

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - On Tuesday April 19, 2016, at 6:30 pm a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the St Joseph County SWCD at the Centre Township Branch of the St. Joseph County Public Library was called to order by John Dooms, Chairman.

PRESENT – SWCD

John Dooms, Chair/Supervisor
Mike Burkholder, Supervisor
Stacey Silvers, Supervisor
Dave Vandewalle, Supervisor
Jan Ivkovich
Dale Stoner
Dru Wrasse
Jim LaFree

PRESENT – SWCD/NRCS

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

Present -

EX-OFFICIO
n/a
PRESENT –
Public
n/a

ABSENT – SWCD

Jeremy Cooper, Vice-Chair/Supervisor
James Rodriguez, NRCS SC
Randy Matthys
Arlene Schuchman
Richard Schmidt
Carole Riewe
Chuck Lehman
Dave Craft
Joe Long

- II. **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA -**

III. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

- a. **Legislative Updates –**
- b. **Indiana Conservation Partnership Updates –** IASWCD Annual Report (attached).
- c. **Minutes: March 15, 2015 board meeting–** The minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.
- d. **Treasurer’s Report: (3/16/16-4/19/16) –** The treasurer’s reports were both reviewed and approved as submitted.
- e. **Approval of Claims (3/16/16-4/19/16) -** A recommendation (Wrasse, LaFree) & motion (Burkholder, Silvers) was made to approve Claim Nos. 11109-11116 for a total of \$8,364.87 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). Knepp went over the NRCS talking points (attached).
- b. **Committee Reports**
 - i. **Rural Conservation**
 1. **2016 Producers Meeting** - Committee thanks Longenecker for all her hard work to put together what they feel was an overall success for our first year for the Producers’ Workshop. They did learn some things not to do, but hope to learn and grow and make it even better next year. See attached for the comment card results.
 2. **Cost Share – Monarch Butterfly Habitat** – Knepp & Longenecker met with a producer who has approx.2.5 acres she would like to put into monarch butterfly habitat. NRCS program (RCPPP) has funding but the application deadline will not allow for planting this year as desired by the client. Since the SWCD still has funds from 2015 that were allocated for conservation practice cost share it was suggested that the district fund this project. NRCS pays \$695/acre, which is the proposed amount that the district fund. The total maximum payment would be \$1,750. The client would be required to keep the practice maintained for a minimum of 5 years. Questions did arise about milkweed causing issues with neighboring crop land. Knepp explained the field in question is pretty secluded and doesn’t butt up against another field. One of her neighbors does have bees which this habitat would also benefit. A recommendation (Silvers, Ivkovich) and motion (Vandewalle, Burkholder) was made to approve a cost share of up to \$1,750 for the monarch butterfly habitat. Both carried.
 - ii. **Education** – met via e-mail since last board meeting. May 5-6 Wrasse, Ivkovich & Glassman will be at The Res doing the 4th grade programs both days.
 1. **Cobus Creek** – June 18th is the Cobus Creek Festival. Committee Recommends (Ivkovich, Wrasse) that we take the Raingarden display and have a booth. Recommendation carries.
 2. **Bremen Library** – Glassman has been contacted by the library to do a program during their summer reading program. Questions arose if Marshall County has been contacted since that is in their county, Glassman stated that he hasn’t yet. Decision is tabled until Marshall County is contacted.
 3. **Trees for poster contest** – 200 participants, Glassman states the giveaway trees will be donated by Hensler Nursery.

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.
 - i. **Invasive Species Field Day (attached)**
 - ii. **Composting Seminar (attached)**
- b. **District Policy: Purchasing Meals for Activities** – with the help of the IASWCD we have finally been able to get a written policy state wide for the purchase of meals at SWCD activities. A recommendation (Ivkovich, Wrasse) and motion (Burkholder, Silvers) was made to adopt the policy format (attached). **Both carried.**
- c. **Legislator Tour** – Longenecker informed the board that we are planning a tour for the county, state & national legislators which was requested while we were down at the Annual Conference in January. The tentative date is June 9th. Staff has been in contact with a possible location at a producer's place which has several practices in place such as no-till, cover crops, filter strips, etc. More information will be coming soon.

VI. PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR – Contact list and committee lists were given in your packet. If you'd still like to be added to a committee please contact Hoffarth at the office.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – The board meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.


Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hoffarth
Administrative Assistant
St. Joseph County Soil & Water Conservation District
2903 Gary Drive, Plymouth, IN 46563
Email: Sandra.hoffarth@in.nacdnet.net
www.stjosephswcd.org

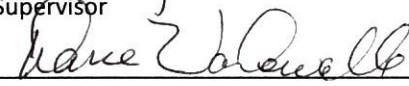
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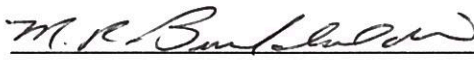
Supervisor



Supervisor



Supervisor



Supervisor

Supervisor

2015 IASWCD Annual Report Summary



soil and water conservation

Advocacy

To Legislators, the Public, and to Partners

The IASWCD's key advocacy initiatives for 2015 included:

- Successful in securing \$1 million/year in general fund appropriation for the Clean Water Indiana (CWI) program. These dollars fund the CWI grants program.
- Advocated for Indiana's conservation issues in Washington, DC during the NACD annual fly-in.
- Actively participated on the Indiana Conservation Alliance and represented SWCDs at the 2015 Conservation Day held at the State House.
- Participated in Legislative tours with partners.
- Actively participated in NACD's Natural Resource Policy Committee on national issues.

Communications

Informing & Educating

The IASWCD uses various tools to inform our members and the public about soil and water conservation issues. In 2015, the IASWCD:

- Delivered the bi-monthly "Conservation Update" eNewsletter.
- Communicated District successes and accomplishments through media and news releases.
- Promoted outstanding conservation efforts through various statewide recognitions including River Friendly Farmer, Friend of Conservation, Conservation Farmer of the Year, District Showcase, and Supervisor of the Year.
- Collaborated with Farm Credit Services to provide "Conservation Farmer of the Year" signs for local award programs.



Leadership

Providing Conservation Leadership for SWCDs

The IASWCD Board of Directors and its staff strive to provide consistent and quality leadership for Districts. In 2015, the IASWCD:

- Along with NRCS and ISDA leadership, a commitment to visit every SWCD Board through 2016. 12 visits were completed in the fall of 2015.
- Represented SWCDs on the Leadership Institute committee, the State Technical committee, the Indiana Conservation Partnership Leaders meetings; State Soil Conservation Board meetings; and other state level committees.
- Represented SWCDs at the National level on various NACD committees.



ICP leaders and Kosciusko/Miami/Wabash County SWCD Staff and Supervisors discussing cover crops during a District Showcase Tour.

Capacity Building

Strengthening Districts

Key efforts in 2015 included:

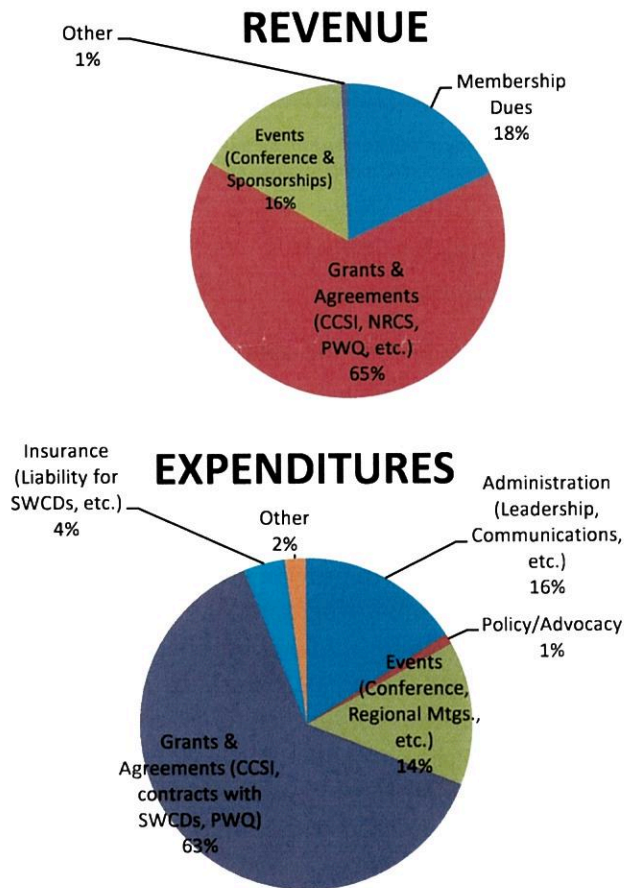
- Successfully secured a NRCS contribution agreement which will provide over \$180,000 to SWCDs to complete CRP status reviews.
- Successfully secured a NRCS contribution agreement which will provide over \$300,000 to SWCDs to provide administrative assistance on Farm Bill programs.
- Secured \$42,000 in sponsorships for the 2015 SWCD Annual Conference which reduces the cost of conference for attendees.
- Provided a Supervisor scholarship program, worth over \$5,000, offering assistance to supervisors to attend the 2015 SWCD Annual Conference.

