

Conservation Commentary



Volume XXVII, Issue 3

www.meigsswcd.com

Summer 2026

Volunteer Picnic

The Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District invites community members, volunteers, and their families to join us for our annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on Thursday, September 3, 2026, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Meigs SWCD Conservation Area, located on New Lima Road between Rutland and Harrisonville.



The evening will also feature the America 250-Ohio Heritage Tree Dedication at 6:45 p.m.

This annual gathering is our opportunity to thank the many volunteers, partners, and supporters who help make conservation programs and projects possible throughout Meigs County. Guests can enjoy great food, fellowship, and the natural beauty of the Conservation Area, including the native grass prairie and the scenic waters of Little Leading Creek.

A chicken and beef taco bar will be provided by Meigs SWCD, and guests are welcome to bring a covered dish or dessert to share.

One of the highlights of the evening will be the planting and dedication of Meigs County's official America 250-Ohio Heritage Tree. Through this statewide initiative, each of Ohio's 88 counties has been gifted a native white oak tree to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The Meigs SWCD Conservation Area was selected as the permanent home for Meigs County's Heritage Tree.

White oak trees were chosen because they are native to Ohio, thrive in a wide variety of soil types, and are known for their strength, longevity, and resistance to many common tree diseases. As these trees mature over the coming generations, they will serve as a lasting reminder of Ohio's rich natural heritage and our shared commitment to conservation.

Everyone is invited to take part in this special evening as we celebrate the dedication of this meaningful legacy tree, recognize the contributions of our volunteers, and enjoy time together outdoors.

The picnic is a great chance to walk the Conservation Area, meet neighbors who care about the same things you do, and learn more about what the District does. Whether you've been coming for years or you've never set foot on the property, we'd love to have you join us!

If you plan to attend, please call the Meigs SWCD office at 740-992-4282 so we can prepare enough food for everyone.

We hope you'll join us for an evening of good food, good company, and conservation as we celebrate those who make a difference and help plant a legacy for future generations.



The kids had an amazing time at this year's Nature Navigators Camp! Both days were filled with hands-on learning and outdoor fun. Campers explored a wide range of topics, including fish shocking, wildlife, conservation in construction, recycling, macroinvertebrates, water science, and outdoor science. They also enjoyed a couple of great hikes through the woods.

To all the awesome people who helped make camp so special, thank you! Your time, energy, and enthusiasm made it an amazing experience for everyone. We truly could not have done it without you!

Be on the lookout for next year's camp dates and information. We can't wait to do it all again!



Poster and Coloring Contest

Conservation Mascot Poster Contest

This spring, Meigs County 6th grade students participated in our Conservation Mascot Poster Contest with the theme "Create the Conservation Mascot." Students submitted many creative and thoughtful designs that showcased the importance of conservation in our county. Congratulations to our first-place winner, Stella the Raccoon, who was selected as Meigs SWCD's new conservation mascot. Be on the lookout for Stella as she begins appearing in our programs, events, and educational materials throughout the year!



Sam Workman-Meigs



Daisy Sisson-Meigs



Adrian Yost- Southern

Kindergarten Coloring Contest

This year's Kindergarten Coloring Contest focused on caterpillars and their amazing transformation into butterflies. Kindergarten students from across Meigs County had the opportunity to learn about the butterfly life cycle while adding their own creativity to the coloring page. We were impressed by the colorful entries and enthusiasm shown by our youngest conservationists. Thank you to all of the students, teachers, and families who participated and helped make the contest a success!



Dixie Payne-Meigs



Briella Weiss- Southern



Rylee Waters-Meigs



Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting Set for October 6

The Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting & Banquet will be held October 6 at the Blakeslee Center in Middleport. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., with the program beginning at 6:30 p.m.

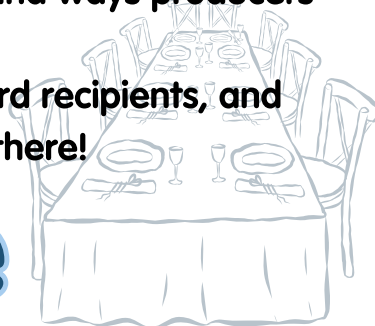
Reservations are \$20 per person and are required by September 27. Reservations may be made at the Meigs SWCD office Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

This year's guest speaker is Garth Ruff, Assistant Professor and Field Specialist in Beef Cattle and Livestock Marketing with Ohio State University Extension. Garth will discuss "Combating Tick-Borne Pathogens in the Cow Herd," covering tick-borne diseases and ways producers can protect their herds.

Join us as we celebrate another year of conservation, recognize award recipients, and conduct the election of supervisors. We hope to see you there!



