



ODA Updates for SWCD Board Meetings December 2022

ODA/Area:

H2Ohio Program

H2Ohio staff along with representatives from MyFarms have finalized the design requirements for software to support the delivery of H2Ohio program initiatives. MyFarms will now develop a bid proposal to develop the software package and deploy it across the H2Ohio project area. ODA's goal is to have MyFarms software deployed by July 1, 2023.

H2Ohio staff are developing proposals for H2Ohio initiatives for 2023. ODA is developing a proposal for demonstration sites that will focus on reduced phosphorus application, and track impacts to crop yield and overall profitability. This proposal will include sponsorship of annual field days at the demonstration sites to discuss the trials and what is learned with other producers in the area. H2Ohio staff are also developing proposals for the Equipment Purchase Assistance program that will reduce financing costs of equipment purchased to implement selected H2Ohio practices.

Regional Watershed Manager Program- As the Regional Watershed Plan development moves towards the latter stages the team is developing the BMP assessment portion of the plan and working to make sure content is uniform and consistent across each plan. As part of the BMP assessment the regional watershed managers developed a survey which was sent to all SWCDs. The survey aims to draw on District expertise to provide an estimate of existing BMP implementation, which is important for setting priorities and implementation targets. This survey functions as a preliminary baseline, and a precursor to the more rigorous baseline survey that OACI is carrying out across the state over the next few years. We appreciate District participation and look forward to incorporating the insights from the survey into regional plans.

Beehive 2022 "Completed Events" Queries

A quick reminder to please run your Beehive 2022 "Completed" Events queries. Every SWCD and all staff members have access to the "2022 Completed BMPs" and "2022 Completed Education Events" queries. These are saved query "Layouts" which can be found in Beehive Query, in the "All BMP Events" and "All Education Events" datasets respectively. These queries pull/show the data that will be in your *End of the Year* Technical and Education Summary Reports and in your Beehive "Annual Report". If you have questions regarding the queries, contact Martin Joyce, DSWC, martin.joyce@agri.ohio.gov.

2023 Resources and Reminders- The 2023 Resources and Reminders for SWCDs is included as an attachment. The 23 R&R lists important dates, deadlines, required trainings and reporting requirements for SWCDs. Keep this as a resource and checklist to make certain your district is up to date on completing these annual activities. An ADP webinar is scheduled for January 4th to review these items in further detail.

Important Dates and Events:

Technician Development Program – All in-person classes for 2022 are now complete. If you are working towards completing the Beginner Level Certification, please remember to complete the online courses no later than December 31, 2022. You can still register for these three classes below by using this link: [TDP Registration](#) Payment options include paying by credit card, electronic check or pay later. The new class schedule for 2023 will be announced in January. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Fulks at 614-581-3521 or timothy.fulks@agri.ohio.gov

Conservation Engineering – Online July 1st through December 31st

Engineering Resources & Math Refresher – Online July 1st through December 31st

Ag Pollution Abatement Program – Online July 1st through December 31st

Administrative Development Program ADP is currently scheduling training for 2023. Please submit requests/ideas for future training topics to cody.hacker@agri.ohio.gov or liz.cline@agri.ohio.gov. Details for the next ADP webinar below.

2023 Resources & Reminders- January 4th 1-2:30 p.m. (details on important documents & deadlines)

CREP Trainings- USDA, ODNR, and ODA will be holding in-person CREP trainings for the Lake Erie and Scioto River CREP programs. These trainings are open to SWCD, USDA FSA and NRCS staff and conservation partners. Further details and an agenda will be provided later. Plan for a full day meeting.

Scioto River CREP Training- January 19th ODA Bromfield Auditorium (back up date is February 28th)
Lake Erie CREP Training- January 25th Brugeman Lodge Findlay, OH(back up date is February 1st)

OFSWCD:

We are looking forward to seeing you for Winter Meetings. The links are all available on the Federation's website at <https://ofswcd.org/news-events/event-calendar.html/calendar/2022/12>. If you have any difficulty using the registration tabs please contact Janelle Mead.

We are also planning for the Federation's partnership meeting which will be held Feb 20-22 at the Columbus Renaissance Downtown. The meeting will begin on Monday this year with the director's meeting only. Sessions will begin at 9 am on Tuesday. We will have a delegate session this year and the election of officers. If you have any resolutions, you would like to consider please let Janelle know by December 15. Also, please start collecting your years of service and award nominations. Those emails will come out at the beginning of November.

Area Winter Meeting Dates:

- Area 1- December 8th
- Area 2-December 2nd
- Area 3- December 13th
- Area 4- December 6th
- Area 5- December 7th

OSWCC:

On November 4th, Governor Mike DeWine made two reappointments to the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission:

- Frances Seiberling Buchholzer of Akron (Summit Co.) has been reappointed to the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission for a term beginning November 4, 2022, and ending June 30, 2026.
- Jennifer Robin Bowman of Athens (Athens Co.) has been reappointed to the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission for a term beginning November 4, 2022, and ending June 30, 2026.

The next OSWCC meeting will be held during the Partnership meeting in February 2023. Details about the meeting will be coming soon. For more information about the meeting contact Emily Heppner emily.heppner@agri.ohio.gov

OASWCDE:

On behalf of the OASWCDE board, we wish everyone a happy holiday! A few updates below:

- OASWCDE 2023 membership form is on the website, <https://www.oaswcde.org/benefits.html>. Dues must be submitted by April 1st.
 - A letter regarding 2023 membership is being mailed to boards.
- The OASWCDE Training Scholarship is a \$50 scholarship that is available year-round. The Scholarship is for OASWCDE members whose districts may not have the funds to send staff to professional development opportunities.
- The application for 2022 Outstanding District Employee and Outstanding District Board Members is available on the website, <https://www.oaswcde.org/awards.html>. Applications are due February 1st.
- February 17th is the deadline to submit material for the March OASWCDE Newsletter.
- A page for SWCD Job postings has been created on the OASWCDE website, <https://www.oaswcde.org/jobs.html>. This page can be used to promote available positions throughout the state. Job postings for the website are pulled from All Ohio emails. Open positions can also be sent to Sara Fehring, sara.fehring@hamilton-co.org
- Elections for Board of Directors in Areas 1 and 5 will be held at the OFSWCD Annual Conservation Partnership Meeting in February. Please reach out to Chad Stang, chad.stang@oh.nacdnet.net, if you are interested in running.