

# WHITESIDE CO. SWCD NEWSLETTER



Whiteside County Soil and Water Conservation District · 400 Wilkens Drive, Morrison, IL 61270  
www.whitesidecountyswcd.com · whitesidecountyswcd@hotmail.com · 815.772.2124 ext. 3

## Welcome to the Whiteside County SWCD Newsletter

The 2026 spring sales are here! Come buy some trees, fish, or plants! If there is a native tree/shrub you'd like, that is not on our order form, please let us know and we try to get it added to our order. As usual, there may be a cost increase on some sale items, but for the most part we are trying to keep the prices untouched. Thank you for understanding. The trees did come in a little late this fall, but we would still like to thank everyone who bought trees and fish during this fall!

As most people know there was a government shutdown that started on the 1st of October. Luckily the Whiteside County SWCD was still able to (mostly) function. After a historical shutdown we have returned to the office where we resume business. We are still cycling through acting District Conservationists, and NRCS continues the search for someone for the DC position. Our website has been updated and you can now get the tree, fish, and plant order forms at whitesidecountyswcd.com. We also had a huge success with giving away 84,350 lbs of free cover crop seed distributed by Illinois Extension!

If there is a conservation related topic you would like to suggest for a workshop/seminar, please contact the office and we will try to get an event put together.



We hope you enjoy this newsletter. If you have any comments or suggestions please let us know by emailing—whitesidecountyswcd@hotmail.com or by calling 815-772-2124 ext. 3. We would once again like to say: thank you to everyone that has helped support the SWCD. Every little bit helps and with support from you! As always, we hope to be around for years to come!!! Thank you!!!

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Disclaimer: The Whiteside County Soil and Water District does not endorse or necessarily condone the goods and services advertised herein and in no event shall it be liable for any special, direct, indirect, consequential, or incidental damages arising in connection with the goods and or services provided by any advertiser contained herein. Also, the district reserves the right not to accept an advertisers order, only publication of an advertisers order shall constitute final acceptance of advertisers order.

## Envirothon

The Northwest Illinois Land Use Council #1, Envirothon is an annual natural resources education program. The event is for high school students and emphasizes hands-on and team oriented problem-solving skills. Teams test their knowledge in forestry, soils, aquatics, wildlife and a 5th category topic that changes every year. Each of the five members from the first place team is eligible to receive scholarship funding to go toward their post-secondary education.

Land Use Council #2 had graciously allowed us to partner with them again for the 2026 Envirothon event. This year's event will be held on March 18, 2026 at Black Hawk College East Campus, Galva, IL.

Thank you to LUC #2 for allowing us this opportunity. Without this opportunity, we would not be able to give the students the chance to participate in such a great event. Thank you.

## 4th Grade Conservation Day

The 4th Grade Conservation Day is put together by JoDaviess, Carroll and Whiteside County SWCD's. The 2025 4th Grade Conservation Field Day was held Thursday, September 25, 2025. We will once again like to thank the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and other organizations for the donations of Every Kid Outdoors Passes. In the 2025 event, we distributed 687 passes throughout all 3 counties. We hope the students and their families are able to put them to good use as it is a great opportunity provided at no cost.



The conservation day is typically held at the Palisades State Park, Savanna, IL. Students participate in different instructional stations with topics of Wildlife, Water Quality, Recycling, Geology, Forestry, Conservation Laws, Agriculture, Ecology, Nature Walk, Soil Conservation and many more.

We believe that all the students, teachers and volunteers appreciate the experience. We can't thank all the different organizations and individual volunteers enough for helping us. The organizations or individuals that volunteered their time last year, are: Blackhawk Hills Regional Council, Lawfer's Willow Valley Dairy Farm, IL Dept. of Natural Resources, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Army Corp of Engineers, Northern IL Raptor Rehab & Education, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Forrest Keeling Nursery (Missouri), Whiteside County SWCD—current and retired staff, Univ. of IL Extension—JoDaviess & Whiteside Counties, Woodland Forestry Consulting LLC (Iowa), Farm Bureau - Ag in the Classroom, Whiteside Co. Natural Area Guardians (NAGS), and JoDaviess County Conservation Fund. I apologized if I may have accidentally missed anyone. Without them, this event wouldn't be possible. We are always looking for more volunteers. If you have a conservation topic you'd like to do a presentation on and would like to volunteer at this great event, please let us know. Thank you.