- Supported and assisted with the SWCD Chair/Vice Chair workshop.
- Partnered with ISDA and NRCS to provide information and training at regional meetings.
- Provided liability insurance coverage for Districts.

Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative

- A separate publication was developed in 2015 to highlight the CCSI project. The link to the report is: <http://ccsin.iaswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/CCSI-REPORT-UPDATED-2015.pdf>
- 2015 marked the 6th year of the project. Highlights included the addition of Kevin Allison with the Marion County SWCD as an urban soil health specialist for Marion and the surrounding counties and the addition of Ashley Hammac with Purdue University as the Conservation Cropping Systems Agronomist.

IASWCD Financial Summary for 2015



2016 IASWCD Board of Directors

Officers

President:	Mike Starkey
Vice-President:	Jamie Scott
Treasurer:	Paula Baldwin
Secretary:	Roger Wenning

Region Directors

N-NW:	Kim Peterson
N-NE:	Tom Crowe
S-NW:	Mark Lawson
S-NE:	Bobby Hettmansperger
N-SW:	Kerry Ames
N-SE:	Brad Dawson
S-SW:	Ray McCormick
S-SE:	Brad Ponsler

IASWCD Staff

Jennifer Boyle Warner, *Executive Director*

Amy Work: *Communications & Member Programs Manager*

Lisa Holscher, *Soils Health Manager*

Please contact us

225 S. East St., Ste. 740
 Indianapolis, IN 46202
 Ph: 317-692-7519
info@iaswcd.org
www.iaswcd.org
www.ccsin.org



INDIANA ASSOCIATION OF
 soil and water conservation
 DISTRICTS

Field Office Report

March 14 – April 15, 2016, 2016

Environmental Quality Incentive Program

- Develop conservation plans/rank – 10 applications
- Field visit to site with the grazing specialist
- Field check width of buffer around pond
- Assist landowner with pasture seeding mix

Wetland Reserve Program/Wetland Reserve Easement program

- 60 ac application to easement specialist
- Compatible use request to state office
- Meeting with state office staff on wetland enhancements at Pokagon site
- Completed 1 monitoring
- Develop plan and contract for 100 acres of pollinator habitat

Conservation Reserve program

- Engineering investigation for 95 acre wetland site
- Check seeding mix for native grass re-enroll contract
- Field visits for new contracts – 2 (native grasses, windbreak, tree planting (bat))
- Field check of windbreak
- Develop conservation plans/contracts – 3 (St Joseph) and 3 (Marshall)

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

- Develop conservation plan/rank – 1 application

Conservation Stewardship program

- Determine eligibility and develop maps/acreage for 2 applicants

RULE 5/13

- 1 SWPPP review

Wetlands – 6 wetland determinations (St Joseph)

- 7 wetland determinations (Marshall)

- Wetland violation – producer signed restoration plan, Flagged the site for restoration

Highly Erodible land – 15 determinations (St Joseph)

- 49 Determinations (Marshall)

Investigation and Evaluation – Guidance on timber removal in fragile woods

- Looked at 2 acre site landowner wants to plant pollinator habitat

Newsletters – mailed

Producer Workshop

Ginger Valley Spring Event

Interview with Notre Dame students for group project (Deb)

Meetings

Staff Meetings – 5

NRCS Area Meeting

Follow up to Producers Conference

Yellow River Grant (Sandra)

IDEA Planning (Sandra)

IASWCD teleconference

CRP teleconference

Webinars

Prescribed Grazing

Grazing on CRP Ground

NRCS and Rural Development Joint Initiatives

Landscape Planning for Butterflies

Education Report

April 2016

Environmental Education Coordinator

Brown Mackie College – Riverwatch short course – 3 students

Assist NE Environthon Region – 5 wildlife presentations for High School students

Ag Days – Friday April 8

13 Schools, programs provided for Sacred Heart (Warsaw), Elm Rd., Northpoint, North Liberty, Madison, Bremen (Marshall county), Corpus Christi, Mary Frank, Meadow's Edge, Bittersweet, Walkerton, Stanley Clark & LaVille

