



## Options for Resourceful Living

Being resourceful is the ability to find and use available resources to solve problems and achieve goals. Here are a few ideas.

**Food:** stick to basic nutrient dense foods, use lowest priced food that fits your needs, try recipes using less costly protein-rich foods, avoid buying expensive calorie dense snacks, avoid wasting food; use leftovers to make nutritious dinners, wrap foods before storing to retain freshness, pack lunch instead of dining out, learn how to get the most from meat you buy, check needs before shopping and use a list.

**Clothing:** buy color and style coordinated clothing that can be mixed and matched, sell or donate good used clothing to reduce closet clutter, wear old clothes for dirty jobs, remove spots and stains promptly, explore thrift stores for good clothing, follow laundry instructions for better outcome.

**Transportation:** plan work/errands to avoid back-tracking, keep the car longer, maintenance regularly, don't buy more car than needed, compare interest and insurance rates for best deal, wash car at home.

The Auglaize SWCD newsletter is a publication to keep county residents informed on SWCD programs. Please phone the office at 419-738-4016, if your address needs corrected, if you wish to be removed from our mailing list or receive your newsletter via e-mail by contacting [cdavis@auglaizecounty.org](mailto:cdavis@auglaizecounty.org)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 4th— office closed for Holiday

July 31st thru Aug 6th — County Fair

Aug 23rd—Annual Meeting—Jr Fair Bldg

Sept 5th — Labor Day —office closed

Sept 20-22—Farm Science Review

Oct 10th—Columbus Day—office closed

Nov 6th—Time Change

Nov 11th—Veterans Day—office closed

Nov 24th—Thanksgiving—office closed

Dec 26th—office closed for Holiday



Photo courtesy of Pinterest



THANKS to all who purchased trees and fish this year! Our office greatly appreciates you!



## FARMLAND PRESERVATION

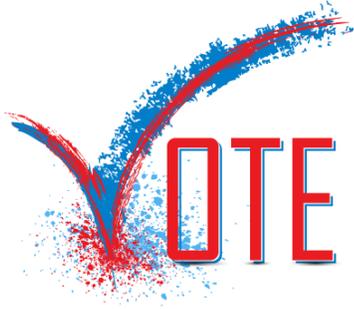
Agriculture is a land-based industry, and farmland preservation is a key component of the Ohio Department of Agriculture's work to maintain the state's farming heritage while positioning Ohio for agricultural growth. Food and agriculture together constitute the state's largest industry, contributing more than \$105 billion annually to the state's economy and providing jobs to one in seven Ohioans. The department's Office of Farmland Preservation assists farmers, landowners and local communities with their farmland preservation efforts.



Between 1950 and 2000, Ohio lost more than 6.9 million acres of farmland, representing nearly one-third of Ohio's agricultural land. The department works to provide tools to farmers who want to preserve their land for future generations. The easement programs began in 2002 and has since preserved more than 540 farms totaling over 85,000 acres in 61 counties (as of August 2020). These voluntary, legal agreements among the landowner, the local community and the state ensure that farmland remains in agricultural use forever. Under an agricultural easement, the land itself stays under private ownership, but the easement prohibits any future non-agricultural development by landowners.

Our office became a sponsor this year, after a couple landowners had an interest in preserving their farm. Applications are point based from answering predetermined questions by ODA. We currently monitor one, previously accepted in 2002, farm in the St Marys area and send a report to ODA letting them know nothing has changed.

Learn more about farmland preservation by visiting their website at <https://agri.ohio.gov/programs/farmland-preservation-office>



## BOARD OF SUPERVISOR CANDIDATE

An Election of Supervisors for the Auglaize Soil and Water Conservation District will be held at Junior Fair Building ~ Wapakoneta, Ohio on Tuesday August 23, 2022 from **5:30 pm to 6:45 pm.**

One Candidate will be elected for a three year term starting January 1, 2023. Residents, landowners, firms and corporations that own land or occupy land in Auglaize County and are 18 years old are eligible to vote. You may vote at the Annual Meeting, vote absentee by requesting a ballot from our office OR in person at the office from July 25th thru August 23rd.

