



PERRY COUNTY  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

# 2018 Annual Report

## 2018 Board of Directors

Chair, Farmer Director—Oscar Campbell, Newport PA  
Vice Chair, Farmer Director—Mel Weaver, Ickesburg PA  
Treasurer, Public Director—Larry Gildner, Duncannon PA  
Commissioner Director—Stephen Naylor, New Bloomfield PA  
Farmer Director—Ken Martz, Duncannon PA  
Public Director—Mike Clark, Millerstown PA  
Public Director—Dave McLaughlin, Elliottsburg PA  
Associate Director—Lloyd Byers, Liverpool PA  
Associate Director—William Shilling, Liverpool PA  
Associate Director—Shawna Weller, Elliottsburg PA

## 2018 District Staff

District Manager—Sally Tengeres  
Administrative Assistant—Mary Lou Moyer  
Resource Specialist—Neil Imes  
Watershed Specialist—Kristie Smith  
Ag Resource Specialist—Hiram Hunsberger  
Ag Resource Specialist—Lauren Barlow



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## Cooperating Agencies & Contacts

Perry County Ag-Land Preservation Board—Jonas Stoltzfus, Chairman

Penn State Cooperative Extension—Dr. Liz Bosak and Becky Kaucher

Farm Service Agency—Bobbie Jo Zimmerman, CED

Natural Resources Conservation Service—Ashley Lenig, District Conservationist, Don Graybill, Engineering Technician, and Kevin Morgan, Soil Conservationist.

PA Fish and Boat Commission—Richard Morder, Conservation Officer

PA Game Commission—Kevin Anderson and Steve Brussese, Wildlife Conservation Officers

DCNR Bureau of Forestry—Luke Book, Service Forester

State Conservation Commission—Karl Brown, Executive Director

Department of Transportation—Steve Switaj, New Bloomfield

Perry County Maintenance Manager—Marty Smith

Community Partnerships RC&D—Sam Price, Executive Director

Chesapeake Bay Foundation—Bill Chain, Agriculture Program Manager

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful—Shannon Reiter, President

PA Dept. of Environmental Protection— Patrick McDonnell, Secretary

PA Department of Agriculture—Russell Redding, Secretary

*“A sincere thank you from all of us here at the Conservation District for your continued support of our programs.”*

### District Board Highlights

“It is a pleasure to serve with my fellow board members. With their foresight and vision, the District has grown and provided many services to the community over the years. With an excellent board and an enthusiastic staff, I see great things happening in the Perry County Conservation District.”

- Oscar Campbell, Chairman

## 2018 District Board Members



(Front row left to right) Chairman Oscar Campbell, Vice Chairman Mel Weaver, Treasurer Larry Gildner, Commissioner Stephen Naylor.  
 (Back row left to right) Mike Clark, Kenneth Martz, and Dave McLaughlin.

## A Message from the District Manager

Each year I welcome the opportunity to share District happenings with you via our Annual Report. It is a great reason to reflect on the past year, and select accomplishments to highlight. In some ways 2018 was a year of looking back in order to move forward.

Our first blast from the past arrived when the fiscal office gave the District the choice to once again write our own checks to pay bills. It had been over 20 years since the District had control over check writing. After much discussion, the District Board implemented both a Check Signing Authority and Bill Payment Policy and in March we took over check writing from the County fiscal office.

Then after receiving a woodlot owner's request to participate in the District's Woodland and Open Space Program, we were prompted to reevaluate the purpose and specific goals of the program. In the end it was decided that the potential legal cost liability to the District would prohibit it from holding easements through the program. The District will now refer requests to local conservancies while overseeing the four easements that are already in place.

After two years of not participating in the Chesapeake Bay Program we opted back in for the 2018/2019 fiscal year. Lauren Barlow was hired as our new Ag Resource Specialist and completed Perry's first 50 inspections to verify that operators have met the agriculture planning compliance requirements for their operations. Our goal is to conduct the inspections with a focus on offering information and technical assistance as needed to gain compliance. Lauren had positive outcomes for the first 50 inspections and we are looking forward to the same positive response in 2019.

