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**JUNIATA COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

2025 Annual Report

2025 Board of Directors:

Eric Brubaker – Chairman of the Board
David Clark – Vice-Chairman
Todd Graybill – Commissioner-Director
D. Richard Hackenberger/Vacant – Director
Jeff Frymoyer – Director
Chad Reinford –Director
Jay Cheran – Director
Jerry Trout – Director

2025 District Staff:

Lori Glace – District Manager
Debra Dressler – Administrative Assistant
Brent Leach – Resource Conservation Technician
Hannah Hunsberger – Resource Conservation Technician
Maria Rickenbaugh – Resource Conservation Technician
Nick Smith – Resource Conservation Technician
Garrett Berry – Resource Conservation Technician
Parker Dimm – Resource Conservation Summer Intern

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Juniata County Conservation District (JCCD) is to preserve and promote the effective use of the county’s natural resources through the provision of timely, coordinated, and professional guidance and technical assistance to the landowners, land managers, and residents of Juniata County. In doing so, it is our goal to ensure that Juniata County’s future is characterized by a healthy environment, an informed public, a commonsense regulatory climate, and a coordinated menu of services, information, and regulations.



HISTORY

The Juniata County Conservation District was organized in 1957 as a legal subdivision of local and state government and is responsible under state law for conservation work within the county's boundary lines.

The purpose of the district is to: resolve land and water related resource problems through voluntary compliance with landowners, enlist and coordinate help from all public and private sources that contribute to accomplishing the district goals, and educate all citizens on the inter-relationships between human activities and the natural environment.

A board of local citizens attuned to local issues manages the district. Juniata County is governed by a volunteer board of directors comprised of four (4) farmer directors, three (3) public directors and a county commissioner director. Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month; January through October at 7:00 p.m. No meeting is conducted in November, and the December meeting is conducted at 1:30 pm in conjunction with an annual directors' banquet. Meetings are held at the Ag Service Center located off the Arch Rock Exit of 322 in Mifflintown. The public is encouraged and welcomed to attend these meetings.

The district's effectiveness lies in our ability to network with local, state, and federal agencies to solve local environmental problems. In most cases, the district's obligations to each agency are outlined through delegation agreements or through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which clearly states the role of each party.

Common concerns and activities of conservation districts include: cooperation between agencies for developing conservation plans for landowners, installation of conservation practices, financial cost-share for water quality programs, timber management, wildlife management, conservation education, promotional events, erosion and sedimentation controls, floodplain management, nutrient management issues involving the state's Act 38 Nutrient Management Law, and Ag Land Preservation.

Remembering Mr. D. Richard "Dick" Hackenberger – with sad hearts we said farewell to one of our long-term board members in 2025. Dick started his journey with the Juniata County Conservation District in 1971 as an Associate Director and moved into a Director position in 1972. Dick served 53 years on the District Board, with 44 of those years in an officer position, 17 of those years as Chairman.

During Dick's tenure, he saw many great advances in conservation such as no-till planting technologies, importance of cover crops and soil health, incorporation of nutrient management planning, importance of waterways management, and the push of nutrient and sediment reductions in our land use practices.

Dick was very passionate about education and guided students in Envirothon during his teaching career at East Juniata High School FFA programs. He proposed the current Envirothon Scholarships that are awarded to the local Juniata County Envirothon. Dick was a very talented wood worker and made 100's of blue bird, duck, and bat boxes sold by the District to promote wildlife conservation.



PURPOSE

- Assist landowners and managers with the technical information and guidance they need to address the natural resources management decisions they confront
 - Ensure environmental regulations and objectives are achieved in a user friendly, practical, and, to the extent possible, voluntary manner
 - Provide educational workshops and information to ensure that landowners, managers, and residents in the county understand, appreciate, conserve, and protect the county's unique natural resources
 - Encourage the effective and timely coordination and dissemination of information and resources among the public agencies and non-profit organizations providing services to the public or creating / enforcing environmental policy related objectives
 - Promote the conservation and effective use of Juniata County's land, waters, forests, soils, wildlife, air, and other natural resources
 - Collect and distribute relevant local, county, regional, and state data and information as appropriate
 - Ensure citizens, land managers and owners, and municipal officials are well informed of their responsibilities regarding the effective conservation and use of the county's natural resources
 - Provide, as appropriate, project-specific financial assistance to landowners and managers to ensure the county's and state's environmental goals and objectives are met
 - Ensure the continued professional and fiscal viability of a fully staffed conservation district office
 - Explore evolving needs and opportunities for helping the county and its residents meet their environmental stewardship goals and objectives.

