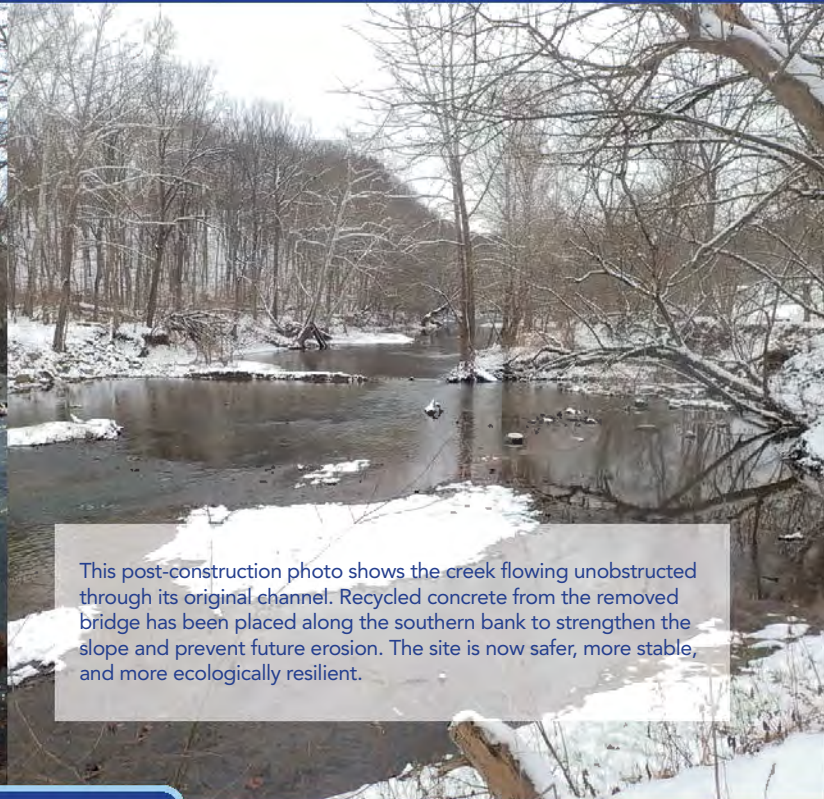


This pre-construction photo, taken from the northern streambank, shows the collapsed bridge disconnected from the opposite bank. A secondary stream channel had formed to the right, diverting water during high-flow events. When water levels rose, the stream spilled over the remains of the structure, increasing safety risks and contributing to ongoing erosion.



This post-construction photo shows the creek flowing unobstructed through its original channel. Recycled concrete from the removed bridge has been placed along the southern bank to strengthen the slope and prevent future erosion. The site is now safer, more stable, and more ecologically resilient.

WINTER 2026

SOUTH FORK TENMILE CREEK OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL PROJECT

In 2023, the Greene County Conservation District received \$65,000 through the Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Water Programs Clean Streams Grant to remove a major obstruction in the South Fork Tenmile Creek, located in Jefferson and Morgan Townships. The project also included the construction of a rock streambank stabilization to protect the channel from future erosion.

The original bridge, installed in the 1930s to support mining access to nearby railroad infrastructure, had deteriorated significantly over time. Prior to removal, the collapsed structure created an entrapment hazard for recreational kayakers, boaters, anglers, and wildlife. The northern portion of the bridge had completely fractured, leaving concrete debris, metal reinforcements, and rebar scattered across the channel.

During the project, all unstable materials were carefully removed. Clean rubble from the bridge was repurposed to fill the undercut areas and reestablish the natural grade of the creek bottom. Additional clean concrete debris was strategically placed along the southern bank to reinforce the slope and provide long-term stabilization.

