



ODA Updates for SWCD Board Meetings December 2024

The DSWC staff would like to thank you for a successful year and wish each of you a joyful holiday!

2025 Resources and Reminders- Resources and Reminders for SWCDs is included as an attachment. The 2025 Resource and Reminder contains important dates, deadlines, required trainings, and reporting requirements for SWCDs. Please keep this as a resource and checklist to make certain your district is up to date on completing these annual activities. An ADP webinar is scheduled for **January 7th** to review these items in further detail.

ADP - Administrative Development Program – The next ADP session will be held virtually **January 7th** at 1:00 pm with a focus on the 2025 Resources & Reminders. The following dates, locations and topics are for the remaining sessions planned in 2025. **March 25th** – Legislative Process & Statehouse Tour (Rhodes Tower/Statehouse), **May 7th** – SWCD Sales Tax Overview (Virtual), **June 24th** – Planning-Program Growth & Evaluation (Bromfield Auditorium), **August TBD** – Handbook Development & Review (Bromfield Auditorium), **September TBD** – Human Resources/Leadership (Bromfield Auditorium) and **October 28th** – Auditor of State & Records Retention (Bromfield Auditorium).

TDP - Technician Development Program- In 2024, 20 TDP courses were offered with a total attendance of 607. The 2025 TDP classes will be announced, and registration will begin in January. Again, for 2025, SWCD staff will not need to pay a registration fee to take TDP courses.

Required Fraud Training Reminder – This year the Auditor of State’s office released a bulletin outlining new fraud reporting and training guidelines for all public officials and employees. All current SWCD employees and board members are required to complete the training, which currently consists of an 8-minute video before December 29th. After December 29th all newly elected board members and employees are required to complete the training within their first 30 days. Additional information can be found by clicking on the following links. [AOS Bulletin 2024-005](#) [Fraud Reporting and Training Requirements FAQs](#)

Annual Plan of Work – As 2025 moves nearer the development and approval of the district’s annual plan of work is critical. This document should be developed in accordance with the district’s long range strategic plan and in support of the district’s mission. The annual plan of work serves multiple purposes. It provides a pathway for the district to achieve its objectives and is required to be submitted to the OSWCC to be eligible for state match funding. Within the Accountability portion of OSWCC State Match Policy SWCDs are required to submit an Annual Plan of Work for the current calendar year and document a quarterly review of progress towards implementing the plan. Under this section of policy districts are also required to utilize Beehive in accordance with the Beehive Use and Guidance Document which is attached.

Beehive 2024 “Completed Events” Queries - A quick reminder to please run your Beehive 2024 “Completed” Events queries to confirm that you have entered all completed events for the year. All Calendar Year 2024 information should be entered in Beehive by January 31, 2025. Every SWCD and all staff members have access to the “2024 Completed BMPs List” and “2024 Completed Education Events List” queries. These are saved query “Layouts” which can be found in Beehive Query, in the “All BMP Events” and “All Education Events” datasets respectively. These queries pull/show the data that will be in your End of the Year Technical and Education Summary Reports and in your Beehive 2024 “Annual Report”. If you have questions regarding the queries, contact Martin Joyce, DSWC, martin.joyce@agri.ohio.gov, or Lindsey Douglas, DSWC, lindsey.douglas@agri.ohio.gov

OFSWCD - Annual Meeting – The Annual Partnership meeting for 2025 will be held at the Hilton in downtown Columbus on January 21-23. Please use the following link to register. [Annual Partnership Meeting : Event Calendar : News & Events : Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts](#)

- Reminder award applications are due December 20th.
- OFSWCD will honor supervisors and staff for years of service in 10-year increments – 10, 20, 30 etc. Please contact Janelle with the names of those that qualify by December 20th. jtmead@ofswcd.org
- The Delegate session will be held on January 22.
- New Supervisor Training will be offered during the Partnership Meeting on January 22.

OSWCC: The next OSWCC meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2025. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the OFSWCD Annual Partnership Meeting. For more information about the meeting contact Emily Heppner emily.heppner@agri.ohio.gov

OASWCDE- 2025 Employee Association Membership forms will be coming out soon.

The Employees association is still looking for great “Conservation Contacts” to add to our list in all area’s. This project is being organized to assist the entire state in being able to locate knowledgeable resources for questions, job shadowing, or any other way assistance can be delivered. Emma is making a user friendly interactive map that will benefit us all. Please contact Emma Farahay (EFarahay@eriecounty.oh.gov) if you are interested.

Be on the lookout for our Taco’s, Tequila, or wine event that will be January 21st from 5-7. This event will feature a Taco bar with either a tequila or wine tasting (your choice). We will also be receiving a presentation from the staff at Parlay Sporting Club & Kitchen on the Tequila and Wine selections. This event will be \$40 per person. Sign up and payment information will be coming soon.

The Taco, Tequila, or wine event is separate from the usual employee association gathering. The gathering will be held at Parlay again this year from 7-9 and one drink ticket will be provided if you are a member.

Grazing Management: ODA is hosting a Grazing Management lunch and learn series throughout the year. The series will provide some timely topics on grazing management. We will hear from producers and industry professionals that will take us through their operations and talk about opportunities for grazers. All the webinars will be live from 12:15 – 1:00 pm on Microsoft Teams. Contact jarrod.hittle@agri.ohio.gov for more information on these webinars.

Dual use Solar - <https://youtu.be/xlRSZTyOwpc>

Grazing Management strategies - <https://youtu.be/jZJGf7v3Q?si=dpXpLxnFITjnDBV9>

Stockpile Forages - <https://youtu.be/SkV5upeRVZs>