

STARK STEWARDSHIP

Stark Soil & Water Conservation District
2021 District of the Year

September-December 2021

Board of Supervisors

Ann Wolfe, Chair

Natalie Hammer, Vice
Chair

Rodney Campbell, Fiscal
Agent

Rick Horner, Secretary

Andy Wentling

District Staff

John S. Weedon

Sarah E. Matheny

Matthew Ferrel

Jay Jordan

Megan Liggett

Rome Marinelli

NRCS Staff

Sandy Chenal

Tim Scott

2650 Richville Dr., SE

Suite 100

Massillon, 44646

330-451-7645

starkswcd.org

Monday to Friday

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closed: Labor Day
(September 6th); Veter-
an's Day (November
11th); Thanksgiving
(November 25th & 26th),
Christmas (December
24th & 25th)

Board Meetings: 2nd
Thursday of the month
@ 8:00 a.m.

2021 Supervisors Election

Stark Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) will hold an election for two Board of Supervisors positions for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2022.

Voting starts August 18th and ends September 16th.

Voters can cast ballots at the District's Annual Meeting (see below) or at its office between August 18th and September 16th during regular office hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday to Friday).

Absentee ballots may be requested by contacting the office between August 18th and September 16th. Absentee ballots must be returned to the office no later than 4:30 p.m. on September 16th.

Eligible voters are Stark County landowners or residents at least 18 years old.

2021 Annual Meeting

Stark SWCD and Stark County Farm Bureau will hold a joint annual meeting at The Ponds Venue (10547 Manchester Ave SW, Beach City) on Thursday, September 16th starting at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person for Farm Bureau or SWCD members and \$30 per person for non-members. Call 330-456-4889 by September 10th to RSVP.

3rd Annual Healthy Soil Contest

Stark SWCD is holding its third annual contest to promote the importance of healthy soils. Detailed instructions on proper sampling are available in a video on the District's website (starkswcd.org/healthy-soil-contest).

Samples can be dropped off at the District office between August 23rd and 27th (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). One sample per landowner.

District staff and soil scientists will conduct five soil health assessment tests to determine the healthiest soil. Questions? Contact Jay Jordan @ 330.451.7643.

Farm Science Review Bus Trip

Stark SWCD, Stark County Farm Bureau, and OSU Extension are sponsoring the annual Farm Science Review bus trip on Wednesday, September 22nd. Participants will enjoy coffee & donuts, bus ride, admission ticket, and buffet dinner at Der Dutchman. The cost is \$50 per person. RSVP to 330-456-4889 by September 17th. Limited seating.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.



Rodney Campbell

Rodney resides in Minerva with his wife, Cindy. He grows corn, beans, and wheat as part of the Campbell Bros. Farms in Homeworth, Ohio. The Campbell Bros. Farms have installed many conservation practices over the years and were named Cooperators of the Year in 2017.

Rodney served on the Board of Supervisors from 2002 to 2016.

Rodney returned to the Board in 2018. He is the current Fiscal Agent/Treasurer for the District Board of Supervisor.

He is an active member of Stark County Farm Bureau.



Gary Popotnik

Gary resides in Lawrence Township with his 13 year old golden retriever, Lucky. He has lived in Stark County since 2008. He works for The Wilderness Center (TWC) as its Conservation Manager/Biologist. He oversees all conservation projects on TWC lands and represents TWC on regional conservation partnerships projects .

He is a member of the Planetary Society and Union of Concerned Scientists and enjoys studying particle physics and cosmology. He is a passionate Cleveland Indians and Browns fan.

Gary is running for supervisor to bring his technical conservation expertise to the board and to help Stark County continues its tradition of innovative conservation efforts.



Ann Wolfe

Ann lives in Nimishillen Township with her husband, John. They have three grown children. Ann worked for 30 years for various companies as a graphic designer and copywriter. She now works on the family's farm operation, alongside her husband, John's brother, and their father. They milk 130 Holsteins and grow corn, soybeans, wheat and hay. They were named Cooperators of the Year in 2013.

Ann is a 4-H advisor, chairs the Stark County 4-H Home Economics Committee, serves on the Stark County-OSU Extension Board, and is an active member of the Stark County Farm Bureau where she previously served on the county board of directors.

Ann is the current Chair of the District Board of Supervisors.

She is interested in increasing awareness among residents and funders on the important work the District does to protect and preserve natural resources in our county.

Stark SWCD Fall 2021 Programming

S.O.S: SAVING OUR STREAMS

September 30th 2021 @ 6PM

From the Tuscarawas River to the creek running through your yard, Stark County is home to water bodies of all shapes and sizes. Join us to learn how you can help enhance and protect our local waterways and beyond!

LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVES

October 12th 2021 @ 6PM

Come experience the joy and benefits that native speices bring to the landscape.

STORMWATER AND SEVERE WEATHER

October 26th 2021 @ 6PM

Research shows storm events are becoming more intense. Join us as we take a look at storm water and how we can all work together to reduce runoff and flooding.

THE TIME IS NOW: INASIVE SPECIES CONTROL

November 23rd 2021 @ 6PM

Late fall and into the winter is the best time to manage invasive species on your property. Come learn ID tips and best ways to control those pesky invasives.

ALL WORKSHOPS WILL BE AVAILIABLE IN PERSON AT 2650 RICHVILLE DR SE. MASSILLON, OH AND VIA ZOOM. REGESITER BY VISITING STARKSWCD.ORG



2021 District of the Year



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Massillon, Ohio 44646
330.451.7645 (SOIL)
www.starkswcd.org
Facebook: StarkSWCD
Twitter: @Stark_SWCD



This Fall, Leave the Leaves



With Fall just around the corner, the leaves on the trees will soon start to change color and drop to the ground before we know it, and so begins everyone's favorite fall chore – leaf raking!

Maybe leaf raking is not your favorite chore, but either way, this year consider leaving the leaves in your yard to help improve the health of your soil, while saving you time and money. Leaves contain valuable organic matter and nutrients that can help fertilize your lawn. By leaving the leaves you are recycling those nutrients that will directly benefit your yard. Simply run over the leaves with a mulching lawn mower and let the pieces break down where they are. Fallen leaves also help suppress weeds and provide valuable habitat for a wide variety of animals. You can also use the leaves in your garden or add it to your own compost piles at home.

If you are not able to leave the leaves in your yard, or if you have too many to utilize, many communities offer services to accept yard waste (leaves, small branches, and grass clippings) that will be turned into compost instead of going to the landfill. Check with your community to see what opportunities are available in your area. No matter what you choose to do with your leaves, always remember to keep them out of the roads and storm drains to keep our streets safe to drive and our waterways clean!

Contact Megan Liggett at 330-451-7649 or email meliggett@starkcountyohio.gov for more information.

Help Us Save Money

Request this newsletter electronically and help reduce our postage and printing expenses.

Send an email to jsweedon@starkcountyohio.gov with the message, "Want to save you money" or "Please put me on your electronic mailing list" or "Spend your money on other stuff."