Programs presented:

5 - Spirit of America-3-4th,2-5th grade

8 - Earthworms – 3-K, 6-1st, grade

11 - Amphibians/Reptiles – 3-K, pre, 1st, 4-2nd, 2-3rd, 4th grade

1 - Endangered Species – 3rd grade

3 -Animals of Indiana – 1st, 3rd, 6th grade

5 - Who's in the Hollowtree? – 2-K, 3-2nd grade

2 - Water and you – 4th, 6th grade

4 - Wildlife Dynamics – -4th, 3-5th grade

~~0 - Jethro the Scarecrow -~~

2 -Insect of Indiana – 1st, 7th grade

~~0 - Bats of Indiana -~~

2-Invasive Species – 3rd, 5th grade

2 – Recycling – 2nd, 3rd grade

1 – Owl – 3rd grade

1 – Tree I.D. – 4th/5th grade

2 – Wetlands – 2 – 3rd grade

6 – Legends - 2-K, 2-1st, 2-2nd grade

6 - Environmental Concerns – 3rd/4th, 4th, 3-5th, 6th grade

2 – Backyard Wildlife – 2nd, 5th,

5 – Nature Games – K, 1st, 2-3rd, 4th

1 – Mammals – 6th

1 – Birds of Indiana – 1st.

2 – Soils of Indiana – 4th, 5th.

Application Deadline for monarch Butterfly Habitat Development Project June 17th

CRP

DC Talking Points

April 2016

FARM BILL PROGRAM UPDATES

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

CSP 16-1 General Sign-up and CSP 17-1 **RENEWAL application deadline is March 31, 2016**. Applications must be in ProTracts by this deadline. Field offices should be reviewing Indiana Bulletins 300-16-09 and 300-16-10 for additional deadlines and working with applicants to process these applications towards obligated contracts. The Conservation Measurement Tool (CMT) will be utilized to rank these applications.

CSP Final Rule was posted March 11, 2016 in Federal Register 7 CFR Part 1470. Highlights include a minimum \$1500 annual payment for every contract regardless of participant status. This should encourage forestland applicants to enroll. Participants now have 12 months to complete the first year conservation activity. In the past it was within the first fiscal year and usually State Conservationist waivers were needed. Annual payments will still need to be paid on certified activities by March 15th of each year.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

Western Lake Erie Basin

On March 28th, Chief Weller announced a significant investment of \$41 million in a three-year initiative to support the work of farmers in Indiana, Michigan and Ohio to improve water quality in the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB). The initiative helps farmers implement science-based conservation measures to reduce runoff from farms entering the region's waterways. This initiative will expand conservation and financial assistance opportunities available to WLEB farmers who want to take additional steps to improve the quality of the water feeding the Lake. This funding is in addition to the \$36 million the Agency has already planned to make available in the basin through the 2014 Farm Bill, for a combined three-year investment of \$77 million to improve water quality and support sustainable production in the Basin. **Funding has already been received and application deadline is April 29**. Visit the Indiana EQIP webpage for screening tools and ranking sheets:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/in/programs/financial/eqip/>

* Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

- FY17 Application for Program Funding has been announced. Pre-proposals are due May 10. The APF is available on www.grants.gov, search for RCPP. An information session for interested applicants will be held Thursday April 7 from 9:30 to 11:30 at the Indiana State Office, and will be available remotely as a teleconference/webinar.
- Partnership agreements are being developed for the FY16 funded projects, listed below. Program sign up for these projects can be announced after the agreements are signed, with a likely sign up deadline of late June.
 - Soil Health on Reclaimed Mine Lands, Knox Co SWCD (State proposal, SW)
 - Big Pine Watershed Partnership, The Nature Conservancy (National, NW)
 - Improving Working Lands for Monarch Butterflies, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (National, includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas & Wisconsin)
- Existing Projects (from the FY14-15 call for proposals) include the WLEB-RCPP, St. Joseph-MI and Indiana Watershed Initiative-University of Notre Dame projects. **Program sign-up closed on March 18th for WLEB-RCPP and St. Joseph. Program sign-up is May 20 for University of Notre Dame.**

Joint Chief's Landscape Restoration Project

Indiana will receive \$1.5 million as a federal investment to restore forests, reduce wildfire threats, protect water supplies, improve wildlife habitat and support rural economies through the Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership between the U.S. Forest Service and NRCS. The Hoosier Hills and Highlands Oak Community



