



JUNIATA COUNTY  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

# Conservation Conversation

A newsletter from the  
Juniata County Conservation District  
146 Stoney Creek Drive, Suite 4  
Mifflintown, PA 17059  
717-997-8001  
Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Volume # 2025, No. # 1  
January 2026

## Juniata County 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Ag Day

In October 2025, ~190 4<sup>th</sup> graders from Juniata County visited the Hart Brothers Farm in McAlisterville as part of the annual 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Ag Day. Ag day is an event where 4<sup>th</sup> graders from across Juniata County get to visit a local farm and learn about an array of agriculture & environmental careers and topics. This year, students rotated between 12 different stations, learning about topics such as: manure management, veterinarians, soils, pigs, biosecurity, farm equipment, milk production, animal housing, and others.



4<sup>th</sup> Grade Ag Day cannot happen

without support from JCCD's many partners! From leading stations to volunteering time to help setup/teardown for the day; our partners are essential in helping Ag Day run smoothly. Partners for Ag Day include: Hart Brothers' Farm, Penn State Extension & 4-H, Juniata County Home & School Groups, Juniata County School District, Juniata Christian School, USDA NRCS, Seed Consultants, Juniata County Dairy Promotion, Hooper Inc., East Juniata FFA, Juniata FFA, Country View Farms, Juniata County Conservation District and others!



## AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Construction season is ending, and contractors are wrapping up their projects. It is officially too cold to pour concrete with the previous snowfall, but some were able to squeeze some concrete in before it got too cold (see photo right). Below you can see a finished roofed heavy use area that will be used to confine dairy cows and heifers when field conditions are not ideal, which will help reduce sediment loss into streams.



JCCD is accepting new ACAP applications through January 31, 2026. If you are interested in learning more about ACAP or starting an application, please contact Maria at (717) 997-8003.



## DIRT & GRAVEL ROADS



The Dirt, Gravel & Low Volume Road program helps local municipalities fund road improvement projects, at the same time reducing erosion and sedimentation to local tributaries. The Conservation District receives annual allocations from the State Conservation Commission (SCC) to help fund these projects. The Conservation District also receives technical assistance from the Center for Dirt and Gravel Road studies program from Penn State in State College.

The Juniata County Conservation District DGLVR program application round is currently open to all Juniata County municipalities, and all applications are due on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (the last Friday in February).

The JCCD has received the following allocations from the SCC for the 2026 construction season:

Dirt and Gravel Roads: \$111,839.00

Low Volume Roads: \$67,291.00

\*Low volume roads are paved, with less than 500 vehicles per day of traffic.



If you have any questions regarding the DGLVR program, please reach out to Garrett Berry at the JCCD  
**Phone:** (717)-997-8001, **Email:** garrett-berry@juniataccd.org

## EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PROGRAM



Since October, the E&S Program has conducted 30 inspections on 13 permitted sites, approved two PAG-02 NPDES permits, one E&S Plan, and one Notice of Termination (NOT) on an active PAG-02 NPDES permit. JCCD has one PAG-02 NPDES permit application and two NPDES Individual permit applications in review currently.

While ice and snow make their appearance again, and earthwork stops, now's the time to prepare for the spring thaw. Start your construction projects off on the right foot this spring. If you are considering or planning a project that will impact over 5,000 square feet of ground, please contact us at JCCD. We'll go over the options for erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) suited to your site and that will best help protect the waterways closest to you.



## NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

Its hard to believe we are in the Winter spreading season again!

From December 15<sup>th</sup> to February 28

Anytime the soil is frozen to a depth of 4 inches or more

Anytime the ground is snow covered.

Maintain a setback of 100 feet from streams, Lakes, Ponds & Sinkholes.  
List the fields that will receive winter manure applications in your plan.  
Prioritize winter spreading on fields with more than 25% crop residue, a cover crop, hay field, or pastures.

Limit winter application rates to no more than 5,000 gallons per acre of liquid manure, 20 Tons per acre of solid non-poultry manure or 3 tons per acre of solid poultry manure.  
Do not Spread on fields with less than 25% residue, or fields with slopes greater than 15% slopes (D&E) soils on your soils maps.

## FUTURE EVENTS

**Looking  
to the  
Future**

**A WOMEN IN AG  
EVENT**

THURSDAY | 26 | FEBRUARY

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**9:30AM - 2PM**

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**Topics:**  
Marketing Strategies  
Pollinators  
Manure Management  
Financial Partnerships  
Invasive Species Management

**Manure Management Plans for Farmers.**  
Do You Have a Manure Management Plan? We can help!

**Anyone** who produces or utilizes manure in Pa. needs some type of  
**Manure Management plan**

The land application of animal manures and agricultural process wastewater must follow the standards for development and implementation of a plan to manage nutrients for water quality protection in Pennsylvania.

**Need Help Writing your Manure Management  
plan?**

**Sign up for one of our workshops**

Wednesday, April 8, 2026  
1 PM to 3 PM  
Juniata County Conservation District  
146 Stony Creek Drive, Mifflintown Pa 17059

**Register by April 2, 2026**  
**Call**  
**New District Phone Number 717-997-8001**

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Juniata County Conservation District Phone 717-997-8001

### Conservation District Staff

Lori Glace, <i>District Manager</i>	x8008
Debra Dressler, <i>Administrative &amp; Financial Assistant</i>	x8002
Maria Rickenbaugh, <i>Ag Conservation and Nutrient Management Tech.</i>	x8003
Garrett Berry, <i>Erosion &amp; Sediment and Dirt, Gravel, &amp; Low Volume Roads Tech.</i>	x8004
Hannah Hunsberger, <i>Erosion &amp; Sediment and Nutrient Management Tech.</i>	x8005
Brent Leach, <i>Nutrient Management and Ag Conservation Tech.</i>	x8006
Nicholas Smith, <i>Watershed Specialist and Recycling Coordinator</i>	x8007

<u>Conservation District Board of Directors</u>	
Eric Brubaker.....	Chairman of the Board
David Clark.....	Vice-Chairman
Mark Partner.....	Commissioner-Director
Jeff Frymoyer.....	Director
Jason Sheaffer.....	Director
Chad Reinford.....	Director
Jay Cheran.....	Director
Jerry Trout.....	Director