With the obstruction removed, water now flows freely through the original stream channel. The stabilized streambank will help reduce ongoing erosion and protect the integrity of the waterway. The project has improved safety for recreational users, enhanced habitat for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, and supported the overall health of the South Fork Tenmile Creek.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- **Jared Edgreen**, *Chairman*
- **Betsy McClure**, *Vice Chairman*
- **Blair Zimmerman**, *Secretary*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- **Greg Hopkins**, *Vice Chairman*
- **Dan Bazzoli**, *Treasurer*
- **Glodenna Halstead**, *Secretary*
- **Rebecca Trigger**, *Director*
- **Dave Shipman**, *Director*
- **Jared Edgreen**, *Commissioner Representative*

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

- **Jerry Day**
- **Jim Willis**
- **Dominick Barbetta**
- **Rebecca Salosky**
- **Carol Adamson**
- **George Scull**
- **Keith Golden**
- **Bill Hilverding**
- **Lewis Crouse**
- **Doug Willis**
- **Kevin White**
- **Ryan Wise**
- **Matt Robison**

DISTRICT STAFF

- **Lisa Snider**, *District Director*
- **Lindsay Kozlowski**, *District Office Manager*
- **Zachary Basinger**, *Environmental Permitting Manager*
- **Tiffany Stewart**, *Watershed Specialist*
- **Daniel Phillips**, *Agricultural Conservation Specialist*
- **Heather Yorko**, *Fiscal Officer*

COOPERATING AGENCIES

- Greene County Department of Economic Development
Kyle Lamb, Planning Director
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
Calvin Livengood, Soil Conservationist
Scott Williams, District Conservationist
- PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry
Russell Gibbs, Service Forester
- PA Fish and Boat Commission
Logan Opfer, SW Region Waterways Conservation Officer
- Penn State Cooperative Extension
Justin Brackenrich, Agronomy Educator
- Washington/Greene County Farm Service Agency
Michal Roup, CED

NRCS NEW STAFF

My name is Scott Williams and I am the new District Conservationist in the Lemont Furnace NRCS Office. I am originally from Armstrong County; PA and I am a 2011 Penn State graduate in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. After graduating, I moved to Florida and began my career with NRCS in 2016 as an affiliate with the National Wild Turkey Federation and then in 2021, was hired as a Soil Conservationist and promoted to District Conservationist a little over a year later. My wife Jenn and I have two young boys; Luke and Johnny, and we couldn't be happier to be back home! I greatly look forward to meeting the producers and partners in Greene County, please feel free to reach out if there is anything NRCS can assist you with.

Phone number: (724) 415-3602

UPCOMING EVENTS & CONFERENCES

- January 10th-17th: PA Farm Show–Harrisburg, PA
- January 27th: Southwest PA Soil Health Conference–Latrobe, PA
- February 3rd: Crop Conference–Lebanon, PA
- February 4th-7th: OFA Convention–Hershey, PA
- February 5th-6th: 35th Sustainable Agriculture Conference–Lancaster, PA
- February 6th-8th: Holsteins Convention–Mars, PA
- February 25th-28th: Small farm Conference–Charleston, WV
- February 26th: Penn State Ext. Crop Day–Houston, PA
- March 12th: Western PA Grazing Conference–Clarion, PA
- March 3rd-4th: PA Aquatic Resource Restoration Conference–State College, PA
- August 11th-13th: Ag Progress Days–State College, PA

DISTRICT LOCATION

Our office is located on the 2nd Floor of the Ben Franklin Building at
22 West High Street, Suite 204
Waynesburg, PA 15370
Phone: 724-852-5278
Email: gccd@greencountypa.gov
Hours: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday-Friday

The GCCD Board meets the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am at the Greene County Fairgrounds 4-H Building, located at 107 Fairgrounds Road, Waynesburg, PA 15370.



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April 8 - June 24

Wednesday classes: 6:00 - 8:30 PM (in-person)

Saturday field sessions: April 18, May 9 & 30, June 13

pamasternaturalist.org



OUTSTANDING LOCAL STEWARDS AWARDED FOR CONSERVATION EFFORTS IN 2025

The Greene County Conservation District recognized nine award recipients during its annual awards ceremony held Wednesday, Dec. 10, at Valley View Farm.

Each year, the Conservation District honors individuals, organizations, and partners within the county who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to soil and water conservation. Honorees for 2025 included Phill and Breanna Judy, recipients of the **Outstanding Cooperator of the Year Award**; Jason Ellis, recipient of the **Outstanding Forest Conservationist Award**; Emmaline Beazell, recipient of the **Outstanding Conservation FFA Speaking Award**; and the Richhill Township Supervisors, recipients of the **Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road (DGLVR) Municipality of the Year Award**. Several Farmland Preservation and Conservation District board members and staff were also recognized for years of service.

