

Farming for the Future Day Event Held outside Selinsgrove

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) held a Farming for the Future Day event at the Middlecreek Valley Antique Association Grounds, along Old Colony Road, Selinsgrove on November 1, 2023. Eighteen (18) farmers, landowners, consultants, and conservationists attended the event.

The field day opened with Barry Spangler, SCCD Agricultural Conservation Technician (*top left photo, standing in front of group*), giving a presentation on the basics and importance of soil health on farm fields. He was followed with a presentation from Sjoerd Duiker, Ph. D., Penn State Professor of Soil Management & Applied Soil Physics (*top bottom photo*), on soil compaction, its causes, and problems, and how to prevent it.



Afterwards, Melissa Erdman, NRCS District Conservationist, Mifflintown Field Office (*bottom photo, standing*), with some assistance from Barry Spangler, talked about how to measure and quantify soil health on farms ranging from how the soil appears, burying cotton underwear for sixty (60) days, to the Cornell Assessment Soil Health (CASH) testing service.



After a warm lunch supplied by the SCCD staff, Jason Snyder, Owner/Pilot of Horizon Crop Care LLC of New Bloomfield (*standing, below left photo*), have a talk about what unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs, also known as drones) can do for farmers, such as scouting, pesticide applications, and cover crop seeding. He answered questions about drone piloting licensing and capacities, and then piloted his drone as part of a cover cropping demonstration (*bottom right photo*).

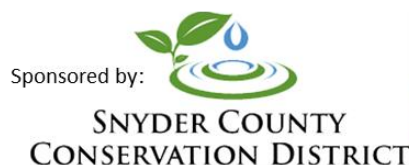


For more information about this event, including the Soil Health Bucket program the SCCD is offering to Snyder County farmers, please contact [Barry Spangler](mailto:Barry.Spangler@agtech@snydercd.org), SCCD Agricultural Conservation Technician, at 570-837-3000, extension 5 or agtech@snydercd.org.

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Presenters also from:



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