Juniata County Conservation District Programs

Ag Land Preservation Program

Since 2008, JCCD has administered the Juniata County Ag Land Preservation Program under the direction of the Juniata County Agricultural Land Preservation Board on behalf of the Juniata County Commissioners. The 2024 fiscal year funding levels were \$77,817 in state funding and \$15,000 in county funding.

The board received 14 applications in 2024. Two (2) farms were selected and are in process of easement. The first farm is a 56.14-acre dairy/crop farm located in Milford Township. The second farm is an 80.85-acre crop farm in Milford Township. The next application cycle will be December 1, 2025, through January 31, 2026.

The Juniata County Agricultural Land Preservation Program has preserved 26 farms to date with permanent easements; consisting of 22 purchased easements and five (5) donated easements totaling 3,225.34 acres. All preserved farms are inspected bi-annually to ensure compliance with the Agricultural Conservation Easement requirements.

Nutrient Management Programming

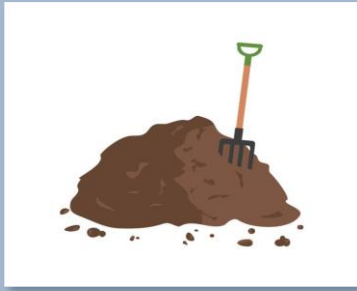
Pennsylvania's current nutrient management law, ACT 38, went into effect on October 1, 2006, for the protection of soil and water quality through the development of nutrient management plans and agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) on production operations. The State Conservation Commission (SCC) oversees the county conservation districts' administration of the program to regulate nitrogen, phosphorous, and odor management.

All farmers are encouraged to participate; however, livestock operations defined as a concentrated animal operation (CAO) must comply. A CAO is defined as an operation with eight (8) or more animal equivalent units (AEUs) of total animal units (AUs) on the farm and has two (2) or more AEUs per acre available for manure application.

In 2025, JCCD wrote six (5) manure management plans (MMPs), reviewed and approved seventeen (23) ACT 38 Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs), and six (3) ACT 49 Balance Sheet Reviews. The district's staff conducted 53 annual status reviews comprised of 36 CAOs, 12 CAFOs and five (5) VAO/ Manure Management plans and verified four (4) Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) applications. Four (4) Manure Hauler II exam were also proctored for certification.

Manure Management Plans

Manure management workshops are offered twice annually at the Ag Service Center. There were no attendees registered for the workshops held in 2024. Two workshops were scheduled for February 5th and 12th of 2025.



Nutrient management is the science and practice directed to link soil, crop, weather, and hydrologic factors with cultural irrigation, and soil and water conservation practices to achieve optimal nutrient use efficiency, crop yields, crop quality, and economic returns, while reducing off-site transport of nutrients (fertilizer) that may impact the environment. Delgado and Lemunyon. "Nutrient Management." In Encyclopedia of Soil Science (Vol 2). Ed. Rattan Lal. CRC Press, 2006. pp 1157-1160.

How do I know which plan is needed?

- My operation has less than 2 AEU/acre so a manure management plan is required.
- My operation has 2-299 AEU/acre so it is a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) and requires an ACT 38 plan.
- My operation has 300 or more AEU/acre so it is a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) and requires an ACT 38 plan.

AEUs for each type of animal = [(average number of animals on a typical day that the animals are there) x (animal weight (lb)) ÷ 1,000] x [(number of days the animals are on the operation per year) ÷ 365]



Erosion and Sedimentation (E&S) Control Program

Juniata County Conservation District maintains a Level II delegation with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to administer Chapter 102 of the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law for Juniata County. The district reviews E&S Control Plans for permitted National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and non-permitted sites.



In 2025, the district authorized a total of 14 NPDES permits encompassing 654.2 acres; of which 554.86 acres were or will be disturbed. The district reviewed and approved two (2) E&S plan for non-permitted sites of less than one (1) acre. Additionally, the district is responsible for inspecting earth disturbance sites for adequate E&S control implementation. Sixty-nine (69) inspections were performed on 25 sites in 2025. JCCD also processed three (3) Notice of Terminations for pre-existing NPDES permits. The district technicians were available to provide technical assistance to 18 participants

Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads (DGLVR) Program



Pennsylvania's Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Roads (DGLVR) Program provides funding to eliminate stream pollution caused by runoff and sediment from the state's comprehensive network of unpaved and low volume public paved roads. The program was enacted into law in April 1997 as Section 9106 of the PA Vehicle Code, with \$5 million in annual funding for "environmentally sensitive road maintenance" for unpaved roads. The goal of the program is to create a more

environmentally and economically sustainable low volume road network through education, outreach, and project funding. The program has grown to award \$28 million statewide and added the low volume, paved road program in 2013.

