



Brenda Dahse - Brenda is a life long resident of Athens County. She and her husband Kevin reside on a 52 acre horse farm in Bern Township. They have installed fencing, watering systems and structures to accommodate their current livestock operation. Brenda currently holds the positions of Chairman and Fiscal Agent on the Athens SWCD Board of Supervisors where she has served for the past six years. She is currently the 2nd Vice-President of the Buckeye Hills Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) council and is a member of District 18 Buckeye Hills Natural Resources Assistance Council. Brenda has been employed as the store manager at Buckley

Brothers, Inc. in The Plains for the past 12 years. Prior to that, she worked as the office manager for Landmark, Inc. for 5 years. Brenda also volunteers at Windy Hills Farm Therapeutic Riding Center. Brenda is very generous with her time in helping her nieces, nephews and area youth with their 4-H projects. "It is very satisfying to see kids succeed with their projects" Brenda says. She enjoys horseback riding, gardening, and the outdoors.



Scott Sanders - Scott was born and raised in Athens County. He grew up helping his dad bale hay as well as helping other family friends on their farms. Scott and his wife, Angie, married 16 years ago. Two years later, they bought property close to his grandmother's farm. Here Scott built their house, they started their family, and Scott began to take the reigns of the family farm. Being around farming and agriculture since he could remember, it had always been a dream of his to keep the farm going and have it thrive. Chasing this dream, he began to bring the farm back to life. He first worked

on the soil to replenish the nutrients, then added beef cattle, and crops such as alfalfa, wheat, soy beans, and corn. He took on more acres in the surrounding fields always being sure to take care of the soil, ensuring it had the proper nutrients. It was only a few years before he was the sole operator of the farm. Scott loves that he is able to pass on this knowledge and experience of the farm life to his children. The children are now 13 and 10. They are active on the farm and have many farm animals of their own. They enjoy the farm, whether it's baling hay, harvesting wheat or corn, or finding a newborn calf in the field. Both children are involved in 4-H as well as sports. In addition to working his full-time job, Scott farms 200 acres, cares for 30 head of cattle, is an Alexander FFA Alumni member, and an Ohio Farm Bureau member.



Gary Willison - Gary graduated from The Ohio State University, where he received his bachelor's and master's degree in Forest Management. He retired from the US Forest Service after 34 years, where he managed the forest resources in four national forests. On the Wayne National Forest he managed a Watershed Team that completed 54 abandoned mine land projects which greatly improved water quality in the Monday Creek Watershed. Gary also worked closely with Ohio Department of

Transportation to minimize effects to wildlife and soil and water resources while managing the US Route 33 Bypass around Nelsonville. Currently he is a forestry instructor at Hocking College and a consulting forester in Southeastern Ohio. Gary lives on a farm in eastern Athens County with his wife and son where he raises Christmas trees and produces maple syrup.