

# TIPPECANOE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



## 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

*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.*



## **SUPERVISORS AND STAFF**

The official governing body of a Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) consists of five supervisors. Three supervisors are elected (one each year for a three year term) at a district annual meeting. Two are appointed (also for staggered three year terms) by the State Soil Conservation Board based on recommendations of the current supervisors in the district. As a result, the selection of all five supervisors is based on local input and through election of the local people they serve.

### **SWCD Board of Supervisors:**

Roger Strasburger, Chairman ~ Elected - Term Expires 2017  
Josh Cox, Vice Chairman ~ Elected -Term Expires 2016  
Dan Smith, Supervisor ~ Appointed - Term Expires 2017  
Curt Vanderkleed, Supervisor ~ Elected -Term Expires 2015  
Krista Ziller, Supervisor ~ Appointed - Term Expires 2015

### **SWCD Staff:**

Angie Miller, Rural Conservationist  
Rick Parsons, Natural Resources Solid Waste Specialist  
Chris Remley, District Administrator

### **Partnership Staff:**

Mark Eastman, District Conservationist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Sue Gerlach, Resource Specialist  
ISDA Division of Soil Conservation

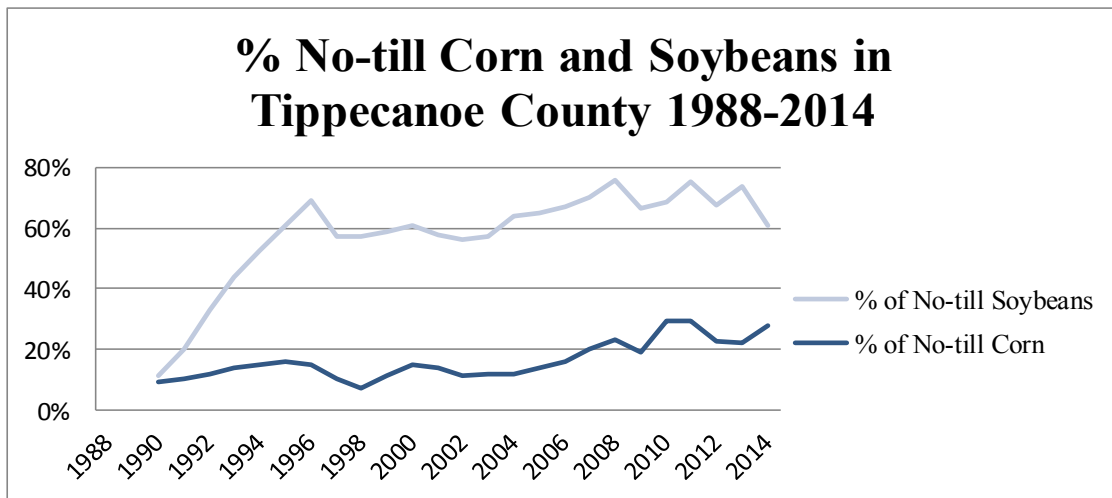
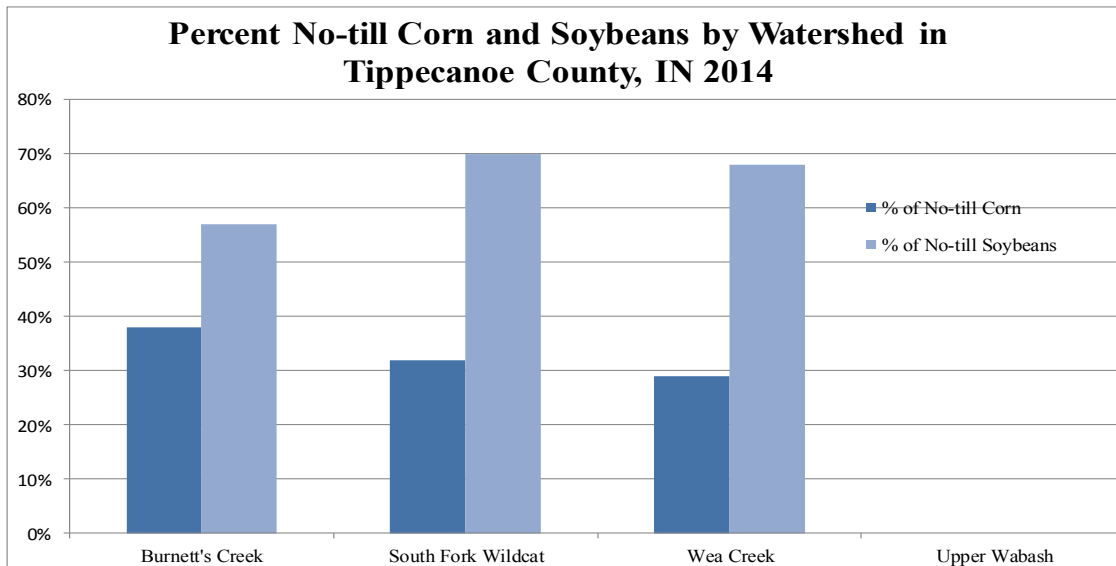
*We are pleased to reflect on our accomplishments of 2014 and hope that you enjoy your fellowship with others who share our commitment to Tippecanoe County's natural resources. These resources sustain our economy and provide the quality of life we seek in clean air, water and soil.*