## Photo & Poster Contests

The contests are an annual contest for any K-12th grader in Whiteside County. For more details call the office at (815) 772-2124 ext. 3.

## Education Grants

As always, the Whiteside County SWCD Education Fund offers education grants to all schools, whether private, public or homeschooled. Grant funding requests may include, but are not limited to: tools, books, software, lab equipment, and field trips. Costs of development of natural resource areas will be considered, such as: wildlife habitat garden, nature trail, or prairie site.

In the past 11 years, we have awarded a little over \$31,000 in grants, for various projects. We hope to be able to help many more schools/educators in the future. Look at page 3 for grant application criteria. If you have received a grant in the past, you may still apply for more grants as well.

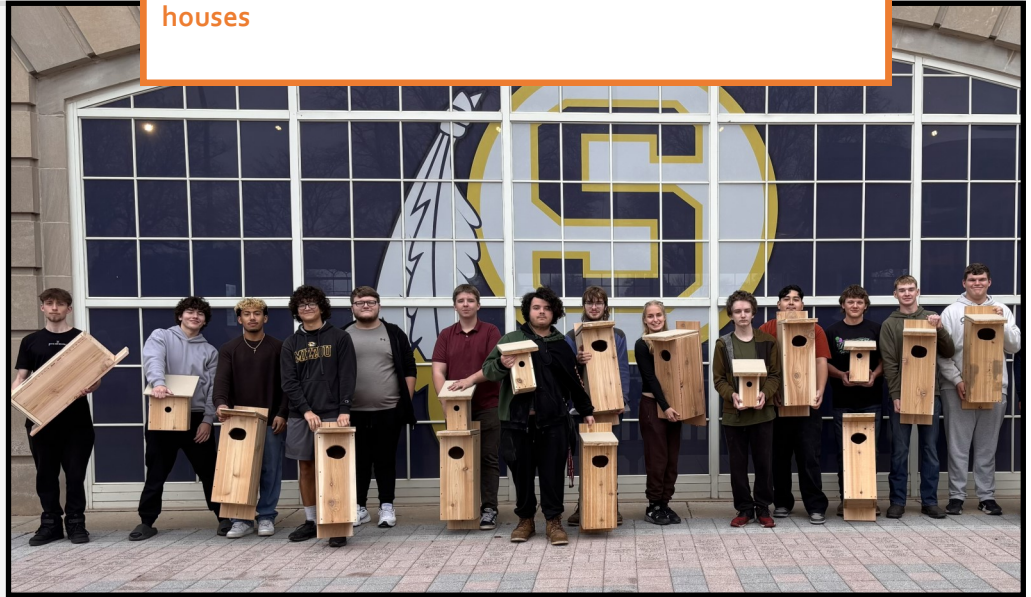
For more information on the Whiteside County Soil and Water Conservation District Education Foundation and upcoming educational events, call our office at 815-772-2124 ext. 3. THANK YOU!!

# Bird Nesting Box Project

Joel Penne's Class with their wood duck and bluebird houses

My name is Joel Penne and I have the privilege to teach Technical Math at Sterling High School. At the end of the 2025 school year I received a phone call from Jim Duis with the idea of tasking next year's Technical math class with building birdhouses. I accepted the project, created a

supply list and budget which allowed Dave Harrison to complete the grant request for \$1100. In October of 2025, the project to build 12 wood duck houses and 6 bluebird houses was shared with our 17 Technical math students. I gave them the supply lists and we watched videos of how others had built these houses before. We prepared a list of items we would need from Menards hoping to only make one trip. The shopping trip was a success and we started building the houses within the week. Sterling High School has amazing resources for classes like Technical Math. All of our building took place in the "Ag Mech Lab". We had access to all different types of saws and tools for this woodworking project. Students were put in groups of 3 and each group was tasked with making 2 wood duck houses and 1 bluebird house. Each day we would start with a whole group discussion and try to determine where each group was at and what their goal for the day was. For a number of students this was their first time working with some of the tools. This project allowed the class to apply a variety of math concepts including, but not limited to, reading a tape measure, reading a blueprint, performing operations with fractions and constructing angles. At the end of the project students judged each other's constructions and gave feedback for improvement. Overall, I was proud of the final products and hope they provide good homes for the birds they were designed for. This was a great project for my students to get hands-on experience and application of the math skills we learn in the classroom.



