



## **OPEN HOUSE LUNCHEON – Celebrating 80 Years!**



Wednesday - August 12<sup>th</sup>



Time: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Where: Bambauer Room at the Fairgrounds (look for the grain bin)

**MUST** RSVP by July 27<sup>th</sup>      Cost is FREE

**Voting**: You may vote during the luncheon, request a ballot from our office or in person at the office from July 14<sup>th</sup> thru August 11<sup>th</sup> – between 8:00 to 4:00.

The luncheon will have a slide show, presentation of the Conservation Award and Scholarship Awards around 12:30. The room is air-conditioned and handicap accessible.

## **Congratulations to our 2026 Scholarship Winners**

**Taylor Klopfenstein** – daughter of Eric & Angie, she plans on attending The Ohio State University for Ag Communications.

**Kayla Myers** – daughter of Brian & Christina, she is currently attending Wright State Lake Campus for Technical/Applied Studies with concentration on Ag.

**Hayden Sell** – son of Eric & Jill, he plans on attending Rhodes State College for Ag Technology.

**Hunter Wellman** - son of Jack & Jaime, he plans on attending The Ohio State University for Agriscience Education.



## Calendar of Events

July 4<sup>th</sup> – Holiday – office closed  
August 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> – County Fair  
August 12<sup>th</sup> – Open House Luncheon  
Sept 7<sup>th</sup> – Holiday – office closed  
Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> – Farm Science Review  
October 12<sup>th</sup> – Holiday – office closed  
Nov 11<sup>th</sup> – Holiday – office closed  
Nov 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> – Holiday – office closed  
Dec 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> – Holiday – office closed

## Thanks to everyone who ordered Trees and Fish

If you would like us to sell different species of trees let us know what your interested in, by contacting our office and we will check our vendor list for availability. If there is enough interest, we might be able to sell them.

## Control of Canada Thistle – *Purdue Extension*

Like all thistles, Canada Thistle has spiny, deeply lobed leaves. The purple flowers head of Canada thistle are smaller and more numerous than other thistles, and the stems lack the conspicuous spiny wings found on bull and musk thistles.

Canada thistle is a perennial noxious weed that spreads both by seed and horizontal root shoots. Plants usually reach the bud stage the first week in June with full flowering in late June. After seed production rosettes persist through late September into Oct or Nov until the first hard freeze.

A combination of spring and fall herbicide applications will be necessary in most situations. In general, apply herbicides at higher label rates for older, dense stands or for longer residual control. Canada thistle may not be completely eliminated even after multiple applications over several years. New seedlings may continue to emerge for years in treated areas.

**March to May** (rosette to bolting) – treat rosettes using a herbicide containing clopyralid, aminopyralid or glyphosate. This is the ideal time to kill aboveground growth of Canada thistle while limiting damage to desirable plants. However, injury to the root system, and thus long-term effectiveness, is limited.

**Mid-May to mid-June** (prior to flowering) – Herbicide treatments containing clopyralid, aminopyralid or glyphosate when the plant is in bud to flower stage can be effective for reduction of the population. Alternatively, mechanically cut Canada thistle prior to flowering with a rotary mower set at the highest height. Mowing prior to flowering will help minimize and delay seed production of – but will not kill- Canada thistle.

**September to October** (rosette growth and shoot emergence) – Treat using a herbicide containing clopyralid, aminopyralid or glyphosate. Spot treat to avoid injury to nontarget plants. Some of these herbicides can be applied year-round, but late September through October before the first hard freeze is optimal, since it maximizes herbicide movement to root system. Do not apply herbicides to frozen ground.

Monitor the grass stand in June for signs of Canada thistle, repeating the steps above as necessary to kill thistle and reduce seed production. Regular spot treatments will minimize or eliminate the need for large-scale broadcast herbicide applications and the potential loss of desirable forb species.