JCCD receives annual allocations from the State Conservation Commission (SCC) to administer the program locally which includes technical assistance, project development, application reviews, project ranking, and construction oversight. Applications are reviewed by the



Planning to Build?



Are you planning to build a home, add a garage, construct an outbuilding, or expand parking at your business? Construction activities require a permit or an approved plan.

JCCD can assist you in the building process. Any project involving 5,000 sq. feet of earth disturbance requires an erosion and sedimentation (E&S) plan to be followed and kept at the worksite.

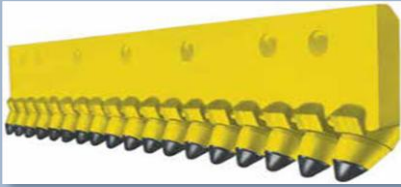
When the earth disturbance reaches one (1) acre or more, an NPDES permit is required and must be submitted for review to the conservation district.

Your local municipality may have additional regulations for building projects.

For more information or assistance, contact JCCD at 717-997-8001. We are happy to work with you to ensure your project is the best it can be!

ESM Practices

- Headwalls & Endwalls
- Cross Pipes / Shallow Cross Pipes
- French Mattress
- Under drains
- High Water Bypass
- Stream Culverts – Flood Resiliency
- Driving Surface Aggregate
- Crown & Cross Slope
- Broad Based Dips/ Waterbars
- Bank Benches
- “Through the Bank” pipes



**CARBIDE TIPPED GRADER
BLADE RENTAL**

The JCCD Grader Blade is eligible for municipalities located in Juniata, Mifflin, Snyder, Perry, and Huntingdon Counties. The district borrowing the blade will be intermediary and will be responsible for getting and returning the blade to the JCCD office. To obtain the blade, notify JCCD to schedule. The blade can be reserved for no more than five (5) consecutive workdays at a time if another municipality has also requested its use. Reservations are on a first-come, first served basis.

RENTAL FEE: \$10 per day

2026 ESM TRAININGS

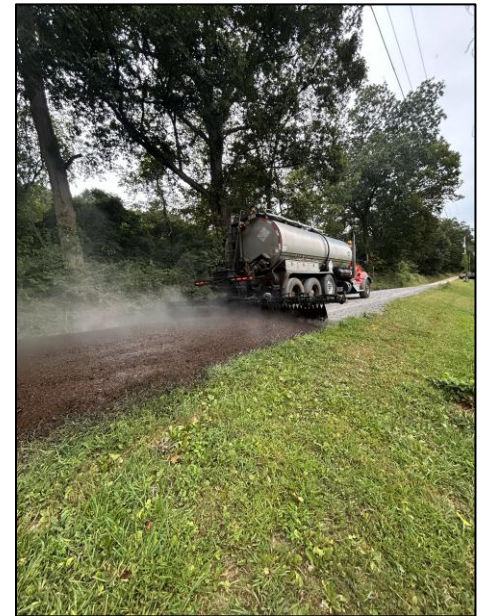
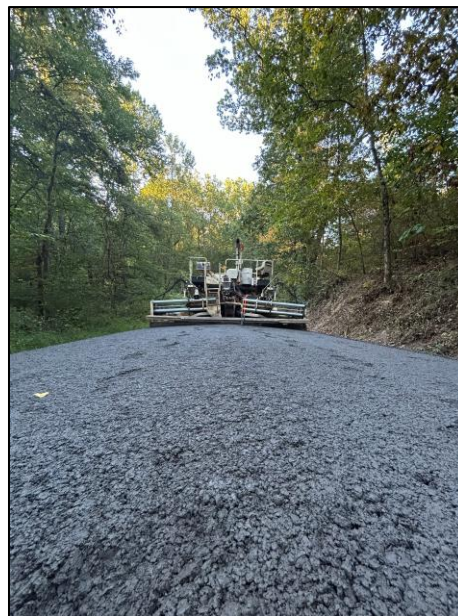
- February 17th (Delaware County)
- LVR only
- March 25th & 26th (Bucks County)
- April 8th & 9th (Wayne County)
- April 29th & 30th (Crawford County)
- May 29th & 30th (Westmoreland)
- June 10th & 11th (Potter County)
- June 24th & 25th (Dauphin County)
- July 8th & 9th (Clarion County)
- July 22nd & 23rd (Blair County)
- August 4th & 5th (Clearfield County)
- August 19th & 20th (York County)
- Sept. 2nd & 3rd (Lawrence County)
- Oct. 21st & 22nd (Susquehanna Cnty)
- Nov. 17th & 18th (Centre County)

