

## MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 16, 2016

**I. CALL TO ORDER - On Tuesday August 16, 2016, at 7:15 pm a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the St Joseph County SWCD at the Plymouth USDA Service Center was called to order by John Dooms, Chairman.**

**PRESENT – SWCD**

John Dooms, Chair/Supervisor  
Jeremy Cooper, Vice-Chair/Supervisor  
Mike Burkholder, Supervisor  
Dave Vandewalle, Supervisor  
Stacey Silvers, Supervisor  
Dru Wrasse  
Dale Stoner  
Carole Riewe

**PRESENT – SWCD/NRCS**

Debbie Knepp, NRCS DC  
James Rodriguez, NRCS SC  
Rick Glassman, SWCD EEC  
Sarah Longenecker, SWCD CC  
Sandra Hoffarth, SWCD AA

**Present - EX-OFFICIO**

n/a  
**PRESENT – Public**  
David Straughn

**ABSENT – SWCD**

Jan Ivkovich  
Dave Craft  
Jim LaFree  
Randy Matthys  
Arlene Schuchman  
Richard Schmidt  
Chuck Lehman  
Joe Long

**II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA - n/a**

**III. REGULAR BUSINESS**

- a. **Legislative Updates** –n/a
- b. **Conservation Moment:** NRCS programs ranking sheet – Knepp explained what the ranking sheet is and how the locally lead meeting figures into the local ranking numbers. She gave an example (attached) which shows without the local numbers the applicant wouldn't have ranked high enough to be funded whereas with the local numbers they ended up the highest and was approved/funded for EQIP.
- c. **Indiana Conservation Partnership Updates** – n/a
- d. **Minutes: July 19, 2016 board meeting**– The minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.
- e. **Treasurer's Report: (7/20/2016-8/16/2016)** – The treasurer's reports were both reviewed and approved as submitted.
- f. **Approval of Claims (7/20/2016-8/16/2016)** –A recommendation (Riewe, Silvers) & motion (Burkholder, Cooper) was made to approve Claim Nos. 11134-11141 for a total of \$1,577.19 as presented. Both carried

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **St. Joseph Co. Soil & Water Conservation Partnership Staff Written Reports** – The field office & Education reports were presented to the board and reviewed. (Attached). There weren't any NRCS talking points.
- b. **Committee Reports**
  - i. **Annual Meeting** – Riewe let the board know that due to a scheduling conflict at St. Hedwig the 2017 Annual Meeting has been moved to February 10, 2017.
  - ii. **Rural Conservation – Cover Crop Field Day** – Burkholder let the board know the field day will be held at Randy Ehninger's Farm on Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup> from 9am-noon. Plans for a root pit, NRCS DC Derek Thompson will speak on the importance of cover crops for soil biology and Randy & Brett Ehninger will discuss the successes, failures and other things they have learned from the use of cover crops. The committee recommends & a motion (Cooper, Burkholder) to have a lunch not to exceed \$300, if it exceeds that amount an approval by at least 3 supervisors is required. Both carried.
  - iii. **Education** – Glassman asked permission to assist Cass County & the RC&D (letters attached). A recommendation (Silvers, Riewe) & motion (Burkholder, Cooper) was made to approve Cass County. Both carried. A recommendation (Cooper, Silvers) & motion (Vandewalle, Burkholder) was made to approve the RC&D. Both carried. Glassman let the board know that the state poster contest winner was from St. Joseph County. We were given \$100 from IDEA for an award money. Glassman asked how the board would like this to be given and a recommendation (Cooper, Riewe) and motion (Vandewalle, Cooper) was made to release the \$100 for Rick to take to St. Jude and present to the winner as soon as possible. Glassman also updated the board on the St. Joseph River Expedition which will be on September 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. So far there are about 180 participants interested (confirmations still pending). The insurance will be \$1,045 which was approved via verbal ok by Dooms, Cooper, Burkholder & Vandewalle.
- c. **Annual Report Style** – Hoffarth informed the board of the cost difference between a newsletter style which was the 2015 style (\$873.26 for 2,850 copies) versus a calendar style which was the 2014 style (\$1,287.60 for 1,550 copies). A recommendation (Wrasse, Cooper) was made to go with the newsletter style for 2016.
- d. **NRCS Women's Circle Workshop** – Knepp informed the board this will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> from 9am-3pm at the Nappanee Chamber of Commerce Building. Del-Mar will be catering the lunch. She asked if the board knows of any female land owners or producers who would benefit from this workshop to please let her know names and

contact information so we can send out invitations. This is a small group, about 6-10 women per county, with no men allowed in the morning sessions. If there are expenses the staff will request/report at the September board meeting.

