Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

Warmer weather, with same wet forecast this week. Read about the latest weather forecast in today’s first article.

Also, in today’s issue we have an article on the statutory farm lease termination and beginning farmer bills that passed recently here in Ohio.

Finally, if you have small ruminants, check out the flyer for the Small Ruminant School May 21 at the end of the newsletter!

Stay safe and have a Happy Easter!
Weather Update: A Warmer but Wetter Week Ahead
By: Aaron Wilson
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2022-09/weather-update-warmer-wetter-week-ahead

Although the region has seen a few warm days, winter has certainly not given up entirely. This past weekend, Ohio dealt with snow showers and even a little graupel. What is graupel? The word originates from the German word “graúpe” or “barley”. This soft, spongy snow pellet forms as a snowflake collects supercooled water droplets, a process called riming. Some areas even had light accumulation of snow and graupel. Is it enough to satisfy that age old forsythia folklore? We’ll see!
The region has been running cool, 1-7°F below average over the first third of the month compared to the long-term mean (1991-2020). Despite some light and frequent precipitation, overall, we are running below average at 25-75% of normal precipitation over the last 30 days (see the soil temperature and moisture article in this issue). For the latest up-to-date conditions, seasonal outlooks, and monthly climate summaries, please visit the State Climate Office of Ohio.

Figure 1). Departures from average temperature for April 1-11, 2022. Figure courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center (https://mrcc.purdue.edu/).

Forecast
This will be an active weather week, kicked off yesterday by areas of showers and storms moving through Ohio. Scattered showers and storms are possible again today, with a better chance of rain on Wednesday. We could see some severe weather across western counties as well, with gusty winds likely throughout Wednesday and Thursday. Above average temperatures in the 60s and 70s are expected today and tomorrow. Drier but cooler weather will move in late week into the weekend, with additional showers possible on Sunday and Monday. Overall, the Weather Prediction Center is forecasting 0.75-2.00" of precipitation over the next 7 days (Fig. 2).
precipitation leaning toward wetter than average conditions (Fig 3).

The next ten day is the typical period that much of Ohio experiences its last freeze (32°) of the season (Figure 4).

Climate averages for this period include a high temperature range of 59-65°F, a low temperature range of 38-43°F, and average weekly liquid-equivalent precipitation of 0.75-1.05 inches.
Set-Up Soybeans for Success in 2022
By: Laura Lindsey

For soybean, pre-planting decisions are extremely important to set-up the crop for success. Soybean Extension Specialists from across the U.S. have been working together on the Science for Success initiative (funded by United Soybean Board) focused on leveraging local expertise to provide national soybean best management practices. Recently, we’ve focused on soybean planting date, row spacing, and seeding rate.

Soybean Planting Date. Soybean planting date has a large effect on yield. In Ohio, yield reduction as a result of late planting ranges from 0.25 to 1.0 bu/acre/day. In our small plot research in Clark County, Ohio,
soybean yield reduction in 2013 and 2014 was approximately 0.6 bu/acre/day for each day planted after early to mid-May (Figure 1). Although early planting is important to maximize soybean yield, deciding on when to plant should be based on field suitability and soil temperatures at the time of, and following, planting as well as frost forecast. Soybean can germinate and emerge when soil temperatures are at or just below 50°F. At soil temperatures between 50-60°F, soybean plants typically take about 15 to 20 days to emerge following planting. Planting into a wet seedbed or following too much tillage can result in compaction and soil crusting which could reduce stand establishment. At the same time, planting into extremely dry soil can also be detrimental to stand establishment due to insufficient soil moisture for germination and/or emergence.

For Ohio, in general, we recommend soybean be planted any time after April 15 in the southern portion of the state and any time after the last few days of April in the northern portion of the state IF soil conditions are satisfactory.

For more information on "The Best Soybean Planting Date", please see this Science for Success article: https://soybeanresearchinfo.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2700-002-20-Planting-Date_Science-for-Success22_TRV2_12-22-21.pdf

Row Spacing. In Ohio, soybean is generally grown in narrow rows (7.5 to 15-inch row width). Soybean plants grown in narrow rows generally produce more grain than soybean grown in wide rows (30-inch row width) because they capture more sunlight energy, which drives photosynthesis. Across the U.S., soybean grown in ≤15 inch row width has a yield advantage of 1 to 4 bu/acre compared to >15 inch row width. However, these yield advantages are typically greater with later planting dates, earlier maturing varieties, and high temperatures, all of which reduce the time from VE (emergence) to R3 (initial pod set).