## Whiteside County SWCD Education Foundation Environmental Education Grant

The Whiteside County Soil & Water Conservation District's Education Program is sponsoring an education grant available all school year, to all schools in Whiteside County, grade levels Pre-K thru 12<sup>th</sup>.

### Grant Criteria:

- Grant requests are to promote and support natural resource or environmental education.
- Grant funding requests may include, but are not limited to: tools, books, software, lab equipment, and field trips. Costs of development of natural resource areas will be considered, such as: wildlife habitat garden, nature trail, or prairie site.
- Previous recipients of SWCD grants do qualify for this educational funding and may apply again.
- Grantees are required to submit a follow-up report to the Whiteside County SWCD's Education Program Board within 3 months of receiving the grant money or notification if the money is not used within that time period.

### Proposal Format:

- Typed, double spaced, single sided 8-1/2" x 11" stationary.

### Proposal Content:

- Outline of Age-Level Activity or Purchase, Learning Objectives, Dates of Funding Use, Grade Level, Total # of Students and Budget.

### Please send grant requests to:

Whiteside SWCD Education Program  
Attention: Blake Leu  
400 Wilkens Drive  
Morrison, IL 61270

Please contact 815.772.2124 ext. 3 or [whitesidecountyswcd@hotmail.com](mailto:whitesidecountyswcd@hotmail.com) for any questions concerning the use of our Whiteside County SWCD Education Foundation Grants.

*The Whiteside County Soil & Water Conservation District reserves the right to reject applications.*



## HARVESTING SUCCESS, ONE LOAN AT A TIME: YOUR AG LENDING PARTNERS

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## **The SWCD / WQUD 107.7FM / KROS 1340AM-105.9FM Radio Shows**

The Whiteside County SWCD radio show is on WQUD Vintage Radio, 107.7-FM, Erie IL., hosted by Pat Jones and Blake Leu. We also have another radio show on KROS 1340AM/105.9FM, Clinton IA, hosted by Gary Determan and Blake Leu. The radio show used to be hosted with Dave Harrison but, Blake Leu has taken over. These radio shows are a way for our office to educate the public about different conservation subjects. If you have a subject that you would like to hear, please let our office know. If you have any questions during the shows please call in. The contact info for WQUD 107.7FM is 1-309-659-7608, website is [www.wqudfm.com](http://www.wqudfm.com), and their Facebook page is WQUD 107.7 Vintage Radio. The contact info for KROS 1390AM/105.9FM is 1-563-242-1252, fax -563-242-4825, email [contactus@kroslradio.com](mailto:contactus@kroslradio.com) and the website is [www.kroslradio.com](http://www.kroslradio.com)

If you would like to send in donations to cover the cost of the shows, we would greatly appreciate it..  
You may mail your donations to: WCSWCD 400 Wilkens Drive, Morrison, IL 61270.

WQUD radio show will be held the 1st Monday of each month at 2:00PM, unless otherwise noted.  
KROS radio show will be held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:15AM, unless otherwise noted.

Thank you!!!

## **NOTICE OF ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

**To All Owners And Occupiers Of Lands Lying Within The Boundaries Of The Whiteside County Soil And Water Conservation District:**

Notice is hereby given that an Election will be held on the 4th day of February, 2026 at the USDA Building, 400 Wilkens Drive, Morrison, IL 61270, between the hours of 6:30am to 5:00pm. Three (3) Directors will be elected to serve the Whiteside County Soil and Water Conservation District of the State of Illinois.

All persons, firms or corporations who hold legal title or are in legal possession of any land lying within the boundaries of the said district are eligible to vote at said election, whether as lessee, renter, tenant or otherwise. Only such persons, firms or corporations are eligible to vote.

Jeffrey Deets  
Chairman

Whiteside County Soil and Water Conservation District

## NAGs News:

If you asked Illinois residents to rank the the state's most iconic landmarks, pioneer cemetery prairies would probably wind up near the bottom of the list. Way below Wrigley Field and Starved Rock, maybe just above the Wilmington spaceman. Which is a shame, because few places can tell the story of our state quite like these quiet little spots. Many Illinoisans have never even seen a prairie, but there you can walk through a piece of what used to cover 21 million acres, and gave our state its nickname. The weathered headstones add a personal touch, commemorating local individuals who came to work the rich prairie soil. And all around is the civilization built by us, their descendants, with its rows of corn and soybeans that tap into groundwater purified by prairies of the past, and benefit from remnant and recreated prairies that hold the soil against erosion, absorb rain and runoff, and provide a home for our pollinators and other wildlife.

