





to get his stormwater permit, he told the representative that the building was going to be used for agriculture purposes. Agriculture is considered a stormwater permit exemption. Sometime after the building was completed, it and its contents were destroyed in a fire. It wasn't until the landowner tried to make a claim with the insurance company, that the landowner revealed that the building's primary purpose was to store classic cars. He had also installed electric and plumbing, but did so without getting permits. Because the landowner didn't obtain the proper

permits, the insurance company denied the claim. A situation like this can be emotionally and financially devastating. Not only did he lose his investment in the building and its contents, but he was paying insurance for something that wasn't covered.

If you are considering an earth moving project, please come to our office for a storm water permit prior to starting. You don't want to be caught in a situation like the example above. We'll discuss your project with you and guide you on how to keep sediment from leaving the site and to handle [stormwater](#) in a way to promote water infiltration into the soil and not create a drainage nuisance to neighboring properties. We want you to enjoy your property for year's to come and be able to sleep at night knowing you have followed the right steps to protect your property and to be a good neighbor.

Click on [I Have a Project](#) to find out what documents you need to bring with you to get a permit, so that you don't have to make multiple trips to our office.

Permit office days and hours are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Commercial projects may make an appointment. Please [contact us](#) if you have questions about obtaining a stormwater permit.

---

### Mansfield Christian Competes in Envirothon

Congratulations to Mansfield Christian High School for placing 13th out of a field of 45 teams in the Area 2 Envirothon held April 25 at Camp Beaumont in Rock Creek, Ohio. This was the school's first time competing in the Envirothon. Team members were Brycen Klotzbach, Julia Secrist, Megan Wilging, Andrew Day and Ethan Byrom. The team was led by advisor, Craig Klotzbach. The competition was hosted by the Ashtabula and Trumbull Soil and Water Conservation Districts.



The Envirothon is a national, academic, outdoor competition for high school teams, which is designed to stimulate, reinforce and enhance interest in the environment and natural resources. Teams were tested on their knowledge of aquatics, wildlife, soils, forestry and current environmental issues. The top four teams from each one of five area competitions progress to the Ohio Envirothon in June. The state level contest is held in a different part of Ohio each year and will take place at Franciscan University of Steubenville this year. The top-scoring team in the Ohio Envirothon is eligible to compete in the National Envirothon, hosted by a different state or province each year. This year it will be held in July in Raleigh, North Carolina.

---

### Cover Crop Cost Share Program Available



Once again, we are partnering with the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District on a grant program for producers who plant cover crops in the Rocky Fork, Black Fork and Clear Fork watersheds.

The 2019 cost share rate is \$12.00 per acre for returning applicants and \$15.00 per acre for new applicants. Applications are due in our office by **June 4**.

Last year, the grant program assisted in getting cover crops on over 349 acres of Richland County farmland and resulted in 74 tons of soil from eroding into our streams, kept 98 pounds of phosphorous on the land and 195 pounds of nitrogen out of waterways.

Some of the benefits of planting cover crops include reducing soil erosion and runoff, increasing rainfall and snow melt infiltration into the soil and increasing soil quality.

Program details and applications may be found on our [website](#) or by contacting [Matt](#).

Photo courtesy of John Akers.

---

## Cost Share Program Available for Western Lake Erie Basin Farmers



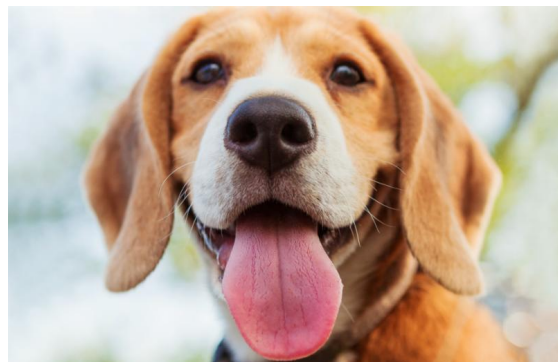
The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) has announced a new [Ohio Working Lands](#) program funded by SB 299 to assist Western Lake Erie Basin farmers with improving water quality. In Richland County, these programs apply to farmers located in the Upper Sandusky Watershed.