For more information on "How To Pick The Right Soybean Row Spacing", please see this Science for Success article: https://soybeanresearchinfo.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2700-002-20-Row-Spacing_Science-for-Success-copy_updated12-22-21.pdf

Seeding Rate. Soybean plants are incredibly flexible at adjusting to a wide range of plant populations. Soybean plants in low populations will produce more branches, more pods, and more seeds per plant. Soybean at higher populations will grow taller, produce fewer branches, pods, and seeds per plant. Because of this flexibility, soybean can often produce similar seed numbers per acre and similar yields over a wide range of plant populations.

In Ohio, for a crop planted in May, a final plant population of 100,000 to 120,000 plants/acre is generally adequate for maximum yield. Final population is a function of
seeding rate, quality of the planting operation, and seed germination percentage and 
depends on such things as soil moisture conditions, seed-soil contact, disease 
pressure, fungicide seed treatments, etc. Ensuring maximum yield requires farmers to 
plant at rates higher than the minimum required plant population. As a general rule, 
seed about 25% higher than the target plant population. For example, for a target plant 
population of 100,000 to 120,000 plants/acre, you may want to seed 125,000 to 150,000 seeds/acre.

For more information on “Soybean Plant Population Density”, please 
see: https://soybeanresearchinfo.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2700-002-20-
Seeding-Rate_Science-for-Success_updated12-22-21.pdf

**Charitable Remainder Trust strategy for retiring farmers**

By: Peggy Kirk Hall

Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/tue-04122022-820am/charitable-remainder-trust-
strategy-retiring-farmers

Most farmers do a great job of managing their taxable income. They buy inputs or 
machinery to offset the current year’s income and wait until next year to sell the current 
crop. This strategy works well but it catches up to the retiring farmer. In the year of 
retirement, a farmer may find themselves with an entire year (or more) of crops or 
livestock to sell and no expenses to offset the income. Additionally, machinery and 
equipment that will no longer be needed for production will need to be sold. Selling all 
these assets upon retirement without offsetting expenses can result in tremendous tax 
liability.

One strategy for retiring farmers to consider is using a Charitable Remainder Trust 
(CRT). The CRT is a special kind of trust that can sell assets without triggering tax 
liability while providing annual income for the retiring farmer. The CRT essentially 
spreads out the income from the sale of the assets over many years to keep the farmer 
in a lower tax rate bracket. Also, the CRT allows the retiring farmer to make a 
charitable donation to their charity of choice.

The primary component of a CRT strategy is that a CRT does not pay tax upon the sale 
of assets. Due to its charitable nature, a CRT can sell assets and pay no capital gains 
tax nor depreciation recapture tax. The retiring farmer establishes a CRT then transfers 
the assets they want to sell into the CRT. The CRT then sells the assets. For the 
strategy to work, the trust must be a CRT. A non-charitable trust will owe taxes upon 
the sale of the assets.
The proceeds from the sale of the assets are then invested in a financial account. The farmer works with an investment advisor to determine the desired annual income needed from the proceeds and then an appropriate investment portfolio is created. It is important to note that income calculations must include leaving at least 10% of the principal to a charity. The farmer may not receive all the income or the trust will not qualify as a charitable trust. The term of the payments from the investment portfolio cannot exceed 20 years.

After the financial account is established, the farmer will receive annual income. This income is taxed at the farmer’s individual tax rate. By paying the sale proceeds out over a number of years, the farmer’s income tax bracket can be moderated. Selling all assets in one year would likely cause the farmer to be pushed into the highest income tax and capital gains tax bracket, so spreading out the income keeps the farmer in a lower tax bracket.

Another important component of a CRT is the charitable giving requirement. As stated above, the farmer must plan to give 10% of the principal to a charity. The funds are provided to the charity when the term of the investment expires or when the farmer dies. Depending on the performance of the investment, the charity may receive more than 10% or less than 10%. The farmer must be able to show that when the investment account was established, the intention was for the charity to receive at least 10% of the original principal.

Consider the following examples, one with a CRT and one without.

