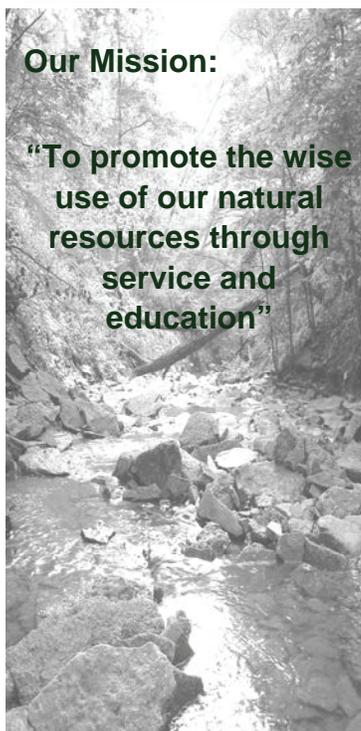


Summer 2013

Our Mission:

“To promote the wise use of our natural resources through service and education”



Way to Go, Joe!! Clermont County Farmer Becomes Next OFSWCD President



Joe (right) receives the president's gavel from Kent Stuckey, outgoing president of OFSWCD

On February 26, Clermont SWCD's own Joe Glassmeyer became the new President of the Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts (OFSWCD) during the organization's annual meeting. Joe has been a member of the Clermont SWCD Board of Supervisors since 1986 and has held all positions on the district board, and is serving as vice chair this year.

In Joe's 25 years of experience with the OFSWCD, he has been a supervisor, an Area IV Director, an Area Chairman and Executive board member of the Ohio Federation of Conservation Districts, and Chairman of the Federation's Urban Committee. On 15 separate occasions, he has served as an Ohio Federation delegate to Washington DC Legislative Conferences and worked with Congress for improved conservation programs and funding in both Ohio and across the

US. In 2005, Joe was named recipient of the Conservation District Board Member of the year for the State Of Ohio. Locally Joe has served as Clermont's representative to the Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana Regional Council of Governments-Regional Conservation Council (OKI-RCC) for many years, and is now serving his fourth

(OFSWCD President continued on page 2)

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- David Anspach
- Joe Glassmeyer
- Melody Newman
- Steve Phillips
- Todd Winemiller

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Lori Lenhart- District Conservationist

DISTRICT STAFF

- John McManus
- Judy Krebs
- Susie Steffensen
- Becky McClatchey
- Jacob Hahn

Annual Meeting Slated for September 12!
—Pattison Park Lodge—

Please save the date to help us celebrate another great year of conservation at our **70th Annual Meeting Banquet**. This years event will be held at the Clermont County Park District's Pattison Park just west of Owensville on State Route 50. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:30. Election polls will remain open until 6:45 - one board supervisor will be elected.

Additional meeting information will be mailed out at a later date once information is finalized.

(OFSWCD President Continued from page 1)

stint as Chair of the organization.

In asking Joe what he enjoys about his work with Soil & Water, he says “I am involved in Soil and Water at the local, state, and federal levels and have met the nicest, most dedicated persons through activities, meetings and interactions. Everyone is in it for a common goal of protecting our natural resources and that is the reward which we receive. No matter which state or territory they represent they can all relate to each others problems.”

Joe graduated with a BS in Biology from Xavier University and is the owner-operator of the Glassmeyer Family Farms. The original family dairy operation began in 1954 and Joe took over operation of the farm in 1974. The farm is a true family operation. Joe and his wife Rosalie (Peachie) have three adult children. Joe III is a financial investment advisor, Susan is a Ph.D. in environmental chemistry and Sarah is a law librarian. They all contribute their expertise and offer advice. The farm encompasses over 500 acres of corn, soybeans, hay and pastures for Polled Hereford cattle and Shetland ponies. Joe uses reduced and minimum tillage, responsible use of herbicides and pesticides and crop rotation on his farm. In addition to his responsibilities on the farm, Joe served 28 years as a school bus driver for Felicity Franklin School District and Grant Career Center, and just retired this year.

Soil Quality Workshop

Over one-hundred farmers and agency staff attended the Cover Crop Workshop held at Brad Barber’s farm in Brown County. This joint effort was made possible by a Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) awarded to Clermont SWCD and Clermont Office of Environmental Quality to promote soil and water quality within the East Fork Watershed.

Participants were introduced to cover crops and soil quality by natural resources and farming professionals who gave presentations on soils, cover crop types, planting regimes, and the reasons for implementing these plantings in their planting schedule. The highlight of the day included a presentation by Dave Brandt, who has been utilizing cover crops for 40 years on his farm in eastern Ohio. Dave has received many awards for his efforts in cover crop education and research.