## STABLE SOILS AND SOIL QUALITY

### RESOURCE CONCERN — SOIL EROSION & SEDIMENTATION

**Our Goal:** No till practices shall be increased by 2,500 acres in the Upper Wabash and Wildcat Creek watersheds by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**



- Conducted site visits with landowners promoting conservation systems on ongoing basis
- Hosted no-till workshops in 2010, 2012 & 2013 partnering w/Greater Wabash River RC&D
- Hosted no-till/cover crop breakfast in 2011 partnering w/Greater Wabash River RC&D
- Allocated \$781,460 on best management practices within the Wildcat Creek watershed affecting 830.3 acres in Tippecanoe County through a \$2.25 million dollar Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI) grant passed through Greater Wabash River RC&D
- Performed annual tillage transect 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2014

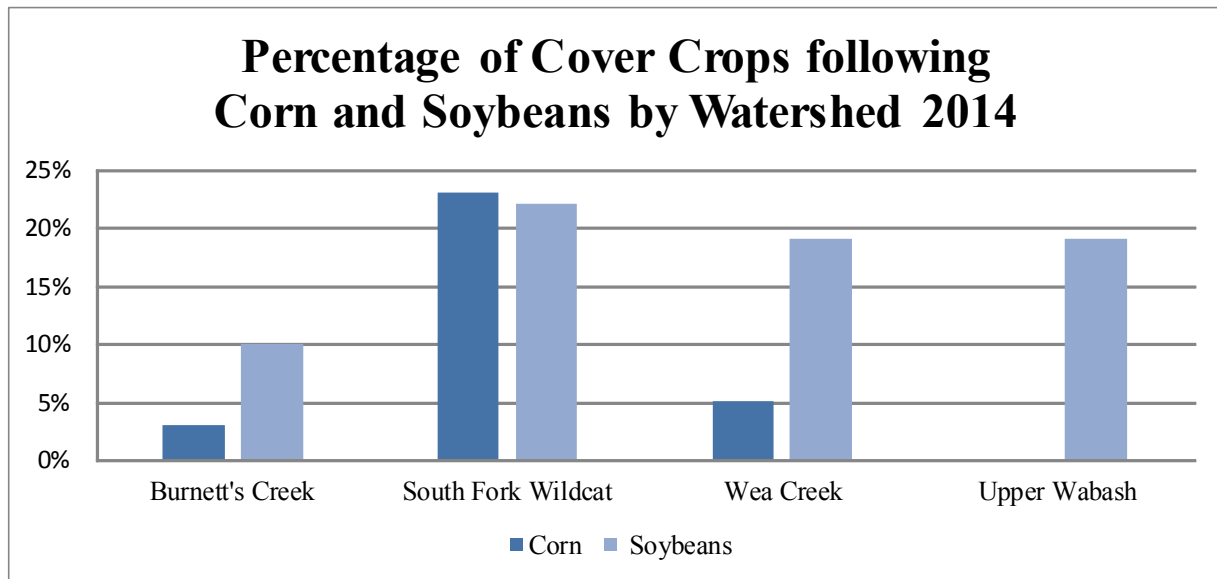


## STABLE SOILS AND SOIL QUALITY

### RESOURCE CONCERN — NUTRIENT & PESTICIDE APPLICATION

**Our Goal:** Cover crops shall be increased by 2,500 acres in Tippecanoe County by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**

- Installed 8,145 acres of cover crops in 2010-2013
- Hosted no-till/cover crop workshop in 2010, 2012 & 2013 partnering w/Greater Wabash River RC&D and the Midwest Cover Crop Council
- Hosted no-till/cover crop breakfast in 2011 partnering w/Greater Wabash River RC&D
- Hosted Cover Crop Breakfast @ Verhey Farms in 2012 & 2013
- Hosted Cover Crop Luncheon @ Cooperative Extension Service office in 2014
- Clean Water Indiana Cover Crop Demonstration Area established and managed 2011-2013
- Provided Clean Water Indiana cost-share funds to two producers in the Wildcat Creek Watershed to establish cover crops in 2014
- Partnered with the Greater Wabash River RC&D on an USDA Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI) grant that included cover crop as a best management practice for the Wildcat Creek watershed in 2010
- Created a contractors list August 2010 specific to cover crop seeding
- Provided technical assistance to the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation installing cover crops, bioreactors and grassed waterways in 2013
- Currently developing inventory of acres utilizing cover crops in rotation, including and defining highest nutrient loading areas.
- Installed 6,857 acres of cover crops in 2014
- Completed first annual county-wide cover crop transect survey in 2014