Scenario without CRT. Farmer decided to retire after the 2021 crop year. Farmer owned $800,000 of machinery and $200,000 of grain. Farmer sold all the grain and machinery before the end of 2021. Farmer owed tax on $100,000 of ordinary income due to depreciation recapture on the machinery and sale proceeds of the grain. Farmer’s tax liability was $450,000 for the sale of the assets.

Scenario with CRT. Farmer established a CRT and transferred the machinery and grain into the CRT. The CRT sold the machinery and grain but did not pay tax on the sale proceeds due to its charitable status. Farmer established an annuity to pay out over 20 years. Each year Farmer receives $65,000 of income from the CRT. Farmer pays income tax on the payment but at a much lower rate than the previous scenario. At the end of the 20-year term, a charity receives $150,000 (original 10% of principal plus interest).

As the scenarios show, a CRT can save significant taxes for the retiring farmer. Also, a CRT allows a retiring farmer to make a charitable contribution to their charity of choice. A retirement strategy using a CRT is not without its disadvantages. One disadvantage is the cost to implement the plan. A CRT plan is complicated and requires the assistance of an attorney, accountant, and financial advisor. The combined professional fees could be $25,000 or more. Another disadvantage is the inflexible
nature of the plan. The CRT is an irrevocable trust; once the CRT is implemented the plan cannot be changed. If the retired farmer finds they need more income than allocated from the CRT, they are unable to make such a change.

Anyone considering retiring from farming should explore the possibility of incorporating a CRT into their plan. CRTs can save significant income taxes and provide for charitable giving, but it’s not for everyone. The potential tax savings must be enough to justify the significant costs to establish the CRT and the farmer must be willing to give up control of the sale proceeds. Retiring farmers should consult with their attorney, accountant and/or financial advisor to assess how a CRT might fit into their retirement plan.

Ohio legislature passes statutory farm lease termination and beginning farmer bills
By: Peggy Kirk Hall
Source: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/fri-04082022-1158am/ohio-legislature-passes-statutory-farm-lease-termination-and-beginning

Bills establishing new legal requirements for landowners who want to terminate a verbal or uncertain farm lease and income tax credits for sales of assets to beginning farmers now await Governor DeWine’s response after passing in the Ohio legislature this week. Predictions are that the Governor will sign both measures.

Statutory termination requirements for farm leases – H.B. 397
Ohio joins nine other states in the Midwest with its enactment of a statutory requirement for terminating a crop lease that doesn’t address termination. The legislation sponsored by Rep. Brian Stewart (R-Ashville) and Rep. Darrell Kick (R-Loudonville) aims to address uncertainty in farmland leases, providing protections for tenant operators from late terminations by landowners. It will change how landowners conduct their farmland leasing arrangements, and will hopefull encourage written farmland leases that clearly address how to terminate the leasing arrangement.

The bill states that in either a written or verbal farmland leasing situation where the agreement between the parties does not provide for a termination date or a method for giving notice of termination, a landlord who wants to terminate the lease must do so in writing by September 1. The termination would be effective either upon completion of harvest or December 31, whichever is earlier. Note that the bill applies only to leases that involve planting, growing, and harvesting of crops and does not apply to leases for pasture, timber, buildings, or equipment and does not apply to the tenant in a leasing agreement. A lease that addresses how and when termination of the leasing arrangement may occur would also be unaffected by the new provisions.
The beginning farmer bill – H.B. 95
A long time in the making, H.B. 95 is the result of a bi-partisan effort by Rep. Susan Manchester (R-Waynesfield) and Rep. Mary Lightbody (D-Westerville). It authorizes two types of tax credits for “certified beginning farmer” situations. The bill caps the tax credits at $10 million, and sunsets credits at the end of the sixth calendar year after they become effective.

The first tax credit is a nonrefundable income tax credit for an individual or business that sells or rents CAUV qualifying farmland, livestock, facilities, buildings or machinery to a “certified beginning farmer.” A late amendment in the Senate Ways and Means Committee reduced that credit to 3.99% of the sale price or gross rental income. The bill requires a sale credit to be claimed in the year of the sale but spreads the credit amount for rental and share-rent arrangements over the first three years of the rental agreement. It also allows a carry-forward of excess credit up to 7 years. Note that equipment dealers and businesses that sell agricultural assets for profit are not eligible for the tax credit, and that an individual or business must apply to the Ohio Department of Agriculture for tax credit approval.

