

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

Collin Hill and David Snider, Perry SWCD, accept the donation from Champs Pizza & Pub and Busch Light distributors Matesich for the program, For the Farmers (story in insert). Left to Right, Erin and Brad Turnes, Collin Hill, David Snider, Kelly Jones and Brian Jackson (Busch Reps)



November 2025

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Rob Foster - Member

**PERRY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

District Staff: David Snider Penny Cox Theresa Wyer Collin Hill	NRCS Staff: Joe Koehler Dave Grum Timira Lockheart	ODA Staff: Amy Boyer
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PERRY SWCD WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEE!

The Perry SWCD received a grant from Ohio Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil and Water to hire a Conservation Technician. This grant will be matched by the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service through reimbursements . So without future ado.....

My name is Collin Hill, and I’m excited to introduce myself as the new Conservation Technician with the Perry Soil and Water Conservation District.

In this role, I’ll be working directly with local farmers, landowners, and partners to support and implement conservation practices that promote soil health, water quality, and sustainable land use. I am passionate about protecting our natural resources and am committed to helping our agricultural community find practical, science-based solutions that benefit both the land and future generations. Whether it’s through developing conservation plans, assisting with cost-share programs, or helping implement best management practices, I’m here to be a resource and a partner. I’m especially looking forward to building relationships throughout the county and learning more about your unique operations and conservation goals.

If you have questions, are interested in conservation programs, wildlife, agriculture, or simply want to talk about how we can work together to protect our natural resources, I’d love to hear from you. Thank you for the warm welcome I’ve already received—I’m proud to be part of the Perry SWCD team and excited to get to work.



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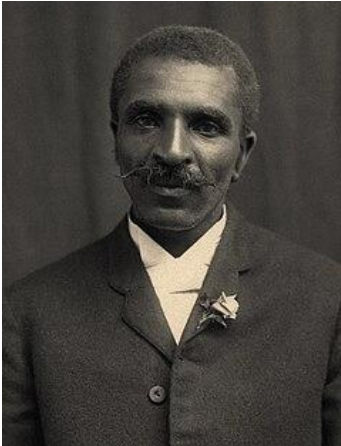
CONSERVATIONIST'S CORNER

George Washington Carvers was an American agricultural scientist and inventor who promoted alternative crops to cotton and methods to prevent soil depletion.

George Washington Carver was born around 1865 into slavery in Diamond Grove, Missouri. His mother, sister and George (a week old) were kidnapped by night raiders. George's owners, Moses and Susan, were able to locate George and bargained with the kidnappers to get George back. Moses and Susan Carver raised George and his older brother, James, as their own. After slavery was abolished, "Aunt" Susan taught George to read. After several schools, he earned his high school diploma at Minneapolis High School in Minneapolis, Kansas. George received his Bachelors and Masters degree from Iowa State University in 1896.

In 1896, Booker T. Washington, the first principal and president of Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University), invited George to head its Agriculture Department. He taught there for 47 years. He taught methods of crop rotation and introduced several alternative cash crops for farmers that would improve the soil of areas heavily cultivated in cotton.

Through a long program of research, Carver would invent over 300 products derived from peanuts such as milk, flour, dyes, plastics, wood stains, soap, linoleum, oils and cosmetics. He also created 108 applications for sweet potatoes and 7 products made from pecans. George was one of the most prominent scientists of the early 20th century.



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FUTURE FORESTERS!

The Perry SWCD hosts a County Forestry Contest each year. This contest is for the high school students of New Lexington, Sheridan and Miller High Schools. They are tested in several categories. Timber Cruising, tree identification, equipment identification, general knowledge, and then a rotation of chain saw parts and problems, timber stand improvement and tree & forest problems (odd years) or map reading, compass course, and forest products (even years). This is a practice run for their respective District Contests.

The Perry SWCD also hosted the District 8 Forestry Contest which includes Sheridan High School. Each contest took place at the Glenford Fort Preserve. The Perry SWCD staff would like to thank Danielle Lampley (ODA, Division of Forestry) for her assistance with the contest this year.



