



**St. Joseph  
County  
Soil & Water  
Conservation  
District**

**CONSERVATION**



**KALEIDOSCOPE**



*Today's Visions for Tomorrow's Future*

Jul/Aug/Sep 1997  
Volume 1, Issue 3

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**Calendar of Events!**

(All times are EST unless otherwise noted)

July 4

**Independence Day**  
Office Closed

July 21

**SWCD Monthly Board Meeting**  
7:30 p.m. - Farm Bureau Mtg Room

July 28 - August 2

**St. Joseph County 4-H Fair**  
St. Joseph County 4-H Fairgrounds

July 30

**Backyard Composting Meeting**  
6:00 p.m. - Nature Center, 4-H Fair

August 5 - 7

**Staff Training**  
Office Closed

August 13

**Backyard Composting Meeting**  
7:00 p.m. - Greene Twp. Community Bldg

August 18

**SWCD Monthly Board Meeting**  
7:30 p.m. - Farm Bureau Mtg Room

August 26

**Backyard Composting Meeting**  
7:00 p.m. - St. Joseph County Public Library

September 1

**Labor Day**  
Office Closed

September 6

**Backyard Composting Meeting**  
10:00 a.m. - Mishawaka Scout Res

September 15

**SWCD Monthly Board Meeting**  
7:30 p.m. - Farm Bureau Mtg Room

September 20

**4-County Forestry Field Day**  
8:30 a.m. - Gunter Kison Farm  
63620 Maple Road

September 25

**Backyard Composting Meeting**  
7:00 p.m. - Mary Frank School

September 27

**Backyard Composting Meeting**  
10:00 a.m. - Francis Branch Library

**What's Inside . . .**

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# THE NATURAL EDUCATOR

## Congratulations

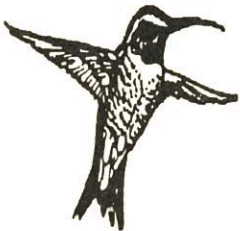
The District would like to congratulate its own Environmental Education Coordinator, Rick Glassman for receiving the Indiana Wildlife Federation's Educational Award. The award is presented to someone in the State of Indiana for his or her outstanding achievement in environmental education.

Rick has been with the SWCD for seven years and has presented approximately 4000 programs to the residents of St. Joseph County. Most of these programs are presented in the schools. Programs include slide presentations, discussions, hands on activities and field trips.

The SWCD would again like to congratulate Rick for his award. 🌀

## Keeping the Hummingbird's Humming

Feeding hummingbirds has long been a popular summer activity. Here in Northern Indiana, you will only see the Ruby-throated Hummingbird, but if you happen to find yourself in the southern and western United States, you might encounter up to eight different species. Even with just our one species, Hummingbirds can provide you with hours of entertainment and delight.



The trick to attracting Hummingbirds to your yard is to provide food. Hummingbirds drink nectar, so you can provide this with feeders or by planting a variety of flowers in your yard.

**FEEDERS** -- Hummingbird feeders do not have to be intricate or expensive, in

fact, many people build their own using a bottle, a rubber cork and a drinking tube like the ones in hamster cages. Most stores carry a variety of different styles of feeders. Just make sure the feeder has some red coloration on it to attract the little birds and bee guards. Saucer style feeders work best, if you are going to place it in full sun, since inverted bottle feeders tend to leak in the sun. Placement of the feeder can increase your success considerable. Hang feeders in areas of shade, protected from the wind. Hummers are bold so don't be shy about hanging the feeder close by, where you will see it well. Once the feeder is in position, it must be filled. You can make your own sugar solution; to one cup of water, add 1/4 cup of sugar. Bring the solution to a boil and let cool, then fill the feeder. Store extra solution in the refrigerator. **DON'T ADD RED FOOD COLORING TO THE SOLUTION!!!** It is not necessary for a properly designed feeder and the dye may harm the birds' excretory system. The **KEY** to feeders is maintenance. Mold can quickly become a problem, so feeders should be cleaned about every three days. Keep your feeders full and enjoy the results. Hummers are territorial, so you may need a couple of feeders at different locations to keep everyone happy.