Helping People Help the Land

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Restoration Partnership project area is located within 18 counties of the most heavily forested and biologically diverse forest systems in the Central Hardwoods Region including the counties of: Bartholomew, Brown, Clark, Crawford, Dubois, Floyd, Greene, Harrison, Jackson, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Morgan, Orange, Owen, Perry, Putnam and Washington. This is a three year project with the potential to bring additional funds for its implementation in each of the next two years. Core conservation practices include:

- 314 Brush Management
- 666 Forest Stand Improvement
- 338 Prescribed Burning
- 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment
- 394 Firebreak Construction
- 655 Forest Trail & Landings
- 391 Riparian Forest Buffer
- 649 Structures for Wildlife
- 660 Tree and Shrub Pruning

WOMEN'S CONSERVATION LEARNING CIRCLES

On March 11, the Indiana Women's Learning Circle Steering Committee trained 26 women at a Train the Trainer workshop held at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds. A second session will be held, as interest exceeded capacity for the first session. In 2014 Indiana piloted three Women's Learning Circle sessions, in 2015 nine sessions were held, and in 2016 there is interest from 21 counties to hold sessions. Steering committee members are currently working with the new facilitators to develop dates for the 2016 events.

INDIANA NRCS DUNS/SAM EQUITABLE RELIEF

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (the Transparency Act) includes a government-wide requirement that entities meet two basic conditions in order to receive any award of Federal financial assistance, including NRCS conservation program assistance. The SAM registration must be renewed at least once every 12 months to remain valid and for the entity to be eligible to receive a program payment.

In the summer of 2015, internal controls were put in place in the NRCS contract management system, ProTracts, to validate both DUNS number and current SAM registration and prevent contract obligation, modification, or payment if DUNS/SAM information is not validated. Participants that incorrectly self-certified DUNS and SAM requirements prior to the implementation of recent internal controls may now be experiencing withheld payments due to an invalid DUNS number and/or an expired SAM registration.

NRCS has implemented a streamlined process to provide Equitable Relief (ER) if determined that producers attempted to comply in good faith. Equitable Relief was recently approved for a number of contracts sent to national headquarters for approval as part of the streamlined process. NHQ is approving ER in batches due to the workload. Contract activities can now commence on those approved contracts including making payments. There are several contracts still pending an equitable relief decision from NHQ.

HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA - REMINDER

In mid-January, the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) announced ten commercial turkey farms in Dubois County tested positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza. Over 400,000 birds confirmed to have the HPAI H7N8 virus have been destroyed. Note this is a different strain than what caused the 2015 outbreak. As of February 24, 2016, the Board of Animal Health and Indiana State Poultry Association announced the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza incident in Dubois County, Indiana was successfully contained.

Effective immediately, NRCS employees may once again access poultry farms in Indiana, however Level 2 Biosecurity measures must be implemented on all poultry production facilities and fields where litter has been applied within the last 6 months. NRCS employees must call and ask producers prior to field visits if they have poultry, litter onsite, or if litter applications have been made if not readily known (e.g., backyard flock or poultry litter spread or stored on-site), and adhere to the producer's decision of whether or not to allow access to NRCS employees.



Please continue to encourage all poultry producers of any size, who experience any mortality issues or other unusual symptoms to report it to the USDA Veterinary Service office at 866-536-7593. For five or more dead wild birds report to IDNR 812-334-1137. For updates and more information, <http://www.in.gov/boah/2390.htm>

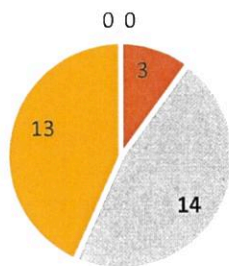
USDA NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS) CONSERVATION EFFECTS ASSESSMENT PROJECT (CEAP) SURVEY - REMINDER

As part of a national CEAP study, USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is contacting farmers to provide input on conservation practices on cultivated and non-cultivated agricultural lands to help NRCS and partners determine the efficiency and effectiveness of current conservation techniques and help identify best practices.

NASS is continuing to contact producers to conduct detailed surveys and to gather information on field level management on behalf of NRCS. NASS representatives visit selected farms to collect information, such as on-farm practices; chemical, fertilizer and manure applications; integrated pest management; and installed conservation practices. As with all NASS surveys, respondents are guaranteed by law (Title 7, U.S. Code, and CIPSEA, Public Law 107-347) that their individual information will be kept confidential. No one representing NASS will ask a producer for personal information, such as social security number. ***NRCS field staff is responsible for completing a supplemental survey by mid-April.*** If you have any questions, please contact Rick Neilson, NRCS Soil Scientist and State Resources Inventory Coordinator (SRIC) at 317-295-5875 or rick.neilson@in.usda.gov.