- e. **Producer's Meeting – 2017 Marshall County Host** – Longenecker informed the board that Debbie Palmer of Marshall County SWCD is starting to work on the preliminary planning. She is looking at a date in late February or early March. More details to come.
- f. **Locally Lead Meeting** – Knepp informed the board that it is time for the 2016 meeting. It was decided to hold this meeting at 6pm on September 20<sup>th</sup> right before the board meeting at the library.
- g. **IDEA Fall Conference** – Hoffarth updated the board on the planning for the conference. Since it's in our North-Northeast district, they are wanting to have something from each county contribute something inside the giveaway bags such as pens, water bottles, notepads, etc. The board is requesting Hoffarth to look into prices for pens and candy with our logo information on it since our current supply is very low. We've also been asked if we would like to sponsor speaker(s) for \$100 or more. This was tabled until the September board meeting when we have cost for the giveaways as well.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Schedules/ Upcoming Events / Any Related Claims** - calendars were handed out explaining upcoming special events & holiday schedules on the back of the agenda.
- b. **2017 Meeting Schedule** – Hoffarth informed the board it is almost time to schedule the meetings for next year and it was suggested that the winter meetings and planting/harvesting meetings be moved to daytime meetings. It was decided to move the Dec-Feb to Farm Credit (if available) at 9am and to have the March-Nov meetings at the library at 7pm. Hoffarth will confirm with Farm Credit and the library for these dates & times.

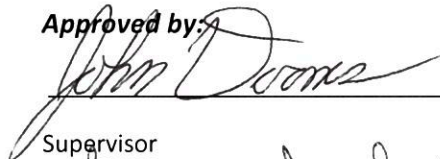
**VI. PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR** – Straughn gave Hoffarth contact information for a possible entertainment option of Mishawaka HS show choir. He also informed the board of a possible opportunity with the Raingarden grant and the Mishawaka Parks department. He will pass on our information including a brochure and have them get in contact with us for more details. Rodriguez announced that he has accepted a position in North Carolina and will be leaving within a few weeks. We wish him good luck in his future endeavors.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT** – The board meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.


*Respectfully submitted,*

**Sandra Hoffarth**  
Administrative Assistant  
St. Joseph County Soil & Water Conservation District  
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Email: Sandra.hoffarth@in.nacdnet.net  
[www.stjosephswcd.org](http://www.stjosephswcd.org)

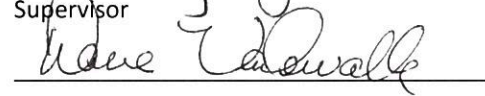
Approved by:

  
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**Natural Resources Conservation Service**  
 SOUTH BEND USDA SERVICE CENTER  
 2042 E IRELAND RD  
 SOUTH BEND , IN 46614  
 Phone: (574)291 - 7444 Fax:

**Application Ranking Summary**  
**NE Cropland**

<b>Program:</b> EQIP 2014	<b>Ranking Date:</b> 7/14/2014	<b>Application Number:</b> _____
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> NE Cropland	<b>Applicant:</b> _____	
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b> 388.01	<b>Address:</b> _____	
<b>Planner:</b> DEBORAH KNEPP	<b>Telephone:</b> _____	
<b>Farm Location:</b> Farm Number: _____		

**National Priorities Addressed**

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	No
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	No
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	No
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	No
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	No
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO <sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide), CH <sub>4</sub> (Methane), and N <sub>2</sub> O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of	No

concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	No
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	
7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	No
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	No
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	No
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	No
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	No
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	No
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	No
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP?	No
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	No
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	No
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes

#### State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
2. This application will result in the implementation of all the measures of an existing CNMP or other Activity-Based Plan. (45 Points)	No
3. This application will result in the following four (4) items implemented as a system on the same land unit in at least 3 consecutive years (50 points) a. (329) - Continuous No-Till meeting the 329 standard; b. (590) - Nutrient Management meeting the 590 standard (No fall commercial nitrogen applications for spring-seeded crops unless an inhibitor is used; DAP and MAP are allowed, but not on frozen or snow-covered ground); c. (340) - Cover Crops (unharvested); d. (327/342/386/390/391/393) - Buffers adjacent to all water bodies and on at least 2% of the land unit acres.	Yes
4. This application will address a ground or surface water quality concern in a 303(d) watershed or a watershed with a developed TMDL for non-point source impairment using the FY13 Ranking Tool (Question 3(1) or Question 3(2)). (30 Points)	No
5. Any part of the application acres lies in one or more identified priority resource concern areas listed in the FY11 Indiana State Resource Assessment, as identified through the FY13 Ranking Tool and the application includes practices that will address one or more of those concerns. (35 Points)	Yes
6. This application includes one or more practices that will address an identified surface water quality resource concern and is located within a Surface Drinking Watershed Area identified through the FY13 Ranking Tool. (30 Points)	No
7. This application includes one or more practices that address an identified groundwater quality resource concern and the offered acreage is within the Indiana karst region OR the offered acreage contains soils with a Leachability Index of 10 or higher as identified through the FY13 Ranking Tool. (20 Points)	No
8. This application is based on a conservation plan that has been approved by the producer (signed) prior to October 1, 2013. (20 Points)	No
9. This application will address an existing invasives species concern and where applicable will occur in concert with neighboring landowners also addressing invasive species. (20 points) a. To receive points for this question, one of the following must apply: i. applicant's treatment area is adjacent to neighboring areas with invasive	No

species concerns, and all parties have a signed Conservation Plan/Forest Management Plan to treat invasive species (314, 315, or 595). ii. applicant's treatment area is isolated from other similar habitat (e.g. wooded area surrounded by crop fields). In these cases, points can be awarded without neighbor collaboration.	
10. This application will address an existing resource concern caused by the production of specialty crops (including USDA Certified Organic). (30 Points)	No
11. This application will address existing resource concerns using forestry practices per the Indiana EQIP Guidelines. (20 Points)	No
12. This application will use only wildlife friendly grasses (as identified by the FOTG Standard 645) for vegetative practices. (20 Points)	No
13. This application is from an applicant (by Tax ID number) who has not participated in EQIP in the past, or if they have had a prior-approved contract, it is/has been in good standing. (30 Points)	Yes
14. This application includes less than three (3) contract items OR all practices under contract are scheduled to be completed within two years of the obligation date? (20 Points)	No
15. This application includes one of the following practices: 340, 554, 647, 592, 449, 590, 595, 528, 329, 345, 585, and/or 644 and the applicant (by Tax ID number) has not received EQIP Financial Assistance for the same practice scenario within the last 5 years. (30 Points)	Yes
16. Has the applicant (by Tax ID number) had prior year EQIP, WHIP, or CSP contracts which were cancelled or terminated due to contract violation(s) within the past three program years? (-200 Points) a. A violation must be noted in the assistance notes, NRCS-CPA-13, NRCS-CPA-153, or Indiana Corrective Action Plan. A contract cancellation due to documented hardship does not meet this criteria.	No
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	No

#### Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	No
This application will address the most important local resource priority. (57 Points)	
1. WQD – Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground Waters: Adams, Allen, Elkhart, Huntington, Randolph, Steuben, Wells WQD – Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters: DeKalb, LaGrange, Miami, Whitley Soil Erosion – Sheet, Rill, Wind: Blackford, Delaware, Jay, Marshall, St Joseph Soil Erosion – Concentrated Flow: Kosciusko SQD – Organic Matter Depletion: Fulton, Grant, Madison, Noble Priority Watershed2/14 Digit HUC Selected: Wabash	Yes
This application will address the second-most important local resource priority. (40 Points)	
1. SQD – Compaction: Adams, Marshall, Noble SQD – Organic Matter Depletion: Blackford, Delaware, Elkhart, St Joseph, Wabash WQD – Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters: Allen, Steuben WQD – Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground Waters: DeKalb, Fulton, Kosciusko, LaGrange WQD – Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-Solids or Compost Applications: Wells, Randolph WQD - Excess Pesticides in G/SW: Grant, Madison Soil Erosion – Sheet, Rill, Wind: Miami, Whitley Degraded Plant Condition – Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health: Huntington, Jay	Yes
This application will address the third-most important local resource priority. (35 Points)	
1. SQD – Organic Matter Depletion: Adams, DeKalb, LaGrange, Wells SQD – Compaction: Blackford, Jay Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health: Allen, Whitley Degraded Plant Condition – Excessive Plant Pest Pressure: Randolph Soil Erosion – Sheet, Rill and Wind: Huntington, Kosciusko, Wabash Soil Erosion – Excessive Bank Erosion from Streams or Shorelines or	No