Phill and Breanna Judy were honored as the **2025 Outstanding Cooperator of the Year**. This award recognizes farms that have demonstrated substantial improvements by implementing conservation practices that enhance soil and water quality. The Judys operate Heritage Hills Farm in Whiteley Township along Dyers Fork, managing 112 acres with a herd consisting of 20 brood cows, 20 calves, four heifers, one bull, and two donkeys. Their herd is primarily used for breeding Simmentals, with calves shown and sold throughout the county. Working with the Conservation District, the Judys have implemented several conservation improvements, including manure storage, streambank fencing, animal trails and walkways, a stabilized access road, a watering facility, roof runoff controls, and a heavy-use protection area.

Jason Ellis received the **Outstanding Forest Conservationist Award** for his ongoing efforts to improve the forest stand on his 112-acre property in Monongahela Township. His accomplishments include completing a forest woody vegetation management plan, conducting multiple invasive species treatments in 2024, implementing a timber stand improvement harvest, and establishing several tree plantings across the property.

Each year, the District also recognizes a municipality that demonstrates a strong commitment to improving water quality through the use of Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance Practices. The **Richhill Township Supervisors** were named **Municipality of the Year** for their implementation of Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Program practices throughout the township. Their projects included drainage improvements and streambank stabilization efforts designed to reduce erosion and enhance roadway sustainability.

Emmaline Beazell, a senior at West Greene High School, was recognized with the **Outstanding Conservation FFA Speaking Award** for her exemplary performance in the county FFA speaking contest with her speech titled *“Changing Climates, Changing Lives: The Impact on Wildlife and Habitats.”* She placed first in the county and third in the area competition. Emmaline, the daughter of Noah and Joni Beazell, is a four-year FFA member and currently serves as Vice President of the West Greene chapter. She is active in the National Honor Society, Science Club, Students Against Destructive Decisions, P-20, the Academic League, the Prom Committee, and the Ski Club. A multisport varsity athlete, she competes in volleyball, softball, rifle, and cheerleading. Upon graduation, Emmaline plans to major in animal and pre-veterinary medicine at either The Ohio State University or West Virginia University.

The Conservation District also recognized four individuals for their dedicated years of service to the Conservation District Board, Farmland Preservation Board, and the District staff. Honorees included:

- **Corby Orndorff**, 15-Year Service Award – Farmland Preservation Board
- **George Scull**, 5-Year Service Award – Conservation District Board
- **Keith Golden**, 5-Year Service Award – Conservation District Board
- **Lindsay Kozlowski**, 15-Year Service Award – Conservation District Staff
- **Lisa Snider**, 25-Year Service Award – Conservation District Staff





Emmaline Bezell was presented the 2025 FFA Speaker of the Year award by Tiffany Stewart, Conservation District Watershed Specialist 2025.



Richhill Township Supervisors, Donnie Jacobs, Tom Chess, Charlie Kiger, and Matt Robinson 2025 Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Program Municipality of the Year Award presented by Lindsay Kozlowski



Keith Golden, and George Scull were presented 5-year Service Awards at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 10.



Lisa Snider, Corbly Orndorff, and Lindsay Kozlowski were presented Service Awards at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 10.



Jim Cowell presented Phil and Breanna Judy with the 2025 Outstanding Cooperator of the Year Award at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 10.



Jason Ellis was presented the 2025 Outstanding Forest Conservationist Award by Russell Gibbs, PA DCNR Service Forester at the Greene County Conservation District's annual award ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 10.

STEPS TO BETTER FORAGES

JUSTIN BRACKENRICH

Penn State Extension, Greene County

724-207-2009 or jub1489@psu.edu

FIRST—SOIL TESTING

This is never anyone's favorite part, but it is always the most important. If you do not have a soil test within the last three years, this is the first step to improvement. Some assumptions can be made from removal rates and visual indicators to suggest soil fertility needs, but nothing beats an analytical test. Tests are \$10 per sample and can be sent to the Ag Analytical Services Lab in State College, PA. Contact Justin or the Extension Office for more information.

