

Vol 2, No1

May/Jun/Jul 1991

Editor - Rick Glassman

1991 SPEECH CONTEST

The St. Joseph County Soil and Water Conservation District in conjunction with Farm Bureau held its Annual Speech Contest on February 13, 1991. Winning second place was Jason Anderson who is a Junior at Penn High School.

The first place winner was Karen Harbart. Karen is a Senior at New Prairie High School and resides in New Carlisle. Karen also competed at the Northern Area 1 Regional Contest and placed second.

The St. Joseph SWCD would like to thank all contestants for their hard work and effort and congratulations to Karen for her outstanding presentation.



1991 POSTER CONTEST

This year's St. Joseph County SWCD Poster Contest was a big success. We received over 200 posters expressing the fact that Soil and Water - Important to Everyone.

There were many excellent posters and the District would like to congratulate Rinet Becher a 4th Grader at Muessel Elementary School and student of Mrs. Linda Betsinger, for her Grand Champion Poster. Rinet's poster has been entered in the State Competition and we wish her the best of luck. Congratulations again Rinet for an excellent job.

4-H NATURAL RESOURCE WORKSHOP

June 10, 1991 is the date for this year's four-county 4-H Natural Resources Workshop. This year's workshop will be held at Ox Bow Park in Goshen, Indiana from 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.. Topics will include Soil & Water, Forestry, Entomology, Weather, Wildlife, and Wildflowers.

If you have questions or want to register contact Rick Podell, St. Joseph County 4-H/Youth Agent, 646 County-City Building, South Bend, Indiana 46601 (219) 284-9604 or call the District Office (219) 291-2300 and ask for Rick

WILDFLOWER SEED AVAILABLE

The St. Joseph County SWCD has two varieties of wildflower seed available for planting this spring. The America Wild Flower and Bird and Butterfly Mixtures comes in 1 oz. packets, each capable of covering 250 sq. feet. The packets contain several different species of flowers including annuals and perennials especially designed for planting in the Midwest. Species represented include: African Daisy, Baby's Breath, Foxglove, Sweet Alyssum, Corn Poppy and Purple Coneflower. Each packet sells for \$3.00 and comes with a complete set of flower descriptions as well as planting instructions. To order your seed, call or visit the Soil and Water Conservation District Office.

ANNUAL WILDLIFE FOOD PLOT PROGRAM

The Division of Fish and Wildlife is sponsoring the wildlife food plot program again this spring. The program continues to be a successful wildlife food and cover development effort that has the approval of both landowners and sportsmen alike. Since the inception of the program in 1961, over 25,000 acres of food plots have been planted by Hoosier landowners.

The four-pound sacks, which contain buckwheat seed as well as hybrid grain sorghum, may be picked up at the SWCD Office during business hours. The seed has an 80 percent plus germination rate and no noxious weed seeds. The seed has not been treated with an insecticide or fungicide. By planting a food plot, wildlife are provided with an excellent source of food and cover for the winter.

If you would like to reserve any wildlife seed for planting, contact the SWCD office or stop in to pick up your seed.

To properly evaluate the program, the Wildlife Biologist will be checking on many of the plots later in the year to make sure proper planting techniques have been followed.



The St. Joseph County SWCD just completed its sixth year for their tree sales program. Over 46,000 tree seedlings were purchased by 850 individual landowners in St. Joseph and Kosciusko counties for windbreaks, Christmas trees, wildlife development, forestation and landscaping.

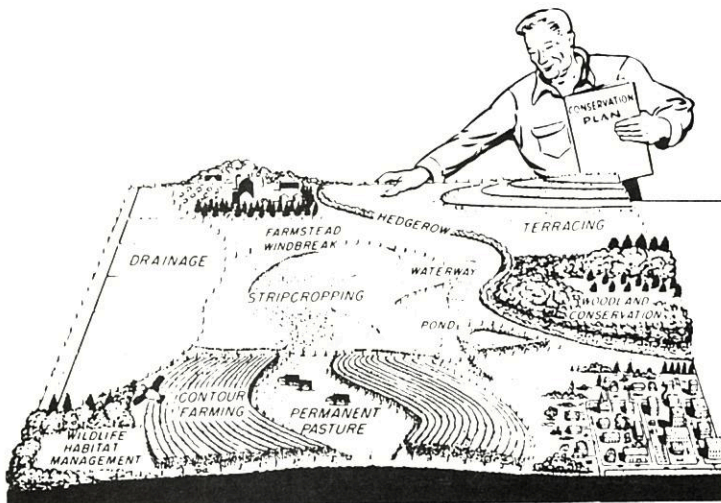
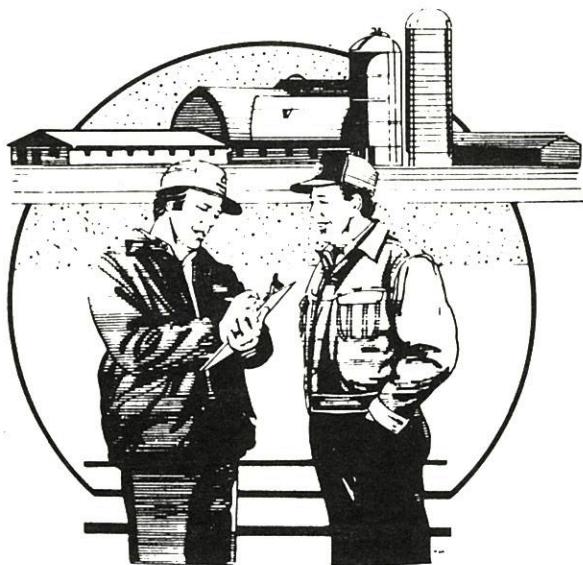
Our program has been successful because of the general public's growing concern for protecting our environment. The public is becoming more aware of the importance of planting trees to conserve our soil, energy, water and wildlife. Trees can shade your home in the summer and slow winter winds. They can also reduce the amount of fossil fuel burned for cooling and heating. Trees play a central role in fighting soil erosion and maintaining clean, abundant water supplies, while providing us with the soft touch of nature's beauty.

Our tree sales program is available to anyone, no matter how large or small of acreage they own and without restrictions as to the purpose of the planting. Order blanks for the program are available in the SWCD Office or can be mailed to you from October through March 1st.

The St. Joseph Soil & Water Conservation District will be sponsoring a Tillage Field Day in July. The date has not been set yet so keep your eyes open for upcoming information on. Conservation practices as well as the Farm Bill will be the topics



Pictured above are dedicated volunteers from Kosciusko and St. Joseph Counties, who helped package over 46,000 tree seedlings for the District's 1990-1991 Tree Sales Program.



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