Quality Assurance Board (QAB), comprised of partners from Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). Projects are awarded by the JCCD Board of Directors. JCCD works closely with the Center for Dirt & Gravel Road Studies for technical assistance and training opportunities.

DGLVR Project Funding Summary 2025					
Program	Road Name	Municipality	Project Funding Spent	Township Match	Project Total
DGR	Shope Hill Road	Susquehanna	\$49,145.00	\$2,308.83	\$51,453.83
DGR	Light Road	Susquehanna	\$87,771.00	\$47,518.69	\$135,289.69
DGR	Nipple Road	Delaware	-----	-----	
LVR	Evans Hollow Road	Delaware	-----	-----	
LVR	Old Butchershop Road	Fermanagh	\$12,990.51	\$493.50	\$13,484.01
DGR	Pine Ridge Road	Lack	\$53,767.53	-----	\$53,767.53
		Total:	\$203,674.04	\$50,321.02	\$253,995.06

DGLVR funding spent in 2025 - Projects highlighted in gray were completed in 2025

DGLVR construction season included projects in four (4) townships accounting for five (5) of the six (6) contracted projects. Three (3) projects were completed in 2025 in Fermanagh Township (1), and Susquehanna Township (2). A summary is provided above.



Top center: Nipple Road in Delaware Township, Driving Surface Aggregate placement.
Top Right: Light Road in Susquehanna Township, Tar + Chip driving surface placement.
Page 4 left: Nipple Road in Delaware township, Driving Surface Aggregate placement.
Page 4 right: Old Butchershop Road in Fermanagh Township, 200ft of underdrain was added

Applications for FY 25/26 funding round will close in February of 2026 for both Dirt & Gravel Road and Low Volume Roads Programs. For assistance, please contact Garrett Berry at the District for a site meeting to go over program guidelines and offer technical assistance for drainage improvements.

Watershed Protections

Countywide Action Plan

Governor Shapiro awarded \$19.3 million grant funding to improve local water quality for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed through the Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Implementation Grants. Tri-County Regional Planning Commission was awarded \$2,374,710.00 for Dauphin, Perry, Juniata and Mifflin Counties to improve the health of local streams, rivers, and lakes by reducing nutrient and sediment pollution. JCCD secured over \$600,000 of that total to implement stream restoration projects East Licking Creek & Lost Creek, a riverbank restoration on the Juniata River, a lawn conversion project, and four (4) separate Ag-related projects.

Additionally, Lancaster Farmland Trust visited 40 farms in the lower Tuscarora Watershed to talk with farmers about conservation programs that included planning for manure application and erosion and sediment control, best management practices (BMP) opportunities that could include practices like heavy use areas, riparian buffers, and manure stack pads. The goal of these visits are one-on-one assistance to talk about programs and assistance that is available to Juniata County's farming community. Funding provided through the CAP Implementation Grant and a Growing Greener Grant through the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

How does this benefit Juniata County?

Community planning ensures the individualized needs of each county are met using available resources. CAP is not establishing new regulations but working to empower localities to lead in identifying pollution and flood reduction solutions and identifying grant funding and cost-share opportunities for the improvement of local water quality.

East Licking Creek Stream Restorations – Guss Park & Zooks Dam

In 2025, JCCD in partnership with others completed two stream restorations on East Licking Creek. The first project was completed in June 2025 at Karl B. Guss Park picnic area, restoring ~1,075 linear feet of East Licking Creek. The second project was completed at Zooks Dam, where ~1,500 linear feet of East Licking Creek was restored.

Examples of stream restoration BMPs constructed at the sites include log & rock crossvanes, modified mudsills, log & stone deflectors, and random boulders, among others. The BMPs will provide in-stream habitat for aquatic life while also combatting streambank erosion and reducing pollution loading from sediment and other pollutants in East Licking Creek.