Soils pits and demonstration stations allowed attendees to observe basic soil characteristics for the region and discovered what effects cover crops have on the soils. A farmer panel including local farmers who currently use

(Soil Quality Workshop Continued on page 3)

Volunteers Give Streams and Parks A Spring Cleaning

As part of the Annual Spring Clean-Up, over 600 volunteers braved the chilly weather on Saturday, April 20, to give local streams and parks a thorough spring cleaning. Organizers of the **Clermont Clean & Green** and **East Fork River Sweep** combined efforts once again this year to clean 15 locations across Clermont County and the East Fork Little Miami River Watershed, including the Village of Lynchburg (Highland County), Village of Amelia and many other surrounding community sites.

Volunteers collected trash, debris and other large items including 34 tires, 2 picnic tables, a bike frame and a propane heater. Thanks to their efforts, local parks and streams are cleaner and safer. Commissioner David Uible stated, “Volunteerism is the backbone of the county and we have a lot of backbone! Due to their dedication, we also have cleaner parks and streams in the county. The Commissioners extend our gratitude to all those involved.”

The Annual Spring Litter Clean-Up was organized by the Valley View Foundation and East Fork Watershed Collaborative. Sponsors of the event included the Duke Energy Foundation, Little Miami Inc., Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Busken Bakery-Eastgate, Clermont County Water Resources, Clermont County Visitors Bureau, Keep Cincinnati Beautiful, Loveland Canoe & Kayak and Kroger-Eastgate.

Partnering agencies included the Clermont Office of Environmental Quality, ODNR – State Parks and Division of Watercraft, Clermont Water Resources, the Harsha Lake U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Clermont Park District, the Valley View Foundation, Highland Soil & Water Conservation District and Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District.

If you’re interested in learning more about litter prevention, call the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District at (513) 732-7075 or visit the website at www.clermontswcd.org.

Milford Student Volunteers



cover crops, fielded questions and discussed their own personal trials and triumphs using them. Information and video clips of this event are being revised and will be on Clermont SWCD's website sometime this summer



NRCS Soil Scientist George Derringer talks soils at his display.

A special thanks goes to the partners involved with this event including Clermont OSU Extension, Brown SWCD, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, US EPA, and ODNR-Division of Soil and Water Resources.

SPREAD THE WORD, NOT THE BUGS

Clermont County trees are threatened by non-native insects that can kill large numbers of trees. Two recently introduced insects – the emerald ash borer and the Asian longhorned beetle - are wood-infesting species that can be transported long distances in firewood.

Emerald ash borer, an ash tree-killing species from Asia, was first seen in Ohio in 2003 and showed up in Clermont County in 2008. Since this time, thousands of ash trees have died in our county, leaving large gaps in forest canopies and costly removal bills for property owners.

The Asian longhorn beetle (ALB) was discovered in Bethel/Tate Township area in 2010. Since then, nearly 10,000 trees in the area have been found to be infested, and this number is expected to climb significantly as surveys continue. While the emerald ash borer is specific to one tree, the ALB has several host trees, including maples, birch, sycamore, poplar, willow, elm and hackberry, among others. Once a tree is found to be infested, there is no treatment – the host tree must be removed. With the number of different trees that can serve as host to the ALB, this can have a dramatic and overwhelming effect on the landscape. Smaller infestations have subsequently been found in parts of Stonelick and Monroe Townships. The movement of firewood has been identified as the source of these infestations.

Luckily, the ALB does not spread as fast as the emerald ash borer, and can be eradicated. To stop the spread of the beetles and other exotic pests, it is absolutely critical that firewood not be moved from one place to another. The ALB quarantine area within Clermont County is already 61 square miles in size and is threatening to expand into East Fork State Park. By not moving firewood, we can help insure that the ALB does not spread. It is essential that Clermont County residents take this to heart. Otherwise, the damage to our landscape could be devastating.

Clermont County Farm Bureau



A membership organization which fights for fair property taxes, property rights, and the interest of agriculture.

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Web: www.clermontswcd.org

Calendar of Events

SWCD Office Closed (Holiday)	July 4
SWCD Board Meeting	July 10- 5 pm
Clermont County Fair	July 23-29
SWCD Board Meeting	August 14- 5pm
SWCD Office Closed (Holiday)	Sept. 2
SWCD Board Meeting	Sept. 11- 5 pm
SWCD Annual Meeting	Sept. 12

Check out Clermont SWCD Facebook Page

We are now connected to the world of facebook, so come check out our world of soil and water conservation.

Connect with us today at:
/ClermontSWCD



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