The second tax credit is a nonrefundable income tax credit for a “certified beginning farmer” for the cost of attending a financial management program. The program must be certified by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, who must develop standards for program certification in consultation with Ohio State and Central State. The farmer may carry the tax credit forward for up to three succeeding tax years.

Who is a certified beginning farmer? The intent of the bill is to encourage asset transition to beginning farmers, and it establishes eligibility criteria for an individual to become “certified” as a beginning farmer by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. One point of discussion for the bill was whether the beginning farmer credit would be available for family transfers. Note that the eligibility requirements address this issue by requiring that there cannot be a business relationship between the beginning farmer and the owner of the asset.

An individual can become certified as a beginning farmer if he or she:
- Intends to farm or has been farming for less than ten years in Ohio.
- Is not a partner, member, shareholder, or trustee with the owner of the agricultural assets the individual will rent or purchase.
- Has a household net worth under $800,000 in 2021 or as adjusted for inflation in future years.
- Provides the majority of day-to-day labor and management of the farm.
- Has adequate knowledge or farming experience in the type of farming involved.
- Submits projected earnings statements and demonstrates a profit potential.
- Demonstrates that farming will be a significant source of income.
• Participates in a financial management program approved by the Department of Agriculture.
• Meets any other requirements the Ohio Department of Agriculture establishes through rulemaking.

We'll provide further details about these new laws as they become effective. Information on the statutory termination bill, H.B. 397, is here and information about the beginning farmer bill, H.B. 95, is here. Note that provisions affecting other unrelated areas of law were added to both bills in the approval process.

Scholarships Available for Ashtabula County Students

Ashtabula County OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Agricultural Scholarship Committee are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for a minimum of thirteen scholarships for the 2022-2023 school year to Ashtabula County students enrolled in either an accredited full four-year college or an accredited two-year technical institute. The Ashtabula County Agricultural Scholarship Fund was founded on April 29, 1952 to promote interest in the study of agriculture, family and consumer science, environmental sciences or natural resources in an accredited full four-year college or an accredited two-year technical institute. This fund awards scholarships to students attending an accredited four-year college or two year technical school. Each year the general scholarship fund awards at least two $1,000 scholarships. The committee also works with local organizations and farm families to offer many additional scholarships. Students are encouraged to apply for the scholarships which they meet the eligibility requirements. The scholarships are for a one year period. A student may apply and be awarded a scholarship three separate years from the scholarship fund. Application forms with complete instructions for applying are now available and can be received by stopping in at the Ashtabula County Extension Office or by calling 440-576-9008. Applications can also be accessed at: http://go.osu.edu/agscholarship. The application deadline is May 1st and no late applications will be considered. More information can also be obtained by emailing ashtabulacountyagscholarship@gmail.com

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Ashtabula County OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association are pleased to announce they will be awarding two youth beef scholarships for the 2022-2023 school year. One $1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a deserving 2022 High School Senior who will be attending an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute in 2022-2023. In addition, one $500 scholarship will be awarded to a current College Student who is currently attending an accredited full four year college or an accredited two year technical institute. Applicants must be resident of Ashtabula County. The first preference by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association is the scholarships be awarded to deserving students who have been...
involved in the beef industry as a youth. Applications must be received by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association by May 1st, 2022 by 4:30 p.m. for consideration for the scholarship. No late applications will be considered. The application can be obtained at: www.Ashtabula.osu.edu. Additional information can be obtained by calling the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008.

7th Annual Chili Cook Off & Family Fun Night
Friday, April 22, 2022 – 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Location: Ashtabula County A-Tech Cafeteria B Building 1565 St Rt. 167
Jefferson, Ohio

All proceeds benefit the Ashtabula County 4-H Camp Counselors program! Tickets are $5 with children 3 and under free. Tickets are available through any 4-H Camp Counselor or at the Extension Office. Cornbread, dessert and beverage included. Lots to see and do, including a Basket Palooza. Many different Chili recipes to try and vote for your favorite! We are looking for entries, click here to enter: ENTER YOUR CHILI!

All proceeds benefit the Ashtabula County 4-H Camp Counselors program. For more information contact the O.S.U. Extension Office, Abbey Averill 440-576-9008 or averill.10@osu.edu.