These and other restoration projects in Juniata County are only possible with the support of many partners! Partners for the East Licking Creek stream restorations included PA Fish & Boat Commission, Western PA Conservancy, Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic Inc., Flyway Excavating Inc., John W. Gleim Jr., Excavating, & PA DEP. Funding for the stream restorations include PA DEP's Growing Greener Plus Grant and the Countywide Action Plan (CAP).



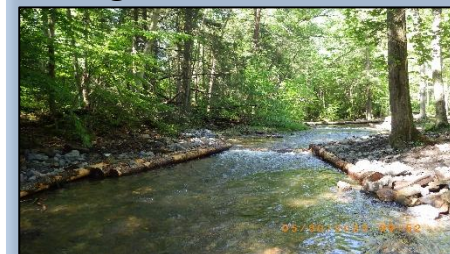
Examples of Watershed Protection BMPs

Modified Mudsill



Mimics a cut bank to allow fish to hide from predators and creates a stabilized toe slope to prevent stream bank erosion.

Log Framed Cross Vane



Narrows the stream channel, creating churning water and a plunge pool that creates habitat and provides aeration.

Log & Stone Deflectors



Directs water away from stream banks, back into the center of the stream. Deflectors create slack area that allows sediment to drop out and protects the streambank.

Random In-stream Boulders



Creates diversity in the stream channel and provides both resting areas and feeding lanes for fish.

Conservation Sales!

Locally handcrafted items are available for purchase at the conservation district.

Available for sale are the following items (taxes included):

- Bluebird Box \$22.00
- Bat House \$30.00
- Wood Duck Box \$45.00
- Rain Barrel \$60.00

*prices subject to change



In 2025, JCCD sold 11 Bluebird boxes, 3 Bat houses, & 4 Rain barrels! JCCD also gave away a 3 Bluebird boxes and a Rain barrel as part of county giveaways!



Recycling Bin Rentals: JCCD has six (6) 32-gallon recycling bins with single stream lids available for use by Juniata County agencies and residents hosting public events. The agency or event representative is responsible for the delivery and expense of recycling, but the use of bins is free. Contact the recycling coordinator (Nick Smith) at JCCD to reserve bins!

Lost Creek Stream Restoration and River Road Riverbank Restoration

In addition to the projects on East Licking, JCCD and partners completed another stream restoration on Lost Creek and a riverbank restoration along the Juniata River. The Lost Creek restoration project expanded upon two previous stream restoration projects on Lost Creek, restoring another ~1,300 linear feet of Lost Creek. With the three projects, JCCD and partners have restored more than 4,000 feet of Lost Creek near Cuba Mills, PA. BMPs implemented included log & stone deflectors, log framed cross vanes, log and stone deflectors, modified muddills, random boulders, and more.



In September 2025, JCCD and partners constructed BMPs to provide riverbank protection on a section of the Juniata River in Milford Township. The section of the river showed signs of heavy erosion (>15 feet tall in some areas) and was encroaching near a township road. JCCD and partners implemented stone deflectors to direct flow away from the bank and placed boulders along the bank to provide protection from further erosion. Both the Lost Creek stream restoration & River Road riverbank restoration were completed in partnership with PA Fish & Boat Commission, Western PA Conservancy, Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic Inc., John W. Gleim Jr., Excavating, and PA DEP. Funding for the projects was provided by the Countywide Action Plan (CAP).



Port Royal Lions Club Park Wetland Restoration

Partnering with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, JCCD completed an ~1 acre wetland restoration project at the Port Royal Lions Club Park. The wetland restoration involved clearing invasive species & constructing wetland habitat for aquatic species. The project expands upon conservation efforts at the Lions Club Park as a stream restoration project was completed in 2023. Additional partners for this project include Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic Inc. & PA DEP. Funding for the project was provided by the Countywide Action Plan (CAP).



Lawn Conversion

JCCD and partners completed their first lawn conversion project in the county! The project was completed near Richfield, PA, converting over 4 acres of mowed lawn to wildflower plots and buffer areas, supporting native wildflowers and shrub species! The converted acres provide landowners less work maintaining their ground while supporting the return of the land to natural, undisturbed areas.