**GARDENS** -- The trick to attracting the tiny birds is by planting nectar-rich flowers that are tubular or trumpet-shaped and in shades of orange or red. Some common plants that attract hummers are bee balm, nicotinia, petunia, salvia, fuschias, dahlias and trumpet creeper. Arrangement of the garden will add to its appeal. Taller shrubs and vines can make up the back of the garden with taller perennials in front of them. Work forward to the shortest flowers up front. You



might also want to try to plant flowers so that you have a bloom from spring to late summer. There are some excellent books on planting gardens for Hummingbirds at your local library or garden store.

**HAVE FUN** -- Remember Hummingbirds are not shy. Once the birds are coming to your yard on a regular basis, go outside and stand still. Hummers will actually land on you. Put some red lipstick on your nose for a really close encounter. With a little work, you can have them eating out of your hand. Just be careful, we want to enjoy these flying jewels, not hurt them. 🌀

## Programs, Programs, Programs

Would your group or organization be interested in a program? The SWCD offers programs to interested groups on a variety of topics from conservation farming to urban erosion control to backyard wildlife. If you would like to know more about the SWCD presentations and programs, just give the office a call at (219) 291-2300. 🌀

*"When we save a species of wildlife by protecting it's habitat or by encouraging it's propogation, we save more than a wild animal. In a sense, we save ourselves for we are saying -- often instinctively -- that civilization must permit all of God's creatures to live free of the threat of total destruction."*

Orville L. Freeman

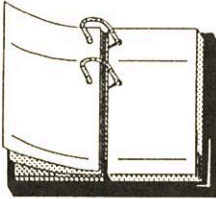


# WOODLAND TIMES

Forestry News Updates for St. Joseph County

## Plan, Schedule, Organize . . .

These terms appear to be some of the current buzz words used by individuals, who have very busy schedules and have limited time for extra curricular events. That is the exact reason why we are announcing the annual 4-County Forestry Field Day one to three months early, so you can schedule your time accordingly to attend the special event. This year's field day is scheduled for **Saturday morning, September 20, 1997**. Our host for the day is Gunter Kison from Centre Township, St. Joseph County. If you recall, the field day moves from county to county each year within the four geographic areas of Elkhart, Marshall, Kosciusko and St. Joseph Counties.



If you are interested in woodlands, wetlands, wildlife, woodworking, gardening or all of the above, then you should plan on attending the workshop. We are just in the planning stages for the workshop and don't have all of the specific details worked out. But we do know that we will provide you with excellent speakers, interesting topics and useful information at the workshop that you can use on your own special homestead. Be on the lookout for complete details on the workshop in the newspaper.

**PLEASE  
REMEMBER -  
KEEP  
SEPTEMBER 20th  
OPEN!!!**



### Mulch

In areas of the country where summer drought is a problem for newly planted trees, mulch helps keep soil moist and prevents grass from growing and competing for precious water. Common mulches include bark, wood chips, decorative gravel and crushed lava. Mulch can also simplify maintenance and improve appearance.\*

\* Arbor Day, National Arbor Day Foundation



## "WHOO KNOWS BEST"

In the Natural Resources Profession, we have learned some amazing lessons in the past few years about problems created by the introduction of non-native species. Some of these plants and animals have arrived by accident. Others have been deliberately imported.

Plants including the amur honeysuckle, autumn olive, and multiflora rose (shrubs) were recommended by natural resource professionals in the past. Others, such as purple loosestrife (wetland plant), "escaped" from landscape plantings. Commercial potential encouraged the importation of the gypsy moth (insect). Carelessness allowed the zebra mussel to become established in the Great Lakes. The list goes on and on.

The common problem with these exotic plants and animals is they have few natural enemies. This allows them to grow unchecked and crowd out the many different native species that developed in the local ecosystem. While we can not do much about previous introductions, we can take some steps to limit the damage from these pests and to reduce the spread of these alien invaders.

