

60455 U.S. 31 South \* South Bend, Indiana 46614 \* Telephone 291-2300

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# NEWSLETTER

## 1993 CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE

This may be one of the most important articles that you read this year. PLEASE READ THIS VERY CAREFULLY!

If you own or farm highly erodible land (HEL), you need to seriously consider all of the following questions:

\*Does your conservation compliance plan(s) require "CONSERVATION TILLAGE SYSTEM", "CROP RESIDUE USE" or other practices to be applied in 1993? Where the Planned column shows 1993, the practice(s) must be applied in 1993 on the HEL fields indicated in the plan(s). All applied practices must continue to be applied or maintained in all of the following years that are applicable.

\*Does your plan(s) require a percentage of residue cover on the ground surface after your crops are planted in spring 1993? Many conservation compliance plans require 40% residue cover after planting corn or 50% residue cover after planting beans in a corn-bean rotation. You must understand your plan(s) and understand that the crop residue cover percentages are minimums!

\*Do you plan to do any tillage to eliminate RUTS resulting from wet soil conditions at harvest? Tillage to eliminate ruts should be documented in your compliance plan for HEL Fields with SCS before doing tillage this spring. Contact your local SCS staff to document need for tillage. Deep tillage in spring has little or no effect in reducing compaction!

\*Can you measure your crop residue cover on your fields after planting this spring to determine that it meets your plan(s) requirements? Your local Cooperative Extension Service and Soil Conservation Service offices have printed instructions on how to measure and determine the amount of residue cover on the ground surface after planting. Now is the time to learn how to measure and determine crop residue cover percentages!

\*Do you plan to farm any new tracts this year that may have highly erodible land (HEL)? Check with your local SCS & ASCS office. You must adopt the previous plan or revise the plan before planting the 1993 crop!

APPLYING YOUR CONSERVATION PLAN(S) IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY! DON'T WAIT, CHECK YOUR PLAN NOW!

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## IS MINE REALLY THE BEST?

Lately, a lot of farmers have been changing or upgrading their tillage techniques to be more economically competitive. With all these changes going on, and new things being tried, questions farmers are asking themselves more and more is: "Is the tillage system I'm using really the best wallet?", "Am I making the most of my pesticide and fertilizer programs?" or "How do I compare with my neighbors?" If you find yourself asking these questions, there may be a program just for you to help answer these questions.

The MAX program (Farming for Maximum Efficiency) is a bottom line "yield contest" that lets you evaluate the economic returns for the various tillage system used on individual fields with summaries of other fields across the state by using standardized cost. Keeping soil erosion losses below "T" values protects the future productivity of the land, and prevents water quality damage due to off-site sediment carried in run-off water. The tracking of fertilizers, pesticides, tillage trips and other crop inputs to help ensure the most cost efficient system.

If this exciting, innovative and simple program sounds like something you can use, or if you would like more information on it, please contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District, or the Soil Conservation Service. The entry deadline is June 1st.

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## IT'S CALLED FOLLOW-UP!

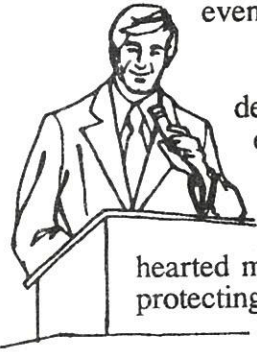
If you see a stranger in the distance walking across some fields with pen and paper in hand, he or she may just be one of our folks from the Soil Conservation Service, taking a look a ways to improve: soil erosion, water and air quality, and plant and animal life in the Kankakee Watershed. We will also be talking to landowners to see if we can further our exposure and cooperative arrangements via conservation planning to improve the natural resources in St. Joseph County.



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# WOW! WHAT A MEETING

The 200 plus people attending the 33rd annual meeting of the St. Joseph County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) were treated to a special evening.



The guests were treated to a delicious meal and then sat back to be entertained by Dr. Subbaro Yarlagadda, consulting agronomist, who was the featured entertainment. The emphasis of his light-hearted message was the importance of protecting and preserving our farm ground for future generations.

Then came the awards! William Millar was recognized as the SWCD Conservation Farmer of the Year by the South Bend Audubon Society and the District. He also took home the Goodyear Outstanding Cooperator of the year plaque. Lisa Nyers, a fifth grade teacher at Kennedy Elementary, was the 1992 SWCD's Teacher of the Year. Ronald Opaczewski was the recipient of the Forestry and Wildlife Award.