These sites deserve wider recognition, but people who live near them tend to know what they've got. Take Clyde Cemetery north of Morrison. For generations the family that farms the surrounding hills has watched over the 1/2 acre of high-quality black soil prairie, managed by the NAGs, that persists on the cemetery's north side. This past year, conversations between that farming family, the cemetery association, and our group resulted in the creation of a 50-foot buffer around the prairie, which will protect it from herbicide drift, invasive plants, and other dangers. It's a step that shows respect for the past and serves to preserve it, but one that also puts Whiteside County in an advantageous position to meet the future. 10,000-year-old prairies like this are a living lesson in what resiliency looks like in Illinois. At a time of rapid changes in our region and the world, safeguarding and continuing to learn from them is just common sense.

Want to get involved at local natural areas? Follow Whiteside County Natural Area Guardians on Facebook or email [nagsofwil@gmail.com](mailto:nagsofwil@gmail.com) to receive alerts about upcoming work-days, meetings, tours, speakers, and more.



A view of the buffer, maintained by haying, around Clyde Cemetery's prairie. *Photograph by Sammy Dalati.*



Jack Shouba leads a tour at the prairie. *Photograph by Margaret Cook.*



Mowing a patch of aggressive sunflowers. *Dalati photograph.*

**TREE SALES**

The 2025 fall tree sale is underway, with a variety of species available. If you are interested in trees this fall, the order forms can be found after this page. Reminder: the bareroot seedlings are sold in bundles of 25, the RPM (potted) trees are sold individually. The deadline to order trees and the pick up timeframe, are listed on the order form. The pick up will be at our office location of 400 Wilkens Drive, Morrison, IL 61270.

**FISH SALES**

The 2025 fall fish sale is underway, with a variety of species available. These order forms can also be found after this page. We are still offering some other items this year including fish food, fish feeders and electrofishing surveys. Channel catfish can not be bagged, you will need to bring containers of water with you for those, see the order form for details. The fish sale order deadline and pick up date are listed on the order form. The delivery will be at our office location of 400 Wilkens Drive, Morrison, IL 61270.

**EQUIPMENT RENTALS**

The Whiteside County SWCD has 2 Bag a Nuts for rent. There is no rental fee but we do ask for a \$25.00 deposit. There is 2 tree planters available. One planter is a 3-point hitch planter and one is a hydraulic pull behind planter. There is a charge of \$50 for the first 1000 trees and \$25 for every 1000 trees after that. If you purchase 2,000 trees or more from the district, rental is free. A 1-7/8" or 2" ball hitch is needed to pull the tree planters. We also have tree (dibble) bars for free rental but with a \$40 deposit. Call our office if you need to rent any equipment.

**NAGS ITEMS FOR SALE**

Self Guided Tour Book—\$5, Mae's Note Cards \$5, Sand County Almanac \$6, Cedar Bluebird House \$20 with pole is \$25, Bat House \$15, Prairie Plants of Whiteside County \$8. Stop by or call the office for more details.

## SWCD Sale Items

60" White Miracle Tubes 0-50pcs - \$3.75 each

60" White Miracle Tubes 50+pcs - \$3.50 each

60" Oak Stake - \$2.75 each

24" Yellow Mesh Shelter - \$0.45 each

36" Yellow Mesh Shelter - \$0.60 each

Bamboo Stake - \$0.15 each

Orange Marking Flags - \$0.15/each - 100 flags for \$15.00 or a box of flags for \$125.00

Tree Mats w/ 5 staples - \$1.50 each

Filter Fabric (15ft wide / 300ft per roll) - \$3.85 / running foot

Straw Netting (4ft wide / 112ft long - staples included) \$0.40 / running foot

Finder Books - \$3.50 each

Conservation Trees and Shrubs Booklet - \$10.00 each

Forest Trees of Illinois Book - \$14.75

Wood Duck House - \$85.00 each

Fertilizer Packets - \$0.20 each

Rain Barrels - \$85 each - call for availability

Rain Barrels 2 or more - \$80 each

**Plantskydd Repellent:**

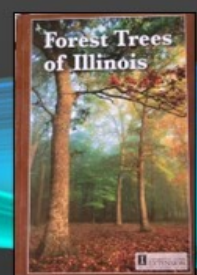
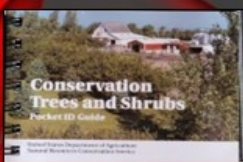
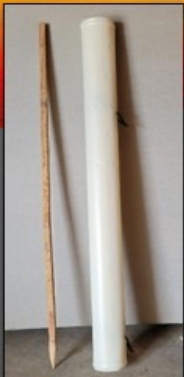
1 quart - Pre Mixed Spray - \$19.00 each