Lastly, in August the District coordinated a District Field Day at M.W. Smith Farm in Newport. It was the first since 2011. We hope to continue the annual Field Day tradition in the coming years.

As always, moving forward would not be possible without the sound guidance, support, and leadership of our Conservation District Board of Directors and the efforts of our dedicated staff. I hope you enjoy reading about our activities and accomplishments as much as we enjoy sharing them with you!

Best wishes,

Sally Tengeres



*A snap shot from the 2018 Conservation District Field Day hosted at M. W. Smith Farm on August 2.*

## 2018 District Staff



*Sally Tengeres,  
District Manger*



*Mary Lou Moyer,  
Administrative  
Assistant*



*Neil Imes,  
Resource Specialist*



*Kristie Smith,  
Watershed Specialist*



*Hiram Hunsberger,  
Ag Resource  
Specialist*



*Lauren Barlow,  
Ag Resource  
Specialist*

Mission Statement

Conserving Natural

Resources For Our Future

## State Programs

### D&G L Project Photos



*Barrick Hill Road  
Pre-Construction (above)  
Post Construction (below)*



*Winding Hill Road  
Pre-Construction (above)  
Post Construction (below)*



### Dirt & Gravel, Low Volume Road Program

The Perry County Conservation District works with the State Conservation Commission (SCC) and the Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies to improve roads that directly impact Perry County's stream network. Funding is provided through yearly allocations by the SCC and distributed to each county willing to participate in the program. Since 1997, Perry County has spent \$1,184,274.68 on Dirt and Gravel Road projects and \$453,632.82 on Low Volume Road projects. Each year, the District distributes grant funds to eligible recipients. In 2018, grants were awarded to Tuscarora Township, Howe Township, Carroll Township, Jackson Township, Juniata Township, and Greenwood Township. Three Low Volume Road projects were completed including Winding Hill Road (Tuscarora Township), Barrick Hill Road (Carroll Township), and Gypsy Hollow Road (Howe Township). Three dirt and gravel road projects at Robinson Road Phase 3 (Jackson Township), Centre Road (Juniata Township), and Reward Road (Greenwood Township) were started with an anticipated completion in spring of 2019. Submitted by Neil Imes.

### Nutrient Management Program

The District is delegated to administer the Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Program in Perry County. Currently, there are 16 Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), 17 Concentrated Animal Operations (CAOs), and 7 Volunteer Animal Operations (VAOs) in Perry County. The District is responsible for reviewing and approving Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) amendments, reviewing updates, conducting status reviews, investigating complaints, maintaining technician certification, and providing education and outreach to the community.

In 2018, the District reviewed and approved 7 NMP amendments, and received two NMPs for a beef and a poultry operation new to the program. A total of 10 onsite status reviews were conducted to monitor NMP implementation. It was a challenging year for operators to empty manure pits and spread poultry litter according to their Nutrient Management Plans due to the amount of precipitation and corresponding wet field conditions. As a result, the District did receive four manure related complaints to investigate. Submitted by Sally Tengeres.

## Erosion & Sedimentation Control Program

Stormwater discharges generated during construction have the potential for substantial water quality impacts. Although streams and rivers naturally carry sediment, sediment caused by construction sites can increase sediment loads much greater than undisturbed watersheds. It is estimated that over four billion tons of sediment reach ponds, rivers, and lakes of the United States each year, and approximately one billion tons of sediment eventually reaches the ocean. Pa. Code Title 25 Chapter 102 was created to require persons proposing or conducting earth disturbance activities to develop, implement, and maintain BMPs to minimize the potential for accelerated erosion and sedimentation and post construction stormwater management. Through a delegation agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection, the Perry County Conservation District reviews Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (E&S Plans). Each E&S plan is reviewed for technical adequacy of Chapter 102 requirements. In 2018, Perry County reviewed 20 E&S plans, processed 5 NPDES Permits, conducted 40 site inspections, investigated 8 complaint sites, and provided 126 technical assistance contacts. Compared to previous years, our plan reviews were less in number. However, the overall size of the projects in 2018 were larger. Submitted by Neil Imes.



