

2023 Richland Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor Elections Candidate Guide



Election for 2 Supervisor Positions to be held 8/9/23 through 9/7/23

Brian Alt : Shelby, OH



Occupation and/or Educational Background: Grain farmer, high school diploma

Why do you want to serve on the Richland SWCD Board? I am concerned about water quality and soil erosion in Richland County. Current Chair and Richland SWCD Board Supervisor.

What does Conservation Mean to You? I would like to continue supporting our SWCD staff and their goals for all of the programs, permits and projects of Richland Co Conserving our soil and clean water practices. Implement plans.

Do you feel you can represent the interests of all citizens of Richland County and consider the Perspectives and Affected Parties when making a decision? Yes, I will be fair to both sides of every decision that has to be enforced and projects for sustainable good practices.

Rick Novak: Mansfield,



Occupation and/or Educational Background: Master of Arts Degree Geography BGSU. Thesis : An Examination of Organic Matter Content in Beach Ridge Entisols along Lake Erie. Bachelor of Arts Geology/Geography. BGSU. Served as Executive Director of The Lorain Port for 30 years. Oversaw Maritime related activities, waterfront development and Development Financing. Worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding dredging of the Lorain Harbor and Black River. Coordinated activities with the USEPA, OEPA, ODNR and Ohio Office of Coastal Zone Mgmt. Participated in Black River Remedial Action Activities and projects. Currently retired.

Why do you want to serve on the Richland SWCD Board? I would like to utilize the knowledge and expertise I have obtained over my 40 year career in government. To assist the District in their activities and programs. I already volunteer with the district regarding water quality, stream monitoring and rainfall projects

What does Conservation Mean to You? Conservation is the preservation, practical use and management of our natural resources

Do you feel you can represent the interests of all citizens of Richland County and consider the Perspectives and Affected Parties when making a decision? Absolutely! I already volunteer in the areas described in No. 2. I live adjacent to Charles Mill and Sites Lake. I have learned a great deal while filling the unexpired term of a previous officer and feel that I can also add to the agency's portfolio with my professional and personal experiences.

Greg Timberlake: Mansfield/Ontario, OH



Occupation and/or Educational Background: Retired college administrator 1986 – 2021. (2010 – 2021) at North Central State College: Dean of Business, Engineering, Technology and Workforce Development. Currently managing my own LLC in consulting.

Why do you want to serve on the Richland SWCD Board? I am amazed at how important the work is; how many different responsibilities the staff have; how they are sometimes caught between the conflicting viewpoints of community members. Because I have come to respect the mission, work, and people at the RSWCD it would be an honor to serve that mission, the communities served, and the people doing the work.

What does Conservation Mean to You? In a nutshell conservation means protecting and ensuring that resources are available to all people now and in the future. In more complexity – it also means managing resources with consideration for biodiversity for maximum beneficial outcomes in the future – always with a human perspective.

Do you feel you can represent the interests of all citizens of Richland County and consider the Perspectives and Affected Parties when making a decision? The first part of the question is loaded because the interests of citizens in the county are not always the same; they are sometimes in conflict. I guarantee you that I can understand both sides of such disagreements (the “perspectives”) and am dedicated to finding common ground and win-win solutions. I am dedicated to not seeing good guys and bad guys – but just people, fellow community members, who have interests and rights. In that sense, yes, I can “represent the interests and consider the perspectives of all citizens...”