Interested in Lawn Conversion, Stream Restoration, or other conservation practices? Please reach out to Nick Smith with JCCD today!
nicholas-smith@juniataccd.org or call @ (717) 997-8007

Recycling

JCCD administers the Juniata County Recycling Program. Since 2014, JCCD has collected Juniata County municipal and business recycling reports for submission of mandated annual reporting to the Department of Environmental Protection. Based on the rate of recycling conducted by municipalities and businesses, the county is reimbursed by the state. Those funds support major recycling events such as Electronics Recycling and Tire Recycling!

In addition to reporting, the recycling coordinator provides resources and support to businesses, individuals, and municipalities seeking recycling program opportunities and information. JCCD holds membership with Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania (PROP) and works closely with Mifflin County Solid Waste Authority and local recycling service providers.

Electronics Recycling Event

JCCD hosted the annual Electronics Recycling event on Saturday, April 26, 2025 at the Juniata County Fairgrounds. Residents were invited to bring their unwanted electronics to be recycled and repurposed by Responsible Recycling Services LLC, of Kutztown, PA. Juniata County residents recycled 8,999 lbs of electronics on the day with residents coming from every municipality in the county! Commonly recycled items included TVs, laptops, small kitchen appliances, & cables!



Tire Recycling Event

JCCD hosted its Tire Recycling event on Saturday, September 20, 2025 in partnership with Mahantango Enterprises of Liverpool, PA. JCCD staff along with Juniata High School FFA volunteers loaded up 303 unwanted tires from 24 Juniata County residents, with tires ranging in size from bicycle tires to giant oversized tires! A huge shoutout to Mahantango Enterprises and Juniata High School FFA for their help with the day!



Adopt-A-Highway Program

JCCD adopted a two-mile section of Old Route 22, starting off the Arch Rock exit and extending towards Mifflintown Borough. District Staff completes a cleanup on this section of Old Route 22 biannually, normally in the Spring and the Fall. In 2025, JCCD cleaned the two-mile section in April and November, clearing over 30 bags of garbage along the road!



JCCD Summer Internship

Hello, my name is Parker Dimm and I am the 2025 Juniata County Conservation District Summer Intern. I grew up in Mifflintown, PA and I have lived in Juniata County my whole life. I am currently in my second year at Penn State Harrisburg studying Wildlife and Fisheries Science, and I also take classes at HACC.

Ever since I can remember, I have always loved the outdoors and cared deeply about the environment. Some of my best memories are of going hunting with my father and helping my grandfather milk his goats. Now, in my free time I enjoy outdoor activities like Hiking and Camping.

The Juniata County Conservation District Summer Internship has been a great opportunity for me and I have learned so much in the time that I have been here. I have been fortunate enough to work with both the Conservation District as well as NRCS and accompany them to many different projects, including multiple stream restorations which are tons of fun. This internship has been an amazing opportunity and I am glad to be here!



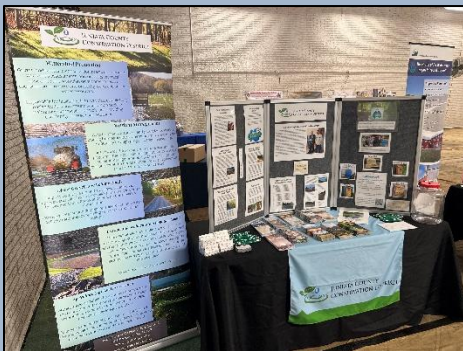


JCCD once again set up a stand at the Juniata County Fair, which was held from Saturday, August 30th, 2025 to Saturday, September 6th, 2026. JCCD's booth shared information on all programs JCCD offers, including:

- Nutrient Management
- Ag Land Preservation
- Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP)
- Dirt & Gravel Road Programs (DGLVR)
- Environmental Education
- Erosion and Sediment Control (E&S)
- Recycling
- Watershed Protection

JCCD also held a giveaway for at-home conservation practices for 3 lucky winners! JCCD was able to giveaway a rain barrel and two bluebird boxes as part of the giveaway! Thank you to all those who participated!

Look for JCCD at the upcoming Juniata County fair in the summer 2026!



Educational Events

Juniata County Fourth Grade Ag Day

Every fall, JCCD & partners present the Juniata County 4th grade Ag Day, an ag career awareness day for 4th graders throughout the county! The day is hosted by a local farm where students get to see what a farm operation looks like hands on. In 2025, Hart Brothers Farm hosted the event, with students rotating between 12 stations covering Ag career topics including: ag biosecurity, soils, veterinarians, crop management, dairy promotion, farm equipment, animal housing, manure management, and many others!



