



*Supervisor Troy Junk and Cooperator of the Year Michael Peterson in 2017*

## Welcome!

We appreciate your interest in serving your community and joining the team working to conserve natural resources.

Each supervisor has the important task of coordinating the resources and conservation efforts in your district.

- Meet at least monthly as a board to carry out the official duties of your office and participate in other district related activities, including the district's Annual Meeting.
- Be familiar with and understand the land and water conditions in the district and the best management practices required to conserve and develop its natural resources.
- Understand your authorities and responsibilities under Ohio law.

# Who We Are

## Ag Construction – DRAINAGE

The district currently concentrates on supporting projects like waterways and tile that divert water, while preventing soil erosion & protecting water quality.

## Wildlife | Urban | GIS | Education

The district's activities overlap into other areas as well. What's good for conservation is good for wildlife – and the district implements some state wildlife initiatives. The district maintains urban detention and retention ponds as part of flood control systems in county sub-divisions. The district operates the Geographic Information System for Ross County. And the district is dedicated to conservation education.

## Contact Us

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**ROSS SOIL AND  
WATER  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT**

475 Western Ave Ste H  
Chillicothe, OH 45601



# ROSS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

*An Overview for  
Potential Supervisors*



*A Former Ross SWCD Supervisor Walter Hartsock checks no-till residue circa 1970*

## Local Governance

### Local Producers Making Local Decisions

The idea of a conservation district may be the best example we have of effective, grass roots local government. Local volunteer supervisors, **who know what works in Ross County and know what Ross County needs**, determine where county and state funding is directed. These principles date back to the dust bowl and the failed federal policies of the 1930's. Since then the focus has been local and the Ohio Department of Agriculture provides full support services to the district. Your primary responsibility as a supervisor is to provide **oversight** for the **paid staff**.

## How Do I Start?

Supervisors **run for election** to a three year term at the district's annual meeting in August. Anyone who owns land, lives on land, or farms land in Ross County is eligible to vote and **30 to 50** people do vote each year. Please arrange a visit with the District Administrator for a full explanation of the election process.

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*Your reward is the satisfaction in making a valuable contribution to the future.*

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## YOUR Ideas Your IMPACT

As a supervisor you'll be asked to provide your input and approve the district's long-range plan, strategic plan and annual plan of work. Supervisors are **directly responsible** for determining how county and state funding is spent. Supervisors establish sound policies and priorities concerning the conservation work to be accomplished in the district.



*Continuing a tradition ... 1970's Tree Sale*

## Serving the Community

The business of conservation can be a complicated web of federal, state and county funding and personnel. But the district is really all about **providing services to residents** in the district.

District Engineering Technicians and federal USDA employees work to assist producers implement their Farm Bill programs. The district offers free design work for ag construction projects and offers free technical advice to all residents with drainage and erosion issues. Beyond the agricultural community, the district is known for the annual tree and fish sale and the many conservation education presentations at schools, parks, camps, and the fair.