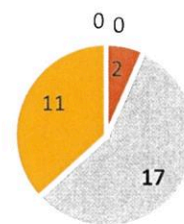


How well was the material organized and presented?



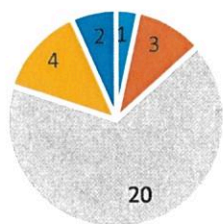
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How would you rate the information presented in this workshop



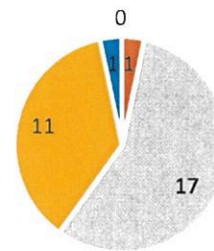
■ Poor ■ Fair ■ Good ■ Excellent ■ No Opinion

What do you think about the length of this workshop?



■ Poor ■ Fair ■ Good ■ Excellent ■ No Opinion

What is your overall impression with the workshop?



■ Poor ■ Fair ■ Good ■ Excellent ■ No Opinion

Are there additional topics you would like to see in the future?

Soil Biology

Profitability with low commodity prices

organic topics

Economics

Sustainable/natural pest management

greenhouse management

crop review

Manure Management

Long term soil benefits

proper tillage for profit farming

cover crop success & failures

Any additional comments?

Make the workshop a little longer/sessions could be longer/presentations too short

Watch who is presenting, terminating cover crops went against advanced cover crop topic.

Offer courses more than once.

Move to earlier date in the year, more producers may be able to attend.

Excellent final session.

Day is too long.

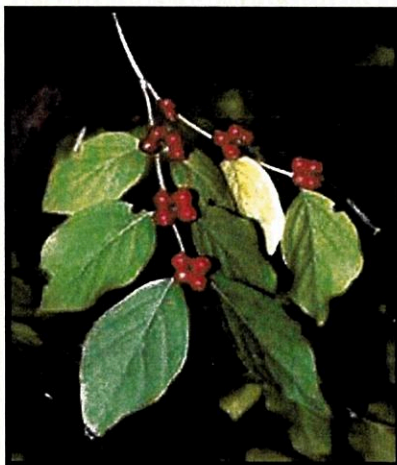
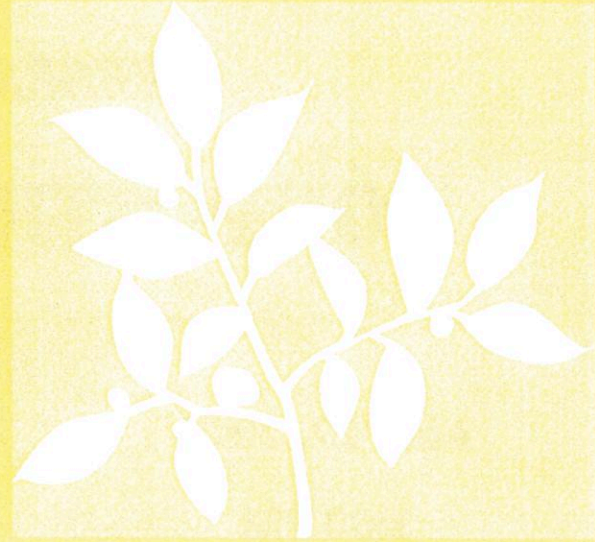
Paid presenters being biased b/c of the check. For profit farmers will take only 10% of Towerys advice.

***Always do right. This will gratify some people
and astonish the rest.***

- Mark Twain

***Northern Ind. Cooperative
Invasive Management
Invasive Species
Field Day***

April 30th, 2016
9:00 AM – Noon EDT



For more information contact:

James Potthoff 219-843-4827
jpotthoff@dnr.in.gov

or

Michaele Klingerman 574-654-3155
mklingerman@sjcparks.org

**St. Patrick's County Park
South Bend, IN**

Meet at the Brown Barn

See Map on reverse

Come join the **Northern Indiana Cooperative
Invasive Management** for a morning of
invasive plant identification and removal.

NICIM will begin with a brief discussion on
invasive plants followed by actual
identification and hands on removal of
invasive plants at St. Patrick's County Park.
There will also be demonstrations of chemical
and mechanical removal of invasive plants.

