



SNYDER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

10541 Route 522, Middleburg, PA 17842
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More to Discover

2023 Annual Report

Board of Directors



Back Row L-R: Lincoln Kaufman– Associate Director, Isaac Hassinger– Director, Clair Esbenshade- Director, Charles “Chuck” Kessler- Director

Front Row L-R: Commissioner Joe Kantz- Director, Lamar Troup-Director, Annette Gray-Director, Jake Stiefel-Director, Rick Bailey– Associate Director

Absent: Morrill “Mac” Curtis– Associate Director

Staff



Back row L-R: Chip Spatz, Nutrient Management Tech, Tim Hornberger, Resource Conservation Tech, Barry Spangler, Ag Conservation Tech

Front Row L-R: Lauren Cheran, Watershed Specialist, Jason Winey, District Manager, Renee Swineford, Administrative Assistant

SCCD Ag Stats:

In 2023, Snyder County's total number of concentrated animal operations (CAOs) were 69 and nine (9) volunteer animal operations (VAOs) for a total of 78 approved nutrient management plans (NMPs).

Seventeen of the CAOs and VAOs are concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). In 2023, the conservation district reviewed and approved 32 Act 38 NMPs that accounted for 3,846 acres.

In 2023, SCCD conducted fifty-one (51) Chesapeake Bay "Reboot" inspections. Also, seven (7) MMP's were reviewed and verified covering 1060 acres, two NRCS "590" NMP covering 475 acres were verified, and an additional seven (7) MMP's were developed by SCCD staff covering a combined 1,169 acres.

SCCD developed 11 Ag E&S plans for 446 acres and verified an additional 29 existing Ag E&S and Conservation plans for 1,334 acres .

Interested in Ag. BMPs?

SCCD is making a list of farmers interested in improving their farm operations with the installation of conservation practices, also known as best management practices (BMPs). Example BMPs include:

Manure Storages	Riparian Buffers
Barnyard Improvements (*)	Streambank Fencing
Milkhouse Wastewater & Silage Treatment	Stream Crossing (*)
Roof Runoff Controls	Watering Facilities

If you are in need of installing the BMPs listed above, contact us at 570-837-3000, x0 (sccd@snydercd.org) and we place your name on a list for future funding opportunities.

**Example picture of (*) BMP installed at a Snyder County operation.*



Left: Stream crossing installed along Susquehecka Creek in Franklin Township, Snyder County.

Right: Roofed Heavy Use Area (HUA) also referred to as a roofed barnyard, constructed to eliminate a previous animal concentration area (ACA).

Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Roads:

In 2023, the SCCD and the Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Roads Program was unable to contract any new projects due to the funding being tied up in McClure Borough and Beaver Township. Application numbers were down in 2023 but the QAB has two great projects in the county for 2024. This will ensure that the district will meet the spending requirements for the previous 5-year contract and be eligible for all future funding opportunities. The contracted low volume project in McClure Borough has competed one of the stream crossings in 2023 and will complete the second in 2024. Stream bed rehabilitation should be completed by the end of 2024. The project begins on West Railroad St and runs to West Church Alley and will use approximately \$165,000 of program funds. The funded dirt and gravel project for Hetrick Ridge Road greatly improved the drainage and DSA was placed, \$106,265.70 of program funds.

Since its first contract was signed in 2000, SCCD has contracted almost 24.6 miles of the county's 153.3 of eligible miles, totaling \$1,586,659.30 on dirt and gravel and \$638,732.02 on low volume. These monies were spent in 14 different municipalities on 66 completed worksites, with 2 additional contracted for work to be completed in 2024.

2023 Totals:

Completed: Dirt and Gravel Roads—\$106,265.70 Low Volume Roads—\$0.00

Contracted: Dirt and Gravel Roads—\$0.00 Low Volume Roads—\$0.00



Silt sock placed at an NPDES site.



DSA placement on Long Hill Road.

