comprehensive conservation and advanced conservation and advanced conservation activities. ACEP helps producers enroll wetlands, grasslands and farmlands into easements for long-term protection. Additionally, through RCPP, producers and landowners can work with partners who are co-investing with NRCS on targeted projects.

#### Historically, Underserved Producer Benefits

Special provisions are also available for historically underserved producers. For EQIP, historically underserved producers are eligible for advance payments to help offset costs related to purchasing materials or contracting services up front. In addition, historically underserved producers can receive higher EQIP payment rates (up to 90% of average cost). NRCS sets aside EQIP, CSP and ACEP funds for historically, underserved producers.

Please call (740) 743-1616 to talk to Perry County NRCS staff to answer and assist you with any of these programs.

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## WINTER NIGHT HIKE

Come and join us for a refreshing winter, night hike at the

Glenford Fort

January 14, 2022

6 pm – 8 pm

Proper foot wear is suggested as well as a flash light!

### SALES TAX

The Perry SWCD will add sales tax (7.25%) on all sale items (flags, topo maps, fish, and trees) starting on January 1, 2022. The sales tax will also be added on to the lime spreader rental unless an exemption certificate is filed with the SWCD. This exemption certificate is good for one year.

### PERRY COUNTY CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF EARTH DAY!

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans took to the streets, college campuses and city streets, parks and auditoriums to protest environmental ignorance and demand a new way forward for our planet. Earth Day was a unified response to an environment in crisis - oil spills, smog, litter, rivers so polluted they literally caught fire! Some may recall the burning of the Cuyahoga River, which inspired Randy Newman to write the song, "Burn On" "... Big River". Rachel Carson's book "Silent Spring", came out big in 1962, setting the stage for concern of our tainted Earth; siting evidence between pollution and public health. Fifty-two years ago people joined together in spirit and in action to express their concern for the failing state of our environment. The first Earth Day founder, Senator Gaylord Nelson, was able to make this a national day to focus on the environment. He recruited Dennis Hayes of Harvard to be the national coordinator, launching a wave of action across the country. This movement transitioned the anti-war movement into an energy filled movement for the environment as well! Earth Day 1970 helped bring about the passage of landmark environmental laws including The Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Act, as well as the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Many countries adopted similar laws. Since going global in 1990, Earth Day now engages more than a billion people and over 190 countries who make this a day of action to provoke policy change.

# Perry County Earth Day 52<sup>nd</sup> Year Celebration!

Over Five Decades of Making a Difference!

Celebrate Earth Day!

Monday, April 25, 2022

Mt. Aloysius 5375 Tile Plant Rd. New Lexington

10:00 a.m. Interactive Stations Open

11:15 a.m. Awards & Presentations

11:45 a.m. Pack & Bring a Zero Waste Lunch

12:30 p.m. Tom Noll Trash To Treasure Book Series Author

12:45 p.m. Concert featuring all the way from California

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### BROWNFIELD GRANT IN UPPER RUSH CREEK

As a part of the Upper Rush Creek Revitalization Project (URCRP), Rural Action has received a Brownfield Grant through U.S. EPA to assess mine scarred lands in upper Rush Creek. Upper Rush Creek is the area from Rehoboth, the Perry State Forest and Gosline through New Lexington to the east side of Junction City. The grant will enable planners and engineers to develop solutions on lands involved or impacted by the pre-1977 mine reclamation laws. If your property is in the upper watershed and has been mined or impacted this may be an opportunity for clean-up and stabilization to occur. Further information and a property survey can be viewed at [ruralaction.org](http://ruralaction.org), by contacting Caitlyn Park at [caitlyn@ruralaction.org](mailto:caitlyn@ruralaction.org) or by scanning the QR code.



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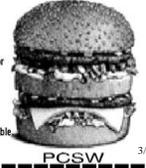
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PCSW      3/01/2022

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**(AT A SAFE DISTANCE, OF COURSE)**

**REPURPOSE/REUSE!**

Learn how to make 2 beautiful Christmas decorations...with class!  
*Pine Cone Angel*  
*Glass Jar Center Piece*

Monday, December 13, 2021, 5 -7 pm  
At JFS Bldg., (soon to be PC Admin. Bldg.)  
212 S. Main St., New Lexington, OH  
Lower level entrance – park and enter from alley parking lot, by PNC bank drive thru

Guest artist - Sabrina Ponting (one of our Master Recyclers!)  
Bring: 1 qt. glass jar (if you don't have one, no worries)  
Material Fee: \$3 please pay upon arrival  
Registration Deadline: Dec. 10 (max 15 participants)  
To register: email or call Katrina at [karpenter@perrycountyohio.net](mailto:karpenter@perrycountyohio.net) or 740-721-0765  
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and certifies that the claim is based upon the purchaser's proposed use of the items or services, the activity of the purchase, or both, as shown hereon:

***Purchaser must state a valid reason for claiming exception or exemption.***

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Purchaser's name

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Purchaser's type of business

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Signature

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Date signed

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Vendor's license number, if any

Vendors of motor vehicles, titled watercraft and titled outboard motors may use this certificate to purchase these items under the "resale" exception. Otherwise, purchaser must comply with either rule 5703-9-10 or 5703-9-25 of the Administrative Code. This certificate cannot be used by construction contractors to purchase material for incorporation into real property under an exempt construction contract. Construction contractors must comply with rule 5703-9-14 of the Administrative Code.