



St. Joseph  
County  
Soil & Water  
Conservation  
District



**Today's Visions for Tomorrow's Future**

November/December 2016  
Volume 18, Issue 6

2903 Gary Drive, Ste 1, Plymouth, IN 46563  
Website: [stjosephswcd.org](http://stjosephswcd.org)

Telephone (574) 936-2024  
e-mail: [info@stjosephswcd.org](mailto:info@stjosephswcd.org)

**What's Going On...**

*Events hosted by the St. Joseph County SWCD & Our Partners in Conservation*

**November**

- 8th - Election Day - County Holiday
- 11th - Veteran's Day - office closed
- 15th - St. Joseph County SWCD Board Meeting (7:00 pm @ Centre Township Library)
- 24th - Thanksgiving Day - office closed
- 25th - County Holiday

**December**

- 11th - Indiana's 200th Birthday
- 20th - St. Joseph County SWCD Board Meeting(7:00 pm @ Centre Township Library)
- 26th - Christmas (observed) office closed



**January**

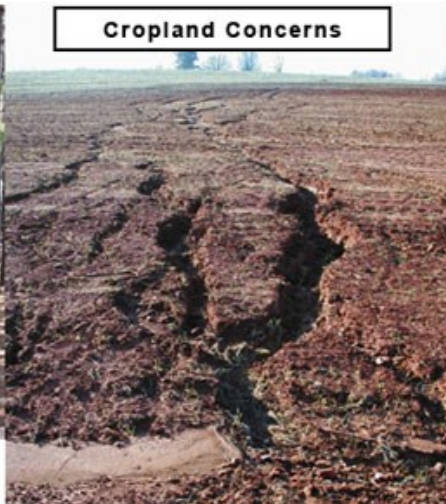
- 2nd - New Year's Day (observed) office closed
- 17th - St. Joseph County SWCD Board Meeting(7:00 pm @ Centre Township Library)
- 23rd & 24th - IASWCD Annual Conference

**Do You Have ...**

**Cropland Concerns**



**Forestland Concerns**



**Pastureland Concerns**

Now is a great time to start planning your 2017 conservation practices. Throughout the 2016 season did you notice any problems in your fields, forests, pastures or waterways such as gully's, heavy use areas or sediment runoff?

In conjunction with a **Clean Water Indiana Grant - Conservation Cropping Systems**, we can help with implementing Cover Crops, No-Till, nutrient management and help to install filter strips.

Don't worry, if you live in town we have a **Clean Water Indiana Grant** just for you! With our **Rainscaping Grant** we can assist in installing raingardens to help filter stormwater runoff and keep it from entering other waterways.

Together with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) we can help through a variety of programs.

**Environmental Quality Incentives Programs (EQIP)** offers different sets of agricultural

practices that producers can implement on their land like No-till, cover crops, seasonal high tunnels, prescribed grazing, forest stand improvement, invasive species management, and many more.

**Environmental Quality Incentives Program - Regional Conservation Partnership Program (EQIP -RCPP)** works almost exactly like the general EQIP, but it focuses on water quality practices in the Michigan/Indiana St. Joseph River Watershed.

Then for the more advanced conservation producers, NRCS offers **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)**. This program helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems while adopting additional conservation activities to address priority resource concerns.

To learn more about these and several other programs we offer or to just get technical assistance please contact Sarah Longenecker (SWCD) or Debbie Knepp (NRCS) at 574-936-2024 Ext. 4.

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# Conservation Stewardship Program

## Building Better Outcomes

### Conservation Stewardship Program

The Conservation Stewardship Program – CSP – is the largest conservation program in the United States. Starting as the Conservation Security Program in 2002, a complex watershed-based pilot with just 2 million acres in its first year, the Conservation Stewardship Program has evolved to a nationwide program that has enrolled more than 70 million acres since 2010. Fifteen years of experience and evolution in the program bring us to where we are today, poised to deliver improvements to a program that kicks conservation up another notch.

Through CSP, agricultural producers and forest landowners earn payments for actively managing, maintaining, and expanding conservation activities like cover crops, rotational grazing, ecologically-based pest management, buffer strips, and pollinator and beneficial insect habitat – all while maintaining active agricultural production on their land. Crop producers, ranchers, dairy farmers, forest landowners, poultry producers, organic farmers, and specialty crop farmers all participate in the program. It is delivering real results on the ground and for the nation’s natural resources.

### CSP is Unique

CSP taps into producers’ deep-rooted commitment to conservation. CSP participants voluntarily enroll in the program because it helps them enhance natural resources and improve their business operations - providing food, fiber, and energy. Participants enroll their entire ag operation in the program under a 5-year contract, with the option to renew for another 5 years. NRCS helps producers maintain or improve the existing conservation activities on their operations and adopt new ones. The program offers greater incentives for producers who want to kick their conservation up a notch with bundles of enhancements with higher payment rates.

### The Evolution of CSP

CSP has proven to be effective, with a large enrollment and high demand, but it’s important that it also be progressive and keep up with technology and producer’s desires to improve resources on their land. Through feedback from across the country we made improvements to make a good program even better. Our goal is a program that is clear and understandable, is flexible, and accommodates local priorities. We want it to be customer friendly, while providing more conservation options to a wide variety of producers.

### Continuing the Improvements

Seventy million acres of productive agricultural and forest land enrolled in CSP represents a massive concerted effort to conserve and improve natural resources – and the leadership of these farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners is commendable. The conservation benefits achieved through CSP on private lands benefit all of us through improved water and air quality, increased soil health, and improved wildlife habitat to name just a few.