**Don't forget to bring your
work gloves, loppers and water!**



2903 Gary Drive, Plymouth, IN. 46563

574-936-2024 ext. 4 www.stjosephswcd.org

PRESENTS

COMPOSTING 101



April 27, 2016

1:00 PM

FREE

April 28, 2016

6:30 PM

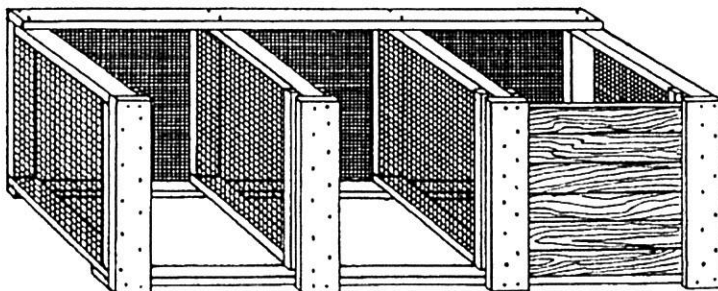
St. Joseph County Library

Main Branch

304 S. Main St., South Bend, IN 46601

Colfax Room

Join the St. Joseph County SWCD and the Solid Waste Management District of St. Joseph County for this basic workshop that will discuss the 5 Optimal Composting Conditions and why it is important for all of us to Compost.



Wood-and-Wire Three-Bin Turning Compost Bin





Hoosier County SWCD District Policy: Purchasing Meals for Activities

1. The District has the discretion to purchase meals for activities ONLY in instances where the activity/activities further the mission of the SWCD.
2. The District will adhere to statutory and prescribed procedures for the receipt and disbursement of funds.
3. District funds cannot be used for personal expenditures. So, for example, two employees cannot use District funds to pay for their personal lunches using the explanation of "discussing district business."
4. Meal costs, and what activities are eligible for the SWCD to purchase meals, will be approved in advance. Eligible activities might include the District's Annual Meeting, field days, workshops and other similar events geared to the general public. When approved, the District will clearly state in the minutes that the activity furthers the mission of the District, and state how it does so.
5. If feasible, the District may charge a registration fee to events, and/or utilize sponsors/donations (obtained without exactions or persuasions) to help defray meal costs.
6. Expenditures will be reasonable.
7. If the District provides meals at no cost to certain participants, or if different rates are charged to different classes of participants, the District will develop a written policy that includes the methodology used to determine which participants are provided meals at no cost, or are charged different rates for meals.
8. This policy will be reviewed annually during the January SWCD board meeting.

This policy was adopted on April 1st, 2016 by the Hoosier County SWCD. It was reviewed in subsequent years on the following dates:



To: District Supervisors and Staff
From: Jennifer Boyle-Warner, Executive Director, IASWCD
Jordan Seger, Director, Division of Soil Conservation, ISDA
Subj: Changes in the Indiana State Board of Accounts' Guidelines for Purchasing Food
Date: March 17, 2016

In January, delegates at the 2016 Annual Business Meeting voted in favor of the Daviess County Soil and Water Conservation District's (SWCD) Resolution "Revision of State Board of Accounts (SBOA) Policy" that addressed SWCDs paying for food during events.

Following Annual Conference, the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (IASWCD) approached Indiana SBOA's Counsel. The SBOA determined that as long as the district has a policy in place that allows for the food expenditure, adheres to prescribed procedures for receipt and disbursement of funds, and the activity in question furthers the mission of the district, they will not take exception to the expenditure. They also envision updating Chapter 8 of the Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Special Districts http://www.in.gov/sboa/files/spd2014_008.pdf to reflect these changes.

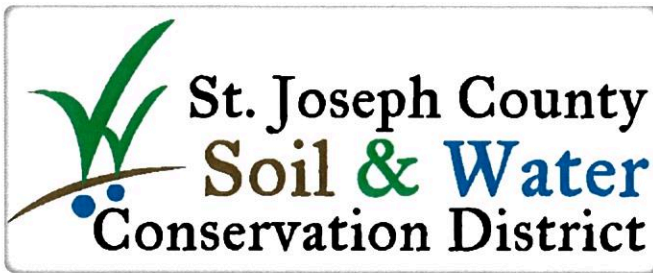
In response, the IASWCD and Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) developed a sample meal expenditures policy for SWCDs. This basic policy has been approved by the SBOA, and can be found on the following page. Each SWCD is encouraged to discuss the new guidelines at an upcoming board meeting. If the SWCD decides to incorporate similar guidelines, they should adopt the basic policy at a minimum. Districts can also add to this basic policy.

