

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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
New Lexington, OH
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

MERRY CHRISTMAS

&

HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM

**PERRY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

&

STAFF

December 2022

Board of Supervisors:

Cary Bowers –Chairman

Beverly Decore-Trovato– Vice Chair

Dennis Young – Treas/Fis. Agent

Rob Foster—Secretary

Rich Maxwell - Member

PERRY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

District Staff:

David Snider

Penny Cox

Theresa Wyer

NRCS Staff:

Joe Koehler

Emily Price

Dave Grum

Brice Shaw

ODA Staff:

Amy Boyer

SAVE BIG BY PLANTING TREES ON YOUR HOME, FARM

Did you know the cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is the same as having 10 air conditioners operating 20 hours every day? In addition to their cooling power, trees provide other benefits. Trees growing along the banks of rivers and streams keep the soil and nutrients on your land and ensure the water running off is cleaner downstream. These same trees also help prevent floods by slowing down water during periods of heavy rain. As the water slows, it helps recharge underground aquifers that supply fresh water for drinking wells and irrigation.

A native deciduous tree planted in the right location can keep your house or barn temperature regulated. To maximize your energy savings, plant your large deciduous trees on the east, west and northwest of your building. Doing so can help you reduce your air conditioning needs by 30 percent and heating needs by 20-50 percent depending on your location.

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service works with farmers and ranchers to plant trees as part of conservation work. For more information, contact your Perry County USDA Service Center at (740) 743-1616 or visit nrcs.usda.gov.

MANAGED FORESTS YIELD THE BEST BENEFITS

A tract of forestland has great potential, but it must be managed well to harness its full benefits. If your woodlands have grown unproductive or overcrowded, consider some simple management techniques like an occasional cutting or thinning to improve them. Improvements to forests are easy – and the best part is, trees typically respond quickly to management techniques.

Thinning is often performed when a forest is overstocked with trees. Cutting the excess trees allows the remaining trees and understory plants to prosper from more sun, water, and space. Depending on local markets and the size of the trees, it may be possible to remove and sell the thinned trees to offset the cost of the operation.

Harvest cuttings are used to remove and market logs for profit. Depending on the type of forest you own and your objectives for it, you may want to consider periodic intermediate cuttings to remove some trees of marketable size. Final harvest cutting occurs when the bulk of trees in a stand are removed and sold. After cutting, make sure the land is replanted or has existing younger trees to continue the regeneration of the forest.

USDA's NRCS helps private landowners make their forests healthier through conservation activities, often called small woodlot improvement. In addition to these management techniques, NRCS helps landowners with other forest-related practices, such as using prescribed burning, installing fire lanes and establishing native grasses.

When land is managed well, it not only helps you, the landowner, but spurs other environmental benefits as well. For more information, contact your Perry County USDA Service Center at (740) 743-1616 or visit nrcs.usda.gov.

<p>"Service with Brilliance"</p> <p>PEOPLES STATE BANK</p> <p>Visit us on line @ www.psbohio.com</p> <p>740-342-5111</p> <p>Member FDIC</p> 	<p>We give</p> <p>FARMERS CREDIT</p> <p>We help rural residents build, farms grow, and businesses expand</p> <p>farmCREDIT MID-AMERICA</p> <p>Call 740-400-0260 or go to e-farmcredit.com</p> <p>7835 Lancaster-Newark Rd NE PO Box 68, Baltimore, OH 43105</p>	<p>STIHL</p> <p>UNDERWOOD'S HARDWARE 104 SOMERSET SQ. P.O. BOX 69 SOMERSET, OHIO 43783 ph. 740.743.1350 fax 740.743.1390 underwood1922@sbcglobal.net</p> <p>Chuck Underwood</p> 
--	---	---

WEATHERING AND EROSION FUN!

The 4th and 6th graders of Perry County have experienced great fun learning about weathering and erosion. The 4th graders of Crooksville and Thornville as well as the Crooksville 6th graders have been visited by Penny Cox, Perry SWCD Education Specialist in the last few weeks. The first day was a presentation day where they learned about how rocks break down over time and create soil. They also learn how this sediment that is created by weathering can be moved through the erosion process. Soil facts are also taught this first day. The second day is hands-on activities where the students cause the weathering and erosion. The third day for the 4th graders, is an activity where they build soil layers with cereal. They then get to pour "water" (milk) over their soil and then they get to eat the soil. The 6th graders get to take soil samples from their school yard and then test this soil's pH.