1.3 gallon - Pre Mixed Jug - \$58.00 each

1 pound Powder Concentrate - \$28.00 each

2.2 pound Powder Concentrate - \$47.00

To purchase any of these items, or for more information, stop in the office or call 815-772-2124 ext 3. Thank you.



## Whiteside Co. SWCD 2026 RPM Spring Tree Order

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

| Species                                            | Price Each | Quantity                    | Total |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| American Arborvitae (White Cedar)                  | \$26.00    |                             |       |
| American Chestnut                                  | \$25.00    |                             |       |
| American Hazelnut                                  | \$20.00    |                             |       |
| American Plum                                      | \$21.00    |                             |       |
| Bald Cypress                                       | \$23.50    |                             |       |
| Black Chokeberry                                   | \$20.00    |                             |       |
| Black Oak                                          | \$22.50    |                             |       |
| Black Walnut                                       | \$23.50    |                             |       |
| Bur Oak                                            | \$22.50    |                             |       |
| Buttonbush                                         | \$20.00    |                             |       |
| Chinese Chestnut                                   | \$25.00    |                             |       |
| Chinkapin Oak                                      | \$23.50    |                             |       |
| Common Ninebark                                    | \$20.00    |                             |       |
| Deer Apple                                         | \$23.50    |                             |       |
| Eastern Red Cedar                                  | \$25.00    |                             |       |
| Fragrant Sumac                                     | \$20.00    |                             |       |
| Hackberry                                          | \$22.50    |                             |       |
| Native Pecan                                       | \$23.50    |                             |       |
| Northern Red Oak                                   | \$22.50    |                             |       |
| Persimmon                                          | \$25.00    |                             |       |
| Pin Oak                                            | \$22.50    |                             |       |
| River Birch                                        | \$22.50    |                             |       |
| Swamp White Oak                                    | \$22.50    |                             |       |
| Sycamore                                           | \$23.50    |                             |       |
| Tulip Poplar                                       | \$25.00    |                             |       |
| White Oak                                          | \$23.50    |                             |       |
| White Pine                                         | \$25.00    |                             |       |
| <b>All trees are priced and sold individually.</b> |            | <b>Total Payment Due \$</b> |       |

- All species are Potted RPM (Root Production Method). Prices and supply are subject to change due to stock availability.
  - **Trees are to be used for Conservation Purposes Only, no landscaping or ornamental use.**
- Payment must accompany order. Make checks payable to Whiteside Co. SWCD. Mail or bring your order to the office at 400 Wilkens Drive, Morrison, IL 61270. Sorry, No Credit Cards accepted—cash or check only.
- **Order Deadline is Friday March 13, 2026 (No Orders Accepted After This Date) Stock may be limited, order early**
- Order pick-up will tentatively be April 23rd & 24th. You will be notified when your trees are ready for pick up.
- **The District gives no warranty as to growth or survival of the trees. All tree sales are Final—No refunds or replacements.**
  - The sale proceeds support the local conservation efforts of the SWCD.....THANK YOU!!