The Portage County Extension Office is Seeking a Summer Intern

Join OSU Extension in Portage County! We have a COLLEGE STUDENT INTERN position open in Portage County at Ohio State University Extension. Students will support educational programs and community engagement in 4-H Youth Development along with Agriculture and Natural Resources. The intern will work directly with Extension professionals and staff in to address community-based issues. Ohio State or Non OSU students can apply at http://go.osu.edu/portageintern or call 330-533-5538 or email barrett.90@osu.edu with questions regarding a summer of learning, opportunity, and fun working with the staff and residents of Portage County!

Extension Talk: Ag Day 2022! Volunteers and Donors Needed!
By: Andrew Holden

Hello Ashtabula County! April showers are in full effect these days. I know some are disappointed in the fact that our weather didn’t replicate last year’s April with high temps...
and no precipitation. This time last year we had producers already out tilling ground and prepping to plant. It appears this year will be closer to average, which gives us more time to prepare, but also more time chomping at the bit to get going!

Today, I want to share some information about 2022 Ag Day and how you can volunteer or donate to this great event!

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On May 13th, 2022, nearly 1,000 of the county's first grade students will arrive, in person, at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds to take part in Ashtabula County’s 2022 “Ag Day.” For those who are unfamiliar with this event, the first graders come to learn about agriculture in a hands-on fashion. They are able to plant a tomato, make butter, see all kinds of farm animals, and learn where food comes from. This event is coordinated by OSU Extension and the Ashtabula County Farm Bureau and showcases the different types of agricultural commodities which are being produced here in Ashtabula County.

This year we will be back to in person, after two years of not being able to meet in Jefferson. The Ag Day Committee was glad that we could provide an Ag Day experience to the classroom and create interactive videos and activities with our ‘Virtual Ag Day’, last year. While we were able to make the best out of the situation, I think I can speak for all those involved in Ag Day, that we are so happy to be back to an in-person event. After all, Ag Day was designed to provide kids with agricultural education that they can see, feel, and yes, smell! This year's Ag Day will be the best yet, and I want to thank the Ag Day Committee for making that possible. The committee members who serve and volunteer do a great job of making this a fun and educational trip for the students and are always looking for improvements for next year. Additionally, this event couldn’t happen without the support of the Ashtabula County community in the form of many local sponsorships and the over 300 volunteers for the day. Thank you to all those who support Ag Day! I look forward to seeing all the excited faces as they see a calf in person for the first time, or make their own butter, or see honeybees in a hive!

Those interested in donating to Ag Day can do so with a check or online. Checks can be made payable to ‘OSU Extension’, and sent to: OSU Extension, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047. Online donations can be made by visiting https://ashtabula.osu.edu/give-now and clicking the Ag Day Program Support Fund. Any questions about donations can be directed to our office at 440-576-9008.

Those interested in volunteering at Ashtabula County Ag Day on May 13, 2022, are encouraged to fill out an online survey. To ensure that we have an accurate count of who will be there, please register to volunteer by April 21, 2022. To register, visit: http://go.osu.edu/22volunteeragday

Additional information about Ag Day can be received by calling the Ashtabula County Extension Office at 440-576-9008 or emailing Abbey Averill at averill.10@osu.edu.

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Andrew Holden is an Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Educator for Ohio State University Extension. Andrew can be reached at 440-576-9008 or Holden.155@osu.edu. CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit cfaesdiversity.osu.edu.

**Upcoming Extension Programs**

The following programs have been scheduled for NE Ohio farmers. Check back each week as more programs are added to the calendar.

**Ashtabula Camp Councilors - Annual Chili Cook Off**  
April 22, 2022 – 6:00pm to 8:00pm

**Hydrangea School – Moebius Nature Center**  
April 28th, 2022, 4-6PM

**Ashtabula County Ag Scholarships and Beef Scholarships Due**  
May 1st

**Drive-Thru Canner Pressure Testing – Portage Soil and Water**  
May 18th, 2022, 9AM-12PM

**Canning Basics – Portage County Extension Office**  
May 24th, 2022, 5PM-7PM

**Backyard Chickens – Portage Soil and Water**  
June 2nd, 2022, 6-7:30 PM
Cheese Making Basics with Demo – Portage County Location TBA
June 18th, 2022 10AM-12PM – 20 Person Limit
2022 Joe Bodnar Memorial Northern Classic Steer & Heifer Show
Saturday, April 23, 2022
Ashtabula County Fairgrounds, Jefferson, Ohio