Partners for 4th grade Ag Day include local schools, Juniata School's parent/teacher organization, Penn State Extension, USDA NRCS, & local Juniata County businesses sharing their knowledge on Ag-related careers! JCCD & partners are excited for the 2026 4th Grade Ag Day!



Snyder/Juniata Envirocamp

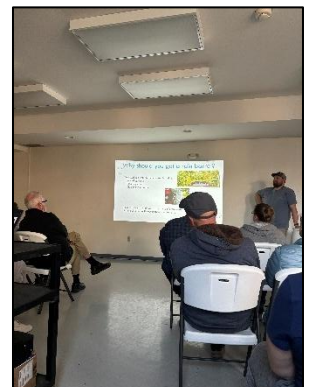
In August 2025, JCCD & Snyder County Conservation District hosted their annual Envirocamp event! Envirocamp is an environmental education events covering many different topics offered to students grades 1st through 4th grade in both Snyder & Juniata counties! Each year, the conservation districts partner with local businesses, agencies, etc. to teach the students. In 2025, environmental topics included studying streams, wildlife ID, stormwater management, soils, composting, beekeeping, forest firefighting, lumber production, and others! Smokey the Bear also made an appearance at the 2025 Envirocamp!



Each year, every student that participates in Envirocamp gets to design their own Envirocamp t-shirt that they get to take with them! If you know of any 1st – 4th grade students in Juniata counties, keep Envirocamp in mind as a possible summer activity!

School Club Events, Class Presentations, & Miscellaneous Events

JCCD staff also hosts other environmental education events annually and assists Juniata County schools with many different events! Some 2025 events included a rain barrel workshop, TJHS great outdoors club trout release, JES eel release, JCS owl pellets presentation, Juniata County Library program, JCCD designed educational outdoor signs, and others! If you have interested in an environmental education program, please reach out to JCCD!



Envirothon

Every year, JCCD partners with Mifflin County Conservation District to hold the Mifflin/Juniata Envirothon. Envirothon is an environmental education competition where students grades 9-12 compete on several environmental topics. Teams are comprised of five (5) students with the winning team advancing to compete at the PA State Envirothon! Envirothon tests students' knowledge on five (5) environmental topics, including: wildlife, forestry, soils, aquatics, and a current issue topic.



In April 2025, the Mifflin/Juniata Envirothon was held at Kish Park in Mifflin County, PA. Juniata County schools registered eleven (11) teams to compete in Envirothon. The winning team was the Chicken Nuggetz, comprised of Carolyn H., Selena M., Brody N., Josiah B., and Marissa H., and advised by Mrs. Shertzer! In

addition to competing at the PA State Envirothon, the winning students all earned a \$400 Envirothon scholarship!

Juniata Envirothon T-Shirt Design Contest

Annually, JCCD holds a t-shirt design contest for Juniata County School District high school students. Students design their own environmental artwork to be featured on the t-shirts worn by all Juniata County students participating in Envirothon along with all volunteers and partners! In 2025, Virginia D. created the winning t-shirt design!



Envirothon Study Sessions

Juniata High School team advisors invited JCCD and Envirothon station leaders to host Envirothon study workshops after school in preparation for the Mifflin-Juniata Envirothon. Students reviewed topics of Wildlife, Soils, Forestry, and Aquatics at each station's unique study session!

Environmental Education Donations – THANK YOU!!

Without the generous donations by Juniata County businesses, JCCD would not have the support to host and provide all educational programs that they are a part of! By donating, businesses get their logos featured on the Envirothon t-shirts! In 2025, eleven (11) businesses generously donated a sum total of \$2,100 for JCCD environmental education programs! Businesses were as follows: AMVETS Post 122, Benner's Butcher Shoppe, Buttonwood Campground Inc., Hooper, Inc., JPH Enterprises LLC, Keystone Coating LLC, Mahantango Enterprises, Inc., Maple Lawn Associates Inc., Reinford Farms, Route 333 Supplies LLC, and Stella-Jones Corporation!



Envirothon Photos



AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ACAP)

ACAP Field Day Tour

On Friday, November 8th, the Juniata County Conservation District held an Agriculture Best Management Tour, that highlighted projects completed through the Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program and Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Participants of the event learned about the impact of nonpoint source pollution and how it related to agriculture and about the partnerships that made these projects possible.

Partners include: State Conservation Commission, Juniata County Conservation District, National Resource Conservation Service, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, and the Center for Agricultural Conservation Assistance Training.