In many areas, spot treatment of Canada thistle provides sufficient control of thistle while minimizing impacts to legumes and forbs. However, it may be more economical over the long term to treat large infestations using a broadcast herbicide application. Regardless, Canada thistle control likely will have to take place for more than one year. Apparent control on the surface can be deceiving. Destruction of the extensive underground root system is imperative to assure that resprouting does not occur.



## Meet the Board of Supervisor Candidates

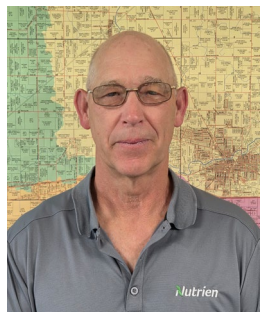


An Election of Supervisors for the Auglaize Soil & Water Conservation District will be held in the Bambauer Room at the Auglaize Fairgrounds ~ Wapakoneta, OH on Wednesday August 12, 2026, from 11:30 to 1:00.

**Two** Candidates will be elected for a three-year term starting January 1, 2027. Residents, landowners, firms and corporations that own or occupy land in Auglaize County and are 18 years old are eligible to vote. You may vote at the Open House Luncheon, vote by absentee by requesting a ballot from our office or in person at the office from July 14<sup>th</sup> thru August 11<sup>th</sup>, between 8:00 and 4:00.



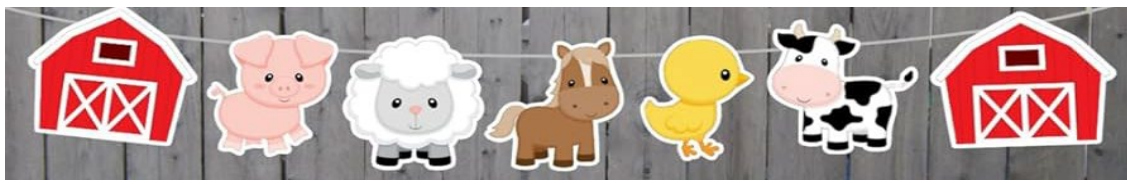
**Debbie Brown** lives in the St Marys area with her husband Stanley and has one married son. They farm 100 acres and plant wheat, corn, beans. They have no-tilled for 25+ years and have planted cover crops for about 20 years. When asked why interested in being a supervisor again, she said “It’s an opportunity to give back to the agricultural community and continue promoting conservation practices.” She also knows there needs to be more awareness of conservation practices and how to implement them.



**Bruce Stoner** lives in the St Marys area with his wife LuAnn and has three married sons. He plants corn, beans and wheat with vertical or minimum no-till. When asked why interest in running for supervisor, he said “The Soil and Water District is funded locally through County support, and he would like to collaborate with the Board to help ensure the county continues to operate effectively.” He also understands the agricultural community is constantly evolving along with our cities and would like to serve to help address issues as they arise.



**Sandy Zwiebel** lives in the Wapak area with her husband Jacob and three kids. They farm 550 acres and plant corn, beans and wheat with no-till or minimal tillage, while raising nursery pigs and a few Herford's. When asked why interested in being a supervisor again, she said “to continue collaborating with farmers to help and conserve soil and water resources in our area.” She also knows how important grassed waterways are in areas that have issues and would like to see farmers limiting tillage around roadways and areas boarding open water, along with applying the correct nutrient rates in fields.



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## Keeping Safe in the SUN

According to the Mayo Clinic, skin cancer is the most common cancer in the US, and 90% is caused by exposure to the sun. Avoiding UV light will prevent damage to your skin and reduce your risk of skin cancer. Limiting sun exposure and following the recommendation will reduce the harmful effects of the sun.

Apply water resistant broad-spectrum sunscreen with at least 30 SPF and a lip protection. Sunscreens contain one or more protective chemicals to absorb and/or scatter ultraviolet rays.