**Lou Brown** lives north of New Bremen in German Township. Married to Deb with 3 adult sons and 1 daughter. He owns 85 acres and farms 375 acres of corn silage, beans, alfalfa and wheat for cover crop with 300 head dairy cows and uses minimum tillage. When asked why he is interested in re-running for board supervisor he said " to use my past experience as supervisor to continue guiding the Soil and Water. My background of raising livestock and living in a distressed watershed gives me a great insight into what the rest of the county/state need to do to be proactive in conservation." Some important issue he feels SWCD is facing: keeping good staff—train and pay them well, keeping an open dialog with Commissioners, keep up with the demand of designing waterways, everyone do their part to keep water clean—no pollution from manure, start teaching water quality by showing our youth thru demonstrations, and plant cover crops to name a few!



**ATTENTION:** ALL practice guidelines and producer verification checklist are available on our website at [www.auglaizeswcd.org](http://www.auglaizeswcd.org) ~ hover over the services tab than click on the H2Ohio option.

**REMINDER:** Keep your seed tags and invoices, record all nutrient applications, request your manure application guidelines early and call the office before you spread! Turn in your paperwork after you side dress your corn!

**REQUIRED:** Bin run cover crop **must** be tested before it is planted. Contact ODA Plant Health Division at 614-728-6410 for more details about testing.

You must keep your records for 3 years for spot check/auditing purposes.  
Call our office if you have any further questions.



**Sound farming practices  
for the future.**

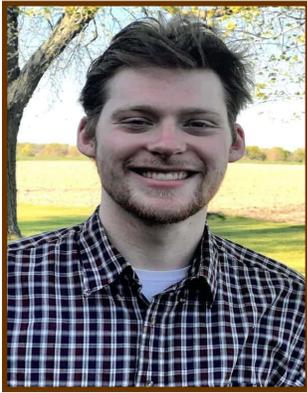
Our farmer advocates share  
their stories about soil health  
and farm sustainability.

**BECOME AN ADVOCATE**  
NW Ohio Training August 9-10

**FIND AN ADVOCATE**

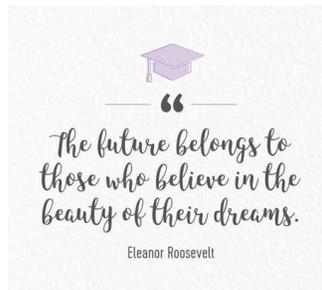
**LEARN MORE:** [farmeradvocatesforconservation.com](http://farmeradvocatesforconservation.com)





## John Kohler

Parents—Ben & Jane Kohler  
of Wapakoneta  
Ohio State University  
Agricultural Engineering



## Alexandria Ott

Parents—Kevin & Sara Ott  
of Wapakoneta  
Ohio State University  
Agribusiness/Applied Economics



**SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**  
Awarded \$500 each



## Leah Walter

Parents—Greg & Sarah Walter  
of St Marys  
University of Toledo  
Environmental Engineering



## Laura Wilker

Parents—Gene & Cindy Wilker  
of St Marys  
University of Dayton  
Chemical Engineering

## AUTO HEADLIGHTS

Sensors rely on ambient light level rather than on vision and visibility as you see them, so they won't always get it right. Heavy rain or fog in daytime can reduce your vision and vehicle visibility to dangerous levels, but it might still be bright enough to prevent automated lights from coming on. It should go without saying, but when it's foggy, put your headlights on. Automatic headlights don't always detect fog in the same way as they do darkness, so make sure your headlights/tail lights are switched on manually.



### WHAT CAUSES FOG ~ Did you know there are 5 types of fog? Courtesy of weather.gov

**Radiation Fog:** This type forms at night under the clear skies with calm winds when heat absorbed by the earth's surface during the day is radiated into space. As the earth's surface continues to cool, provided a deep enough layer of moist air is present near the ground, the humidity will reach 100% and fog will form. Radiation fog varies in depth from 3 feet to about 1,000 feet and usually remains stationary. This type of fog can reduce visibility to near zero at times and make driving very hazardous.

**Advection Fog:** Often looks like radiation fog and is also the result of condensation. However, the condensation in this case is caused not by a reduction in surface temperature, but rather by the horizontal movement of warm moist air over a cold surface, such as a warm moist air flowing over snow. Advection fog can sometimes be distinguished from radiation fog by its horizontal motion along the ground.

