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November 19, 2018

Dear Soil and Water Friend,

We had a fantastic evening celebrating conservation at the Annual Celebration on November 8. The evening began with the Board Supervisor election and Meet, Greet and Munch. Henry Hopkins and David Krichbaum were elected to be on the five-member, volunteer Board of Supervisors and will serve a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2019. Thank you to all of the candidates for their support and interest in Richland SWCD, as well as those who took the time to vote. We also wish to express our gratitude to Skip Malaska and Barbau Zaugg Joudrey for their leadership the past three years.

Congratulations to [Jay Miller](#) for being named Conservationist of the Year. Jay is committed to protecting soil and water quality. Learn more about him in this [video](#).

[Linda Collins](#) was named the 2018 Volunteer of the Year for her contributions to the volunteer program. Linda is a Precipitation Monitor and helps with special events and in the office. A [dogwood tree](#) was planted in her honor at Gorman Nature Center on November 16.

Our 66-member [volunteer](#) team was thanked and recognized for their many contributions. They have donated an excess of 2,350 hours, which has saved the General Fund approximately \$ 57,000. Thank you, Volunteers! We greatly appreciate everything you do to support the District's mission.

[John Hildreth](#) will retire from the District on December 12 after serving as District Program Administrator since 1990. During John's tenure, Richland SWCD has been recognized on the state and national level for services the District provides. Best known for being a grassroots organization, the District has been lead by John in providing services for the betterment of landowners. Thank you, John! Here's a [message](#) from him.

[Erica Thomas](#), the new District Program Administrator, was introduced. Please stop in the office or call to wish John well and welcome Erica.

Prior to dinner, guests enjoyed appetizers, visited and watched a [video](#) highlighting the last year while listening to music provided by [Robert Cox and Greg Moore](#).

[Harvey Webster](#) was an engaging and educational speaker! He shared his spectacular photos and knowledge of birds of prey found throughout Ohio and

brought a hawk, too!

The [Ohio Department of Agriculture](#) recognized the 75th Anniversary of Richland SWCD conserving Richland County's natural resources.

Thank you to the following for their support: [Alta Florist & Greenhouse](#); [DRM Productions, Inc](#); [Farm Credit Mid-America](#), [Malabar Farm Foundation](#), Richard and Janet Shellhouse and Rob Workman and Amy Crutchfield.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your loved ones!

Your partners in conservation,

*John, Erica, Theresa and Matt*



For information on varied volunteer opportunities within our office, including identifying historical photos, engaging young people in the District, becoming a Precipitation Monitor, Lake Monitor, Stream Monitor, Office Assistant or an Earth Team volunteer with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, please [click here](#).

Programs and assistance of the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District are available without regard to race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, age, national origin, ancestry, disability or veteran status.

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District,  
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