



CLINTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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2018 ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

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Mission Statement: *The Conservation District provides quality leadership, education, and service for the stewardship and conservation of the county's natural resources.*



Seated Left to Right: Larry Butler, Charlie Dotterer, Coreena Meyer, Bill Hunter; Standing: Jim Harbach, Commissioner Paul Conklin, Rob Bowman, Ron Brungart, Paul Courter, Philip Courter, Elam Stoltzfus, Ralph Harnishfeger

2018 Board of Directors:
Charles Dotterer, Chairman
Ralph Harnishfeger, Vice Chairman
Paul Conklin, Commissioner
Larry Butler, Treasurer
Paul Courter
Robert Bowman
James Harbach
William Hunter
Coreena Meyer

Associate Directors:
Philip Courter **Ron Brungart**
Elam Stoltzfus, Jr **Tom Shervinskic**
Stewart Ramm

Clinton County Conservation District 72 years 1946—2018

The District was organized by the County Commissioners in December 1946. We are a sub-division of state government, supported by the Clinton County Commissioners. We provide technical and educational assistance to the public on proper management of our natural resources (specifically soil & water) and interpretation of environmental related regulations. We are guided by a local Board of nine Directors nominated by local organizations. We administer the following state programs for our County:

- Ch. 102 Erosion & Sediment Pollution Control,
- NPDES National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits
- Ch. 105 Stream Encroachment General Permits
- Chesapeake Bay Financial & Technical Assistance
- Act 38 Nutrient Management Regulations
- Municipal Dirt & Gravel and Paved Low Volume Road Environmental Maintenance Program
- Watershed Specialist Program
- Agriculture Preservation Program



Conservation District Staff, Left to Right: Jake Wenrich, Lisa Blazure, Mary Ellen Stern, Mary Ann Bower, Scott Koser, Susie Peters, and Toby Boyer

2018 Conservation District Staff:

Mary Ann Bower, District Manager
Mary Ellen Stern, Resource Conservationist
Jacob Wenrich, Resource Technician
Toby Boyer, Watershed Specialist & Education Coordinator
Scott Koser, Roads & Ag Resource Technician
Lisa Blazure, Agricultural Resource Conservationist
Susie Peters, Program Assistant & Board Secretary

Resource Conservationist Mary Ellen Stern and Resource Technicians Jacob Wenrich conducted the following Technical Activities in 2018:

- 70 Erosion & Sediment Pollution Control (E&SPC) plans reviewed with 128.8 acres disturbed, which included:
 - 31 Residential Projects
 - 6 Government Projects—PADOT, State, Municipal, Water, Sewer
 - 26 Commercial/Industrial/Gas Related, Subdivision or Other Projects
 - 5 Agricultural Projects & 2 Timber Harvest
- 14 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) or ESCGP Permits under review—9 NPDES permits issued
- 14 Stream Encroachment General Permits Acknowledged
- 89 Earthmoving Inspections
- 60 Complaints Investigated
- 429 Technical Assistance Services Provided
- **Total: 513** individuals were provided technical assistance, training, or services on earthmoving or stream related activities.

Funding support for Conservation District programs in 2018 was provided by:

Clinton County Commissioners, \$174,722;
 PA State Conservation Commission & DEP, \$175,764;
 Chesapeake Bay Technical Assist. Program, \$56,627;
 Watershed Specialist Program, \$30,000;
 Dirt&Gravel /Low Volume Roads Municipal Prog, \$238,224;
 Program Fees, Permits and Workshop fees, \$38,857;
 PUC Gas Well Fund, \$58,712;
 Donations and Sales, (benefits education programs) \$6,897;
 State, Federal & Other Special Project Grants, \$68,938.



Before After
Beech Creek Twp. Falls Road Dirt & Gravel Roads project. Road fill used to reshape and crown road so stormwater leaves the roadway and flows to buffer along stream or into armored ditch with underdrain. Spring water captured with 250' underdrain and reconnected to the stream. Over 650' of road surface stabilized.

Lisa Blazure, Agricultural Resource Conservationist, Scott Koser, Ag & Roads Resource Technician, and Jacob Wenrich Resource Technician provided the following in 2018:

- **Chesapeake Bay Program:** We assisted 22 farmers with Manure Management Plans and Agricultural Erosion & Sediment Pollution Control Plans. We provided technical assistance to 68 people for best management practices and other program information. We conducted 50 inspections to verify planning compliance. Our office assisted 1 farm with installing exterior pasture fencing and water systems with \$41,802 funded through a Chesapeake Bay Special Project grant; and installed Best Management practices on one farm with \$14,258 of Growing Greener grant funds.
- **No-Till Drill:** Our drill & Inter-seeder was made available to 29 local farmers, with 365.8 acres planted for soil conservation and cover crops.
- **Nutrient Management (Act 38) Program:** We provided 87 technical assistance contacts and distributed soil test kits to 35 people. We conducted 8 Nutrient Management plan reviews/approvals and 14 annual farm status reviews.