If SWCDs have further questions, they should contact Jennifer Boyle-Warner at IASWCD jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org, their ISDA District Support Specialist <http://www.in.gov/isda/2373.htm>, or the Indiana SBOA's Special Districts Staff <http://www.in.gov/sboa/4442.htm>.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Boyle-Warner
Executive Director, IASWCD

Jordan Seger
Director, Division of Soil Conservation, ISDA



St. Joseph SWCD Contact List Updated 2/16/2016

SWCD SUPERVISORS

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3rd: Home: 574-656-8343
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Text: Y

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HONORARY MEMBERS

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NRCS Staff

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Adam Schmeltz

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Randy Stoner

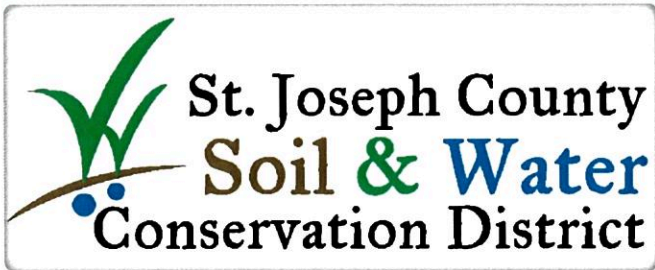
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St. Joseph SWCD Contact List
Updated 4/21/2015

(Continued from page 1)

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State Partner Staff

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ST. JOSEPH COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
COMMITTEE LIST 2016

ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE:

Plans and oversees the Annual Meeting

Staff Advisor:

Administrative Assistant

2016 Committee Members:

Chairman: Arlene Schuchman
John Dooms, Carole Riewe,
Dave Vanderwalle

AWARDS COMMITTEE:

Selects Award Recipients for Annual Meeting & IASWCD Awards

Staff Advisor:

County Conservationist

2016 Committee Members:

John Dooms, Dave Vandewalle

EDUCATION PLANNING:

Develops youth programs and water testing programs, displays for Science Alive and other public festivals, and assist other committees on their educational projects

Staff Advisor:

Environmental Education Coordinator & County
Conservationist

2016 Committee Members:

Chairman: Jan Ivkovich
Carole Riewe, Jeremy Cooper, Dru Wrasse,
Mike Burkholder, Chuck Lehman

ELECTION:

Selects new Supervisor candidates, oversees election at Annual Meeting/election of new Chair/Vice Chair

Staff Advisor:

Administrative Assistant

2016 Committee Members:

Chairman: Jeremy Cooper
Mike Burkholder, Jim LaFree, Carole Riewe

FORESTRY (TREE SALE):

Develops and implements forestry programs, including tree sales and educational workshops/seminars

Staff Advisor:

County Conservationist

2016 Committee Members:

Chairman:
Richard Schmidt, Dave Craft (?), Joe Long (?),
Carole Riewe, Arlene Schuchman, Jeremy Cooper

GRANTS:

In charge of researching, writing & administrative paperwork for available grants. Also assist other committees to carry out projects to spend the grant monies.

Staff Advisor:

Administrative Assistant

2016 Committee Members:

Chairman: Jeremy Cooper
Mike Burkholder, Stacey Silvers, David Straughn

MARKETING & SPECIAL INITIATIVES:

Undertakes activities such as developing marketing strategies, brainstorming/developing new fundraising ideas and programs for the District, emphasis on legislative - Develops activities related to local, state, and national Legislators, including IASWCD Breakfast and developing/distributing Legislative Notebooks.

Staff Advisor:

Administrative Assistant

2016 Committee Members:

Chairman: Arlene Schuchman

Chuck Lehman, Jeremy Cooper, Stacey Silvers

RURAL CONSERVATION:

Develops and implements rural conservation projects, including education and fundraising

Staff Advisors:

County Conservationist & NRCS DC

2016 Committee Members:

Chairman: Mike Burkholder

John Dooms, Richard Schmidt, Dale Stoner,

Dave Vanderwalle, Randy Ehninger

URBAN CONSERVATION:

Develops and implements urban conservation projects, including education and fundraising

Staff Advisor:

County Conservationist

2016 Committee Members:

Chairman: Stacey Silvers

Jeremy Cooper, Arlene Schuchman, Jan Ivkovich