

Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District



Spring 2012



Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)
10165 Oxford Pike
Brookville, IN 47012
(765) 647-2651, ext. 3
www.franklincountyswcd.org

Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Summer Hours: *Beginning May 1*
Monday—Friday
7:30am—3:00pm

**Due to the nature of our work there will be times the office must be closed due to field work and staff training. Please call ahead to make an appointment when possible. Thank you.*

District Supervisors:

Michael T. Schwab – Chair
David R. Hartman – Vice-Chair
Louis E. Schwegman – Secretary
John J. Selm - Supervisor
Darin R. Hodapp – Supervisor

Conservation Staff:

Clint Harrison – *NRCS District Conservationist*
Chris Fox – *SWCD District Coordinator/Treasurer*



The Franklin County SWCD Board of Supervisors meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the office. The public is invited to attend these meetings.
April 18 May 16 June 20

Annual Meeting & Dinner



The 49th annual meeting & dinner held on Wednesday, February 15th was a successful evening with over 100 people in attendance. Following the meal catered by Hav-a-bite restaurant, Roger Wenning provided an entertaining and educational presentation on his experiences using no-till and cover crops on his Decatur county farm. The annual conservation awards were presented: **2011 Conservation Farmer of the Year—Martin Harmeyer; 2011 River Friendly Farmers of the Year—Jeff & Tim Hofer; 2011 Friends of Conservation—Whitewater Canal Trail, Inc.** Following the awards ceremony, there was a drawing for 21 door prizes. Thank you to the area businesses that donated and to all those that support the SWCD mission to conserve our soil and water resources.

THANK YOU!!!

2012 “Soil to Spoon” Poster Contest Results

- K-1 1st Laney Smith
 2nd Christian Stortz
 3rd Clare VanMeter
- 2-3 1st Helen Grimm
 2nd Jaylin Beesley
 3rd Sarah Schuman
- 4-6 1st Kayley Schoettelkotte
 2nd Katarina Sacksteder
 3rd Eva Grimm
- 7-9 1st Madison Leffingwell
 2nd Dresden Lonegran
 3rd Emma Robinson

2012 Poster Contest



1st Place Winners

Over 170 posters were submitted from area schools. Thanks to Lance & Jeanette Cox for their continued support of this annual contest.

If you would prefer to receive your newsletter via email or would like to discontinue receiving the newsletter please let us know. Call the office at
(765)647-2651 ext. 3
Or send a message to
christopher.fox@in.nacdnet.net.



The Franklin County SWCD will be holding a fish sale for pond stocking on **Monday, April 23, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.** The **deadline** for ordering is **Monday, April 16 at 4:00 p.m.** Payment is **due** when ordering. Fish will be DELIVERED to the office on Monday, April 23 at 10:00 a.m. You must pick up fish at the office.

State law requires the hatchery **MUST deliver Grass Carp to ponds!** If ordering Grass Carp, include **\$35 delivery fee** with your payment and directions to your pond.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone#(____)-____-_____

SPRING FISH Sale Order Form

	Size	Price each	Price per 100	Quantity	Total
Bluegill	2-3"	\$0.45	\$40.00		
Hybrid Bluegill	2-3"	\$0.50	\$45.00		
Redear Sunfish	2-3"	\$0.55	\$50.00		
Channel Catfish	4-6"	\$0.45	\$40.00		
Grass Carp	8-12"	\$15.00/each-- minimum 6 per order (plus extra Delivery fee)			
Fathead Minnows	\$8.55 per pound---minimum of 2 pounds per order				
			Sub-Total		
			7% Sales Tax		
		\$35 Delivery fee for Grass Carp			
			Total		

Order forms also available online at www.franklincountyswcd.org
DEADLINE for ORDERING: Monday, April 16, 2012 by 4:00 P.M.
Payment is due with order.

Make check payable to **Franklin County SWCD**
10165 Oxford Pike
Brookville, IN 47012

For additional pond management information and stocking recommendations visit the DNR link: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/3356.htm>



Betty We Will Miss You!



Betty Gabbard with Joann Koch

Betty Gabbard was recognized for her many years of service at the 49th annual meeting and dinner.



Plant a tree for Arbor Day
 Franklin County SWCD will be holding a tree give away on Friday, April 27, 2012. Approximately 400 tree seedlings will be available on a 1st come basis at our office starting at 9 am. There will be a limit of 5 trees per person. A variety of tree species will be available, including: native shrubs, pines and hardwoods.