*The new infiltration basin for the Dollar General in Duncannon, Perry County.*



*The new infiltration basin for Old Mill Estates in Shermansdale, Perry County.*

## Chesapeake Bay Program

In the summer of 2018, the Perry County Conservation District Board of Directors decided to enter the Chesapeake Bay Technician Agreement with DEP after not participating for two years. Completing 50 farm inspections is a requirement of this agreement. The purpose of these inspections is to verify that farms have current Manure Management plans and Agricultural Erosion and Sedimentation plans as required by the State. I started in May, before the inspections began, which allowed me the time to talk with other counties about how they were running their inspections and develop a method that was going to work best with our farmers. Before starting in May with the District, I worked as an affiliate to NRCS as a conservation planner. That background as a planner has greatly helped me when I am visiting with farmers for their inspections. By completing the 50 inspections we were required to do, I took that opportunity to talk with farmers about moving beyond compliance and more into conservation. Some of the discussions that happened with various farmers included, reduced tillage, conversion to no-till, better pasture management, stream bank fencing, and off-stream watering. Submitted by Lauren Barlow.



*Pasture and cropland in Tyrone Township, Perry County.*



*Streambank fencing in Northeast Madison Township, Perry County.*

## District Programs

### No-till Highlights

“Our Perry County No-till Group meets twice a year, and for each winter meeting we look for new and interesting topics to discuss. On March 22,



*Perry County No-till Group Winter Meeting with Presenter Leroy Bupp.*

Mr. Leroy Bupp, of the PA No-till Alliance, came to share his knowledge with us about several key components of soil health and provided a hands-on demonstration with soil samples brought in by our group members.

Leroy says that he enjoys talking with his fellow farmers about these topics now that he is retired after 40 years of practicing no-till.

Ken Martz, pictured above with Leroy, is a long standing member of the group and is a current District board member who is very active with many of our programs.”

- Kristie Smith

### No-till Drill Program

The Perry County No-Till Drill Program has three John Deere 1590 and one Land Pride 606 model no-till drills for rent for a per acre fee. The District provides pick-up and delivery, and technical support as needed. The goal of the program is to increase the adoption rate of no-till practices in Perry County through the convenient availability of no-till drills at a reasonable rate. In 2018, the No-Till Drill Program’s four drills were used to plant a total of 1,519.6 acres. This is down from the previous five year average of 3,648.6 acres, but is in part due to the record 63 inches of rainfall that Perry County received in 2018.

Although, planting and harvesting conditions were less than ideal for the majority of the year, the three JD 1590s were used to plant a total of 1,422.6 acres; 523.8 acres of soybeans, 413.5 acres of small grain, 355.1 acres of cover crops, and 130.2 acres of grasses and forages. The LP606 was used to plant 97 acres of cover crops, pastures, and food plots. Over eighty farmers participated, with 3 of them being new to the program.

We had two major equipment upgrades. The District traded a model year 2014 JD 1590 in on a 2018 JD 1590, and we replaced our 2006 Ford F250 with a 2018 Dodge Ram 2500. Both were purchased using \$20,000 received from Chesapeake Bay Special Projects funding and program funds. Submitted by Sally Tengeres.

### Technical Assistance Workshops

The District coordinates agricultural plan development workshops each year to assist landowners and operators in achieving agricultural compliance under state regulations.

Participants learn about manure management and agricultural erosion and sedimentation planning, best management practices, and potential funding opportunities. The District held an Ag E&S Plan Writing Workshop series on February 7 and 21 from 5pm-9pm hosted in the Greenwood High School computer lab with the help of the Greenwood FFA chapter and instructor Bob Neiderer of Penn State University. There were 13 participants and 9 helpers in attendance. The District also held a Manure Management Plan Writing Workshop on March 28 at the Penn State Extension building. There were 7 participants.

### Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Program

The Pennsylvania Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (PA REAP) is a State Tax Credit program administered by the Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission. The District offers fee based assistance to farmers seeking help with completing an application and determining BMP and Plan eligibility. The District charges a fee of \$50 to verify three or less REAP BMPs, and \$100 for four or more REAP BMPs per application and/or required plan, as well as a \$150 fee per Plan reviewed for completeness.

In 2018, the District verified BMPs and Plan completeness eligibility for the applications of three landowners.

