



Tippecanoe Soil and Water Conservation District

2007 Annual Report

Our Mission:

The Tippecanoe County Soil and Water Conservation District is committed to provide quality technical, educational, and informational resources for the community through leadership, service, and citizen involvement to foster natural resource conservation and environmental stewardship.

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

March 1, 2007

The Tippecanoe County Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting and luncheon was held on Thursday, March 1, 2007, in combination with a daylong workshop at the JS Wright Forestry Center in West Lafayette, Indiana.

The day was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by District Administrator Chris Remley immediately following registration. Supervisor and staff introductions were made, followed by a brief presentation on how the SWCD was organized and its primary function. Progress was reported on the 2005-2010 Long Range Plan and conservation awards were presented. The 2006 Conservation Farmer of the Year Award was presented to Roger Verhey. Master Farm Conservationist Award for 2006 was next awarded to Dale Workman, and Tippecanoe County's River Friendly Farmer award was presented to Dean Craig. The District's first urban conservation awards were presented. David Kovich of Komark Ltd received the Urban Development award, while Karen Miller and Mark Krivchenia received the Community Conservation award.

Participants were provided information on the day's agenda, and were dismissed to their morning workshop session. Immediately following the morning workshop, was a lunch buffet catered by Parrett's. Beginning at 12:30 p.m., the Annual Meeting was called to order. Supervisor, Jim King suggested that in the interest of time, the actual reading of the 2006 Annual Meeting Minutes and Financial Report be foregone and requested a motion to accept both as presented. Said motion was made and seconded, carrying unanimously.

At this time, special guests and the Election Committee was recognized. Roger Verhey was the only nominee on the ballot. Dan Dunten, ISDA District Support Specialist then presided over the supervisor election calling for other nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed, carrying unanimously. Since there were no other nominations from the floor, Roger Verhey was elected for an additional three year term.

Immediately following the business meeting was the featured program "Snakes Alive". At the conclusion of the featured program, participants were dismissed to attend their afternoon workshop session.

Immediately following the afternoon workshop session, participants were brought back together and reminded to turn in their evaluations. With no further business, a motion was made and the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Agricultural Workshop Sessions:

Are Biofuels at Odds with Conservation?
Biofuel Production Facilities

Education Workshop Sessions:

Tippecanoe's Stormwater: Phase II Plan in Action
Master Gardener's Expertise in Your Backyard

Urban Workshop Sessions:

Backyard Conservation Practices for Homeowners
Low Impact Development (LID) & Other Green Design Strategies

Meeting attendance – 51

Minutes recorded by Chris Remley.



ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY SWCD

January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007

Balance Brought Forward	\$ 10,723.97	\$ 10,723.97
RECEIPTS		
State for District Operations	10,000.00	
Clean Water Indiana Grant	10,107.38	
County for District Operations	15,000.00	
Other Grants (List)	0.00	
Total Intergovernmental Receipts		35,107.38
Equipment Rental & Farm Income	4,787.00	
Other Charges for Services - NPDES Phase II Education Costs	7,091.79	
Total Charges for Services		11,878.79
Annual Meeting Income	288.00	
Interest from Checking, CDs, Savings, Etc.	39.62	
Reimbursements & Refunds	508.54	
Sales Income	26,720.90	
Total Miscellaneous Revenue		27,557.06
Sub-Total (before investment activity)	74,543.23	74,543.23
TOTAL (balance forward + receipts + investments)	85,267.20	85,267.20
DISBURSEMENTS		
Capital Outlays (Equipment)	12,747.54	12,747.54
Annual Meeting Expenses	1,947.88	
Audit Expense	0.00	
Conservation Education Programs	5,878.49	
Contractual Services	500.00	
Dues & Subscriptions	2,380.00	
Office Supplies	584.13	
Other Services & Charges	1,918.14	
Postage & Delivery Expenses	1,227.73	
Printing/Copying Expense	812.40	
Rent	8,950.00	
Repair Expenses	3,314.70	
Sales Tax Paid to Ind. Dept. of Revenue	1,496.66	
Supplies for Resale	11,005.16	
Telephone or Other Utilities	294.68	
Travel/Lodging/Mileage/Registration/Meals	2,612.84	
Other Disbursements (Describe) - Awards	553.01	
Other Disbursements (Describe) - Advertising & Marketing	2,748.11	
Other Disbursements (Describe) - Insurance	1,675.00	
Other Disbursements (Describe) - Training	1,578.00	
Total General Government Disbursements		49,476.93
Sub-Total (before investment activity)	62,224.47	62,224.47
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (disbursements + investments)	62,224.47	62,224.47
BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31	23,042.73	23,042.73
CLAIMS PAID BY COUNTY		
	Salaries + Fringe	Other
Totals Only	160,562.01	\$0.00

Priority #1 - Riparian Buffers

By 2010, Riparian Buffers will be planned on 235 acres & wildlife habitat increased.