Election Notice



The Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission will hold an election of Supervisors for the Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) in accordance with Chapter 940 of the Ohio Revised Code. Individuals who own or occupy land within the Meigs SWCD and are 18 years of age or older may vote.

Eligible voters may cast a ballot in one of three ways:

1. At the SWCD Office

113 E. Memorial Dr., Suite D, Pomeroy

September 7–October 6, 2026, during normal business hours

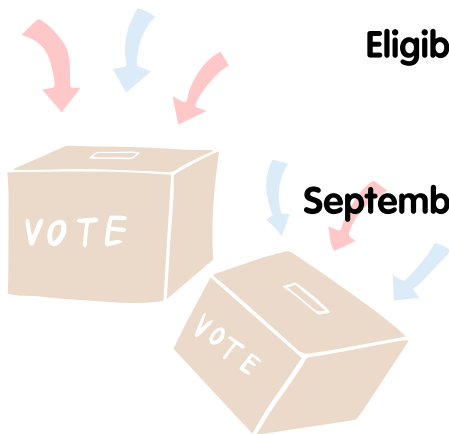
2. At the SWCD Annual Meeting

Blakeslee Center, Middleport

October 6, 2026, from 6:00–6:30 p.m.

3. By Absentee Ballot

Request a ballot from the SWCD office or by calling 740-992-4282. Absentee ballots must be received by 3:00 p.m. on October 6, 2026.



ELECTIONS

Supervisors will serve a three-year term from January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2029.

SWCD equipment for sale, rent

The following items are available for sale (not including applicable sales tax):

Marking Flags — \$.20 each
Topographical Maps — \$8 each
Ohio Pond Management Handbooks — Free
'Leading from the Past—Stories of Leading Creek' Book—\$15

A \$100
delivery/pickup fee
will be assessed for
equipment rentals
outside of the county.
No out-of-state
rentals.

The following equipment is available for rent (subject to scheduling and availability):

John Deere Drill (10-foot) \$110 min. plus \$11/acre over 10 acres 85 HP < 6,900 lbs min
Haybuster Drill (7 foot) \$110 min. plus \$11/acre over 10 acres 45 HP < 3,600 lbs min
Brillion Seeder (8-foot) \$100 min. plus \$10/acre over 10 acres 40 HP tractor min.
Lime Spreader \$80 min. plus \$2/ton over 40 tons 60 HP tractor min.
Forester Tree Planter \$50 per day 25 HP tractor min.
Planter Bars Free with \$50 returnable deposit
Box Trap Free with \$40 returnable deposit \$5/day after 2 weeks



All equipment rentals must be scheduled through the Meigs SWCD office at (740)992-4282 during regular business hours for delivery Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. A rental equipment agreement and tax-exempt form (if applicable) must be on file. Prices listed do not include sales tax. Prices subject to change. The minimum fee will be assessed if equipment is delivered and not used. A \$10 charge per month will be added to all unpaid bills after 60 days.

We're heading into harvest! Please be mindful of tractors and equipment on the roads. Allow extra room for turns or sudden stops and beware of equipment entering or leaving highways.

TEACHERS AND HOMESCHOOLS

Meigs Soil and Water Conservation has several exciting and engaging educational programs to offer. All programs are correlated to the State Science Standards.

Most programs are 30-40 minutes in length.

For more information about the programs, visit meigsswcd.com or call Chelsey at (740)992-4282 to schedule a visit.

We are also eager to host field trips to the Meigs Soil and Water Conservation Area. Trips can include an educational hike, wetland exploring, or wildlife education activities.

Give us a call to learn more!

Support our affiliate members!

Caudill Chipping Inc.

(740) 978-8157

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(cell)

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Langsville OH 45741



740-669-7017

Millersport Agri Service

The Hoover Family
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Millersport OH 43046
(740) 447-2424

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Sunflower Tillage Equipment
Vicon Haymaking Equipment
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Westfield Augers
Kingside Grain Vacs
Great Plains Drills and Sprayers
Kinze Corn Planters
Grain Systems Inc. Bins

ROSE'S EXCAVATING



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Racine OH 45771

Birchfield Funeral Home

212 Main St.
P.O. Box 188
Rutland, OH 45775
740-742-2333



Carl's Auto Sales



SR 124, Middleport
740-992-3198



Valley Lumber & Supply Company
555 Park Street, Middleport OH 45760
740-992-6611

PDK CONSTRUCTION

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POMEROY OH 45769



740-992-6451



MEIGS COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSIT



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Level 2

Halliday-Atkins-Jewell Farm -
Rutland

Racine Optometric Clinic - Racine

Vinton County National Bank-Vinton

Clark's Jewelry Store - Pomeroy

Level 3

Michael Swiger
Hill's Classic Cars LLC -
Racine

King ACE Hardware-
Middleport

Darrell Norris & Son
Greenhouses, LLC - Racine

BEFORE you begin construction or development including
filling, grading, or expanding any structure make sure you are
NOT in a flood hazard area.