## STABLE SOILS AND SOIL QUALITY

### RESOURCE CONCERN — NUTRIENT & PESTICIDE APPLICATION

**Our Goal:** The SWCD will educate 20 landowners in high manure application areas on best management practices for manure application by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**

- *Educated landowners on manure application through Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI) in 2010, 2011, & 2012*
- *Partnered with various entities identifying water courses with high pesticide and nutrient levels to create a comprehensive map of practices that aid in water quality improvements*
- *Partnered with Greater Wabash River RC&D and USDA Agricultural Research Service in the collection of nutrient data in the Wildcat Creek Watershed*
- *Hosted a Bioreactor Field Day in 2013*
- *Provided technical assistance to the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation with installation of bioreactors and a grassed waterway in 2013 and cover crops in 2014*
- *Provided technical assistance to the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation for equipment modification and use for manure application as part of a certified nutrient management plan in 2014*
- *Provided technical assistance to USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service with cover crop cost-share under the Environmental Quality Incentive Program*

### RESOURCE CONCERN — STREAMBANK STABILIZATION

**Our Goal:** The SWCD will increase streambank stabilization awareness & education through ten partnering opportunities by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**

- *Conducted site visits with landowners promoting conservation systems*
- *Improved working relationships through SWCD representation at County Drainage Board meetings and discussions relative to ditch banks in 2010, 2011, and 2012*
- *Staffed a display at "Discover the Wildcat" event in 2011 & 2012*
- *Developed a Residential Guide for Soils, Drainage & Erosion Control in 2013*



*about streambank stabilization and other conservation best management practices*





## CLEAN STREAMS & WATER RESOURCES



### RESOURCE CONCERN — NEED FOR BUFFERS AND WATERWAY PROTECTION

**Our Goal:** 125 Acres of Buffers will be installed in the Wea Creek and Wildcat Creek watersheds by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**

- *Encouraging buffer installation as part of a conservation system on an ongoing basis*
- *Identifying & mapping a comprehensive inventory of conservation practices*
- *Installed 124 acres of buffers 2010-2013*
- *Installed 67 acres of buffers in 2014*