## 2018 Capital RC&D Fall Cover Crop Survey Results

Our fall cover crop survey was conducted on November 29 & 30 by Gary Smith and Samantha Richards with Kristie Smith as their driver with the use of our county Blazer. Survey points were evaluated across the entire county. 2018 was a very wet year, as reflected in the middle column of Table 1. Other central counties are listed for comparison.

The 2016 survey results showed a rate of 52.8% of planted cover crops for Perry. In Table 2, the percentages reflect the number of observed points where cover crops were recorded growing after each crop type in Perry County. Due to the significant amount of rainfall, the harvest of corn grain was delayed, reducing the planting window for cover crops.



*A soybean field with a cover crop in Liverpool Township, Perry County.*

<b>Table 1.</b>	Number Crop Observations (harvested and unharvested)	Percentage of Crop Points Planted with Cover Crops	Number of Points with Crops Not Harvested
County			
Perry	530	18.9%	43
Juniata	515	10.1%	117
Huntingdon	389	21.1%	54
Cumberland	562	22.6%	25

<b>Table 2.</b>	10.5%	61.1%	19.1%
% Cover Crop planted after Corn Grain	% Cover Crop planted after Corn Silage	% Cover Crop planted after Soybeans	

### NRCS Partnership

During the past fiscal year (October 1st through September 31st), the USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff in Perry County was comprised of one full time staff member, a part time employee, a partner, an intern, and a volunteer. Through a team effort, the following conservation practices were planned and installed on the landscape. Conservation planning highlights included writing 24 conservation plans on 1,688 acres and documenting conservation practices applied on 83 plans for a total of 4,863 acres. In addition, NRCS reviewed 2 Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMP) and scheduled 3 more to be written in the future. Five CNMPs were fully implemented with NRCS assistance. That means that their conservation plans, nutrient management plan, structural practices, and record keeping were all satisfactorily completed. Installation highlights consisted of the following cropland practices and enhancements: 5 acres of grassed waterways (14), 1,707 acres of conservation crop rotation, 1,364 acres of no till, 142 acres of cover crop, 211 acres of nutrient management, 425 acres of drift-reducing nozzle use, 175 acres of precision application technology to apply nutrients, 92 acres of modifications to improve soil health and increase organic matter, and 2 acres of enhanced field borders. On farmsteads and livestock operations, the following conservation practices were completed: 4 waste storage facilities, 3 waste transfer lines, 4,446 square feet of heavy use area protection (2), 5 CNMPs applied, 1,289 feet of subsurface drainage, 240 feet of underground outlet, and 1 farmstead energy improvement system. On pastures and hay land, the following grazing practices were completed: 1,522 feet of fence, 340 feet of livestock pipeline, 1 watering facility, 319 acres of prescribed grazing, 590 acres of forage harvest management, and 122 acres of forage and biomass planting. On forest land, 7 acres of tree and shrub site prep was completed.

The work done by NRCS in conjunction with the Perry County Conservation District and other partners that provided a variety of benefits to the environment, the private landowner, and the public right here in Perry County.

Submitted by Ashley Lenig, NRCS District Conservationist.

## District Outreach & Education

### Outreach Photos



### Newsletters

The District's winter newsletter included employee updates, a promotional ad for the annual District Tree Sale, an overview of the no-till drill rental rates, a friendly reminder about winter manure spreading, the announcements of an online manure management course through Penn State Extension, and funding available for Ag Plans. A short article about well-water and septic tank testing was highlighted along with a write-up from NRCS with information on the concerns, solutions, and uses of silage leachate. Dates and times were also listed for all upcoming meetings and workshops.

The District's summer newsletter included the announcement of our District Field Day, employee updates, and information about the Chesapeake Bay Inspection status. 'Look out for the spotted lanternfly' highlighted the efforts to be taken to reduce the spread of this invasive species and how to report it. A short overview of the Farmland Preservation program with an update of the number of acres preserved within the county was also provided. NRCS submitted their 'newsflash' on riparian forested buffers, and the District received a CREP mini-grant from PACD for educational outreach. Dates and times were also listed for all upcoming meetings and KPCB events.