COVER CROPS PLAY A STARRING ROLE IN CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

On your own land, you've probably seen evidence that climate change is happening – things like extreme weather events or changes in growing seasons over the years. America's rural communities are on the frontlines of climate change, and now is the time for agriculture, forestry, and rural communities to act.

There are various ways to help mitigate the effects of climate change on your land and improve your bottom line at the same time. One very effective way is by planting cover crops.

Cover crops offer agricultural producers a natural and inexpensive climate solution through their ability to capture atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) into soils. But cover crops don't just remove CO₂ from the atmosphere, they also help make your soil healthier and your crops more resilient to a changing climate.

Healthy soil has better water infiltration and water holding capacity and is less susceptible to erosion from wind and water.

Cover crops also trap excess nitrogen – keeping it from leaching into groundwater or running off into surface water – releasing it later to feed growing crops. This saves you money on inputs like water and fertilizer and makes your crops more able to survive in harsh conditions.

USDA's Cover Crop Support

During the past year, USDA has made a number of strides to encourage use of cover crops. Earlier this month, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) formed a new partnership with Farmers For Soil Health. We also launched a new Cover Crop Initiative in 11 states through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), targeted \$38 million to help producers mitigate climate change through adoption of cover crops.

In fiscal 2021, NRCS provided technical and financial assistance to help producers plant 2.3 million acres of cover crops through EQIP.

We've also recognized the importance of supporting cover crops through crop insurance. USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) recently provided \$59.5 million in premium support for producers who planted cover crops on 12.2 million acres through the new Pandemic Cover Crop Program. Additionally, RMA recently updated policy to allow producers with crop insurance to hay, graze or chop cover crops at any time and still receive 100% of the prevented planting payment. This policy change supports use of cover crops, which can help producers build resilience to drought. Visit RMA's Conservation webpage to learn more.

Working together, we can lead the way through climate-smart solutions that will improve the profitability and resilience of producers and foresters, open new market opportunities, and build wealth that stays in rural communities. Our support for cover crops are part of a much broader effort at USDA to address climate change. To learn more, read USDA's January 18, 2022 news release.

Cover crops are not only good for rural communities, but also for urban areas. Late last year, the NRCS National Plant Materials Center planted cover crops in the urban garden in front of USDA's Washington, D.C. Headquarters. See how cover crops are also great for the urban farmer or backyard gardener.

To learn more, visit farmers.gov/conservation/soil-health, watch our Conservation at Work video on cover crops, or contact your local NRCS office in Somerset (740) 743-1616.

<p>Shaw Ag Equipment</p> <p>KRAUSE H&S VERMEER RHINO</p>  <p>7493 Rushcreek Rd Thornville, OH 43076 Phone/Fax: (740) 536-7857</p>	<p>Leckrone Sanitation Refuse & Roll-off Services Residential & Commercial Services Locally owned and operated for 52 years.</p> <p>7616 Twp. Rd 257 Shawnee, Ohio 43782</p> <p>Phone 740-394-2032 web: www.leckronesanitation.com Email: leckrone1@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Custom made Hydraulic Hoses</p>  <p>Boley's LLC</p> <p>Tractor - Equipment Repair and Welding</p> <p>5210 Marietta Rd New Lexington, OH 43764</p> <p>740-342-4733 740-901-1685</p>
 <p>J. KENNETH MILLER 6825 Rush Creek Road, NW Somerset, Ohio 43783 (740) 743-2775</p>	<p>Dan Tener Thornville, Oh (740) 405-4668</p>  <p>SINCE 1839 Schaeffer's SPECIALIZED LUBRICANTS</p> <p>dtener1981@yahoo.com www.schaefferoil.com www.schaefferoil.com/dantener</p>	<p>MILLERSPORT AGRI SERVICE THE HOOVER FAMILY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture Equipment • Grain Storage • Handling & Drying Systems <p>10221 Lancaster-Newark Road Millersport, OH 43046 Phone/Fax (740) 467-2424</p>