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago...the second best time is now."

Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering or assisting with SWCD events and programs call or stop by the office for more info.

(765) 647-2651, ext. 3



Healthy Soil Trivia

Which State leads the nation in the number of acres planted in cover crops? (Answer can be found on the last page with the sponsor advertisements).



No-Till Drills

The Franklin County Soil & Water Conservation District has a 7' and 10' Great Plains No-till drill for rent. Each no-till drill rents for \$8 per acre with a \$50 minimum. In 2011, the drills were rented to 42 landowners for planting cover crops, native grasses, wildlife food plots, hay/pasture and soybeans on over 1150 acres. For more information or to rent one of the no-till drills call the office at (765) 647-2651 ext. 3



Conservation Tillage Breakfast

Over 75 people attended the breakfast and PARP training hosted by **Zimmer Tractor**. Mike Kohlsdorf opened the day with a brief discussion and video on FSA programs. Hans Koh and Clint Harrison followed with presentations on soil health, cover crops and no-till practices. The day wrapped up with a private applicator recertification program (PARP). Travis Legleiter discussed the upcoming weed season. Joe Becovitz explained new EPA regulations and Jonathan Ferris discussed wellhead protection from contamination. Thanks to the presenters for all the valuable information. A special thanks to Zimmer Tractor for hosting the event and providing breakfast.

Betty and her Birds!

As many of you know Betty Gabbard has recently retired after 17 years with the SWCD. For those of you who have been long time readers of our newsletter, you are familiar with Betty's bird articles. Ironically, I am also a bird watcher...so in honor of Betty I will continue the tradition of providing a few birding highlights or other interesting nature notes. In fact, last year I spent the summer conducting bird surveys for the National Audubon Society. One of our research sites was the Brookville & Whitewater State Park area. During my time at the lake I found many interesting species of migratory songbirds, such as; Cerulean Warblers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Prothonotary Warblers. One day, I was fortunate to observe the State Endangered Osprey flying overhead with a fish. While most of us are familiar with the story of the Bald Eagle, few are aware of the similar story and recovery of the Osprey. This once abundant and widespread raptor suffered severe declines nationwide and by the 1980's there were no active Osprey nests within the state. Protection and reintroductions have helped increase the population dramatically. We are fortunate to have nesting Osprey and Bald Eagles in Franklin County. The next time you are at the lake keep an eye to the sky for these magnificent birds. For more info visit the DNR website www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/



*Osprey over Brookville Lake 2011
Photo by Chris Fox*

Dates to Remember

April 6: Good Friday. Observed holiday. **SWCD Office Closed.**

April 10: *Ag-Day* for 3rd and 4th grade students.

April 16: Deadline to order fish.

April 18: SWCD monthly meeting at 7:30pm.

April 22: Earth Day.



April 23: *Fish sale* pick up, delivery to SWCD at 10:00am.

April 27: Arbor Day. *Free trees* available at the Franklin County SWCD offices. Limited supply.

May 8: Election Day. Observed holiday. **SWCD Office Closed.**

May 16: SWCD monthly meeting at 7:30pm.

May 28: Memorial Day. Observed holiday. **Office closed.**



June 14: Flag Day.

June 20: SWCD monthly meeting at 7:30pm. 1st day of summer.

June 29-30: Brookville CanoeFest.



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10165 Oxford Pike
Brookville, IN 47012-9414



Greensburg, IN
Grassed Waterways (NRCS Certified) - Septic
Farm Drainage - Grass Seeding - Ponds
Roger: 812-593-1148
Kevin: 812-528-6512



Fence Post Mounting Cap
Great for mounting
Mailboxes
Bird Feeders
Bird Houses
and MORE!
Mount just about anything to your
fence posts with our Mounting Cap.
Slips over most standard "T" Posts.
MADE IN
USA

Answer to the trivia question: Indiana leads the nation with over 180,000 acres planted to cover crops in 2011 based on Indiana Tillage Transects (NRCS) Cover crops, not only protect against erosion, but also, improve soil health.

Available at: **Batesville Tractor Supply (Morris); Pavey's Store (Metamora); Ruth Ann's Diner (Metamora); The Village Store (Oldenburg); and Whitetail Acres (Brookville).**

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