

Funding Sources for Conservation Programs (2022):

• Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Rental/ Cost Share =	\$ 78,303.00
• Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) =	\$ 8,059.00
• Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) =	\$ 298,003.00
• Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) =	\$ 177,240.00
• Estimated Landowner Input =	\$ 208,080.00
Total Dollars Spent On Conservation =	\$ 769,685.00

Athens SWCD Operating Funds (2022):

The Athens Soil and Water Conservation District operates on funding provided by the Athens County Commissioners, the City of Athens, the Athens County Auditor, and matchable funds by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil and Water Conservation.

Local Funds for 2022	
• Athens County Commissioners	\$ 129,910.51
• City of Athens	\$ 11,500.00
• Athens County Auditor	\$ 30,000.00
Other Sources:	
• ODNR Division of Wildlife	\$ 29,000.00
• State Match Funds	\$ 141,298.00
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	\$ 341,708.51

2022 Board of Supervisors:

Brenda Dahse, Chair
Glenn Lackey, Vice-Chair
Bryan Ford, Secretary
Gary Willison, Treasurer
Joyce Bobo, Member

District Staff:

Cathy Bobo, District Manager
Rich Blazier, Equipment Manager
Teresa Caldwell, Education Coordinator
Jacob Winters, District Technician

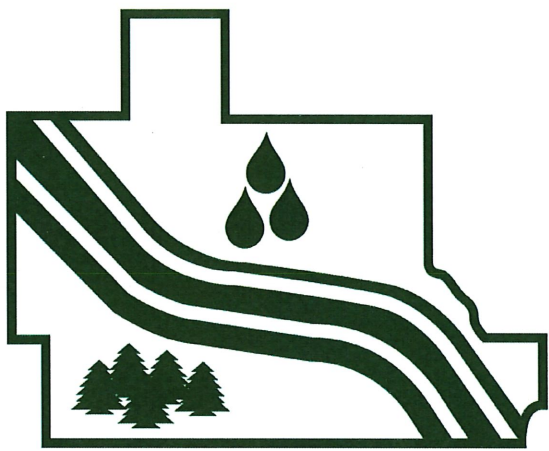
USDA NRCS Staff:

Joe Weber, District Conservationist
Bill Serbonich, Conservation Specialist
Dean Sinclair, Soil Conservation Tech

All SWCD/NRCS programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or handicap.

**ATHENS SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

76th Anniversary
2022 Annual Report



Mission Statement:

***Provide leadership by promoting the wise use and
enhancement of Athens County's natural resources for
current and future generations.***

Athens Soil and Water Conservation District
69 S. Plains Road
The Plains, Ohio 45780
740-797-9686 or 800-582-8890
Fax: 740-797-9079



Information, Education and Outreach

- Conducted a 1st grade coloring contest for Athens City/County Elementary Schools. 241 students participated.
- Conducted a 5th grade poster/essay contest for Athens City/County Elementary Schools. 40 students participated.
- Sponsored a “Conservation Educator of the Year” award.
- Facilitated 9 pre-service educator workshops. 220 educators attended.
- Sponsored 5 presentations at the Athens County Fair. 128 participated.
- Sponsored plaques for the Athens County and Albany Independent Fair Hay Show contests.
- Awarded two OFA Camp Canopy scholarships.
- Awarded one \$500 District scholarship.
- Published 2 District Newsletters.
- Maintained Athens SWCD’s Website and Facebook page.
- Conducted Annual Spring and Fall Fish Sale.
- Sponsored 14th Annual All Athens County Photo Contest. 38 photo entries.
- Presented 4 “Watershed” programs to 118 students at Athens Community Center Summer Camp.
- Co-sponsored Multi County FFA Soils Judging Contest. 57 students participated.
- Conducted 8 presentations of the 4th grade “Erosion Box” program. 162 students participated.
- Virtually conducted 12 presentations of the 6th grade “Soils Series” program. 288 students participated.
- Conducted one Wildlife Nuisance investigation.
- Provided two landowner consultations for Ohio Landowner/Hunter Access Partnership (OLHAP) Program.
- Provided 46 landowner consultations for Wildlife Habitat and Forestry Management recommendations.
- Assisted with Area 5 Envirothon. 188 students participated.
- Conducted a traveling 3rd grade Waterfest program for all Athens City/County students. 23 presentation to 441 students.
- Assisted with ODNR DOW surveys for Barn Owl and Waterfowl population density.
- Presented “Learning to Fish” program for Athens Fish and Game. 30 youth participated.
- Promoted Pollinator Habitat development and collection of Milkweed Seed Pods.
- Presented at “A Day in the Woods” on Invasive species / management. 40 attended.
- Presented “Soil and Erosion” programs to Trimble Middle School. 200 students attended.
- Participated in a traveling 4th grade Ag Awareness program for Athens County students. 15 presentations to 154 students.
- Presented at Meigs County Summer Camp. 2 presentations to 16 campers.
- Presented “Books and Birds” & “Feeder Watch” program to 246 students in Athens City/County schools.