Education Programs, Awards, and Scholarships:

- **2018 W. Max Bossert Conservation Award** recipients were: Bucktail High— **Aaron Lucas**
Sugar Valley Rural Charter School— **Jacob Jeffries**
Central Mountain High— **Dakota Rauch**
- **2018 Rich Ramm Memorial Scholarship** was awarded to **Jacob Jeffries of Loganton**, who is currently pursuing forest technology at Penn State University. *Applications for 2019 are due May 3rd for this year's agricultural scholarship.*
- **2018 (33rd) County Envirothon** Winning team was "Tsuga Canadensis" from Sugar Valley Rural Charter High School, with advisors Robbie Weaver & Chuck Bechdel, who also competed at the 35th annual State Envirothon held at Susquehanna University. The top three place teams each received an Envirothon monetary award—Congratulations!
- In 2018, we provided 20 outreach and conservation education programs to over 6,800 county youth and adults.



2018 Envirothon Winning team from Sugar Valley Rural Charter School,

Dirt & Gravel and Paved Low Volume Roads Program for Municipalities:

In 2018, \$283,659 was distributed for 10 road projects completed in Bald Eagle, Beech Creek, Crawford, Gallagher, Greene, Lamar, and Woodward Townships, which included 5.79 miles of roads being improved. The program goal is to prevent sediment from entering streams by using proper environmental maintenance techniques on critical or damaged areas of roads that can affect water quality. A total of 169,201 feet of road, or 32 miles has been improved with \$1,148,907 in funds spent on 67 County Dirt & Gravel and Paved Low Volume Road projects since 1999.

Federal, State, and Other Special Project Grant Money of \$347,597 in 2018, along with local matching funds, equals more than \$5.34 million spent on local conservation and water quality improvement projects overall in Clinton County over the last 18 years.

Watershed Specialist and Education Coordinator Toby Boyer conducted the following watershed restoration and education activities in 2018:

- Completed water chemistry and biological monitoring in Fishing Creek, Drury Run, and Tangascootack Creek to assess improvements in those streams from recent projects completed by the CCCD and its partners.
- Assisted the Sugar Valley and Kettle Creek watershed associations with several grants and programs to restore/enhance Clinton County streams.
- Assisted with or organized the following county wide Environmental Educational events: 6th Grade Conservation Field Days, Conservation Summer Day Camp, County Poster Contest, Project Learning Tree Workshops, Wildlife Leadership Academy, and the Envirothon.
- Provided stream restoration and watershed related technical assistance to landowners across the County.



Students from the 2018 Conservation Summer Camp proudly display their soil tubes.

2018—Other Activities

In 2018, we continued conducting agricultural compliance inspections for the Department of Environmental Protection. The focus is to ensure that all farms have the required manure management or agricultural erosion and sediment control plans (or conservation plans). We continue to provide technical assistance to landowners on various agricultural issues, streamwork, and earthmoving activities. We are your local contact when you are conducting environmental projects or need help interpreting the regulations to stay in compliance. Please call our office.

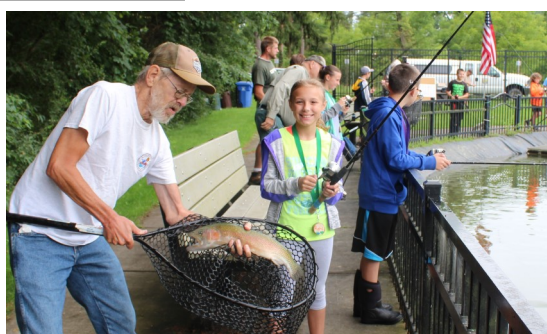


Stewart and Janet Ramm are presented the Farm Family of the year award at the Farm City Festival

Trees—2018 was our 41st Annual Tree Sale, selling a variety of trees and shrubs: evergreens, hardwoods and fruit trees. Proceeds from tree seedling sales are used to fund various educational programs, such as school booklets and field days. April is tree planting month in Pennsylvania, and for several good reasons: temperatures are usually moderate and soils are moist for ideal planting conditions. Trees provide food and homes for wildlife, and their roots hold the soil in place to reduce erosion. They also are a renewable resource that can be used to heat our homes and produce a large variety of useful products. Trees beautify our landscapes and shade our homes in the summer and shelter us from winter winds. Planting trees is an investment in the future. Contact us if you are interested in tree seedlings.
Put a little life in your future, plant a tree!



Chairman Charles Dotterer presents Jacob Jeffries of Loganton with the 2018 Rich Ramm Memorial Scholarship.



2018 Conservation Summer Camp—campers practice fishing skills at the Lamar National Fish Hatchery with local Trout Unlimited members.



One of the events held at the 2018 Farm City Family Festival in September was the goat milking contest.



Left To Right: 2018 Conservation Poster Contest Winners, Leah Karstetter (2-3 grade) and Brianna Rhine (4-6 grade) 2018 Theme was "Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home"