By definition, a riparian buffer is a zone of trees, shrubs, and grasses along a stream corridor established to protect and improve water quality. This zone filters and removes nutrients and sediment from runoff, supplies food, habitat and shade for fish and wildlife, protects the bank from erosion and moderates flood damage.

In addition to environmental benefits, there are also financial incentives. Cropland adjacent to streams, ditches and watercourses, may be eligible for cost-share assistance and annual rental payments for the area taken out of crop production.



There are 4,691 acres of buffers needed in Tippecanoe County covering 107 stream miles in 5 priority watersheds.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2007:

- 100% of installed conservation practices mapped
- 65 acres WRP buffers planned with an additional 128 acres installed
- 128 acres wetland wildlife habitat management planned with 130 acres installed
- 2038 acres upland wildlife habitat management planned with 1,476 acres installed
- 268 acres of filterstrips planned
- SWCD warm season grass drill utilization
- Grant awards continued from Clean Water Indiana, the Indiana Smallmouth Organization, and Tipmont REMC's EnviroWatts program
- Agricultural Edition of the SWCD Newsletter "Conservation Today for Tomorrow"
- Newspaper articles printed in the Journal & Courier
- 82% complete for planning of 235 acres of riparian buffers

Priority #2 - Conservation Tillage

By 2010, Conservation Tillage on erosive soils will reach 50,000 acres

On cropland with highly erodible soils, steep slopes, or areas adjacent to riparian zones, crop residue can provide the necessary soil protection to effectively reduce wind and water erosion. By reducing the tillage of the ground from conventional tillage to conservation tillage, the results can be easily seen.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2007:

- Co-sponsored a "Crop Production & Residue Management Workshop – Focused on Lo-till
- Co-sponsored a "Conservation Tillage" Field Day at Purdue University's Throckmorton Farm where we highlighted residue management, conservation tillage and equipment modification.
- Conducted a conservation tillage transect, documenting tillage methods, crop rotations, etc.
- 70% No-till soybeans in 2007 - 6% increase from 2004
- 20% No-till corn in 2007 - 8% increase from 2004.
- SWCD Newsletter "Conservation Today for Tomorrow"



Conventional Tillage
Plowing/Disking
Results in Bare Soils and Gully Erosion

Conservation Tillage
Lo-Till/No-Till
Results in Ground Cover and Soil Protection



Priority #3 - Soil/Water Education

By 2010, Soil and Water Education will reach 25% more adults, industry, and local government while sustaining current education programs for youth



By providing classroom training, hands-on activities, and other informational programs, the SWCD continues its outreach efforts to educate the community about protection of their natural resources and the importance of water quality in Tippecanoe County.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2007: Total Presentations Given: **281**

- **Formal Youth Education** reached 5350 students through classroom presentations, field days, Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, surrounding county's field days, FFA National Convention, etc.
29% increase since 2004
- **Adult education** reached 939 adults through presentations, watershed festivals, Purdue collaborations & more
136% increase since 2004
- **Industry & Business** education reached 35 adults by increasing partnerships within Tippecanoe County to 8, including Eli Lilly and Co., Alcoa, Insight Communications, WalMart, Border's Books & Music, Pyramid Signs, Sign Art Etc. & Panera Bread
400% increase since 2004
- **Local Government** education reached 24 adults by formal presentations. Local government partnerships include Lafayette, West Lafayette, Dayton, Battle Ground and Tippecanoe County
250% increase since 2004

Priority #4 - Urban Services

By 2010, the Urban Technical Assistance Program will increase by 50%



In countless studies throughout the last 10 years, urban runoff has been identified as one of the leading sources of water quality impairments in the surface waters of the United States. To address these growing concerns, the SWCD Urban Conservation Committee

recommended the development of an urban technical assistance program.

Our goal is to provide information, education and technical assistance to local entities and businesses, to provide assistance to homeowners and individuals with natural resource concerns, and to provide natural resource planning recommendations to the County Area Plan Commission, the Twin Cities and the developing areas of Tippecanoe County.

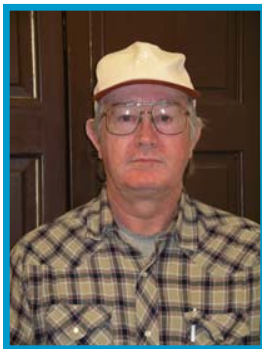
ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2007:

- Utilized \$7,500 of part-time funds for urban conservation assistance
- Provided technical assistance on 17 municipal projects relative to Clean Water Act Phase II and Rule 5 regulations
- Assisted the Area Plan Commission with 39 sketch, draft, and review plans to promote conservation with land use changes.
- Provided onsite homeowner technical assistance
- Awarded first SWCD Community Conservation and Development awards
- Received \$2500 Tipmont Envirowatts Grant to promote Backyard Conservation in Lauramie Township
- Joined Builders Association of Greater Lafayette to promote positive relationships between the SWCD and local contractors

Conservation Farmer of the Year Dan Best

This year's Conservation Farmer of the Year award is being presented to Dan Best. Dan farms approximately 400 acres of land in Tippecanoe County.