The Athens Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) was organized in 1946, the 47th District in Ohio, for the purpose of planning and carrying out natural resources conservation programs. The District is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio and is governed by a board of five supervisors, elected by the landowners of Athens County, who serve staggered three-year terms.

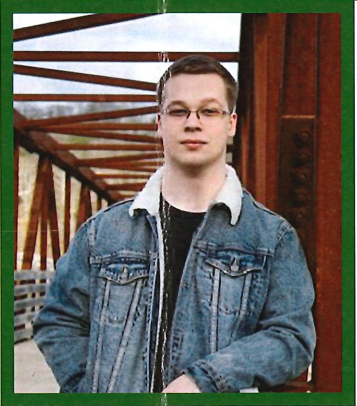
Cooperation with the District is on a voluntary basis and anyone needing assistance in solving natural resource problems may apply for help by contacting our office. Technical aid in planning and applying needed conservation practices will be furnished by District staff and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) personnel assigned to the District. The District also sponsors various educational programs and is available to assist students and educators with projects. All services provided by the District are at no charge to the public.

Funding for the District’s work is provided by the Athens County Commissioners, the City of Athens, the Athens County Auditor and ODNR Division of Wildlife. Additional financial assistance is provided by the State of Ohio through the Ohio Department Agriculture, Division of Soil and Water Conservation.

Monthly board meetings of the Athens SWCD Board of Supervisors are held to conduct business. All meetings are open to the public. Contact the office for date and time of meetings.



Stanley Farms
Conservation Cooperator of the Year



Gavin Haning
District Scholarship Recipient



Heika Perko
Conservation Educator of the Year

Conservation Accomplishments

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Forest Stand Improvement | 166.5 acres |
| • Brush Management | 328 acres |
| • Herbaceous Weed Treatment | 37.5 acres |
| • Watering Facilities | 9 structures installed |
| • Forest Management Plans Written | 14 plans for 1,890 acres |
| • Fencing | 9,410 feet installed |
| • Pipeline | 2,945 feet |
| • Conservation Cover | 2,280 square feet |
| • High Tunnel Systems | 4 structures/10,452 sq ft installed |
| • Roof Runoff Structures | 4 systems/675 linear feet installed |
| • Livestock Heavy Use Area | 2 structures/4,500 sq ft installed |
| • Tree/Shrub Planting | 29.2 acres |
| • Tree/Shrub Planting Site Prep | 18.3 acres |
| • Prescribed Burning | 9.3 acres |
| • Access Road | 791 feet |
| • Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan | 1plan/388 acres |
| • Pollinator Habitat Planting | 27.6 acres |
| • Structures for Wildlife | 30 structures |
| • Prescribed Grazing | 163 acres |
| • Subsurface Drain/Underground Outlet | 1,098 feet |
| • Conservation Systems Planned | 3,466 acres |
| • Conservation Systems Applied | 8,376 acres |
| • EQIP Contracts Obligated / 2022 | 28 contracts/1,277 acres/\$105,475.00 |
| • Conservation Security Program / 2022 | 5 contracts/427 acres/\$107,453.00 |

Conservation Accomplishments cont.

- 120 tons of lime spread using the District’s lime spreader.
- 84 acres planted using the District’s Truax No-till Drill.
- 167 acres planted using the District’s Sunflower Seeder.
- 24 Technical Assistance/Homesite visits for the City of Athens completed.
- 45 Technical Assistance visits outside the city completed.
- 1 Silvicultural Pollution Abatement site reviewed.
- 2 Timber Harvest Plan / Notice of Intent sites reviewed.
- Conducted over 2,800 CAUV site reviews for Athens County Auditor’s office.
- Conducted Annual Tree Packet Program for residents in Athens County. The District also sells seedlings to Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Morgan, Pickaway, Ross, Scioto, Vinton and Washington SWCDs.

Stormwater Management

Over the last year the Athens Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) has performed the following services for the City of Athens to comply with the MS4 Stormwater requirements.



Fifty-six (56) volunteers gathered to clean-up 6 miles of the Hocking River in the Athens area as part of the Ohio River Sanitation Commission’s annual River Sweep project. Approximately 2,500 lbs. of trash and recyclables were collected. Partners were Athens SWCD, City of Athens, Athens City-County Health Dept., Hocking Conservancy District, and Ohio University.



Athens SWCD, City of Athens, and Ohio University teamed up to celebrate Pollution Prevention (P2) Week! Several events were scheduled on and off campus to educate the public on ways to prevent pollution.



Presented Stormwater House at Earthday observance on main campus of Ohio University.

Presentation on raingardens to the Athens Garden Club. 20 members attended.



Athens SWCD sponsored two rain barrel workshops this year. A total of 21 participants. 29 barrels constructed.

Co-hosted Inspection & Maintenance Certification for Stormwater Control Measures in Ohio Stormwater training. Approximately 30 participants attended.

The Athens SWCD provided technical assistance to the City of Athens through identification and selection of invasive species for removal in the Riparian Project area along the Hocking River.