# Whiteside Co. SWCD 2026 Spring Tree Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

| Species             | Size   | Price Per Bundle (25) | Quantity of Bundles | Total |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------|
| American Arborvitae | 18-24" | \$110.00              |                     |       |
| American Hazelnut   | 18-24" | \$44.50               |                     |       |
| American Plum       | 18-24" | \$41.50               |                     |       |
| Bald Cypress        | 18-24" | \$66.50               |                     |       |
| Black Chokeberry    | 18-24" | \$38.50               |                     |       |
| Black Oak           | 18-24" | \$39.50               |                     |       |
| Black Walnut        | 18-24" | \$40.50               |                     |       |
| Black Walnut        | 2-3'   | \$72.50               |                     |       |
| Black Walnut        | 3-4'   | \$138.00              |                     |       |
| Bur Oak             | 18-24" | \$39.00               |                     |       |
| Buttonbush          | 18-24" | \$37.00               |                     |       |
| Douglas Fir         | 18-24" | \$35.00               |                     |       |
| Fragrant Sumac      | 18-24" | \$39.00               |                     |       |
| Gray Dogwood        | 18-24" | \$35.00               |                     |       |
| Highbush Cranberry  | 18-24" | \$46.00               |                     |       |
| Ninebark            | 18-24" | \$38.50               |                     |       |
| Northern Pecan      | 18-24" | \$48.00               |                     |       |
| Persimmon           | 18-24" | \$40.50               |                     |       |
| Red Cedar           | 16-22" | \$67.50               |                     |       |
| Red Dogwood         | 18-24" | \$35.00               |                     |       |
| Red Oak             | 18-24" | \$37.00               |                     |       |
| River Birch         | 18-24" | \$35.00               |                     |       |
| Shagbark Hickory    | 18-24" | \$83.50               |                     |       |
| Silky Dogwood       | 18-24" | \$35.00               |                     |       |
| Swamp White Oak     | 18-24" | \$43.50               |                     |       |
| Sycamore            | 18-24" | \$39.00               |                     |       |
| White Oak           | 18-24" | \$46.00               |                     |       |
| White Pine          | 18-30" | \$95.50               |                     |       |

| Additional Items                                         | Price Each | Quantity | Total                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Marking Flags (bundle of 100)                            | \$15.00    |          |                             |
| 60" White Tree Tubes (0-50pcs)                           | \$3.75     |          |                             |
| 60" White Tree Tubes (50+ pcs)                           | \$3.50     |          |                             |
| 60" Oak Stakes                                           | \$2.00     |          |                             |
| Tree Mats w/ staples                                     | \$1.50     |          |                             |
| <b>All bareroot seedlings are sold in bundles of 25.</b> |            |          | <b>Total Payment Due \$</b> |

- All Stock are Bareroot Seedlings. Prices and supply are subject to change due to stock availability.
- **Trees are to be used for Conservation Purposes Only, no landscaping or ornamental use.**
- Payment must accompany order. Make checks payable to Whiteside Co. SWCD. Mail or bring to the office at 400 Wilkens Drive, Morrison, IL 61270. Sorry, No Credit Cards accepted—cash or check only.
- **Order Deadline is Friday March 13, 2026 (No Orders Accepted After This Date) Stock may be limited, order early.**
- **Order pick-up is tentatively planned for April 23rd & 24th from 8am—3pm both days, at our office.**
- **The District gives no warranty as to growth or survival of the trees. All tree sales are Final—No refunds or replacements.**
  - The sale proceeds support the local conservation efforts of the SWCD.....THANK YOU!!



# WHITESIDE CO. SWCD 2026 SPRING FISH ORDER FORM



| SPECIES                                                                                                                                          | SIZE                    | PRICE           | QUANTITY     | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------|
| Bluegill                                                                                                                                         | 1-2" Bag of approx. 250 | \$100.00/Bag    |              |       |
| Bluegill                                                                                                                                         | 3-5"                    | \$1.50/Each     |              |       |
| Hybrid Bluegill                                                                                                                                  | 1-2" Bag of approx. 250 | \$100.00/Bag    |              |       |
| Hybrid Bluegill                                                                                                                                  | 3-5"                    | \$1.50/Each     |              |       |
| Redear Sunfish                                                                                                                                   | 1-2" Bag of approx. 250 | \$105.00/Bag    |              |       |
| Black Crappie                                                                                                                                    | 3-5" Bag of approx. 100 | \$130.00/Bag    |              |       |
| Largemouth Bass                                                                                                                                  | 3"                      | \$1.75/Each     |              |       |
| Largemouth Bass                                                                                                                                  | 5-8"                    | \$4.00/Each     |              |       |
| Channel Catfish                                                                                                                                  | 6-8"                    | \$1.50/Each     |              |       |
| Channel Catfish                                                                                                                                  | 8-10"                   | 1.75/Each       |              |       |
| *Triploid Grass Carp*                                                                                                                            | 10-14"                  | \$17.00/Each    |              |       |
| Fathead Minnows                                                                                                                                  | Pound                   | \$11.50/Pound   |              |       |
| HB Blue Dye                                                                                                                                      | Quart                   | \$22.00/Quart   |              |       |
| HB Black Dye                                                                                                                                     | Quart                   | \$22.00/Quart   |              |       |
| HB All Seasons Blend Bacteria                                                                                                                    | Pound                   | \$10.50/Pound   |              |       |
| Triton High Protein Fish Food                                                                                                                    | 50lb Bag                | \$50.00/Bag     |              |       |
| Texas Hunter Automatic Fish Feeder                                                                                                               | —                       | \$1,070.00 each |              |       |
| Electrofishing Surveys                                                                                                                           | —                       | \$975.00 each   |              |       |
| <b>*Triploid Grass Carp orders are due by 3:30pm on April 1, 2026.<br/>           All other fish orders are due by 3:30pm on April 15, 2026.</b> |                         |                 | <b>TOTAL</b> |       |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*If ordering Triploid Grass Carp - please complete the spaces below\***