Water Conveyance Channels: Steuben WQD – Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters: Delaware, Elkhart, Grant, Madison WQD – Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications: Fulton WQD – Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground Waters: Marshall, Miami, Noble Fish and Wildlife – Habitat Degradation: St. Joseph	
This application will address the fourth-most important local resource priority. (30 Points)	
1. WQD – Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications: Adams, Elkhart, Huntington WQD – Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters: Blackford, Jay WQD – Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground Waters: Delaware, St Joseph, Wabash SQD – Organic Matter Depletion: Allen, Kosciusko, Miami, Steuben SQD – Compaction: Grant, Madison, Wells Degraded Plant Condition – Inadequate structure & composition: Whitley Soil Erosion – Excessive Bank Erosion from Streams or Shorelines or Water Conveyance Channels: LaGrange Soil Erosion – Concentrated Flow: DeKalb, Randolph Excess/Insufficient Water – Inefficient use of Irrigation Water: Fulton Air Quality Impacts - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs): Noble Fish and Wildlife - Habitat Degradation: Marshall	Yes
This application will address the fifth-most important local resource priority. (25 Points)	
1. Degraded Plant Condition – Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health: Adams, LaGrange, Wells, Wabash Degraded Plant Condition - Excessive Plant Pest Pressure: Marshall, St Joseph WQD – Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground Waters: Grant, Jay, Madison WQD – Pesticides Transported to Surface and Ground Waters: Allen, Miami WQD – Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters: Fulton, Kosciusko Livestock Production Limitation – Inadequate Feed and Forage: Blackford, Elkhart Fish and Wildlife – Habitat Degradation: DeKalb Soil Erosion – Concentrated Flow: Steuben SQD – Subsidence: Noble SQD – Organic Matter Depletion: Huntington, Whitley SQD - Compaction: Delaware Air Quality Impacts – Objectionable Odors: Randolph	No
This application will address the sixth-most important local resource priority. (20 Points)	
1. Soil Erosion – Sheet, Rill and Wind: Fulton Degraded Plant Condition – Excessive Plant Pest Pressure: Allen Degraded Plant Condition – Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health: DeKalb Livestock Production Limitation – Inadequate Livestock Water: Blackford Livestock Production Limitation – Inadequate Feed and Forage: Adams, Grant, Madison, St Joseph, Wells SQD – Compaction: Elkhart, Huntington, Kosciusko, Miami, Whitley SQD – Organic Matter Depletion: Jay, Randolph WQD – Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters: Marshall, Noble, Wabash Fish and Wildlife – Habitat Degradation: Delaware, LaGrange 14-digit priority watershed: Steuben	No
This application will address the seventh-most important local resource priority. (17 Points)	
1. Livestock Production Limitation – Inadequate Feed and Forage: Randolph WQD – Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications: Allen WQD – Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground Waters: Blackford, Whitley WQD – Pesticides Transported to Surface and Ground Waters: Huntington, Noble WQD - Excessive Sediment in surface waters: Wells Degraded Plant Condition: Excessive Plant Pest Pressure: Adams, DeKalb, Jay Degraded Plant Condition – Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health: Delaware, Kosciusko, Miami Fish and Wildlife – Habitat Degradation: Steuben Excess/Insufficient Water – Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water: Elkhart, St Joseph Excess/Insufficient Water – Ponding, Flooding, Seasonal High Water Table, Seeps, Drifted Snow: Grant/Madison SQD – Compaction: LaGrange Soil Erosion – Concentrated Flow: Wabash Soil Erosion - Excess. bank erosion from streams, shorelines, or water conveyance channels: Marshall Air Quality - Odors: Fulton	Yes
This application will address the eighth-most important local resource priority. (12 Points)	
1. WQD – Pesticides Transported to Surface and Ground Waters: Blackford, Wabash WQD - Excess pathogens and chemicals from manure, bio-solids or compost applications: Steuben Soil Erosion – Sheet, Rill and Wind: Allen, LaGrange Soil Erosion – Concentrated Flow: Grant, Madison, Whitley Soil Erosion - Exc. bank erosion from streams, shorelines, or water conveyance channels: Kosciusko SQD – Compaction: DeKalb, Randolph SQD – Organic Matter Depletion: Marshall Degraded Plant Condition – Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health: Elkhart Degraded Plant Condition – Excessive Plant Pest Pressure: Fulton, Miami, Wells Air Quality Impacts – Emissions of Greenhouses Gasses (GHGs): Adams, Huntington Air Quality Impacts - Emissions of Particulate Matter or PM precursors: Noble Livestock Production Limitation – Inadequate Livestock Water: St Joseph Livestock Production Limitation - Inadequate Feed and Forage: Jay Inefficient energy use: Equipment and facilities: Delaware	No
This application will address the ninth-most important local resource priority. (9 Points)	
1. Soil Erosion - sheet, rill and wind: Grant, Madison, Steuben Soil Erosion - concentrated flow: Adams Air Quality Impacts – Emissions of Greenhouse Gasses (GHGs): Blackford, Wells, Whitley Air Quality	Yes