Special recognition awards were given to Chairman John Dooms and Associate Supervisor James Kidder for their continued years of dedication and support to the district. Also receiving a plaque was Rick Glassman for his outstanding achievement in environmental education through out St. Joseph County, servicing over 31,000 students during the past two school years. James LaFree was then elected for a three year term as a supervisor on the SWCD board replacing John Dooms.

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## AGRICULTURE DAYS

Scottsdale Mall  
March 12, 13 & 14, 1993

Scottsdale Mall will again be hosting the Annual Ag Days. Ag Days offers something for everyone. Manufacturers will have the latest equipment and information on new techniques in conservation farming. The kids are sure to enjoy the animals and both adults and kids should find something interesting

and enjoyable in booths which cover areas from conservation to feed.

So come one come all to Scottsdale Mall's AG DAYS!

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## TREE SALES - A TIME FOR ALL SEASONS

The St. Joseph County SWCD, in cooperation with the National Association of Conservation Districts and Greenwood Nursery, has developed a special year-around tree sales program that will promote natural resource conservation throughout the county and surrounding areas.



The program is designed as a pre-package program that will allow landowners to order trees all year around.

Trees that are ordered will be shipped during the spring and fall of each year. Landowners can have the trees shipped directly to their homes for a small shipping and handling fee. The pre-package tree offer includes a Homeowner, Wildlife and Evergreen packages that can be purchased in quantities of 15, 25 or 35 trees. Prices for the packages will be \$11.00, \$17.00 and \$23.00 respectively.

Anyone interested in ordering tree packages for fall planting, please contact the SWCD office at 291-2300.

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## WILDFLOWER SEED AVAILABLE

The St. Joseph County SWCD has wildflower seed available for planting this spring. The America Wildflower mixture comes in a 1 oz. packet, which covers approximately 250 square feet. The packet contains 24 different species of flowers including annuals and perennials especially designed for planting in the Midwest. Each packet sells for \$3.75 and comes with a complete set of flower descriptions as well as planting instructions. To order your seed, visit or call the Soil and Water Conservation District Office.



<p>WYATT FARM CENTER INC. 66400 State Road 331 Wyatt, Indiana 46595 (219) 633-4017 1-800-447-4141 White-Hiniker-Kelley-New Holland-Kubota-Woods-Land Pride-M.F.-D.M.I. - Century Sprayers-Deutz-Allis</p>	<p>LINEBACK REALTY SALES AND APPRAISALS Land - Commercial County Real Estate P.O. Box 2701 South Bend, IN 46680 (219) 233-3740</p>	<p>PLYMOUTH FARM CTR INC. 10209 Iris Road Plymouth, IN 46563 (219) 935-5500 1-800-487-3337 John Deere Lawn &amp; Farm Equip  LEADERSHIP YOU CAN COUNT ON</p>	<p>The programs and services of the St. Joseph County SWCD and the Soil Conservation Service are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, or handicap.</p>
<p>ST. JOSEPH COUNTY FARM BUREAU, INC. 60455 U.S. 31 South South Bend, IN 46614 A Full Service Farm Organization</p>	<p>FRICK SERVICES. WYATT DIVISION P.O. Box 179 Wyatt, IN 46595 (219) 633-4065 Feeds - Grains Seeds - Fertilizers</p>	<p>LAKE'S FARM SERVICE, INC. Conservation - Fertilization Custom Application of Dry or Liquid Fertilizers 54300 Walnut Road New Carlisle, IN 46552 654-3116</p>	<p> <b>Farm Credit Services</b> <i>Experience</i> <i>built from the ground up</i> South Bend, Indiana (219) 291-1277</p>
<p>ZAHL'S ELEVATOR AND FEED MILL P.O. Box 66 New Carlisle, IN Phone 654-3625 Grain - Feeds Seeds - Fertilizer</p>	<p>WILSON AGRI-SERVICE Lakeville, IN (219) 289-2101 (219) 784-3115 Bremen, IN (219) 546-2491 1-800-552-2828</p>	<p>KUHARIC'S AG LIMESPREADING SERVICE CULVERT SALES 57890 Crumstown Hwy South Bend, IN 46619 (219) 288-9410</p>	<p>AGP GRAIN, LTD. 1300 W. 1st Road LaPaz, IN 46537 (219) 546-2491 1-800-552-2588</p>