

# The County Cooperator

Annual Meeting Edition

A Publication of Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District

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Aaron Dodds

Marilyn Ford

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*The Jefferson SWCD Board and Staff  
Invite You to Attend Our*

## 72<sup>nd</sup>

*Annual Meeting, Election, and Banquet*

**Schedule of the Evening:**

- Doors Open 5:30PM
- JSWCD Elections 5:45-6:45PM
- Hors d'oeuvres 6:00PM
- Dinner Served: 7:00PM

**Monday, October 5, 2015**

**St. Florian Hall**

**286 Luray Drive**

**Wintersville, OH 43953**

**Awards:**

- Conservation Farmer of The Year
- Distinguished Service
- Big Tree Contest
- Photo Contest
- Winners

*RSVP Inside*

## ONE SUPERVISOR TO BE ELECTED

**The** special election to fill one JSWCD board of supervisor position will be held in conjunction with the 72nd Annual Meeting. The election, conducted by a representative of the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission, will take place at Saint Florian Hall on October 5, 2015, from 5:45 PM to 6:45 PM.

Voter Eligibility

Residents or landowners, firms, and corporations that own land or occupy land in Jefferson County and are 18 years of age and older may vote for Jefferson SWCD Supervisor. However, voters representing a corporation, firm LLC or trusts must complete an affidavit form which confirms eligibility and includes designation of a voting representative. This form and the ballot request form are available at the soil and water district office. The request form must be completed prior to casting a ballot.

Casting a Ballot

Eligible voters have three options:

- 1) call or visit the JSWCD office to request an absentee ballot;
- 2) cast a ballot at the district office no later than 4:30 PM, October 5, 2015;
- 3) cast a ballot at the Annual Meeting.



**To Make your Reservation for the Annual Meeting and Banquet fill out and mail or drop off the form below.**  
**Reservation deadline is September 28, 2015**

### JSWCD 72nd Annual Meeting and Banquet Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adult Tickets @ \$18.50 each \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children Tickets @ \$9.00 (ages 8 & under) each \_\_\_\_\_

\* Children 4 and under –no charge

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable To: Jefferson SWCD

Mail to: 500 Market Street, Mezzanine Suite 4  
Steubenville, OH 43952



**A FOCUS ON CONSERVATION EDUCATION**

### MEET THE NEW YELLOW CREEK WATERSHED COORDINATOR!

We at Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District are happy introduce the new Yellow Creek Watershed Coordinator , Aaron Dodds. He is a life-long resident of Carroll County and is very familiar with the Yellow Creek Watershed area.

Aaron is a graduate of the Ohio State University with a Horticulture and Landscape Architecture degree. His experience is diverse as he formerly worked as a landscape designer and operations manager in Pittsburgh & a landman in the oil-&-gas industry, along with holding the position as the Regional Planning Commission Director and the Direct of Economic Development for Carroll County.

When asked what outcomes he will be working towards at his new position, he had this to say, "I plan on maintaining the quality of Yellow Creek, while expanding on projects in the process. I will be working towards new goals that benefit the watershed."

Aaron is looking forward to working with the residents of the Yellow Creek Watershed. Please join us in wishing him great success! If you would like to contact Aaron, you may reach him at the JSWCD office (740) 264-9790 or through email at adodds@jeffersoncountyoh.com.



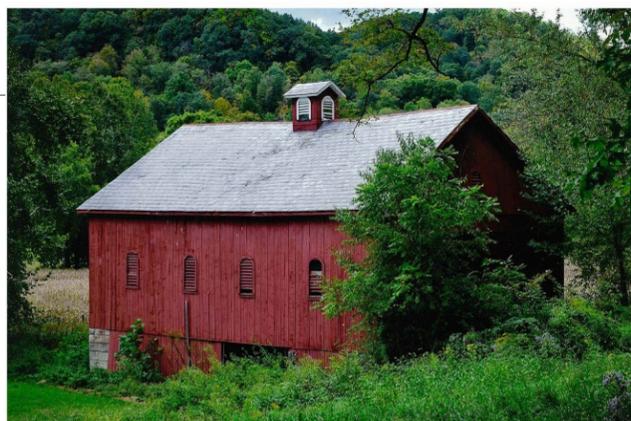
### MEET THE TWO CANDIDATES FOR JEFFERSON SWCD'S BOARD ELECTION

**SWEENEY**, Paul D has been married to his wife, Tammy, for 35 years. They have three sons and one grandson. Paul and Tammy have lived in Steubenville all their lives. He is a graduate of Jefferson Technical College and the University of Phoenix with a Bachelors of Science in Information

Technology. He worked for the former Weirton Steel Corporation for 14 years before moving on to USAirways in the late 1980's. Furthermore, he joined Bayer Corporation / Lanxess in 1998 and then moved to his current employer, Carmeuse Lime and Stone, in 2014 where he is a computer

analyst working with SAP software supporting sites in North America and Europe. Hobbies include hunting in Jefferson County, playing golf and riding his motorcycle.

In the past, he served on the committee for the Friendship Wine and Food Festival.



Photograph by Anissa Wellington

**VERHOVEC**, Jodee Straus is seeking her fourth term as a member of the board of the Jefferson SWCD. She and her husband Julius raise Charolais cattle on her family farm in Smithfield where she has been a life-long resident. They have been involved in implementing conservation practices, including rotational grazing. Jodee graduated

from Ohio University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Photojournalism and from the University of Dayton with a Master's Degree in education. She is a retired school teacher where she was employed by the Buckeye Local School District for over 30 years. Jodee is a longstanding member of the Smithfield Historical Society and is presently serving as secretary. She is

a member of the Smithfield Garden Club which has performed many civic projects, a member of

Alpha Delta Kappa and a former 4-H Advisor in Jefferson County.

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[www.jeffersonswcd.org](http://www.jeffersonswcd.org)

#### MISSION STATEMENT

"To promote wise land-use management through technical and educational services in order to help people conserve and enhance the natural resource base for a better quality of life."



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"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) & JSWCD prohibit discrimination in all programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

#### MAINTAINING YOUR STREET GUTTER

As you know, Fall is around the corner. The crisp, cool air, football and autumn foliage are some of the trademark elements of the season. In addition, that means falling leaves. It is easy to overlook the negative impact falling leaves can have on street gutters in towns & villages. The stormwater inlets located on the curbside are responsible for preventing roadway flooding by carrying rainwater to the closest river or stream. However, the drains can be blocked by leaves, along with grass clippings and litter.

There are some things that you can do to help keep your street gutter clear. When the leaves begin to fall in the autumn, include the gutter in your raking and leaf-blowing routine. In addition, rake your leaves, clippings and litter off the grate so water can easily drain.

There are a few concerns to keep in mind as you incorporate the curb as part of your yard maintenance, too. Keep an eye out for distracted drivers. Stay in the yard. Also be mindful of broken glass from littered bottles. Make sure you wear gloves. Another important safety tip is to never lift the grate cover to clean inside the catch-basin yourself! If the catch basin is clogged and not draining, call your service department to report it.

One more thing to keep in mind is that you are also improving the fishing in your local stream or river. Excess leaves and grass reduce water oxygen levels as they decompose, making it difficult on aquatic life. So by making efforts to keep street gutters clear of debris, you will also take part in improving the water