<p>Impacts – Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Procedures: Allen WQD – Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications: Miami WQD – Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters: Huntington, Randolph WQD - Pesticides transported to surface/ground waters: Kosciusko Livestock Production Limitation – Inadequate Feed and Forage: Noble, Delaware Degraded Plant Condition – Excessive Plant Pest Pressure: Elkhart Degraded Plant Condition - Inadequate Structure and Composition: St Joseph SQD – Compaction: Fulton SQD - conc of salts/other chemicals: DeKalb Excess/Insufficient Water – Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water: LaGrange, Marshall Excess/Insufficient Water – Inefficient Moisture Mgmt: Wabash Fish and Wildlife – Habitat Degradation: Jay</p>	
<p>This application will address the tenth-most important local resource priority. (5 Points)</p>	
<p>1. Fish and Wildlife – Habitat Degradation: Huntington, Miami Degraded Plant Condition – Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health: Blackford Air Quality Impacts – Emissions of Greenhouse Gasses (GHGs): DeKalb Air Quality Impacts - Objectionable odors: LaGrange Livestock Production Limitation – Inadequate Livestock Water: Elkhart, Delaware Livestock Production Limitation – Inadequate Feed and Forage: Allen, Fulton, Whitley, Wabash Excess/Insufficient Water – Inefficient Moisture Management: Kosciusko Excess/Insufficient Water – Ponding, Flooding, Seasonal High Water Table, Seeps, Drifted Snow: Jay, Steuben Soil Erosion - Concentrated Flow: Marshall, Wells Inefficient Energy Use – Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations: Grant, Madison Inefficient Energy Use – Equipment and Facilities: Noble, Randolph WQD - Excessive sediment in surface waters: Adams, St Joseph</p>	<p>No</p>

**Land Use:**

Crop;

Resource Concerns	Practices
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Cover Crop
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Filter Strip
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Irrigation Water Management
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Nutrient Management
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Residue Mgmt-No-Till
Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion	Cover Crop
Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion	Filter Strip
Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion	Irrigation Water Management
Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion	Nutrient Management
Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion	Residue Mgmt-No-Till
Soil Quality Degradation: Organic Matter Depletion	Cover Crop
Soil Quality Degradation: Organic Matter Depletion	Filter Strip
Soil Quality Degradation: Organic Matter Depletion	Irrigation Water Management
Soil Quality Degradation: Organic Matter Depletion	Nutrient Management
Soil Quality Degradation: Organic Matter Depletion	Residue Mgmt-No-Till
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Cover Crop
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Filter Strip
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Irrigation Water Management
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Nutrient Management
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Residue Mgmt-No-Till
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater	Cover Crop
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater	Filter Strip

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater	Irrigation Water Management
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater	Nutrient Management
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater	Residue Mgmt-No-Till

**Ranking Score**

<p>Efficiency: 0.01</p> <p>Local Issues: 153.00</p> <p>State Issues: 145.00</p> <p>National Issues: 90.00</p> <p><b>Final Ranking Score: 388.01</b></p>
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