Along with farming, he worked a full-time job in Lafayette for 34 years. Dan is 100% no-till on his farm helping to conserve soil and protect the water quality, and most areas on the farm are left to grow naturally unless they are cropped.



Dan has been a District Cooperator since 1998 and his family has been involved in the 4-H program for years.

Congratulations Dan!

Master Farm Conservationist Gerry Risk

This award is a lifetime achievement honor for those who have dedicated their farming careers to preserving and protecting Indiana's natural resources.

Gerry Risk was selected as this year's Master Farm Conservationist. He has been a steward of the land for many years and has utilized conservation tillage, grassed waterways, and planted permanent grasses on severely eroded slopes.

Thanks Gerry for a lifetime dedication to the protection of Tippecanoe County's natural resources.



River Friendly Farmer Paul Ade

Since 1999, key agricultural organizations have sponsored the River Friendly Farmer (RFF) Program. It is designed to recognize farmers who protect & enhance Indiana's rivers, lakes & streams by using sound cropping and livestock management practices in their operations. The 2007 River Friendly Farmer award recipient is Paul Ade. As Tippecanoe County's River Friendly Farmer, Paul was honored at a ceremony held last August in the 4-H Exhibit Hall Auditorium on Farmers' Day at the Indiana State Fair.



Thank you Paul, for your continued environmental stewardship!

Community Conservation Kris Ziller

Our Community Conservation Award was developed to promote & recognize urban conservation efforts by community or civic leaders, homeowners, businesses, volunteers, teachers, students, and student organizations.

Nominated for her volunteer efforts in the Town of Stockwell, Kris organized 'Keep Stockwell Beautiful' & was responsible for locating a recycling center in Stockwell. She also initiated "Tox-Away" and "Bulky Trash" days for Stockwell residents. Kris works extensively with the SWCD and the Solid Waste District on conservation & recycling efforts in the community.

We appreciate your efforts Kris...keep up the good work!



SUMMARY OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES
Provided by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
TIPPECANOE COUNTY - FY 2007
10/01/06 - 09/30/07

Summary Conservation Practices	Planned	Applied
Conservation Cover (327) (ac)	526	153
Conservation Crop Rotation (328) (ac)	7,279	3,506
Cover Crop (340) (ac)		100
Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647) (ac)	113	
Fence (382) (ft)	3,875	8,181
Field Border (386) (ft)	6,770	10,970
Filter Strip (393) (ac)	268	4
Grade Stabilization Structure (410) (no)	1	
Grassed Waterway (412) (ac)	249	11
Heavy Use Area Protection (561) (ac)	1	
Mulching (484) (ac)	3	
Nutrient Management (590) (ac)	6,581	2,932
Pasture and Hay Planting (512) (ac)	10	10
Pest Management (595) (ac)	6,581	2,979
Pipeline (516) (ft)	500	
Prescribed Grazing (528) (ac)	84	152
Pumping Plant (533) (no)	2	
Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till (345) (ac)	218	142
Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed (329) (ac)	7,140	2,952
Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats (643) (ac)	10	27
Stream Crossing (578) (no)	1	
Subsurface Drain (606) (ft)	10,140	6,110
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) (ac)	43	28
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645) (ac)	2,038	1,476
Water Well (642) (no)	2	
Watering Facility (614) (no)	4	
Wetland Creation (658) (ac)		0
Wetland Restoration (657) (ac)	65	128
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644) (ac)	128	130

2007
SWCD SUPERVISORS

Roger Verhey
Chairman

Randy Geswein
Vice Chair

Jim King

Gene Kroeschen

Chuck Shelby

2007
SWCD STAFF

Chris Remley
District Administrator

Linda Eastman
Rural Conservation
Coordinator

Don Emmert
Water Quality Educator

Joe Mallory
Erosion Control Specialist

Rachael Yanni
Storm Drain Stencil
Technician/Coordinator

2007
PARTNERSHIP STAFF

Mark Eastman
District Conservationist
USDA Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Dan Dunten
District Support Specialist
ISDA - Division of Soil
Conservation

For more information on programs and
services available, please contact:

**TIPPECANOE SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

1812 Troxel Drive, Suite C3

Lafayette, IN 47909-7367

PH: 765-474-9992, Ext. 3

FAX: 765-474-1266

www.tippecanoeswcd.org

All programs and services of the SWCD, IDNR, and NRCS are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, age, gender, national origin, religion, marital status, or handicap.