**Our Goal:** The SWCD will educate 150 landowners about the benefits and installation of two-stage ditches by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**

- *Partnered with the Tippecanoe County Surveyor and The Nature Conservancy to install a two-stage ditch in 2012 and co-sponsored a workshop on benefits of two-stage ditches*
- *Partnered with the Purdue University and the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation to host a two-stage ditch and denitrifying bioreactor workshop in 2014*

### RESOURCE CONCERN — LAWN FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE CONTAMINATION

**Our Goal:** The SWCD will provide 10 educational and/or outreach opportunities on the environmentally wise use of lawn fertilizers and pesticides by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**

- *Prepared and distributed a letter in 2010 to 15 retail garden centers specific to the sale and use of no/low phosphate lawn fertilizers*
- *Display at Greater Lafayette Home and Garden Show 2013 encouraging use of phosphorus free fertilizer*



## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ~ LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT

### RESOURCE CONCERN — WILDLIFE HABITAT LOSS & FRAGMENTATION

**Our Goal:** The SWCD will educate 750 landowners about beneficial native plants and the negative impact of invasive plants on the environment by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**

- *Formation of local Weed Management partnership in 2010*
- *Partnered with NICHES Land Trust to host two Natural Area Field Days in 2010 about the benefits of native plants and invasive plant control*
- *Co-Sponsored three Forest Management/Forest Biology Field Days in 2011*
- *Partnered with NICHES and Tippecanoe County Parks Department to host two invasive species removal field days at the Tippecanoe Battlefield and Amphitheater in 2011 & 2012*
- *Hosted/Participated in Invasive Plant Workdays in 2011, 2012 & 2013*
- *Educated approximately 1,300 landowners through workshops, group/civic presentations, and the 4-H Fair during 2010-2014*
- *Distributed information and 7,600 tree saplings at Ag Days event 2010-2014*
- *Invasive species control recommendations and pollinator habitat planning in 2013 & 2014*
- *Mapping of invasive species coverage and ecological quality*
- *Partnered with Cooperative Weed Management Area to host a Native Plants Workshop Series in 2013*
- *Distributed native wildflower seeds at Latino Festival in 2014*
- *Display at Greater Lafayette Home and Garden Show 2014 highlighting pollinators and their habitats*
- *Conducted annual spring plant sale and fall tree and shrub sale in 2014*



**Our Goal:** 350 acres of wildlife habitat will be installed in Tippecanoe County by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**



- *Received USDA MRBI-CCPI grant funding in 2011 with a native plant buffer component*
- *Continued Mid-Contract Management Research Plot in 2011*
- *Installed 585 acres of upland and wetland wildlife habitat in 2010–2013*
- *Installed 136 acres of upland and wetland wildlife habitat in 2014*
- *Partnered with specific wildlife groups to install habitat to increase connectivity on an ongoing basis*





## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ~ LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT

### RESOURCE CONCERN — STORMWATER RUNOFF

**Our Goal:** The SWCD will work to reduce stormwater runoff by facilitating programs to establish 250 best management practices by 2014. **What we've accomplished...**

