

Ag Answers

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Cover Crops and Soil Health Forum

Local farmers are invited to attend a free, live broadcast of the *National Conference on Cover Crops and Soil Health* and discuss how to build soil health, improve yields, curb erosion, manage pests and build resilience in their farming system.

On Feb. 18, locations in every state across the country will host Cover Crops and Soil Health Forums where farmers will have the opportunity to learn from one another while exploring local and national perspectives on cover crops. The Northwest Ohio location will be starting at 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office at 7868 County Road 140, Findlay, Ohio.

Reservations are needed by contacting Ohio NRCS Soil Scientist Steve Baker at 614-255-2483 or e-mail at steven.baker@oh.usda.gov

Facilitated discussions on local issues pertaining to cover crops will follow a live-streamed broadcast of opening sessions from the national conference in Omaha, Nebraska, including a dialogue with Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack (invited) and Howard G. Buffett, plus a panel discussion with expert farmers, including Dave Brandt from Carroll, Ohio. Because the national conference attendance is limited, the local forums represent a way to include farmers, educators and researchers across the country in the emerging conversation about the use and benefits of cover crops.

Both the national conference and the local forums are jointly funded by SARE and the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, with planning support from NRCS, the Midwest Cover Crops Council and the Soil and Water Conservation Society. The Omaha conference is invitation only; the local forums are free and open to the public.

For more information about the *Cover Crops and Soil Health Forums* and a list of forum locations, visit www.SARE.org/covercropconference.