With more enhancements and better results reporting tools, we are going to be able to tell our customers what these enhancement activities mean for their operation. We are going to be able to better tell the story of what the nation’s biggest conservation program is doing for natural resources, for agriculture, and for the nation.

NRCS is committed to continuing the evolution of CSP to ensure increased success of the program and that it remains effective for all of agriculture and private land forestry.







**December 5, 1679**

Robert LaSalle reaches the portage between St. Joseph and Kankakee Rivers. He is considered the first explorer to reach Indiana

**May 19, 1681**

French explorer Robert de La Salle held a peace council with Miami Indians at the area now known as South Bend

**January 2, 1781**

Virginia grants 150,000 acres of land to George Rogers Clark and his men. Included is all of present Clark County, Indiana, in addition to parts of surrounding counties

**April 23, 1784**

The Ordinance of 1784, primarily written by Thomas Jefferson, established government for the Northwest Territory and a system for the area to be divided into states. Indiana became a state 32 years later.

**May 1, 1813**

The capital of the Indiana Territory was moved from Vincennes to Corydon

**April 19, 1816**

President James Madison signed the Enabling Act which granted permission to Indiana to form a government and join the Union.

**December 11, 1816**

President James Madison signed a Congressional resolution admitting Indiana to the Union as the 19th state.

**June 7, 1820**

Commissioners of the Indiana Legislature selected a small village in dense woods by the east bank of the White River as the site of the future state capital.

**January 10, 1825**

The General Assembly holds its first meeting at the County Courthouse in Indianapolis, marking the transfer of the state capital

**May 27, 1851**

The Indiana State Board of Agriculture was organized with Governor Joseph Wright as President.

**February 16, 1852**

Henry and Clement Studebaker opened a blacksmith shop in South Bend. Their company became the world's largest maker of wagons and carriages and later a major automobile manufacturer.

**June 30, 1857**

James Oliver of South Bend obtained a patent for the chilled steel plow which retained its sharp edge and was extremely smooth, alleviating the problem of sticking soil. Oliver plows were used worldwide.

**September 10, 1913**

The route of the Lincoln Highway was revealed. The idea of Indiana's Carl Fisher, it was the first coast-to-coast paved road. In Indiana, the Lincoln Highway went through Elkhart, South Bend, and LaPorte.

**1940**

The first Soil and Water Conservation District in Indiana is organized in Vanderburgh County.

**1959**

The St Joseph County Soil and Water Conservation District was formed by referendum.

**July 17, 1997**

Space Shuttle *Columbia* landed at Kennedy Space Center. On board was Astronaut Janice E. Voss from South Bend. In five missions, she logged 18.8 million miles in space, circling the earth 779 times.

**2017 Membership Form**

**Want to donate with your Visa, MasterCard, or PayPal account? Visit our website at [www.stjosephswcd.org](http://www.stjosephswcd.org) and click on the "Donate" button.**



Scan me to donate now!

**Please make checks payable to "St Joseph County SWCD" and mail along with this form to:**

**St. Joseph County SWCD, 2903 Gary Drive, Plymouth, IN 46563**

**Please Confirm Your Giving Level**

\_\_\_\_\_ Affiliate Membership: \$25-\$99

\_\_\_\_\_ Silver Membership: \$250-\$499

\_\_\_\_\_ Bronze Membership: \$100-\$249

\_\_\_\_\_ Gold Membership: \$500 & above



THANK YOU for your support! The many outreach and education projects we provide would not be possible without the help of community members like YOU!





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 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
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## St. Joseph County Soil And Water Conservation Partnership

# 57th Annual Meeting

Friday, February 10, 2017  
 Doors open at 5:45pm  
 St. Hedwig Parish  
 331 S Scott St., South Bend, IN 46601

**Please RSVP by February 3, 2017**

Tickets for the Family-Style Polish Dinner are available from any St. Joseph County SWCD board member or contact the office at 574-936-2024 ext. 4 or [info@stjosephswcd.org](mailto:info@stjosephswcd.org).

Join us for an evening of awards, silent auction, board supervisor election, and great local entertainment (TBA).

**Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Supervisors:**  
 John Dooms, Chair  
 Jeremy Cooper, Vice Chair  
 Mike Burkholder  
 Stacey Silvers  
 Dave Vandewalle


**SWCD Honorary Members:**  
 Bernard Byrd  
 Jerry Knepp  
 Keith Lineback  
 William Millar

**SWCD Associate Supervisors:**  
 Dave Craft  
 Jan Ivkovich  
 Jim LaFree  
 Charles Lehman  
 Joe Long  
 Randy Matthys  
 Carole Riewe  
 Richard Schmidt  
 Arlene Schuchman  
 Dale Stoner  
 Dru Wrasse

**St. Joseph County Soil & Water Conservation Partnership Staff:**  
 Rick Glassman, SWCD  
 Sarah Longenecker, SWCD  
 Sandra Hoffarth, SWCD  
 Debbie Knepp, NRCS

**Farm Service Agency Staff:**  
 Gideon Nobbe, CED  
 Aldona Martin  
 Cindy Slonaker  
 Abby Ciesielski  
 Tara Wolfe

**Are you ready to “GO GREEN” and help us save money and natural resources? We can deliver your “Conservation Kaleidoscope” newsletter by email ... Give us a call or send us an email and tell us you’d like to “GO GREEN” THANK YOU!!!!**



Scan me to go Green!

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