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<th>$35 Pre-Entry fee</th>
<th>Champion Heifer</th>
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<td>$250</td>
<td>$40 Day of Show</td>
<td>Reserve Champion Heifer</td>
<td>$250</td>
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Show time is 12 noon. Health papers must meet state requirements. Exhibitors must be 21 years or younger. Age Showmanship classes will be held. An Ashtabula County-only Class will be held after the regular show. Show Supplies and Food Trailer will be on-site. Generators are permitted and encouraged. Please do not park or fit on the grass---plenty of paved parking and barn space is available on-site. Fitting off trailer is permitted, but must leave area as found. **Show check-in will be conducted from 8:00 am to 10:00 am on the day of the show.** All animals must be checked before 10:00 am. More information can be obtained by contacting OSU Extension at 440-576-9008 or Holden.155@osu.edu

This show is sponsored by the Ashtabula County Cattlemen’s Association.

**Pre-Registration Form (cut and return to address below)**

Name of Exhibitor___________________ Exhibitor Age as of January 1, 2022_________________

Street Address____________________________________________________________________

City____________________ State____________ Zip code____________

Telephone________________ Email________________

Will exhibitor be participating in the showmanship class ___yes ___no
Is the 4-H or FFA exhibitor from Ashtabula County, Ohio ___yes ___no

#of steers entering___________ X $35 pre-registration $_________Due

#of heifers entering___________ X $35 pre-registration $_________Due

Registrations received after April 15, 2022 or on the day of the event will be $40 per entry. Make Checks payable to A.C.C.A. Return Registration Form to: David Nye, ACCA President, 6087 Meade Hollow Rd, Windsor, Ohio 44099
Hydrangea School

Join Eric Barrett, Associate Professor and Mahoning County Extension Educator to discover the world of hydrangeas. Learn about types, care, pruning and bloom times. You’ll receive a quick reference chart to take to the garden center and a hydrangea plant to take home.

Thursday, April 28th
4PM-6PM
330-296-6432

Location: Moebius Nature Center, 929 E. Mennonite Rd Aurora, Ohio 44202
Cost: $30/Person – includes a plant to take home
Details: Space is limited. Register early.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION. Registration includes the program and handouts. Please mail completed registration form to OSU Extension, 705 Oakwood St. Suite 103 Ravenna, OH 44266 or drop off the registration to the OSU Extension Office. The program is filled on a first come, first served basis.

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________ Phone: _______________________

Registration includes handouts and a hydrangea plant to take home for your landscape.

$30 per person to register $ __________________________  Total Enclosed $ __________________________

Please make checks payable to OSU Extension. For questions, please call OSU Extension at 330-296-6432
What is CSP?

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) rewards private landowners for actively managing and maintaining existing conservation activities while offering additional opportunities to improve natural resource and land management goals.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides increased financial and technical assistance to producers interested in expanding conservation efforts on the landscape to address resource concerns, improve conservation performance, and/or target multiple resource concerns in a comprehensive and cost-effective manner.

CSP may provide many benefits, including increased crop productivity, decreased inputs, wildlife habitat improvements and increased resilience to weather extremes. CSP also encourages adoption of new technologies and management techniques.

Contact your local NRCS office today to learn how the agency can help you improve conservation efforts on your agricultural or forestry operations. Apply by the sign-up date to be considered for funding in the current cycle. Applications for assistance are accepted on a continuous basis and do not guarantee a contract. If an application is accepted and you decline the contract, there is no financial obligation by either party.

How Conservation Can Work For You

Existing activity payments are provided annually to maintain existing conservation and are based on:

1. Amount of acreage enrolled in each eligible land use.
2. Level of conservation and number of applicable resource concerns met at the time of enrollment.

Additional activity payments vary each year and are based on:

1. Extent to which conservation activities are adopted annually (units vary).
2. Type and frequency of new conservation activities implemented.
Existing Activity Payment for Land Uses: *Annual land use payments are based on existing stewardship; number of land uses/amount of acreage enrolled; and adoption of new conservation activities.

