

PRESS RELEASE

May 9, 2006

Alliance Launches Legal Fund

The Williams County Alliance (WCA), which is currently working to keep a multi-million hen egg-laying facility out of the county, announces its establishment of a WCA Legal Defense Fund. This fund will be used for obtaining legal personnel, speakers, and any expert witnesses that may be needed to prevent industrial concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) from locating in Williams County.

The Alliance formed in March in response to rumors that Fremont Farms of Iowa was considering several sites in the county for construction of an industrial-scale chicken operation. A group of Williams County Alliance members meets weekly and total membership in the organization exceeds 200 local residents. These individuals are working to preserve the quality and rural character of life for future generations in Williams County.

The Alliance has retained local legal representation and is in the process of retaining the services of environmental attorney Rick Sahli, of Gahanna, Ohio. The Citizens for the Protection of the Beavercreek Watershed were helped by Mr. Sahli to keep a proposed mega-dairy out of Williams County several years ago.

Mr. Sahli worked in the Ohio Attorney General's Office in the 1980s, served as Deputy Director and Chief Legal Counsel for the Ohio EPA from 1987-1991 and was Executive Director of the Ohio Environmental Council from 1991-1995. Since 1995 he has worked with citizens and local governments to protect their communities from environmentally destructive activities.

Some of Rick Sahli's many accomplishments include working with citizen groups to prevent the siting of a hazardous waste storage facility in downtown Columbus, keeping a major housing development with a questionable wastewater disposal scheme out of the Darby Watershed, and fighting Buckeye Egg factory farms in Wyandot and Licking Counties and overturning three of its permits.

"We are very fortunate to have the expertise of Rick Sahli to guide the Williams County Alliance in its efforts to prevent Fremont Farms from locating in Williams County," remarked Sherry Fleming, spokesperson for the WCA.

Anyone wishing to donate funds to the Williams County Alliance Legal Defense Fund may do so by sending contributions to WCA at P.O. Box 291 Bryan, OH, 43506, and earmarking the donation for "Legal Defense Fund." WCA has established a separate bank account solely for legal fund donations. The organization, currently registered as a limited liability corporation, is in the process of filing for federal non-profit status.