- *Partnered with Lafayette & W. Lafayette to establish rain garden cost-share program in 2010*
- *Installed two rain garden sites at Regency Place and the Lilly Nature Center in 2010*
- *Conducted 12 rain garden and 13 rain barrel workshops for homeowners and businesses in 2010 & 2011*
- *Staff hosted Master Naturalist classes for the Greater Wabash River RC&D in 2011*
- *Sold 256 rain barrels to encourage water conservation in 2010-2013*
- *Promoted and sold native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, grasses and sedges to encourage water absorption in the natural landscape in 2010-2014*
- *Provided Rule 5 administration on submitted Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) in 2010-2014*
- *Coordinated with 38 organizations to promote Wabash Riverfest to approximately 3,500 attendees in 2010-2014*
- *Partnered w/WREC to conduct 165 site visits installing 132 best management practices in 2012*
- *Partnered with WREC to conduct 84 site visits regarding urban stormwater practices, installing 229 best management practices including 7.5 acres of pervious pavement, 4 bioswales, 2 stormwater retrofits, 103 urban trees planted, 16 rain gardens, and 104 rain barrels in 2013*
- *Partnered with WREC, Lafayette, Purdue University and Tippecanoe County for the installation of the Cary Home rain garden in 2013*
- *Partnered with Greater Wabash River RC&D and WREC in the collection of water quality data in the Wildcat Creek Watershed in the spring and fall of 2010-2014*
- *Consulted with City of Lafayette for native plantings along Veteran's Memorial Parkway in 2013*
- *Partnered with WREC, Lafayette & W. Lafayette to implement "Paint the Rain" rain barrel education program and gala in 2013 and 2014*
- *Assisted in the creation of a rain barrel installation video*
- *Partnered with the Greater Wabash River Resource Conservation and Development Council to host When it Rains...Plant a Garden" raingarden workshop in 2014*
- *Partnered with the Tippecanoe County Partnership for Water Quality and the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation in exhibiting a rain garden display at the Tippecanoe County 4-H Fair in 2014.*







## STABLE SOILS AND SOIL QUALITY

## CLEAN STREAMS & WATER RESOURCES

## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ~ LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT

By providing classroom training, hands-on activities, and other informative programs, the Soil and Water Conservation District in partnership with the Solid Waste Management District continues its outreach efforts to educate the community about the protection of their natural resources.

### Education Programs and Presentations...



1/21/2014	Conservation of Water, Recycling, HHW
2/20/2014	Conservation of Water and Soil, Recycling, HHW, Cost Share
2/25/2014	Conservation of Soil and Water Resources, Sustainability
3/5/2014	Paint the Rain, Water Conservation, B.M.P.'s
3/6/2014	Paint the Rain, Water Conservation, B.M.P.'s
3/11/2014	Paint the Rain, Soil and Water Conservation, B.M.P.'s, Cost Share
3/15/2014	Greater Lafayette Home & Garden Show - Pollinators and Native Plants
3/26/2014	Rain Barrels and Rain Barrel Installation
4/2/2014	Rain Gardens, Rain Garden Planning for Installation
4/4/2014	Water Conservation, B.M.P.'s
4/7/2014	Water Conservation, B.M.P.'s, Cost Share, Careers
4/8-9/2014	Ag Days - Importance of Trees
4/8/2014	Rain Barrel Installation
4/21/2014	Importance of Wildlife Habitat
4/21/2014	Recycling, HHW, Water Conservation
4/22/2014	Water Conservation, Recycling, HHW, Paint the Rain
4/26/2014	Water Conservation, Paint the Rain, Native Plants, B.M.P.'s
4/26/2014	Sustainability Practices
4/30/2014	Water and Soil Conservation, Wildlife Habitat, B.M.P.'s
5/5/2014	Cole Pond Day and The Amazing Race - Water Conservation, Fish
5/6/2014	Native Plants, B.M.P.'s
5/7/2014	Paint the Rain, Water Conservation, B.M.P.'s
5/12/2014	Native Plants, Rain Garden Installation
5/17/2014	Mind BOGgling Event - Water Conservation, Sustainability
5/27/2014	Sustainability Practices
6/5/2014	Educational Practices: Recycling and HHW
6/24/2014	Native Plants Workshop, Rain Gardens, B.M.P.'s
7/12/2014	Riverfest - Water and Soil Conservation, B.M.P.'s
7/19-22/2014	4-H Fair - Water and Soil Conservation, B.M.P.'s
8/5/2014	Cole Open House - Pollinators
8/6/2014	Water Conservation, Sustainability, B.M.P.'s
8/16/2014	Invasive Species, B.M.P.'s
8/27/2014	Rain Gardens, B.M.P.'s
9/2/2014	Green Tour, Sustainability, Water Conservation, B.M.P.'s
9/5/2014	Sustainability Practices
9/13/2014	Latino Festival - Rain Barrels, Recycling, HHW
9/16/2014	Wonders on the Wabash Rafting Expedition - Water and Soil Conservation
9/18/2014	Make A Splash - Water Quality and Land Use
9/30/2014	Wildlife Habitat, Water Resources, Native Plants
10/2,7,9/14	Wildlife Habitat, Water Resources, Native Plants
10/17/2014	Native Plants, Rain Gardens, B.M.P.'s
10/23/2014	Recycling, HHW, Sustainability
10/28/2014	Native Plants, Wildlife Habitat, B.M.P.'s
11/5/2014	Rain Gardens, Native Plants
11/13/2014	Recycling, HHW., Sustainability



## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES 2014

*February 26, 2014*

*The Tippecanoe County Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at the Wright Forestry Center, 1007 North 725 West, West Lafayette, Indiana. After networking and dinner being served at 6:30 p.m., participants were provided information on the meeting's agenda, and supervisor and staff introductions were made.*

*Following introductions, the meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Chairman, Roger Strasburger. Strasburger recommended that in the interest of time, the actual reading of the 2013 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, the Election Committee was recognized along with newly appointed supervisor, Dan Smith and elected supervisor nominee, Roger Strasburger. Both individuals provided information about their background and interest in conservation and Election Committee Chairperson Josh Cox presided over the supervisor election calling for nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed, carrying unanimously. With only one nominee, a written ballot is not required. By a simple show of hands with the majority voting in favor of Roger Strasburger's nomination, he was duly elected for a second term, expiring in 2017. Nola Gentry of the Indiana State Soil Conservation Board then came forward to assist with swearing in Roger Strasburger and Dan Smith as Soil and Water Conservation District officials.*

*SWCD traditional conservation awards were then presented, beginning with the 2013 River Friendly Farmer award being presented to Todd Welch. Sara Peel received the 2013 Friend of Conservation award, and the 2013 Conservation Farmer of the Year Award was presented to Osborn Farms. Finally, the Conservation Lifetime Achievement Award for 2013 was next presented to Roger Verhey.*

*At this time, a 30 minute "Snakes Alive" presentation ensued. At the conclusion of the presentation and with no further business at hand, Strasburger called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.*

*Meeting attendance – 62*

*Minutes recorded by Chris Remley.*



## ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

Balance Brought Forward	\$ 16,216.33	\$ 16,266.13
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
State for District Operations	20,000.00	
County for District Operations	15,000.00	
Federal Funds - USDA Contribution Agreement	1,884.30	
<b>Total Intergovernmental Receipts</b>		36,884.30
Equipment Rental & Farm Income	4,355.00	
Donations & Memberships	211.60	
<b>Total Charges for Services</b>		4,566.60
Reimbursements & Refunds	1,016.03	
Reimbursements & Refunds - NPDES Phase II	631.68	
Reimbursements & Refunds - SWMD District	952.23	
Sales Income	13,699.17	
Other Miscellaneous Revenue - Vehicle Insurance Settlement	8,601.00	
Other Miscellaneous Revenue - Sales Tax	1,107.68	
Other Miscellaneous Revenue - Finance Charges	3.88	
<b>Total Miscellaneous Revenue</b>		26,011.67
Sub-Total (before investment activity)	67,462.57	67,462.57
Sale of Investments (CDs, savings accounts, transfers)	10,000.00	10,000.00
<b>TOTAL (balance forward + receipts + investments)</b>	93,678.90	93,678.90
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Capital Outlays (Equipment)	23,617.00	23,617.00
Annual Meeting Expenses	3,535.66	
Clean Water Indiana Projects	0.00	
Conservation Education Programs	4,293.53	
Dues & Subscriptions	3,970.00	
Office Supplies	2,019.28	
Other Services & Charges	496.81	
Postage & Delivery Expenses	428.28	
Printing/Copying Expense	679.00	
Rent	2,799.96	
Repair Expenses	1,773.53	
Sales Tax Paid to Ind. Dept. of Revenue	1,099.61	
Supplies for Resale	10,827.88	
Telephone or Other Utilities	1,627.75	
Travel/Lodging/Mileage/Registration/Meals	1,487.86	
Other Disbursements - Advertising & Marketing	1,765.22	
Other Disbursements - Awards	440.64	
Other Disbursements - Insurance	2,129.05	
Other Disbursements - Training	2,627.48	
<b>Total General Government Disbursements</b>		42,001.54
Sub-Total (before investment activity)	65,618.54	65,618.54
Purchase of Investments (CDs, savings accounts, transfers)	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (disbursements + investments)</b>	65,618.54	65,618.54
<b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31</b>	28,060.36	28,060.36
<b>Investments &amp; Cash Boxes</b>		20,337.94
<b>Claims paid by County - Salaries &amp; Fringe</b>	189,625.64	189,625.64