**Cropland**  
**Earn up to $2,700 plus $7.50 per acre**  
Definition: Land used primarily for production/harvest of annual/perennial field, forage, food, fiber, horticulture, orchards, vineyards, energy crops.  
Resource Concerns: Degraded plant condition, pest pressure, field pesticide loss, field sediment/nutrient/pathogen loss, soil quality limitation, source water depletion, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion, wind and water erosion.

**Pasture**  
**Earn up to $2,700 plus $3 per acre**  
Definition: Land composed of introduced or domesticated native forage species used primarily for livestock production.  
Resource Concerns: Degraded plant condition, pest pressure, livestock production limitation, field sediment/nutrient/pathogen loss, soil quality limitation, source water depletion, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion, wind and water erosion.

**Non-Industrial/Private Forestland**  
**Earn up to $2,100 plus $.50 per acre**  
Definition: Land on which primary vegetation is tree cover (climax, natural/introduced plant community) and use is primarily for production of wood products and/or non-timber forest products.  
Resource Concerns: Degraded plant condition, fire management, pest pressure, soil quality limitation, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion, wind and water erosion.

**Associated Agricultural Land**  
**Earn up to $1,200 plus $.50 per acre**  
Definition: Land associated with farms not purposefully managed for food, forage or fiber such as idle center pivot corners, odd areas, ditches and watercourses, riparian areas, field edges, seasonal/permanent wetlands, etc.  
Resource Concerns: Pest pressure, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion, wind and water erosion.

**Farmstead**  
**Earn up to $1,200 plus $7.50 per acre**  
Definition: Land used for facilities and supporting infrastructure where farming, forestry, animal husbandry and ranching activities are often initiated.  
Resource Concerns: Inefficient energy use, storage and handling of pollutants, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion.

Get Started!  
Contact Your Local USDA Service Center at [https://www.farmers.gov/working-with-us/service-center-locator](https://www.farmers.gov/working-with-us/service-center-locator)

For additional questions, contact Angel Arehart at 614-917-3172 or Angel.Arehart@usda.gov
Canner Pressure Testing
Drive-Thru Clinic

DATES: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 & Monday August 15, 2022
TIME: 9 AM - 12 PM
LOCATION: PSWCD, 6670 OH-88, Ravenna, OH 44266

Are you preparing to can fresh fruits and vegetables from your garden or local market? Before starting come out to our canner pressure gauge testing clinic. We will be offering two drive through clinic days this summer.

Details: This is a FREE drive-thru clinic please stay in your car. Be ready to hand your pressure canner to a staff member.

For more information: Scan the QR code, go to https://go.osu.edu/cannertestclinic
or call the Portage County Extension Office at 330-296-6432

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ASHTABULA AND TRUMBULL EXTENSION PRESENT

Small Ruminant School 2022

Join OSU Extension and Countryside Veterinary Service on May 21, 2022 for a day to learn about maintaining a healthy herd or flock of small ruminants. We will discuss general health and welfare, how to assist with kidding or lambing, zoning requirements, livestock housing, nutrition, pasture management, and everything else you need to know for successfully raising goats and sheep. Cost for this program is $45/person; you can add a lunch for $15/person. Cost includes many handouts and light refreshments. One child (under 12) can attend for free with parent or guardian registration! Registration is limited. To register for this event, please visit the link listed to the left.

Agenda:
10:00AM – Welcome & Introduction – Noelle Barnes
10:45AM – Livestock Housing & Ownership – Andrew Holden
11:30AM – Lunch (prepaid or on your own)
12:30PM – Having a Successful Kidding or Lambing – Dr. Jessica Bittner, DVM
1:15PM – Health & Welfare – Noelle Barnes
2:30PM – Break
2:45PM – Pasture Management/Feeding Strategies – Dr. Brady Campbell
3:30PM – Marketing – Andrew Holden
4:00PM – Wrap Up

DATE:
May 21, 2022

TIME:
10:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION:
520 W. Main St.
Cortland, Ohio 44410

Registration is required for this event. Please register online at: https://go.osu.edu/smallruminant2022
Registration is due by May 13th

Questions? Call the Trumbull County Extension office at 330-638-6783

EVENT SPONSOR: Countryside Veterinary Service – Large Animal