One step you can take is to plant native shrubs rather than exotic shrubs. Many native shrubs are well suited to the needs of local wildlife. By planting native

species and trying to eliminate non-native plants, we can overcome some of the problems that have been caused by the non-native plants.

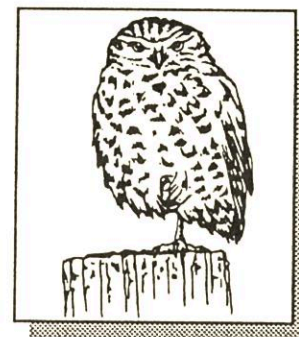
Some native plants that you may wish to encourage include:

For wetter sites - American elderberry, winterberry, red-osier dogwood, gray dogwood, and highbush cranberry are suitable native shrubs. Elderberry provides a summer fruit and grows about 12 feet tall. Highbush cranberry provides a winter berry and grows about 12 feet tall. The dogwood and cranberries grow 8 to 9 feet tall and produce fruit in the fall.

On drier sites - smooth and staghorn sumac will provide winter fruit and grow to about 20 feet. Round-leaved dogwood provides fall fruit and is 9 feet tall. Common choke cherry is another 20 foot tree that provides summer fruit.

Woodland shrubs such as spicebush, coralberry, flowering dogwood, nannyberry, ninebark, and hazelnut are all native species that benefit wildlife and enhance the environment. Spicebush and flowering dogwood grow best in moist woods and provide nectar. Nannyberry and coralberry will grow in a moist to dry woods and provide winter fruit. Ninebark provides a summer fruit in a moist to dry woods and hazelnut provides a nut in a moist to dry woodland environment.

Shrubs are important to wildlife because of the cover and food value they provide. Native shrubs are the best because they are adapted to our environment and don't cause nearly as many problems. Let's all try going native!



**The "OWL knows best!"**



# WOODLAND TIMES

Forestry News Updates for St. Joseph County

## Be On The Outlook

The calendar states that summer has arrived, even though temperatures might be a bit deceiving. There's no doubt that most of us have been patiently waiting for this time to arrive, but it can also be a time of hardship on your trees and shrubs. With spring being so late, many plants are behind schedule in budding, leafing or flowering out. However, that doesn't hinder the problems that your shrubbery could still face this summer. We recommend that you consider these items when you are caring for your precious plants.

- With a late spring, cool temperatures and wet weather - look for fungal diseases, such as leaf spotting, powdery or downy mildew.
- If temperatures rise and soil conditions become dry - wilt (drooping of leaves or shoots); make sure you provide adequate moisture to plants; best time to water plants is in the early morning
- Also be on the watch for pesty insects - chewing of leaves, egg laying, bagworms, caterpillars, borers, (harmful to trees if defoliation occurs frequently)
- Normally around July 1st, Japanese Beetles will be laying their eggs to hatch into grubs; need to use grub control during mid-July to August.
- Be careful of harmful herbicides, such as 2, 4-D and dicamba, which are used to kill broadleaf weeds in your yard, which can move through the plant. (Signs include leaves curling and cupping, and shoot tips become twisted; other signs include leaf yellowing or plant may appear wilted)
- Be extremely careful of mowers and weedwackers used up against your trees and shrubs. It's impossible to put a bandage on a tree cut or wound like you would if you had a cut; tree dressings have shown little to no benefit for the tree when used.

These are just a few tips to be aware of to help you out with your trees and shrubs during the summer months.

## Prairie Planting

Mike Girvin, President  
Designs on Nature

Patience will be rewarded with the beauty of the many colored grasses and wildflowers that will be enjoyed for many years. Even once established, areas planted to prairie will vary from year to year as environmental conditions cause some varieties to go dormant while others bloom actively -- a testimony to the incredible durability of the native landscape!!

### Will My Prairie Come Back?

Yes, both native and annual and perennial species will return year after year once they become established and are allowed to reseed.