## TIPPECANOE COUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

*Summary of Conservation Practices Provided by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Fiscal Year 2014 ~ 10/01/13 through 09/30/14*

Summary Conservation Practices	Planned	Applied
Access Control (472) (ac)	38	38
Brush Management (314) (ac)	114	114
Conservation Cover (327) (ac)	41	85
Conservation Crop Rotation (328) (ac)	789	2,965
Cover Crop (340) (ac)	2,928	6,857
Critical Area Planting (342) (ac)	3	7
Denitrifying Bioreactor (747) (ac)	4	0
Drainage Water Management (554) (ac)	18	0
Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647) (ac)	22	5
Fence (382) (ft)	1350	0
Field Border (386) (ac)	3	3
Forage and Biomass Planting (512) (ac)	273	93
Forage Harvest Management (511) (ac)	27	37
Grade Stabilization Structure (410) (no)	3	3
Grassed Waterway (412) (ac)	8	53
Lined Waterway or Outlet (468) (ft)	40	40
Mulching (484) (ac)	3	3
Nutrient Management (590) (ac)	75	386
Pond (378) (no)	1	0
Prescribed Grazing (528) (ac)	22	22
Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (329) (ac)	562	1,602
Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345) (ac)	227	1,296
Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats (643) (ac)	33	33
Riparian Forest Buffer (391) (ac)	5	2
Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops (798) (sq ft)	6505	0
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580) (ft)	115	0
Structure for Water Control (587) (no)	1	1
Subsurface Drain (606) (ft)	13,605	13,605
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) (ac)	72	24
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645) (ac)	4	15
Waste Recycling (633) (ac)	82	82
Wetland Enhancement (659) (ac)	1	1
Wetland Restoration (657) (ac)	25	25
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644) (ac)	32	32
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380) (ft)	2,790	0



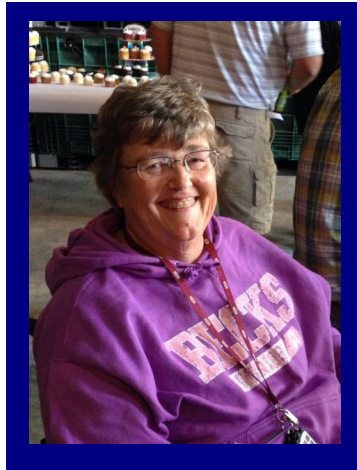


## AWARDS

### **NOLA GENTRY IS THE RECIPIENT OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY'S 2014 CONSERVATION LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

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

Nola Gentry chose to farm because her family had been doing so for generations. She grew up on a farm in Hamilton County. In 1981, she began managing ground in Tippecanoe County. During the mid-1980s, grassed waterways were installed to reduce erosion from surface water and to trap sediment before it could reach water bodies, improving water quality.