<p><b>NRCS Representative:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEBORAH KNEPP</p> <p>USDA electronic signature; manual signature not required.</p> <p>Signature Date: 7/14/2014</p>	<p><b>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</b></p> <p>Signature Date: 8-20-2014</p>
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**EQUIP FY16 ELIGIBLE RESOURCE CONCERNS FOR INDIANA - LOCAL RANKING**

County: *St. Joseph*

Category	- Resource Concern or Priority	EQUIP
1 Soil Erosion Soil Erosion Soil Erosion	- Sheet, Rill and Wind	1
	- Concentrated Flow	
	- Excessive Bank Erosion from Streams or Shorelines or Water Conveyance Channels	
2 Soil Quality Degredation Soil Quality Degredation Soil Quality Degredation Soil Quality Degredation	- Organic Matter Depletion	2
	- Compaction	
	- Subsidence	
	- Concentration of Salts or other Chemicals	
3 Water Quality Degradation Water Quality Degradation Water Quality Degradation Water Quality Degradation Water Quality Degradation Water Quality Degradation Water Quality Degradation	- Excess Nutrients in Surface and Ground Waters	4
	- Pesticides Transported to Surface and Ground Waters	
	- Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications	
	- Excessive Salts in Surface and Ground Waters	
	- Petroleum, Heavy Metals, and Other Pollutants Transported to Receiving Water Sources	
	- Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters	10
	- Elevated Water Temperature	
4 Excess/Insufficient Water Excess/Insufficient Water Excess/Insufficient Water	- Ponding, Flooding, Seasonal High Water Table, Seeps, Drifted Snow	
	- Inefficient Moisture Management	
	- Inefficient use of Irrigation Water	7
5 Air Quality Impacts Air Quality Impacts Air Quality Impacts Air Quality Impacts	- Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors	
	- Emissions of Greenhouse Gasses (GHGs)	9
	- Emissions of Ozone (O <sub>3</sub> ) Precursors	
	- Objectionable Odors	
6 Degraded Plant Condition Degraded Plant Condition Degraded Plant Condition Degraded Plant Condition	- Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health	
	- Inadequate Structure and Composition	
	- Excessive Plant Pest Pressure	5
	- Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	
7 Fish and Wildlife	- Habitat Degradation	3
8 Livestock Production Limitation Livestock Production Limitation Livestock Production Limitation	- Inadequate Feed and Forage	6
	- Inadequate Livestock Shelter	
	- Inadequate Livestock Water	8
9 Inefficient Energy Use Inefficient Energy Use	- Equipment and Facilities	
	- Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations	
10 Priority Watershed <sub>1</sub>  Priority Watershed <sub>2</sub>	- A 14-digit watershed has been identified as a priority for the county. Eligible Watersheds include those with an established watershed plan, those with a developed TMDL, those with a 303(d) impairment from non-point sources (Category 5A), or identified by another funded program.	
	14 Digit HUC Selected:	
	- A 14-digit watershed has been identified as a priority for the county. Eligible Watersheds include those with an established watershed plan, those with a developed TMDL, those with a 303(d) impairment from non-point sources (Category 5A), or identified by another funded program.	
	14 Digit HUC Selected:	



## **Field Office Report July 18 – August 12, 2016**

### Environmental Quality Incentive Program

- Cover Crop contract meeting with producer
- Approve and deliver engineering plans for Roof Runoff structure
- Develop 2 contract documents for Monarch habitat Habitats that were funded
- Field check pasture payment and process payment
- Verify if pasture seed mix meets NRCS specifications

### Wetland Reserve Program/Wetland Reserve Easement program

- Field check Warm Season Grass Planting and process payment
- Complete documents for 6 Compatible Use Requests
- Develop documents for 100 acres of Monarch habitat

### Conservation Reserve program

- Review engineering plans for wetland restoration
- Verify Warm Season grass mix meets NRCS standards and specifications
- Field visits – 4 (1 St Joseph, 1 Marshall, 2 LaPorte)
- Develop conservation plans, contracts, and job sheets - 4 (1 St Joseph, 1 Marshall, 2 LaPorte)