### Establishing a Prairie: Factors which Commonly Cause Poor Prairie Results

Prairies are not difficult to develop if you carefully follow certain guidelines prior to and during establishment. Never get in a hurry, that's the number one reason for failure in prairie grass and wildflower plantings. The following list will give you some basic rules to follow and mistakes to avoid.

- Improper site evaluation - Good drainage, sunlight, and soils that will support life are critical.
- Eliminate all non native competitive vegetation prior to planting, this can be accomplished by tilling every 6 weeks during the growing season or by applying several applications of Round Up™ herbicide.
- Deep soil preparation greater than one inch in depth will unleash dormant weed seeds that will compete with your prairie plants. Be gentle with that tiller!
- Covering the seed too deep beneath the soil surface. Remember: simply rolling or walking over a newly planted area will achieve proper seed/soil contact and aid in germination.

- Planting at the wrong time of the year. Remember April 1 - June 15 and October 1 - Freeze.
- Trying to cover a large area with a small amount of seed. Before planting, check the recommended seeding rate for your mix.
- Unsuitable site conditions for the variety being planted. A plant requiring full sun and well-drained soils will not prosper in an area that is partially shaded with heavy clay soils.
- Not enough sunlight. Unless indicated, your native grass and flowers will require a minimum of six hours of direct sunlight per day.
- Inadequate rainfall after seed germination. The area should not be allowed to become completely dry. Supplemental watering may be required to sustain plant life.
- Extreme weather conditions; hail, drought, excessive rainfall, floods and unseasonable cold temperatures.
- Impatience.
- Burning your prairie area at the wrong time; or too soon. Remember your prairie should be three years old before its first burn. Burning, which requires a permit, should be done by a trained professional when the buds on the maples begin to swell.
- Do not attempt to plant a prairie over a field that was cultivated with a farm crop the previous season. Many agricultural chemicals build up residues in the soil that can kill your young prairie seedlings.
- Make sure you select prairie plants suitable to your location. A little homework will go a long way toward establishing a successful prairie.
- Keep the cool season grasses such as annual rye and Kentucky bluegrass out of your prairie. They are tough competitors during establishment.



**USDA**

## New Farm Program Provides Funds to Farmers

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a new, voluntary USDA conservation program for farmers and ranchers, who face serious threats to soil, water and related natural resources. It provides technical, financial, and educational assistance, primarily in designated priority areas. Nationally, half of the funding for EQIP is targeted to livestock-related natural resource concerns and the remainder to other significant conservation priorities.

EQIP funds are available to agricultural producers and livestock operations of less than 1000 animal units (based on a 1000 pound animal). Owners of large livestock confinement operations (1,000,000 pounds or more) are not eligible for funding on waste storage or treatment facilities, but they can receive technical, educational and financial assistance for other conservation practices. Sixty-five percent (65%) of the funds will go to the priority areas while thirty-five percent (35%) of the funds may be used statewide on concerns outside of the priority areas.

These priority areas, in general, are defined as watersheds, regions or areas of special environmental sensitivity or having significant soil, water or related natural resource concerns. They were determined by a process that began with local work groups. These work groups met and did a conservation needs assessment, and based on that assessment developed proposals for the priority areas. These proposals were then sent to the Natural Resources Conservation Service State Office where priority areas were selected.

Cost-sharing may pay up to 75% of the costs of certain conservation practices, such as grassed waterways, filter strips, manure management facilities, capping abandoned wells and other practices important to improving and maintaining the health of natural resources in the area. Incentives may be provided, for up to 3

# FIELD NOTES

years, to encourage a producer to perform land management practices such as nutrient management, manure management, integrated pest management, irrigation water management, and wildlife habitat management. Total cost-share and incentive payments are limited to \$10,000 per person per year and \$50,000 over the length of the contract.

EQIP requires producers to implement conservation practices to address the important natural resource concerns that are identified in the resource management plan, such as excessive soil erosion and water quality degradation on a farm or tract.

