

# FARM BUREAU NEWS

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Annual Meeting Notice</i>	1
<i>Policy Resolutions</i>	2
<i>Shred Day –October 9</i>	2
<i>Member Appreciation</i>	3
<i>Growing Success Part 2</i>	3
<i>George Cooley Historic Marker</i>	4

### Farm Bureau Mission Statement

Forging a partnership between farmers and consumers that meets consumers needs, addresses public expectations and ensures agricultural prosperity in a global marketplace.



Cuyahoga County  
Farm Bureau  
8460 Ridge Road  
North Royalton OH  
Phone: 440-877-0706  
Email: [cuyahoga@ofbf.org](mailto:cuyahoga@ofbf.org)

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

of the

### Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau, Inc. Annual Meeting

in conjunction with the Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District

Thursday, **September 24, 2015**

**Valley Inn - Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC)**

8001 Brecksville Road Brecksville, Ohio

4:30– 6:00 pm - Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) program and supervisor election.

Visit the displays, mingle, network and enjoy refreshments produced and served by the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center students

Guest Speaker: Yvonne Lesicko, Senior Director of State and National Policy for the Ohio Farm Bureau - Protecting Soil and Water Resources: Farmers Taking Action Using 4Rs

6:30 pm - Farm Bureau Dinner - prepared and served by the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center culinary students

**Dinner reservations are required by 9/16/15.** Cost - \$10.00 per person

**\*\*No dinner tickets available at the door\*\***

7:15 pm - Business Meeting

Trustee and delegate elections

Act on proposed code of regulations changes

Act on proposed policy resolutions

Recognize accomplishments

Reservation form on the back page. All are welcome to attend.

Tickets will be held at the door.

**Member Benefit Minute**

*Did you know?*

*Farm Bureau primarily focuses on two goals: promoting Ohio agriculture and legislative representation for our members. We work on issues important to you and agriculture and strive to keep consumers connected to producers and local farmer businesses.*



**Visit local farmers markets and orchards this year and meet the farmer that grows the food that you enjoy**

For a listing of local orchards and other markets, log on to [www.ourohio.org](http://www.ourohio.org) and click on the Buying Local Directory

**Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau, Inc**  
Local/County

**Proposed Policies for 2015-2016**

1. We support all measures by Ohio Department of Wildlife to reduce the deer herd size and encourage local cities and suburbs to actively engage ODNR for help with this challenge. A culling program implemented by the Cleveland Metroparks should be enhanced and more wide-spread.
2. We encourage local community officials to investigate thoroughly the value of their residents keeping bees, poultry and goats for honey, eggs and milk products.
3. We encourage all residents and businesses to utilize healthy water practices, including use of rain barrels and rain gardens, to help alleviate overflow of our local sewer lines.
4. We encourage and support the continuation of the 4H animal science program with our county OSU Extension office.
5. We oppose any storm water assessment. All farms, including those in urban areas, should be exempt from storm water assessments.
6. We encourage giving priority to health and nutrition programs that provide locally or regionally produced fruits and vegetables and connecting low-income consumers directly to agricultural producers.
7. We encourage city officials to assure proper water retention basins or other means to capture water drainage and runoff with all new construction plans, both housing and business development, to help alleviate flooding of creeks and overflow of local sewer lines during heavy rains.

State

1. We encourage our legislators to preserve Current Agriculture Use Valuation (CAUV) and preserve our farmland.
2. We encourage producers to establish a nutrient management plan to promote ways to restore the biological, chemical and physical properties of our soils. We support the use of cover crops, which aid in soil restoration.
3. We recommend Ohio Farm Bureau to remain neutral on the issue of marijuana.
4. The creation of an economic monopoly or special privilege for any nonpublic entity, including individuals, corporations and organizations should not be granted via voter approval of an amendment to the Ohio Constitution. The Ohio Constitution should be amended to prohibit an initiated constitutional amendment that would grant a monopoly, oligopoly, or cartel specify or determine a tax rate, or confer a commercial interest, right or license to any person or nonpublic entity.
5. We support the Healthy Water Ohio initiative's collaborative approach to create a statewide water resources management strategy that includes all water users and interests.

*Policies continued on page 3*



**Farm Bureau Shred Day**  
**Friday, October 9, 2015 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

at the Farm Bureau office 8460 Ridge Road, North Royalton  
Securely dispose of printed account statements, receipts and other documents containing your personal and information. Free - All Welcome!

*Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information (social security number, account number, etc.) without your permission to commit fraud, theft or other crimes.*

*Contact your Nationwide Agent to learn more about Identity Theft Coverage*



Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau, Inc

Proposed Policies for 2015-2016 continued

National

1. With the enactment of the Food Modernization Act, there needs to be a subsidized training program to ensure all required farms are able to comply. FSMA inspectors, currently being trained, can be utilized to teach compliance before they inspect the farms required to comply.
2. We support SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and FINIP (Food Insecurity and Nutrition Incentive Program). Use of locally grown food should be a priority to help generate additional local economic opportunity.
3. We request that all imported food products to the United States should be regulated equally as our food system is regulated and all regulations should be enforced.
4. We recommend that the government nutrition program be limited to fruit, vegetables, meat, dairy, and grains and not processed foods.
5. We support science based regulation of biotech crops.
6. All bureaucrats should be required to fund their retirement and health insurance with the same programs as the general citizenship of the United States.

**Member Appreciation Day - Sunday, September 20, 2015 at Stearns Homestead**

*Farm Bureau member appreciation day and family fun day at Parma's historic farm and homestead.*

6975 Ridge Road, Parma (just south of Parmatown Mall) - Free Admission

Farm animals, food, music, combine simulator, pedal tractors, antique tractors... fee for hay rides, pony rides

Lots of fun for the entire family – hope you will join us from 12:00–4:00 pm on Sunday, September 20.

\*\*Exchange the mailing label from this newsletter for two free animal feed cups at the homestead barn.

\*\*Present your current Farm Bureau membership card for a hot dog and delicious, home-grown sweet corn, ready to eat! (*limit : one hot dog & corn per person / max. 4 hot dogs and 4 ears of corn per family –while it lasts* )

More information and map at [ofbf.org/counties/cuyahoga](http://ofbf.org/counties/cuyahoga)

**Growing Success Part 2 - Unlocking the secrets in the soil.**

Urban and small farm owners will learn how to unlock the secrets in the soil and use soil amendments including cover crops to create a healthy soil environment for next year's crops

When: **Saturday, September 26, 2015**

Doors open at 9:00 am –program begins at 9:30 am.

Where: **Stearns Homestead, 6975 Ridge Road, Parma**



Guest speakers include:

- Steve Baker, State Soil Scientist with NRCS who will talk about soil health, soil testing and how to read a soil test analysis

- Jim Hoorman, Extension Educator, OSU Extension will talk about cover crops

- Eric Schwab, an agronomist with USDA-NRCS will share management systems for vegetable production.

There is limited seating, **pre-registration is required.**

Call 216-524-6580 ext 13 or 440-877-0706.

All are welcome – no cost to attend.

Program funding provided by ODNR-Division of Soil & Water Resources and the Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau.

## Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau

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North Royalton, OH  
44133

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*The Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau Newsletter is distributed to Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau members to keep them informed of Farm Bureau issues, events, member benefits and agriculture. With direction from the county board of trustees, the organization supports Ohio farmers and promotes Ohio agriculture.*

### Executive Board

President:  
Thomas Kaskey –Olmsted Falls  
Vice-President:  
Gayle Hansen –Olmsted Falls  
Secretary:  
Kim Rassi-Gollin -Brooklyn Hts.

### Board of Trustees

Donita Anderson -Shaker Hts  
Dennis Eck -Strongsville  
Fred Holzman -North Royalton  
David Peth—North Royalton  
Jeremy Peth -Strongsville  
Ashley Rassi– Brooklyn Heights  
Thomas Washtock –Berea  
Gerald Wilson –Cleveland  
Open Seat  
Open Seat

### Office Staff

Organization Director -  
Anita Cook

Office Administrators -  
Bev Cisar  
Mary Wallencheck

### OFBF Trustee

Al DiVencenzo—District 3  
Pam Haley—Women's Trustee

The Westlake Historical Society will place a historic marker recognizing the accomplishments of a 'founding father' of the Ohio Farm Bureau and Westlake resident George L. Cooley, on September 12, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. at the Westlake police station, the former site of the Cooley farm. Join us as we celebrate the life and legacy of George L. Cooley.



## RESERVATION FORM

Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting  
Thursday, September 24, 2015  
Valley Inn - Cuyahoga Valley Career Center

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member ID #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse / Guest Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #

\_\_\_\_ Yes, we will attend the SWCD program

\_\_\_\_ Yes, we will attend the Farm Bureau dinner

\_\_\_\_\_ # attending X \$10.00

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form and payment to Farm Bureau, 8460 Ridge Road, North Royalton OH 44133  
Reservation deadline 9/16/15