The Erosion and Sediment Control (E&S) Program newsletters were sent out in October to local consultants and to all municipalities within the county with information on Pennsylvania Code, Title 25, Environmental Protection Chapter 102, when a plan is required, NPDES Permit requirements, the enforcement of Chapter 102 regulations, delegation of authority, and what a municipality's role is in Chapter 102. The newsletter sent out to consultants explained the importance of record-keeping once an NPDES Permit is authorized. Topics included PCSM Instrument Filing and the Notice of Termination and Final Certification.

The Dirt & Gravel, Low Volume Road newsletter was sent out to all municipalities within the county in December with information on the purpose of the program, grant eligibility, Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance Training course dates, the new Perry County Cost Share Policy, benefits of the program, a showcase of projects completed in 2017, and details on how to submit an application.

### Presentations & Displays

We strive to reach more students and members of the public with our programs by participating in community events, providing in-classroom demonstrations, submitting newspaper press releases, posting to social media, and conducting presentations as requested. In 2018, a total of 27 mass outreach activities were conducted with a potential total of 70,000 individuals reached through these District activities.



## Envirothon

The District sponsors the Perry County Envirothon competition each spring, which is open to all students in grades 9 through 12. The winning team also gets sponsored to travel and compete at the State Envirothon. “The mission of the PA Envirothon is to provide students with the knowledge and tools necessary to address the natural resource challenges of today’s world.”

This year, our Envirothon was held at the Perry County Recreation Association (PCRA) in Duncannon on May 3rd in partnership with the PA Fish & Boat Commission, PA Game Commission, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, and NRCS.

The Hellbenders of West Perry High School took 1st place at the County level and 10th place at the State Competition! Team members were Garrett Beal, Garrett Bolze, Keith Dubiach, Sam Groff, and Isaac Nulton (Pictured top right with Representative. Mark Keller, PCRA Rep Dylan Matter, and Envirothon Coordinator Kristie Smith. Pictured bottom right with Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding, team advisor John Hines, and DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell).

The winner of our annual t-shirt design contest was Seth Radel (Pictured middle right) of Greenwood High School with his ‘Perry County Habitat’ design.

Honorable team mentions were the Flightless Fledglings and Goblin Goats of Greenwood High School and the Piping Plovers of West Perry High School who came in second, third, and fourth at the County Envirothon. Congratulations to all of our participants! Submitted by Kristie Smith.



## Land Judging

The District serves as the coordinator and sponsor of the county-wide land judging competition each fall. Land judging sites are chosen on a rotating basis with local farmers. In 2018, the contest was held at the Byers Farm (home to Lloyd and Sue Byers) in Liverpool on November 7th. Sixty-two students from West Perry, Greenwood, Newport, and Susquenita high schools participated in the event. Garrett Beal of West Perry took 1st place, Landon Hall of Greenwood took 2nd place, and

Ethan Brummer of Greenwood took 3rd place. Despite the down-pour earlier that week, we were thankful for the sunshine. Special thanks to NRCS for their support. Pictured from left to right, Board member Lloyd Byers and his wife Sue, Board Chair Oscar Campbell, Commissioner Steve Naylor, Garrett Beal, Representative Mark Keller, Landon Hall, and Ethan Brummer. Submitted by Kristie Smith.



## Watershed Initiatives

### Watershed Highlights

"It's amazing what can be found along the side of the road. From sneakers to cell phones and everything in between, our Juniata River Clean-up this year led the way in finding the interesting, yet frightening, contributions that highway drivers added to our landscape.

It takes a volunteer with a strong stomach to bag up some of the items other people had casually thrown over the bank, not thinking it would ever be seen again.

I have to hand it to all of our returning volunteers who stick with these projects, regardless of the 'ick' factor.

At the end of the day, there is a sense of comradery among us who have smelled the worst of the worst!"

- Kristie Smith



*Are you missing a brand-new pair of sneakers?*

## Keep Perry County Beautiful

The District serves as the coordinator for the local Keep Perry County Beautiful (KPCB) affiliate of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. Programs such as the Great American Clean-up, the International Coastal Clean-up, and America Recycles Day are shared events by all of the local affiliates throughout the state. Under this affiliate, the District serves our community with several special collections throughout the year, one being a county-wide electronics recycling drop-off day hosted at the Perry County Fairgrounds in Newport with the contracted services of E-end Recycling of Fredrick, Maryland.