Producers may sign up at either the Farm Services Agency (FSA) Office or the NRCS Office. Applications will be accepted throughout the year. The ranking and selecting of producers will occur periodically during designated periods.\*

\*adapted from USDA Farm Bill Q & A.



## Protect Your Investment - Maintain A Healthy Farm

Filter strips are 20' to 99' strips of vegetation which help remove sediment, organic matter and other pollutants from runoff and wastewater, thereby protecting the environment and providing wildlife habitat. Examples of conservation practices that act as buffer strips are: filter strips, riparian (streamside) forest buffers, contour buffer strips, field borders, windbreaks and shelterbelts, herbaceous wind barriers, cross wind strap strips and alley cropping systems.

Removal of sediments and other pollutants is accomplished through filtration, infiltration, absorption, adsorption, deposition, decomposition and volatilization.

Filter/buffer strips can be beneficial to farmers in numerous ways. A few of them include: slowing water runoff, trapping fertilizers, pesticides, pathogens and heavy metals. They can trap snow, cut down on blowing soil, protect livestock and wildlife from harsh weather and protect buildings

from wind damage. Filter strips can also help stabilize a streambank or they can serve as a turn row.

Filter strips should be applied on cropland at the lower edge of fields along any body of water or above practices, such as terraces or diversions. They are used in areas requiring filterstrips as part of a waste management system to treat polluted runoff or wastewater. Filter strips can also be used on forest land as part of a forestry operation to reduce delivery of sediment into waterbodies. Filter strips are most effective if they are used as part of a comprehensive conservation system. For instance, if filter strips or grassed waterways are used on land that does not have adequate erosion protection, they will fill with sediment more quickly.

An efficient filter strip has a limited life and will require revegetation after some length of time.

Things to consider when planning a filter strip are:

- Type and quantity of pollutants in the runoff.
- Type and quantity of pollutants allowed in the outflow of the filter strip.
- Climate, landuse, management, soils, topography, adapted vegetation and time of year when the filter strip is needed most.

Some programs available to assist producers with filter strips are:

- The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has a 10 year incentive payment and cost share to establish a filter strip.
- Operation Green Stripe-Local FFA chapters find farmers willing to establish a filter strip around water bodies. Seed is donated and Monsanto donates \$100 per farmer to the FFA.
- The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) and Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) all offer technical and financial help in establishing filter strips.\*

\*adapted from the Indiana NRCS FOTG & National Conservation Buffer Initiative Q & A.





# FIELD NOTES

## Native Grasses and Wildflowers

Robin Crighton  
Master Gardener

The following lists contain plant species used by Illinois Department of Transportation to reseed on roadsides, so they are extremely hardy and successful germinators. These plants are native to the midwest. Unlike the generic "wildflower" packages, which contain varieties adapted to warmer climates, these plants will provide years of enjoyment.

<u>Native Grass Mixture</u>	<u>lbs per acre</u>
Big Blue Stem	5
Indian Grass	5
Little Blue Stem	15
Side Oats Gramma	5
Perennial Ryegrass	20

### Native Annuals

(1 lb/acre total not to exceed 25% of any species)

<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> -	Lance-leaved Coreopsis
<i>Gaillardia puchella</i> -	Indian Blanket
<i>Ratibida columnaris</i> -	Upright Prairie Coneflower
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> "Triploid" -	Black-eyed Susan
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i> -	Dames Rocket
<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum Pinnatifidum</i>	Oxeye Daisy

### Native Forbs

(The total mixture of forbs shall be applied at the rate of 10 lb/acre and the mix shall consist of not fewer than 25 of the species listed below:)

<i>Amorpha canescens</i> -	Lead Plant & Innoculant*
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i> -	Thimbleweed
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> -	Butterfly Milkweed
<i>Aster azureus</i> -	Sky Blue Aster
<i>Aster laevis</i> -	Smooth Aster