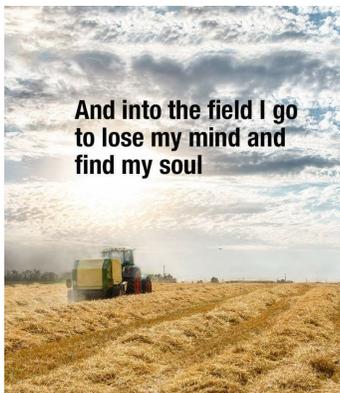
**Freezing Fog:** Occurs when droplets remain in the liquid state until they come into contact with a surface upon which they freeze. As a result, any object the freezing fog comes into contact with will become coated with ice.

**Evaporation or Mixing Fog:** This type of fog forms when sufficient water vapor is added to the air by evaporation and the moist air mixes with cooler, relatively drier air. The two common types are steam fog and frontal fog. Steam fog forms when cold air moves over warm water. When the cool air mixes with the warm moist air over the water, the moist air cools until its humidity reaches 100% and fog forms. This type of fog takes on the appearance of wisps of smoke rising off the surface of the water.

The other type of evaporation fog is known as frontal fog. This type of fog forms when warm raindrops evaporate into cooler drier layer of air near the ground. Once enough rain has evaporated into the layer of cool surface, the humidity of this air reaches 100% and fog forms.

**Hail Fog:** Hail fog is an unusual type of fog that forms shortly after a heavy hailstorm. The cold balls of ice fall into a warm, very moist air near the surface. As the hail accumulates on the ground, it cools the air just above the ground to the dew point, resulting in fog. The fog forms when winds are light, and it's usually quite patchy and shallow.

**REMEMBER** - slow down in dense fog, increase distance between you and other cars and turn on your headlights!



**Old or New Tile Records**

We are currently in the process of scanning old tile records into an electronic format. If you have tile records and would like to have them preserved, bring them into the office.

**Paper records don't last forever!**



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## Silo Gas Safety

Deadly silo gases continue to occur wherever silos exist. These gases are and will continue to be a very real hazard for as long as silage remains a common livestock feed. It is important that every farm worker understand the dangers associated with silo gases and learn how to deal with them.

Silo gas is formed by the natural fermentation of chopped silage shortly after it is placed in the silo. Though a variety of gases are released during this process, the type of silo in which the forage is stored is important in determining which gas will be predominant. For instance, in sealed silos both nitrogen and carbon dioxide gases are created but carbon dioxide is produced in far greater amounts. At the same time, however, this odorless and colorless gas is dangerous. This gas replaces the silo's oxygen and in high concentrations, it gives a person little warning that they are about to be overcome by a lack of oxygen.

A variety of gases are also formed in conventional or open-top silos with nitrogen dioxide being the most abundant. This highly toxic gas is characterized by the strong bleach-like odor and low lying yellow, red or dark brown fumes. Unlike carbon dioxide, nitrogen dioxide levels reach a peak about three days after harvesting and rapidly begin to decrease, particularly if the silo is ventilated. The gas actually starts forming within hours of the material being ensiled. After two weeks it is unlikely more gas will be produced, hazard still remains if the gas has not been able to escape the silo.

Nitrogen Dioxide is harmful because it causes severe irritation to the nose and throat and may lead to inflammation of the lungs. However, what makes this gas especially dangerous is the low level exposure to it is accompanied by only a little immediate pain or discomfort though death can occur after contact with high concentrations. A farmer might breathe the gas without noticing and then die in their sleep from fluid collecting in the lungs.



Safety Precautions—this is only a partial list!

Be alert for silo gas odors and/or yellowish-brown or reddish fumes in or near the silo. Silo gas is heavier than air and will displace oxygen. The greatest danger from nitrogen dioxide gas from silage is during the first 12-60 hours after filling. However, avoid possible exposure for 10 days after filling the silo.

Do not enter the silo for 4-6 weeks after filling stops

Ventilate the silo room for 2 weeks, open windows or outside door if possible.

If silo must be entered, do so immediately after blowing the last load into the structure ensuring the blower is running for 15 to 45 minutes prior to entry, leave it running for ventilation while anyone is inside. This is NOT a substitute for a self contained breathing apparatus.

Never enter the silo if you are alone, without a self contained breathing apparatus and a life-line—have 3 people outside to help if needed. Get to fresh air immediately if you start coughing or sore throat. Seek medical attention if you suspect you have been exposed.



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## Auglaize Soil and Water Conservation District

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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 Mon thru Fri

Board Meetings are usually held the first Wednesday of each month at 8:30 am.

Please call or check our website to verify date and time.



### NRCS / SWCD STAFF & BOARD MEMBERS

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