

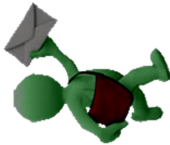


SNYDER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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SNYDER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

10541 Route 522, Middleburg, PA 17842



2025 Annual Report

Board of Directors



*Back Row L-R: Commissioner Joe Kantz—Director, Charles “Chuck” Kessler- Director Lincoln Kaufman—Associate Director, Rick Bailey—Associate Director
Front Row L-R: Clair Esbenschade- Director, Isaac Hassinger– Director, Lamar Troup- Director, Annette Gray-Director*

Staff



L-R: Jason Winey - District Manager, Renee Swineford—Administrative Assistant, Lauren Cheran—Program Administrator, Chip Spatz—Nutrient Management Tech, Barry Spangler—Ag Conservation Tech, Tim Hornberger—Erosion and Sedimentation Tech

SCCD Fundraisers:

Faylor Lake Loop:

In its sixth year 132 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:

2025 was another great 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:

- 6,550—bareroot seedlings
- 235– fruit trees
- 700 lbs- deer plot mix
- 50 lbs– wildflower seed
- 55– bluebird boxes
- 3—Bat boxes



2026 Upcoming Events:

Snyder-Juniata Kids Enviro Camp
Basom Park, Richfield
June 17-18, 2026
Grades 1 through 4

Faylor Lake Loop Race
Faylor Lake, Beaver Springs
July 18, 2026

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

Education for Everyone:

Kids Enviro Camp

The Snyder County and Juniata County Conservation Districts hosted the fifth Kids Envirocamp. A variety of staff and partners discussed many topics relating to aquatics, forestry, soil, and wildlife. This year a special guest came to visit on the family night.



Above: Smokey greets a few of the Envirocamp attendees.

Trout in the Classroom

Release Day

The highlight of a day of activities learning about stream health and stream macroinvertebrates is of course the release of the Trout that the students worked so long and hard to carefully raise.



Above: Look closely to see some of the newly released

Mid West 5th Grade

Outdoor Education

For more than 40 Years Mid 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 learn about Soil and Pollinators before making their wildflower seed balls.

Farmers Winter Meeting:

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) hosted a meeting for farmers to stay up to date on various soil health, pesticide, and crop management topics. Various speakers from agency partners entertained nearly 100 in attendance.



Above: Farmers and Vendors Collaborate during one of the breaks. Andy Gill from Stahl Sheaffer Engineering meets with farmer Ken Blank

SCCD Ag Stats:

In 2025, Snyder County's total number of concentrated animal operations (CAOs) were 75 and 10 volunteer animal operations (VAOs) for a total of 85 approved nutrient management plans (NMPs).

Eighteen of the CAOs and VAOs are concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). In 2025, the conservation district reviewed and approved 19 Act 38 NMPs that accounted for 2,276 acres.

In 2025, SCCD conducted 36 Chesapeake Bay "Reboot" inspections. Also, ten 10 MMP's were reviewed and verified covering 2,086 acres, and an additional 4 MMP's were developed by SCCD staff covering a combined 21 acres.

SCCD developed 4 Ag E&S plans for 36 acres and verified an additional 23 existing Ag E&S and Conservation plans for 2,648 acres.

Ag BMPs

Utilizing funds from the Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP), and Countywide Action Plan (CAP) implementation funds (4) poultry Waste Storage Facilities (WSF) and (2) Roofed Heavy Use Area/WSF projects were completed in 2025.



Above: Roofed Heavy Use Area (HUA) and manure storage for beef.

Below: Before (L) and After (R) of a poultry Waste Storage Facility (WSF).



Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Roads:

In 2025, the SCCD and the Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Roads Program was able to contract three new projects in Penn Township, Chapman Township and Beaver Township. Currently we have six new applications for the 2026/2027 grant round. The new dirt and gravel project for Lime Road, in Chapman Township, finished a multi-year project which included drainage and a stream crossing, and this year a small amount of underdrain was installed and DSA was placed. This project utilized \$69,774.41 of Dirt and Gravel program funds. The 2025 Low Volume Road projects were completed on Covered Bridge Road, Beaver Township, where a French mattress, underdrains, and new cross pipes were installed, totaling \$56,735.15 and in Penn Township, East Kratzer Road received an inlet and new pipes creating a small storm sewer to remove standing water and used \$6,940.76.

Since its first contract was signed in 2000, SCCD has contracted 27.6 miles of the county’s 156.4 eligible miles, totaling \$1,659,272.54 on dirt and gravel and \$691,381.51 on low volume. These monies were spent in 14 different municipalities on 71 completed worksites.

2025 Totals:

Completed: Dirt and Gravel Roads—\$69,774.41 Low Volume Roads—\$63,675.91

2026 Pending: Dirt and Gravel Roads—\$177,142.56 Low Volume Roads—\$63,452.02



DSA Install and Drainage Improvements on Lime Road, Chapman Township



Installation of French Mattress on Covered Bridge Road, Beaver Township

Erosion & Sedimentation 2025:

Total Individual Site Visits—72
 Residential Development Plans— 5
 Pre-Construction Meetings—15
 Total Complaints—22
 Waste Areas/Ag Operations— 5
 PennDOT Plan Approvals—5
 Snyder County Clean Water Fund: \$11,000.00
 E&S Program Review Fees: \$74,840.00

Small Project Plan Approvals—15
 Linear Projects/Solar Plans—7
 Initial/Routine Inspections—25
 Follow-Up Inspections—10
 Commercial/Industrial Plans—16
 E&S Plan Reviews & Approvals— 39
 Total Project Acres—946.68
 Total Disturbed Acres—769.41

Watershed Wide:

Susquehecka Stream Restoration— 4 Years & Counting

Building upon 2,370’ of streambank restoration/habitat structures previously installed along the Susquehecka Creek, an additional 700’ feet were completed in 2025. Project design and oversight was provided by PA Fish and Boat Commission’s (PFBC) Habitat Division with funding provided by a EPA/DEP Section 319 grant.



Before

After

The final streambank restoration project in 2025, installed various fish habitat structures along 500’ of the North Branch Mahantango Creek with oversight from PFBC’s Habitat Division. Following installation of the structures, SCCD planted a 0.5 acre riparian buffer. Funding for the project was provided through the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy and PA DEP’s Growing Greener Grants program. *(picture be-*