The [Small Grains program](#) is a voluntary program that encourages producers in the Western Lake Erie Basin Watershed to plant small grains such as wheat, barley, oats or cereal rye on eligible cropland. This program promotes the planting of small grains not only for the conservation benefits, but to provide livestock producers with a longer time period to land apply manure and nutrients. As the “working lands” name implies participants can plant and harvest small grains, land apply manure, and plant a cover crop to receive a cost-share payment to help offset operating costs. Livestock producers are encouraged to work with neighboring grain farmers that are able to utilize manure as a source of nutrients for their crops.

---

## Don't Forget to Pick up Pet Waste

Don't forget to pick up your pet waste. If left on the ground, it could carry bacteria to our lakes, rivers and streams. Learn more about how you can help keep our waterways clean through [Only Rain Down the Drain](#).



---

## Volunteers

Be on the look out for volunteers on our lakes and streams. You won't miss them in their neon yellow t-shirts and/or safety vests! New and current volunteers have been trained and are ready to monitor our lakes and streams for the 2019 season. In the case of precipitation monitors, they report year-round and have been busy reporting rain. Like everyone else, we are ready for more sunshine! Thank you, volunteers! Watch the [Water Data Map](#) to see what volunteers are reporting. If you are interested in

## Soil Testing Program Is Back!



After a brief suspension, our soil testing program is back. Before you plant this spring, we recommend you have your soil tested. Knowing your soil's composition before planting will save you time, money and frustration. Bring in your soil sample from your garden, landscaped beds or lawn and we will send it to a certified lab to be tested. To get more information, click [here](#).

---

## Upcoming Activities

**July 4 & 5:** Office closes for July 4

**August 4 to 10:** Richland County Fair

**August 20:** Manure & You Workshop

**October 4:** Fish orders due

**October 11:** Fish pick up

**November 7:** Annual Celebration

---

## Other News

[Lowes Recycling](#)

[USDA reopens continuous CRP program](#)

[Four things to know about the USDA Dairy Margin Coverage Program](#)

[Soil health no passing fad](#)

[Wet planting season](#)

[NASA app gives nature walks more purpose](#)

---

### **SWCD Staff**

**Erica Thomas, District Administrator**

419-747-8684

[thomas.eric@richlandswcd.net](mailto:thomas.eric@richlandswcd.net)

**Dan Herrold, Urban Technician**

419-747-8077

[herrold.dan@richlandswcd.net](mailto:herrold.dan@richlandswcd.net)

**Theresa Sutter, Community Relations Coordinator**

### **Board Supervisors**

Brian Alt, Chairperson

Kyle Bailey, Secretary

Fred Cooke, Treasurer

Lanny Hopkins, At Large

Dave Krichbaum, Vice Chair

Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Longview Center, 1495 W. Longview Avenue, Mansfield, OH 44906. The meetings are open to the public. Call to confirm meeting

419-747-8685  
[sutter.theresa@richlandswcd.net](mailto:sutter.theresa@richlandswcd.net)

**Matt Wallace, Agriculture Technician**  
419-747-8687  
[wallace.matt@richlandswcd.net](mailto:wallace.matt@richlandswcd.net)

### NRCS Staff

**Jason Ruhl, District Conservationist**  
419-747-8691  
[jason.ruhl@oh.usda.gov](mailto:jason.ruhl@oh.usda.gov)

**Derek Benner, Wildlife Biologist**  
567-280-6058  
[dbenner@pheasantsforever.org](mailto:dbenner@pheasantsforever.org)

date, time and attendance. If you plan to attend a board meeting, please contact Erica Thomas, District Administrator, in advance so that enough meeting packets will be prepared.

### **NEW!!!**

To be more efficient in answering and managing phone calls, we are using an automated answering system. If you call our main number at 419-747-8686 you will be given the opportunity to connect with a staff member or partnering office.

Individual phone numbers and email addresses are provided on the left. If you have any questions, please [let us know](#).

---

RICHLAND SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
1495 W. Longview Avenue, Suite 205B, Mansfield, OH 44906  
419.747.8686 | [www.RichlandSWCD.net](http://www.RichlandSWCD.net)

See what's happening on our social sites:



---

For information on varied volunteer opportunities within our office, including scanning and archiving historical photos and documents, engaging young people in the District, becoming a Precipitation Monitor, Lake Monitor, Stream Quality Monitor, Office Assistant, Photographer, help with Special Events or be an Earth Team volunteer with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, please [click here](#). Congratulations to volunteers for being awarded the 2018 NRCS National and Northeast Regional Earth Team Chief's Field Office awards!

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

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.