Participants visited 3 farms within Juniata County that have utilized ACAP funding to minimize the impact of Nonpoint Source Pollution.



Financial and other support for this project is provided by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Created through the Clean Stream Fund established by the FY2022-2023 Pennsylvania State Budget and introduced in 2023, the Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) provides financial and technical assistance for the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) on agricultural operations within the Commonwealth.

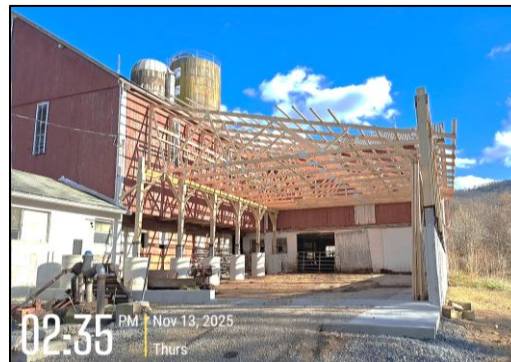
In 2023, the State Conservation Commission (SCC) awarded JCCD with \$1.94 million to install agricultural conservation practices in Juniata County. In 2025, three (3) more projects that were part of the original 2023 allocation were completed. While JCCD is waiting for final certification on these projects, it is nice to see them finally implemented. This only leaves one (1) project from the original Federal allocation completed, which will be completed in the spring of 2026. In 2024, JCCD was awarded \$508,200 in State funding. With this money, JCCD was able to fund four (4) more projects, with one (1) of the project starting in 2025 and the other three (3) starting in 2026. In total, the JCCD has been able to fund 14 projects since 2023, with nine (9) projects completed. In 2025, JCCD was awarded an additional \$446,442 in state funding. An application period was held from November 2025 – January 2026 for this funding to be allocated to projects. There were more applications than funding could cover. All projects have been in partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NCRS). NCRS provided initial inventory and evaluation, project scope, project design and plans, construction oversight and management of the projects. Additional partners include the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.



BEFORE (left):
Brown congregation feeding lot with uncontained sediment and manure.

DURING (bottom left):
Roofed Heavy Use Area (HUA) has trusses and almost completed.

AFTER (bottom right):
Completed heavy use area (HUA) and waste storage facility with roof.



Cooperating Agency Contacts

Juniata County Government

- Alice J. Gray, Commissioner, Chairperson 717-436-7703
- Todd A. Graybill, Commissioner, Vice-Chairperson 717-436-7701
- Mark R. Partner, Commissioner, Secretary 717-436-7702
- Steve Russel, County Administrator 717-436-7704

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

- BobbiJo Zimmerman, CED 717-436-4008

Farm Loan Program

- Sarah Porch, Farm Loan Officer 717-436-4029

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

- Melissa Erdman, District Conservationist 717-436-4010

Penn State Extension

- Jeff Hackenberg, Client Relationship Manager 814-409-7977

Juniata Watershed Alliance

- Julie Hurst, President 717-808-8020

PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

- Lucas Book, Service Forester 717-536-3191

PA Fish and Boat Commission

- Seth Strawser, Waterways Conservation Officer 717-486-7087

PA Game Commission

- South Central Region 814-643-1831

Farm Bureau

- Dave Graybill, Juniata County President 717-363-0706

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2026

Mark Your Calendar

- ❖ **Ag Land Preservation Application Opening:**
 - December 1, 2025- January 31, 2026
- ❖ **Women in Agriculture Event: Looking Towards the Future**
 - February 26, 2026
- ❖ **Riparian Buffer Workshop**
 - March 21, 2026
- ❖ **Ag Agency Breakfast**
 - March 18, 2026
 - October 21, 2026
- ❖ **Rain Barrel Workshop**
 - April 14, 2026
- ❖ **Electronics Recycling Day**
 - April 18, 2026
- ❖ **Manure Management Workshops**
 - March 25, 2026
 - April 8, 2026
- ❖ **Mifflin - Juniata Envirothon**
 - April 22, 2026
- ❖ **Snyder - Juniata Kids' Enviro Camp**
 - June 17-18, 2026
- ❖ **Juniata County Fair**
 - August 28, 2026
- ❖ **Tire Recycling Challenge**
 - September 19, 2026
- ❖ **Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Event**
 - November 7, 2026
- ❖ **Annual Board Banquet & December Board Meeting**
 - December 8, 2026