SECOND—INTERPRETING YOUR SOIL TEST

Soil test interpretation is broken down into two basic sections: lime needs and fertilizer needs. Lime and pH needs include magnesium requirements, because Mg is most often applied to soils through dolomitic lime. Fertilizer needs are shown as N, P₂O₅ (phosphate), and K₂O (potash). Some things to keep in mind:

- While fertilizer recommendations are shown as annual needs for three years, lime is shown only once. This is because it only needs to be applied at the indicated rate to correct the pH for three years.
- Forages remove, or contain, about 50 lbs. N, 15 lbs. P, and 50 lbs. K per ton, while 19-19-19 fertilizer provides only 19 lbs. of each N, P₂O₅, and K₂O per 100 lbs. applied. Because forages do not remove nutrients in equal proportions, we can not only apply fertilizers that contain equal proportions.
- Everything does not have to be done at once. Break it into pieces that make sense physically and financially, using the prioritizing tips below.

THIRD—HOW TO PRIORITIZE NEEDS?

If this is the first soil test you have done in many years, the requirements and needs can be overwhelming. Here are some general guidelines to keep you moving in the right direction.

- **pH above 5.7**—Even if you apply fertilizer, soil nutrients will have limited plant availability when the soil pH is below 5.7, meaning fertilizer applications will be largely wasted.
- **Phosphorus above 30 ppm**—Phosphorus is crucial for plant roots and development. Low P fields will be shallow-rooted and lack production.
- **Potassium above 100 ppm**—Getting soil potassium above 100 ppm will allow for a healthier, fuller forage stand. Potassium helps with tillering and winter hardiness.
- **Nitrogen and Sulfur as needed**—After all these other considerations have been met, we will address N and S. Nitrogen and sulfur are not as persistent in soils as P and K, meaning they need to be applied in smaller amounts, during the growing season. Rates are 35-50 lbs. of N per ton of hay and 20-30 lbs. of sulfur per acre/year.



GREENE COUNTY TIRE COLLECTION EVENT REMOVES 593 TIRES FROM LOCAL COMMUNITIES



The Greene County Conservation District successfully hosted a tire clean-up and recycling event on **November 13th** at the **Greene County Fairgrounds**, offering residents and municipalities a convenient and environmentally responsible way to dispose of unwanted tires. The four-hour event, held from **1:00 to 5:00 p.m.**, drew strong participation from the community.

In total, **593 tires** were collected during the event. With this addition, the District has now gathered **1,461 tires in 2025** and an impressive **9,688 tires since 2021**, reflecting an ongoing commitment to reducing illegal dumping, safeguarding waterways, and improving local landscapes.

A key goal of the tire collection program is to **reduce mosquito breeding habitat**. Discarded tires can easily collect standing water, creating ideal conditions for mosquitoes to reproduce. By removing and recycling these tires, the District helps limit mosquito populations and lowers the risk of mosquito-borne diseases in local communities.

Tire collection events play an important role in preventing the spread of pests, reducing fire hazards, and promoting proper recycling practices. Each clean-up not only improves the appearance of Greene County but also contributes to long-term environmental health.

Looking ahead, the District hopes to receive continued support and funding from the Pennsylvania **Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP)** to host more tire collection events in the coming year. Additional funding would allow the District to expand its efforts, reach more residents, and continue removing waste tires from the environment.

The District extends its sincere thanks to all residents, volunteers, and municipal partners who participated and helped make the November 13th event a success.





22 West High Street
Suite 204
Waynesburg, PA 15370



OUR MISSION

It is the mission of the District to commit to protection, stewardship, and conservation of the County's natural resources to ensure a wise balance between the protection of the environment and the benefit of the landowners of the County.

It is the District's belief that conservation works best when people living and working in the local area work together to manage their natural resources collectively. Valuable partnerships are formed when diversity is brought into the conversation and decision-making process. Our office is a conservation-oriented organization that offers a wide variety of expertise and knowledge. The District staff can assist with questions related to permitting, offer guidance on planning for farming, and assist landowners with various natural resource related topics.



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Greene County Conservation District



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