Sunscreens are available in many forms, including lotion, gels, sprays, ointments and wax sticks. If using a spray sunscreen, avoid breathing in the spray and be sure to rub into the skin. In addition to sunscreen, use lip protection with 30 SPF or higher that provides protection from UVA or UVB rays.

Sunscreen should be applied 20-30 minutes before going out into the sun to allow time for the sunscreen to start working. Reapply every 2 hrs or apply more often if swimming or perspiring heavily to provide maximum effectiveness. UV rays are the strongest between 10 am and 4 pm. Use extra caution when around water, sand, snow, ice and concrete as they can reflect sun rays.

Kids burn more easily than adults, so pay special attention to protecting their skin, lips and eyes. Babies younger than 6 months should not be exposed to sun. Clothing can provide protection from ultraviolet light and is a carefree way to be sun safe.

Choose sunglasses that block 100% UVA and UVB radiation to prevent sun damage to your eyes and eyelids. The color or darkness of the lenses does not indicate UV protection, which is an invisible chemical applied to lenses. Wear sunglasses whenever you are in the sun, even on cloudy days.

Since skin cancer is prevalent on the head, it is important to wear a hat. Choose a tightly woven hat with a wide brim of at least 3 inches to provide shade for the eyes, ears, nose and neck. Styles allowing air circulation can offer protection as well as comfort. Following these sun safety times is the strongest defense against developing skin cancer as well as premature skin aging. However, no one protection method can completely reduce your risk.

~ OSU Extension

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## Rotary Ag Mower Safety

A rotary mower is a useful piece of equipment to farmers; however, misuse can be deadly.

Knowing the capabilities of the mower allows for the use of the right mower for the job. The operator's manual will help determine if it will do the job. Keep bystanders away from the mowing and never allow riders on the tractor.

Remove all litter and debris from the area to be mowed. Stones, tin cans, and wire can be deadly when thrown by a mower blade. Be alert for holes and ditches; these hazards may cause the driver to lose control of the mower.

Always disengage the power take-off (PTO), turn off the engine and set the brake. Make sure the blades are not rotating when approach the mower, since the blades will continue to rotate for a while after the power has been shut off.

Be cautious while making turns. If the rear tractor wheel of a pull type mower catches the mower frame, it could throw the operator. The three-point-hitch mounted mower can swing outward when turning. Adding front wheel weights for balance and control, and a wide setting for the rear tires enhances tractor stability and reduces the chance of a tractor overturn.

Hazard risks increase when equipment is not well maintained. Know the proper maintenance procedures. Check machinery for loose parts and blade sharpness. Replace blades that are too dull to sharpen. Rotary mowers are equipped with runners and safety guards. To avoid excessive wear on the runners, keep the mower just high enough to avoid riding on the runner shoes. Keep all guards in place and well maintained. Use chain or belt guards to reduce the possibility of objects being thrown from under the mower and PTO's must be shielded.

Make sure all reflectors and slow-moving vehicle (SMV) emblem is clean and visible when traveling on public roads.

~OSU Extension



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[www.auglaizeswcd.org](http://www.auglaizeswcd.org) and [www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov)

### Auglaize SWCD mission:

Provide leadership, technical assistance, education and conservation of natural resources in Auglaize County.

**Office Hours: 8:00 to 4:30 Monday thru Friday**

Board Meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am.  
Please call or check our website to verify date and time.



### SWCD/NRCS Staff

Christine Davis, District Administrator  
Doug Schmerge, District Technician 3  
Dan Braden, Design Technician  
Molly Hamp, District Technician 2  
Jenelle Ott, NRCS District Conservationist  
Gerard Braun, NRCS Soil Conservation Technician

### Board of Supervisors

Lou Brown, Chairman  
Debbie Brown, Vice Chairman  
Lee Turner, Treasurer  
Denver Davis, Fiscal Agent  
Sandy Zwiebel, Secretary

*The Auglaize Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) prohibits discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, parental status, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, military service or other non-merit-based factors. The Auglaize SWCD is an equal opportunity providers and employers.*