<i>Aster novae angliae</i> -	New England Aster
<i>Baptisia leucopaea</i> -	Cream Baptisia & Innoculant
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i> -	New Jersey Tea
<i>Cirsium hillii</i> -	Hills Prairie Thistle
<i>Coreopsis plamata</i> -	Prairie Coreopsis
<i>Echinacea pallida</i> -	Pale Purple Coneflower
<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> -	Rattlesnake Master
<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i> -	Alum Root
<i>Liatris aspera</i> -	Rough Blazing Start
<i>Liatris pycnostachy</i> -	Prairie Blazing Star
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i> -	Prairie Bergamont
<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i> -	Prairie Quinine
<i>Pedicularis canadensis</i> -	Prairie Betony
<i>Penstemon grandiflora</i> -	Large Penstemon
<i>Petalostemum candidum</i> -	White Prairie Clover & Innoculant
<i>Petalostemum purpureum</i> -	Purple Prairie Clover & Innoculant
<i>Potentilla arguta</i> -	Prairie Cinqufoil
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i> -	Prairie Yellow Coneflower
<i>Rubekia subtomentosa</i> -	Sweet Coneflower
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> -	Black-eyed Susan
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> -	Prairie Dock
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i> -	Spider Wart
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i> -	Culvers Root

\* All legume seeds shall be inoculated with the proper Rhizabium bacteria innoculum in the amount and manner required by the manufacturer of the innoculant before sowing or mixing with other seeds for sowing.

Source: Gouvela "Development" 8-10.

## Native Plant Seed Sources

Robin Crighton  
Master Gardener

Prairie Restorations, Inc.  
Box 327  
Princeton, MN 55371  
612-389-4342

Mohn Seed Co.  
Route 1, Box 152  
Cottonwood, MN 56229  
507-423-6482

Source: Minnesota Dept. of Transportation, 1992  
(MNDOT has a strict policy of pure live seed which ensures germination to the buyer)

Dot & Doug Wade  
Windrift Prairie Shop  
R.D. #2  
Oregon, IL 61061

Dr. Pete Schramm  
Native Plant Material  
766 Bateman Street  
Galesburg, IL 61401

Jock Ingels  
LaFayette Home Nursery, Inc.  
LaFayette, IL 61449  
309-995-331

Source: William McClain

Rupp Seeds, Inc.  
17919 Co. Rd. B  
Wauseon, OH  
419-337-1841

Prairie Nursery Wildflowers  
P.O. Box 306  
Westfield, WI 53964  
608-296-3679

Steve Keifer  
2742 St. Rd. 33  
Bremen, IN  
219-546-4224

Lloyd P. Herring  
3296 South 400 East  
Marion, IN 46953  
317-674-4677

Source: Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Mike Girvin\*  
Designs on Nature  
P.O. Box 331  
Mishawaka, IN 46546

\*Other Source



# URBAN MEANDERINGS

## Stenciling Project Was A Great Success

Approximately 75 Elsie Rogers Elementary School second and fourth grade students swarmed the school parking lot with brooms, paint brushes, white concrete paint, "DON'T DUMP" stencils, and lots of rags - with one goal in mind - to protect the school's groundwater.

It all started when the District received grant money for conservation and education projects. The goal was to target the urban sector of the county with a project that was fun, educational and would reach a large audience. It was reasoned that if an elementary school kid is excited enough about a project or topic, they can have a tremendous impact on a parent. This is similar to catching two birds with one sunflower seed. What better way of getting a kid excited than giving them a loaded paint brush and unpainted school property?



Students from Elsie Rogers Elementary School stencil a curb inlet storm drain with the conservation message "DON'T DUMP".

Elsie Rogers Elementary School has been working very hard at restoring a portion of Willow Creek and incorporating the restoration into classroom learning. It was a natural extension to look at the groundwater flowing into the creek from areas surrounding the school since the school's parking lot runoff water is handled by storm drain curb inlets to a series of dry wells discharging to the surrounding aquifer. After coordination of the project with several willing teachers and most importantly a cooperative principal, a date was set, and of course in northern Indiana, an alternative rain date was also chosen. After working out the details, the first stenciling project was set up and ready to go.