On June 9, a total of 28,267 pounds of electronics were dropped off by Perry County residents. Fourteen volunteers were present to assist drivers by unloading their vehicles in a timely fashion. The day was a huge success!



Keep Perry County Beautiful took 3rd place in the annual Tire War competition in conjunction with Mifflin, Juniata, and Huntingdon counties. This collection was hosted in partnership with Oliver Township on September 15 where thirteen volunteers loaded 439 tires, destined to be recycled, into a Mahantango truck to be delivered to their facility in Liverpool, Pa. The number of tires brought in by residents has steadily declined over the years. We can only hope that this program has fulfilled it's role within our community! Submitted by Kristie Smith.

On August 25, eighteen volunteers removed 75 bags of trash totaling over 2,700 pounds from the Millerstown truck pull-off along Route 322 next to the Juniata River. Grant funding for the river clean-ups each year are awarded by the Foundations of PA Watersheds. Our local District 8 PennDOT crew also assisted in the disposal of all of this trash. Community partners unite!



# The SCOPE Project

## Overview

In the spring of 2018, the District was awarded a second PACD Non-point Source Pollution Education mini-grant in the amount of \$2,000 to continue the SCOPE Project which began in the spring of 2016. The initial goals of the project were to train a volunteer based stream-monitoring team, purchase water quality testing materials and equipment to sample aquatic insects in the field, and to establish an ongoing database of recorded observations and test results in order to track fluctuations from year to year.

In 2018, the project was focused on collecting data and devising a plan for the restoration of both Montour Creek in Spring Township and Panther Creek in Saville Township. The goals outlined in this grant round were to select a few out of the eleven impaired streams in Perry County and propose sites to establish buffers in those needed areas for the next two years.

On July 17 & October 28, approximately 200 tree seedlings were planted by volunteers along Montour Creek at the future site of the Spring Township Community Park. These tree seedlings were given to the District by the PPL Community Roots Program.

Outreach conducted with the SCOPE Project research and specimen samples occurred on September 25 at the regional Natural Resources Competition among participating FFA chapters (pictured bottom right). Students were tested on their knowledge of aquatic insect identification and the ability to calculate the biotic index of a stream.

The project is scheduled to continue in 2019.  
Submitted by Kristie Smith.

## Volunteers

Larry Gildner, the longest standing SCOPE volunteer, is pictured second from the top with his daughter and his grand-children who were visiting from Japan over the summer. It was exciting to have international volunteers for the day!

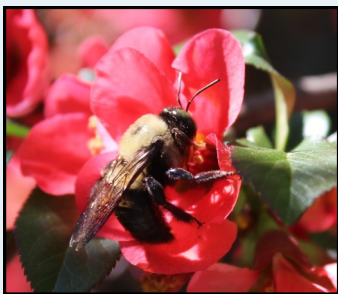
Other helping hands that were involved included Lauren Barlow, Chesapeake Bay Technician, and the local Cub Scout Pack 73 (pictured second from the bottom) who assisted in planting 117 Community Roots trees on October 28. The SCOPE Project is coordinated by Kristie Smith, Watershed Specialist.



## County Assistance

### Return on Environment Study

The District was asked to take part in a workgroup with PA Audubon, the Keystone Conservation Trust, and Tri-County Planning to discuss the economic value of protecting, restoring, and expanding nature's financial benefits within Perry County. Several public meetings were held at the Bloomfield Borough building to highlight the natural system services that flow from the County's existing open space that save our residents and communities millions of dollars in avoided costs. John Rodgers, of the Keystone Conservation Trust, explained "Mother Nature doesn't write receipts, so its financial value is often overlooked in policy debates, investment decisions, and personal choices." The Perry County ROE booklet is expected to be available in 2019.