### Conservation Stewardship program

- 2 contracts funded – complete contracting documents

### RULE 5/13

- SWPPP Reviews - 1

### Wetlands – 4 wetland determinations (St Joseph)

- 2 wetland determinations (Marshall)
- Process 2 potential violation reports

### Highly Erodible land –3 determinations (St Joseph)

Inspection and Investigation – 2 field visits - severe gully erosion in woods

### Meetings:

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Staff Meetings – 4              | IDEA Conference Planning (Sandra)         |
| NRCS Diversity Day              | MSP meeting (Sarah)                       |
| SWCD supervisor/staff meeting   | County Budget meeting                     |
| Offsite Wetland Training        | Indiana Field Employee Council (Deb)      |
| Women’s learning Circle meeting | State Fair Pathway to Water Quality (Deb) |
| CCSI Field Day (Sarah)          |   |
| Webinars – Cover Crops          |   |
| Residue in Organic Systems      |   |



## **Education Report**

**July 18 – August 12, 2016**

Facilitate and participate in ED3 training

Joint teacher workshop with IUSB and South Bend schools

Montessori – Lincolnway – Earthworm program

ECDC-SMC – 4 Nature Game presentations

Prepare for office move

Move office to Plymouth, lots of purging and rearranging

Riverwatch presentation for Brown School teacher workshop

ECDC-ND – nature game presentation

St. Joseph River expedition prep

Scheduling school programs



**CASS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT**

906 West Broadway • Logansport, Indiana 46947  
Phone (574)753-4705, ext. 3

*District Supervisors*

*Billy Cooper \* Nan Ford \* Sandy Heckard \* Ruth Bender \* Jim Miller*

Mr. Rick Glassman &  
St. Joseph County SWCD  
2903 Gary Dr., Ste. 1  
Plymouth, IN 46563

Dear St. Joseph Supervisors:

I am requesting the help of your Educator, Rick Glassman, for the Cass County SWCD's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Day. Rick is the only expert I know that can teach 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students about Wetlands and keep their attention for the one-half hour sessions that he is needed. Cass County will have approximately 285 students from 3 different schools attending this field day on October 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Izaak Walton League site. Most of my presenters are from all over Indiana, with several coming from Purdue and Lafayette. And I am really having trouble this year finding presenters for the various environmental topics.

Please give Rick your blessing to help Cass County out this year. Attached is a schedule with presenter's names.

Sincerely,

*Judy Buttice*

Judy Buttice  
Admin. Asst./Educ. Coord.  
Cass Co. Soil & Water Conservation District  
906 W. Broadway, Logansport, IN 46947







Arrow Head Country

Resource Conservation & Development Area Inc.

August 3, 2016

St Joseph County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Plymouth USDA Service Center  
2903 Gary Drive  
Plymouth, IN 46563

Dear St. Joseph County SWCD Board of Supervisors,

The Education Committee of Arrow Head Country RC&D is busy with preparations for this year's River Expedition on the Tippecanoe River on September 6-8 and 13-15. It takes many people with diverse skills and abilities to make this the successful program that it has become and it is held in high regard throughout the state.

In the past, we have appreciated the role that Rick Glassman has played in making this such a successful program. His abilities to communicate and interact with the students is very helpful with the large numbers of youth who participate; approximately 100 per day. His presentation skills and knowledge about water quality, best management practices, watersheds, biological monitoring techniques (i.e. macroinvertebrates) and wildlife in an aquatic habitat (i.e. river otters) make him a valuable presenter.

We have had students from St. Joseph County (John Glenn, LaVille) participate in this program, giving Rick valuable connections to a local audience. Additionally, RC&D committee members have assisted with water programs on the St. Joseph River in the past. This year, there are two members who have committed to participating both days of the St. Joseph program, as raft instructors and watershed presenters. This is collaboration at its best!

We hope that you see the mutual benefits to all of our programs through collaboration, and will approve Rick Glassman's participation in the Tippecanoe River Expedition program.

Sincerely,

*Lois Mann*

On Behalf of the Arrow Head Country RC&D Education Committee

Lois Mann, Education Committee Chair

[lois.mann@in.nacdnet.net](mailto:lois.mann@in.nacdnet.net)

574-223-3220



# HEALTHY SOILS

COME LEARN THE INS AND OUTS OF COVER CROPS

## Potawatomi Park

16998 State Road 331  
Tippecanoe, IN 46570

***PARP CREDITS***

***AVAILABLE***

***(\$10.00)***

### Topics Include:

- ⇒ Nutrient Cycling and Build Up—Dr. Eileen Kladvko  
Purdue Agronomy Professor
- ⇒ Herbicide Label Carryover & Cover Crop Burndowns —Travis Legleiter  
Purdue Weed Specialist
- ⇒ Economics of Cover Crops—Dr. Jim Hoorman  
Ohio State University Assistant Professor and Extension Educator
- ⇒ Interseeding—Dr. Hans Kok  
Coordinator of the Indiana Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI)