Contact the office for a free floodplain evaluation.

Floodplain permits are required even if you are paying cash or
not getting flood insurance.



MEIGS CLEANUP DAY

SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

9:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

GET RID OF HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, JUNK, SCRAP
METAL AND OLD ELECTRONICS FOR FREE

SCRAP TIRE DISPOSAL ONLY \$0.50 PER TIRE

Meigs County Fairgrounds

41850 Fairgrounds Road, Pomeroy, OH 45769

Open to Meigs County residents only:

- Proof of residence required such as driver's license or utility bill.
- No industrial or commercial customers.

WE WILL NOT ACCEPT: General household trash, household hazardous waste (paint, chemicals, cleaners, pool chemicals, and used oil), fluorescent lamps, pesticides, herbicides and fertilizer, medical, infectious, or biohazard waste.

Funding and support provided by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District, Meigs County Health Department, and the Meigs County Commissioners.



WHAT YOU CAN BRING

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS: May include furniture, toys, appliances (including air conditioners, freezers, and refrigerators) tools, box springs/mattresses, carpet, lawn furniture

SCRAP TIRES:

Passenger and truck tires only
\$0.50 per tire disposal fee

—CASH ONLY—

No checks or credit/debit cards
Must be able to pay at the event

Limit **10** tires per vehicle

NO FARM TRACTOR TIRES

NO RIMS

REUSEABLE/DONATION

ITEMS: May include working appliances, medical equipment, arts & crafts, office equipment & supplies, unused lumber & building materials, unused electrical & plumbing fixtures, electronics, collectibles, antiques. *All donations are accepted or rejected at the discretion of the organizer.*

RECYCLABLES:

Scrap metal & electronics
Lawn mowers, car batteries, appliances, air conditioners, computers, servers, copiers, scanners, UPS and battery back-up systems, microwaves and toasters.

For more information contact the
Meigs County Health Department
at 740-992-6626

Photo Contest Winners Congratulations!

1



Brook Jenkins

2



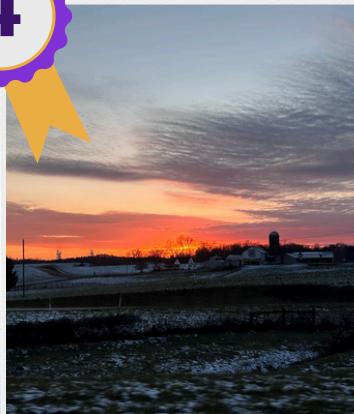
Aaron Oliphant

3



Donald Barnett

4



Kailey Lang

5



Kelcy Lackey

This year's photo contest featured the theme "Stars, Stripes, and Tree-Lined Nights." We received 56 entries, with participants capturing the beauty, patriotism, and scenic landscapes of Meigs County. Thank you to everyone who entered and helped make this year's contest a success!

Z L E Z I K E K K K F K U Y L X Z T B M J H A M
 V R M E F I L D L I W F B H Y D W S T U N I T Y
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 DECLARATION
 BICENTENNIAL
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CELEBRATE
 SETTLERS
 FOUNDERS
 INDEPENDENCE
 EAGLE

RIVERS
 HOMESTEAD
 UNITY
 CONSTITUTION
 PATRIOT

FORESTS
 FRONTIER
 STRIPES
 COLONIES
 FREEDOM

WILDLIFE
 PIONEERS
 STARS
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CONSERVATION
 BUCKEYE
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Conservation Commentary is a publication of the Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District.

To subscribe or unsubscribe from Conservation Commentary, contact the Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District at 740-992-4282.

Meigs SWCD Calendar of Events

Regular meetings of the Meigs SWCD Board of Supervisors are generally held at 11:30 a.m. the fourth Thursday of each month at the SWCD office, 113 E Memorial Drive, Suite D, Pomeroy. Dates and times are subject to change.

August 27th - Board Meeting
September 3rd - Volunteer picnic
September 7th - Office Closed Labor Day
September 12th - Meigs County Clean up Day
September 24th - Board Meeting
October 6th - Annual Meeting
October 10th - Farmers Market (ODNR Day)
October 12th - Office Closed Columbus day
October 31st - Farmers Market (Soils)
November 1st - 6th - Free Soil Sample Week

Keep up with what's new at the Meigs SWCD! Like us on Facebook at "Meigs SCWD Conservation Area" and "Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District" or visit us at www.MeigsSWCD.com