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FARMLAND PRESERVATION

As development pressures intensify, landowners have to make many decisions regarding their future and how they respond to that pressure. One possibility, admittedly not for everybody, is exploring the opportunities offered by the Farmland Preservation Program. The program has existed statewide since 1992 and locally since 2024. Basically, landowners may preserve the integrity of their farmland parcels through permanent easements that prohibit commercial, industrial and residential development activities. We recognize that this is indeed a weighty, multi-generational discussion that potential applicants must have among their families and stakeholders and stress that the program is entirely voluntary. Much more information can be obtained at the Ohio Department of Agriculture's website at www.agri.ohio.gov and toggle through their programs to the Farmland Preservation page. You can also call our office in New Lexington at (740) 743-1325 and ask for David or visit our website at www.perryswcdohio.org.

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FOR THE FARMERS PROGRAM

Perry Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Announces Free Soil Sampling Program for Perry County Agricultural Producers

The Perry SWCD is pleased to announce that we are now covering the cost of soil sampling tests for members of our agricultural community. This program is available exclusively for agricultural properties located in Perry County and will continue until all available funds have been utilized.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Champs Pizza and Pub and Busch Light for their generous donations, which made this initiative possible. Their support helps strengthen agriculture in our county, benefiting both local producers and consumers.

The purpose of this program is simple: to help you better understand your land. Soil testing provides valuable insight into the composition and nutrient levels of your soil, helping identify what it may need to improve overall health and productivity.

As highlighted by Amy Turner with OSU CFAES (September 3, 2025) in her article "*Ohio State Helps Farmers Manage Impacts as Drought Conditions Spread Across Ohio*," the drought conditions experience over the past two years have led to premature crop and leaf drop, shallow-rooted specialty crops, and dry, nutrient-deficient forage and pasture grounds.

By taking advantage of this opportunity and connecting with local experts – Ted Wiseman, OSU Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator; David Snider, Perry SWCD Program Administrator; and Collin Hill, Perry SWCD Conservation Technician – you can gain valuable insights into developing a stronger nutrient management plan and improving the long-term health of your land.

This is a no-cost opportunity to better understand your soil and strengthen your relationship with the local agricultural resources available in Perry County. Funding is limited, so we encourage producers to participate soon.

We look forward to working with you, learning more about your land, and helping it thrive for years to come. Please e-mail me or call the office if you want to participate.

Collin Hill
(740) 743-1325
collin.hill@perrycountyohio.gov



AMAZING FACT:

Servicing farmland consumes \$0.35 for every dollar of real estate taxes produced. Conversely, residential and commercial land consumes \$1.15 for every dollar of real estate taxes produced.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicant is 18 years of age or older: YES ☐ NO ☐
2. Applicant's principal residence is in Ohio within the County where I am requesting a SWCD election ballot:
YES ☐ NO ☐

IF NO TO ANSWER #2 YOU MUST ANSWER #3 BELOW

3. Applicant owns or occupies land within the County, where I am requesting a SWCD election ballot, representing one of the following:
- ☐ Representing a corporation, partnership, association, or other entity registered with the Ohio Secretary of State
- ☐ Owner, firm, lessee, renter, or tenant

VOTER INFORMATION

Print: Applicant's Name and LLC Name, if applicable

Street Address

City

State

ZIP

County

Applicant

Signature: _____

Designee of LLC or Trust should also sign here

I certify that the above information is true and correct. I understand false information will invalidate the ballot. Form must be filled out in its entirety to confirm that applicant is eligible to vote in the SWCD Election. Form must be returned to the SWCD with the ballot for the vote to be valid.

Election Notice

The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will cause an election of Supervisors of the Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to be held in accordance with Chapter 940 of the Ohio Revised Code. Individuals who own or occupy land within the Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District and are 18 years of age or older may vote for Supervisor.

There are two ways an eligible voter can cast a ballot:

1.) At the SWCD office, 212 S. Main Street, New Lexington, OH, from 11/17/2025 until 12/12/2025 during normal business hours Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ; or

Voting absentee from 11/17/2025 until 12/12/2025, by requesting the ballot application and election ballot from the SWCD office at the following address 212 S. Main Street, New Lexington, OH 43764, by calling 740-743-1325, or email theresa.wyer@perrycountyohio.gov . Absentee ballots must be received by the SWCD office by 12/12/2025.

One Supervisor will be elected to a three-year term commencing January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2028.

Nominees are:

1. Cary Bowers
2. Mindy Franks