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Wholly Owned: Yes or No

Water Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Acres: \_\_\_\_\_ Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER!

Please make checks payable to: Whiteside County SWCD - mail to: 400 Wilkens Drive, Morrison, IL 61270  
 Questions? Call 815-772-2124 x 3

**2026 Spring Fish Pick-Up will be Wednesday April 29, 2026 at 9:00 am, at our office.**

**\*\*Important: Channel Catfish - CANNOT be bagged. You must bring a container with pond water for them. Plastic trash cans or coolers work well to transport fish in.\*\***

**\*\*ALL SALES ARE FINAL- NO REFUNDS OR REPLACEMENTS\*\***





# Whiteside Co. SWCD 2026 Spring Plant Order Form



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

| Species                                     | Flower Color | Height | Blooms    | Soil Moisture       | Qty. | Price Each           | Subtotal |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|--------|-----------|---------------------|------|----------------------|----------|
| Prairie Milkweed                            | Pink         | 2-3'   | June-Aug  | Mesic- Wet Mesic    |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Butterfly Weed                              | Orange       | 2-3'   | June-Sept | Mesic-Dry           |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Common Milkweed                             | Lavender     | 2-4'   | June-Aug  | Mesic-Dry           |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Whorled Milkweed                            | Cream        | 1-2'   | July-Aug  | Mesic-Dry           |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Smooth Blue Aster                           | Blue         | 3-5'   | Aug-Oct   | Wet Mesic-Dry Mesic |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Calico Aster                                | White        | 1-2'   | Aug-Sept  | Wet Mesic-Dry Mesic |      | \$3.00               |          |
| New England Aster                           | Purple       | 3-6'   | Sept-Oct  | Wet-Dry Mesic       |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Grass-Leaved Goldenrod                      | Yellow       | 1-3'   | July-Aug  | Wet-Dry Mesic       |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Old Field Goldenrod                         | Yellow       | 1-2'   | Aug-Oct   | Dry Mesic-Dry       |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Rattlesnake Master                          | White        | 3-4'   | July-Aug  | Wet Mesic-Dry Mesic |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Prairie Blazing Star                        | Purple       | 2-4'   | July-Sept | Mesic-Dry Mesic     |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Wild Bergamot                               | Lavender     | 2-4'   | June-Aug  | Wet-Dry Mesic       |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Great Blue Lobelia                          | Blue         | 1-2'   | July-Sept | Wet-Mesic           |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Sweet Black Eyed Susan                      | Yellow       | 4-5'   | July-Sept | Wet Mesic-Dry Mesic |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Yellow Coneflower                           | Yellow       | 4-5'   | July-Sept | Mesic-Dry Mesic     |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Pale Purple Coneflower                      | Purple       | 3-5'   | June-July | Mesic-Dry           |      | \$3.00               |          |
| Cardinal Flower                             | Red          | 3-5'   | July-Sept | Wet-Wet             |      | \$3.00               |          |
| All native plants come in 2.5" x 2.5" pots. |              |        |           |                     |      | Total Payment Due \$ |          |

- Payment must accompany order. Make checks payable to Whiteside Co. SWCD. Mail or bring to the office at 400 Wilkens Drive, Morrison, IL 61270. Sorry, No Credit Cards accepted—cash or check only.
- Order Deadline is Friday March 27, 2026 (No Orders Accepted After This Date) Stock may be limited, order early.
- Order pick-up is tentatively planned for April 23th & 24th from 9am—3pm both days, at our office.
- **The District gives no warranty as to growth or survival of the plants. All sales are Final—No refunds or replacements.**
- The sale proceeds support the local conservation efforts of the SWCD.....THANK YOU!!