*Pollination is an example of a natural service that has a significant economical impact on the agricultural community.*  
(Photo by Kristie Smith)

### Farmland Preservation

On April 3rd, 2018 Garry & Donna Raub and Keith & Margaret Raub added 53.25 acres to Perry County's Farmland Preservation Program as an Agricultural Conservation Easement donation. To date, the Raub Family has contributed 5 farms totaling 488.22 acres of preserved farmland in Penn Township. In 2018, the Perry County Farmland Preservation Board also selected the highest ranking farm for easement purchase. Dane & Holly Rumberger were selected and agreed to preserve their 104 acre farm in Greenwood Township. Perry County greatly appreciates the Rumberger and Raub families for their dedication to preserving and protecting valuable farmland in our county. To date, Perry County holds 9,265.15 acres under Ag Easements ranking us as the 17th highest preserved county in the State of PA. These statistics would not be possible without the County and State's financial contribution. A huge thanks to both the PA Bureau of Farmland Preservation and the Perry County Commissioners that fund this great program.

Submitted by Neil Imes.

(Pictured right) Kayla Elsessor, Frank Elsessor, Emily Roush, Jeremiah Elsessor, and Holly and Dane Rumberger receive their new Farmland Preservation sign at the Annual District Banquet on December 10 from Chairman of the Farmland Preservation Board Jonas Stoltzfus.



### Recycling

The District serves as the Recycling Coordinator for the County. Grants are processed to obtain state support for educational outreach and program assistance. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection is the cooperating agency. The County recycling options rely heavily on the township sites and supporting groups. The municipalities, dedicated volunteers, the County of Perry, and businesses all work together to provide convenient recycling opportunities to our residents.

In 2017, a total of 5,458.52 tons of materials (glass, plastic, paper, cardboard, aluminum, mixed metals, electronics, and leaf/yard waste) were collected and reported within the County.

### Municipal Solid Waste

The District provides Solid Waste Planning and oversight for the County as we promote the implementation of the 2015 Solid Waste Plan. Administrative support is offered on an as needed basis to municipalities who create and implement their own ordinances. In 2018, the reported Perry County municipal waste tonnage collected was 12,401.4 tons.

## Special Awards

### Volunteers of the Year

At our annual District Banquet, held at the Highland Presbyterian Church on December 10th, two very deserving individuals were recognized for their time and contributions to our District programs. Awards were given by Kristie Smith.

Larry Gildner (pictured top right) received the Conservation District Volunteer of the Year Award for his dedication to our SCOPE Program. He was one of the first volunteers to join in and has been active with the project since it began in 2016. Larry also volunteers with NRCS and took on the role as our District Board Treasurer in 2018.

Wayne Campbell (pictured bottom right) received the Keep Perry County Beautiful Volunteer of the Year Award for his dedication to our annual Tire War and Electronics Collection Programs. Wayne is a very community-oriented individual whose efforts reach way beyond our KPCB events. He always goes above expectations and is always in the right place at the right time.

### Years of Service

Each year, we like to take time to recognize members of the District Board of Directors who have provided outstanding leadership and dedication during their service with us. Awards were given by Commissioner Stephen Naylor and Representative Mark Keller.

Mike Clark (pictured top right) was recognized for his five years of service to the Board of Directors. Mike is a very energetic individual and his enthusiasm and dedication to agricultural education is contagious.

Oscar Campbell (pictured middle right) was recognized for his twenty-five years of service and leadership to the Board of Directors. Oscar has served as the Board Chairman since 1994.

Mel Weaver (pictured bottom right) was recognized for his thirty years of dedicated service to the Board of Directors. Mel has served as the Vice Chairman of the Board since 1993.

Over the years, Oscar and Mel have seen the District go from 2.5 employees to 7, to the current 5.5. The following major programs were added under their tenure:

1989- Chesapeake Bay Program, 1989- The creation of the Farmland Preservation Board, 1991- Recycling Program, 1992- Nutrient Management Program, 1994- NPDES Permit Review Program, 1998 -Dirt & Gravel, Low Volume Road Program, 2003- Watershed Specialist Program, and the 2005- No-till Drill Program.



## 2018 Field Day Photos

Perry County  
Conservation District

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Perry County

Conservation District

(New Bloomfield, Pa)



## 2019 District Staff Contact Information



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