Erosion & Sedimentation 2023:

Total Individual Site Visits—72
Residential Development Plans—7
Pre-Construction Meetings—14
Total Complaints—21
Waste Areas/Ag Operations— 7
PennDOT Plan Approvals—4
Snyder County Clean Water Fund: \$12,500.00
E&S Program Review Fees: \$79,780.80
NPDES Clean Water Fund Fees: \$39,400.00

Small Project Plan Approvals—24
Linear Projects/Solar Plans—8
Initial/Routine Inspections—33
Follow-Up Inspections—15
Commercial/Industrial Plans—17
E&S Plan Reviews & Approvals— 41
Total Project Acres—1885.44
Total Disturbed Acres—1460.95
NPDES Plan Approvals—17

Watershed Wide:

In 2023, SCCD and county farmers achieved another successful year implementing best management practices (BMP's) countywide. Through various partnerships and grant funding, eight participating farmers and landowners voluntarily agreed to install a total of:

- 1 Poultry Waste Storage Facility
- 2 Beef Heavy Use Areas (HUA)
- 1 Grazing/Pasturing Project
- 1,900 feet of fish habitat structures
- 1 Grassed Waterway
- 4,900 feet of streambank fencing
- 3 livestock stream crossings
- 4.5 acres of riparian buffers

This is a huge accomplishment for Snyder County farmers and landowners, who deserve recognition for their efforts on improving local water quality, protecting natural resources and being stewards of the land.



Martin Stream Restoration Project

Martin's, was this year's featured streambank restoration project completed through the Northcentral Stream Partnership. Fish habitat structures such as, modified mudsills, log cross vanes, and log deflectors were installed along 1,900' of an the Susquehecka Creek. A new livestock stream crossing and riparian buffer were also installed as part of this project.



Before

After

Education for Everyone:

Maple Day at Faylor Lake:

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) hosted a Maple Demonstration day as part of the River Valley Maple Producers event. SCCD spent two days educating about the process of maple syrup production for visitors at Faylor Lake



Above: Some Visitors didn't have time to wait for Syrup, sap was good enough

Trout in the Classroom Release Day

A fun part of the Trout Release Day is learning about the Food available for the freshly released Trout. Students study the macroinvertebrate community in the stream where the Trout are released.



Mid West 5th Grade Outdoor Education

For more than 40 Years Midd West has been immersing students into the Outdoors through the Outdoor Ed Program. The SCCD facilitates a Soils Station, Stream Study Station and a Wildlife Station on one of the days in the week long program

Above: Students do a Macrinvertebrate study during Trout



Above: Surprise visitors arrive at Outdoor Education, the hare was no where to be seen.

Soil Health Drone Field Day:

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) hosted a Soil Health Field Day that concluded with a demonstration of Drone seeding for cover crop establishment.



Above: Demonstration drone seeding about to lift off

SCCD Fundraisers:

Faylor Lake Loop:

For a fourth year in a row, 120 plus participants gathered for the 3.75 or 7.5 mile Faylor Lake Loop trail race to benefit environmental education. Proceeds from the race are instrumental in funding SCCD's educational outreach events such as Trout in the Classroom, Envirothon, 2nd Grade Ecology Day, and Kids' Enviro Camp.



Annual Tree and Seedling Sale:

2023 was a record setting year for the annual tree sale. ALL stock was sold-out well before the due date in March. The total number of items sold included:

- 8,300- bareroot seedlings
- 175- apple and peach trees
- 840 lbs- deer plot mix
- 50lbs- wildflower seed
- 48- bluebird boxes



MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

2024 Upcoming Events:

Snyder-Juniata Kids Enviro Camp

Basom Park, Richfield

June 17-19, 2024

Grades 1 through 4

Faylor Lake Loop Race

Faylor Lake, Beaver Springs

July 20, 2024

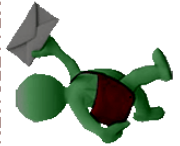


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