Office Use Only:

Date Payment Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Rain Barrels....**

### ***What is a Rain Barrel?***

A rain barrel is a system that collects and stores rainwater from your roof that would otherwise be lost to runoff and diverted to storm drains and streams. These rain barrels are recycled 55 gallon drums with a vinyl hose, PVC couplings, and a screen grate to keep debris and insects out.

### ***Why Would I Want a Rain Barrel?***

Conserve water – A half inch of rain can fill a typical 50-55 gallon rain barrel, allowing homeowners to save hundreds of gallons of water during the growing season.

Save money and energy – Lawn and garden watering make up nearly 40% of total household water use during the summer months. This decreased demand for treated tap water not only helps protect the environment, but also saves money and energy.

Reduce water pollution – Rain barrels reduce storm water runoff, which can contain pollutants like sediment, oil, grease, bacteria, and nutrients.

Improve the health of your gardens, lawns, and trees by using a natural water source - Provides an ample supply of free “soft water” to homeowners, providing no chlorine, lime, or calcium making it ideal for gardens, flower beds, and car and window washing. Using harvested rain water offers a natural alternative to the chemicals and hard water that many of our municipal water systems can produce.

To teach and encourage others – You will help to spread the culture of rain-water collection and in turn, help our larger community and the environment.

The Whiteside County Soil and Water Conservation District sells rain barrels for \$85.00 each or \$80.00 for 2+.

Call the office at 815-772-2124 ext 3, to check on availability or stop by the office for more details.



### **CRP Assistance:**

CRP is a conservation program administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Sign-ups and contracts are handled through FSA staff, the technical aspects of CRP are handled through NRCS and associated contracted staff (SWCD's, Pheasants Forever, NWTf etc). NRCS and associated partners develop the conservation plans and job sheets, in addition to certifications and status reviews. Participants with questions regarding CRP and associated eligibility should be directed to FSA however, if the question is technical in nature, it will then be forwarded to NRCS.

NRCS and partner staff with delegated authority as an apprentice planner or certified conservation planner, will have the ability to develop plans, job sheets and complete reviews. Planners involved in the development of a plan or review of a plan's implementation, or status will have to provide information as needed, pertinent to contracting issues involved with compliance or implementing a practice. Issues that could arise with the compliance of a CRP contract need to be discussed with FSA and the technical staff or could be appealed to the County Committee.



# PHEASANT FEST & QUAIL CLASSIC

Presented by **FEDERAL** 

## 2026 NATIONAL PHEASANT FEST & QUAIL CLASSIC

FEBRUARY 20-22, 2026 | MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION CENTER | MINNEAPOLIS, MN

WHAT IS PHEASANT FEST & QUAIL CLASSIC? Pheasant Fest & Quail Classic is a trade show that will focus on wildlife conservation, upland game bird hunting (pheasant and quail), dog training, and wildlife habitat management and restoration. In connection with the trade show, Pheasants Forever will hold seminars on habitat improvement, pheasant hunting, shooting sports, wild game cooking, dog training, and conservation and lots more!

For more information on Pheasant Fest, including ticket prices, visit— <https://www.pheasantsforever.org/Pheasant-Fest.aspx> (Image and information courtesy of pheasantsforever.org)

### ***Pheasants Forever Illinois Seed Program***

Partnering with Illinois Pheasants Forever, we are a habitat seed dealer. We offer food plot, prairie grass, cool season, fire break and pollinator seed mixes. We are here to help you decide what mixes work for you and your habitats. If you have any questions, call the office at 815-772-2124 ext. 3.



We offer food plot, prairie grass, cool season, fire break and pollinator seed mixes through the Quail & Upland Game Alliance. The mixes are comparable to those of Pheasants Forever. We are here to help you decide what mixes work for you and your habitats. If you have any questions, call the office at 815-772-2124 ext. 3.



## AmeriCorps Seniors



**Lifescape's AmeriCorps Seniors  
connects adults 55+ with volunteer  
opportunities in Whiteside County.**

**To learn more:**

**Email [khaak@lifescapeservices.org](mailto:khaak@lifescapeservices.org)**

**Call 815.490.1124 or visit  
[www.lifescapeservices.org](http://www.lifescapeservices.org)**