The next step was to go into the classroom and explain to fourth graders what storm drains were and how they are suppose to function. The relationship of dry wells, soils, and how automobile fluids can effect water quality was also part of the lesson. The discussion got lively at times as many good questions were exchanged. After everything was explained and hopefully understood, the message that would be painted on the drains was also chosen. The teachers then volunteered the students to make the stencils.

Because of rain, the rain date was used. The goals for the day were reviewed and proper painting techniques were demonstrated. The kids were then divided into groups and each given a broom and a storm drain inlet to work on. When given the word, the kids broke for their assigned drain as if they were of

liquorice. Each grate had to be swept clean of sand, gravel, and plant debris. Even that material was shoveled into a wheel barrow and properly disposed of.

The "DON'T DUMP" stencil, along with paint and brushes, made their way from group to group as each drain was completed. Even the brave teachers' fingers got a nice coat of fresh paint as the stencils were held against the curb.

After all 9 groups finished, we gathered together in a shady spot to talk about what we had just done. The debriefing session was just as lively as the dry well, soils and groundwater discussion days before. The students had excellent questions and stories of the day's experience, as each student revealed their thoughts and the lessons learned. The participants then departed with a sigh, as they returned to the classrooms.

Thanks again to all of the Elsie Rogers Elementary School students and staff for a job well done.

If you are interested in something similar or know of a group looking for a summer project, there is still money, supplies and many storm drains left in the community. With this much excitement, the paint will go fast. If you would like more information, or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact John at the office.



## Summer Health Tip Preventing the Tick Attack!

Nice weather means more than just more outdoor activities, it also means ticks. Ticks can be more than just a nuisance, they may also potentially carry Lyme Disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, or Ehrlichiosis. Most exposure to tick borne illness can be prevented by following a few simple measures. Wear light colored clothing, and tuck shirt tails into pants and leg cuffs into socks is the best protection against bites. Commercial repellents sprayed onto clothes will provide additional protection. When leaving grassy or wooded areas, check carefully for ticks on skin or clothing. If one is found, simply remove it with a pair of tweezers making sure to get the head.

## A Fond Farewell

We here in the district office would like to take this opportunity to thank **J. Christopher Huff**, past Mishawaka City Planner, for all his hard work and personal dedication. He helped this office and all of our partners, fulfill our resource conservation mission. Chris has been very helpful and has provided much insight into the development of several programs. His efforts will go a long way to further conserve the valuable and unique resources of not only Mishawaka, but the entire county.

Again Chris, thanks and good luck in your future endeavors.



**St. Joseph County Soil and Water  
Conservation District**  
60455 U.S. 31 South  
South Bend, IN 46614

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# *St. Joseph County Soil And Water Conservation District*

## INDIANA LAND CARE EXPO

**Environmental Protection for Farm & Home**

For farmers, mini-farmers,  
contractors, homeowners,  
landowners, advisors to  
landowners, and families

- CONSTRUCTION
- DEMONSTRATIONS
- DISPLAYS
- FOODIFUN



By Indiana Land Improvement Contractors Association  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
and Farm Services Agency  
Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service  
Shelby Co. Soil & Water Conservation District and Others

For more information 765-349-1935, 317-392-1394

**July 31, August 1 & 2**  
8 Mi. SE Shelbyville, IN  
I 74, Exit 123  
Hours 9 to 5 Daily  
Free admission

- Erosion control
- Farm bling
- Farm pond
- Hog manure system
- Septic system
- Cropland drainage
- Well drilling / water testing
- GPS mapping / grade control
- Forestry / wildlife
- Wetlands
- Gardening
- Recycling
- Antique machinery  
and more



### MISSION

To provide guidance  
and education to the youth  
and adults of St. Joseph  
County and to administer  
programs to preserve,  
protect and improve soil,  
water, air, plant, and  
animal resources for  
future generations.

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