**AUGUST 23, 2016**

**SPEAKERS BEGIN 2:00 PM**

**RSVP BY AUGUST 16TH**

**DINNER INCLUDED**

**574-936-2024 X 3**

Brought to you by:



Marshall County  
Soil & Water  
Conservation District



Sponsors:

Gochenour Ag Services  
Lake City Bank  
Farm Bureau Insurance  
Silveus Insurance





**Roller Coaster  
Conservation Series:**

**Come GRAZE With Us**

**Thursday, September 8th**

**10:00 am-2:00 pm**

*We are hosting a Pasture/Grazing Field Day at*

**Darrell Shover's Farm**

**71778 Co. Rd. 37, Syracuse, IN 46567**

**Topics Include:**

- Pasture Soil Health
- Rotational Grazing and Stop/Start Grazing Heights
- Cover Crops & Filter Strips
- Conservation Program Options

**Speakers Include:**

Susannah Hinds, USDA-NRCS Grazing Specialist

Jim Hess, Elkhart County SWCD Conservationist

Amanda Kautz, USDA-NRCS District Conservationist

**Lunch will be provided so please RSVP to the SWCD at:**

**574-533-4383 Ext. 3**



# Forestry Field Day

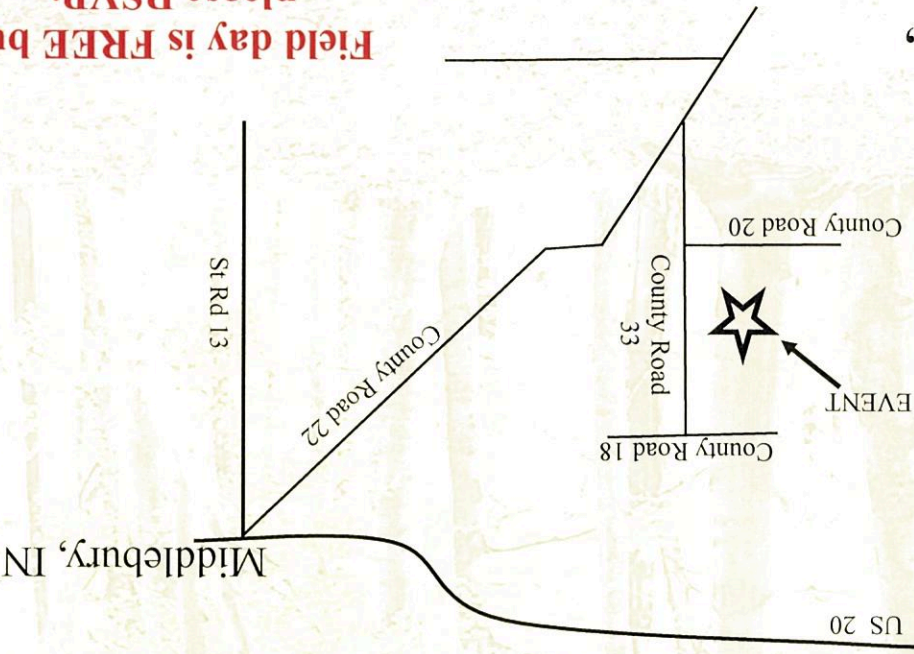
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th - 9AM-NOON**

Come join local experts for discussions and observations on general forestry topics.

## Featured Topics:

- Property History– Jim & Peggy Garber, Property Owners
- Timber Stand Management– Tom Crowe, Crowe Forest Management, LLC
- Timber Harvest & Sales– Nick Brown, Shipshewana Hardwood
- Classified Forests– Tim Eizinger, IDNR District Forester
- Alternative Income– Jeff Burbrink, Ag/Natural Resources Educator, Purdue Extension-Elkhart County

## This is a Walking Event!



## Location:

**Jim & Peggy Garber's Woods  
Northwest corner of  
CR 20 at CR 33  
Southwest of  
Middlebury**

**Sponsored By:  
Elkhart, Kosciusko,  
Marshall, & St.  
Joseph SWCD's**



**Field day is FREE but  
please RSVP:  
574-533-4383 Ext. 3**