In the 1990s, Nola began working with her tenant farmers to reduce tillage, and her current tenant farmer carries on this tradition by using no-till or minimum tillage practices. A Salford vertical tillage tool has been used to decrease soil disturbance, and the reduction in tillage has improved the soil health. Decreased tillage reduces erosion and increases water infiltration. Crop residues help cover the soil's surface, reducing erosion. As the residue decomposes, it adds organic matter to the soil. Increased earthworm activity on the farm

is evidence that soil organisms are present and are improving soil health. The increased soil organic matter allows the soil to hold moisture, making it more resilient. Regular soil testing is conducted to monitor the condition of the soil.

Precision agriculture is utilized as a part of nutrient management, meaning that fertilizers are applied at the proper time and at the correct location and rate. This decreases the likelihood that excess nutrients will leach into water bodies or volatilize. Nutrient management, like split-applications for side dressing corn, manure management, and the use of precision sprayer nozzles ensure that nutrients are applied only where they are needed.

The farm also contains several large tracts of managed woodlands. Over the last several years, efforts have been made to improve the health of the woods. Trees have been selectively harvested, and work is being conducted to remove invasive species, like bush honeysuckle. Eventually, Nola hopes to enroll it as Classified Forest. Sandy knolls at the edge of the woods have been taken out of production and converted to grassy, natural areas. The forest, along with the grassy edge habitat, is beneficial to wildlife.

Soil and water conservation has always been important to Nola. Her father was a founding member of the Hamilton County SWCD, so she has realized the value of conservation from a young age. Nola says that "it is important to be a good steward of the land because you have it temporarily, and need to maintain it for the future."

Congratulations, Nola and thank you for all you've done for conservation in Tippecanoe County!



## 2014 RIVER FRIENDLY FARMER - VINCE WINKLER

*The River Friendly Farmer (RFF) statewide initiative recognizes farmers, who through good production management practices helps keep Indiana's rivers, lakes and streams clean, and Vince Winkler was selected as Tippecanoe County's award recipient.*

Vince Winkler and his wife Julie moved to Tippecanoe County from Delaware, where they had very different soils. "We appreciate the valuable soil resources on the property and wanted to not only protect, but improve this resource," says Vince.

Winkler Farms uses precision agriculture technology plus a minimum, low-till or no-till cropping system. Nutrient management, like split-application for side dressing corn, manure management, and use of precision sprayer nozzles ensure that nutrients are applied only where they are needed. They have noticed visible improvements in the health of the soil including increased worm populations, better tilth, and less ponding. The reduction in tillage has created less erosion and kept soil and nutrients in the field and out of the water.



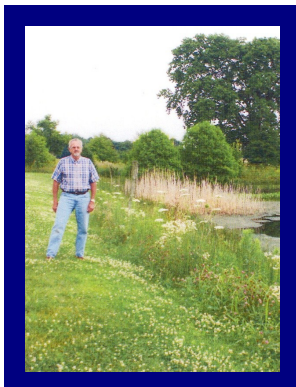
Winkler Farms, located in Battle Ground, produce corn, soybeans, wheat, as well as ten acres of farm market produce which includes a wide variety of crops, such as strawberries, melons, tomatoes, peppers, green beans and sweet corn. Their excellent produce operation has received the USDA Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certification which emphasizes food safety.

The Winklers run their own farm market and sell produce at local farmer's markets. Interaction with the customer provides them the opportunity to discuss with conservation practices they implement on their farm and how their food is produced. One message that the Winklers emphasize is the importance of patience and allowing time for the conservation practices to work; noting that the results are definitely worth the wait!

Thank you, Vince, for your efforts as Tippecanoe County's 2014 River Friendly Farmer!

---

## 2014 CONSERVATION FARMER OF THE YEAR IS JACK LAHRMAN



*This award is given to a producer in the county who exhibits an outstanding dedication to conservation through consistent implementation of conservation practices.*

Jack Lahrman is a grain production farmer, and is passionate about farming and the benefits of conservation. His operations are no-till, and he has switched to pesticide resistant corn so he can limit his interactions with pesticides and reduce use throughout the entire farming operation.

Jack once stated "I know conservation is important and it is the right thing to do." He has created his own blog that focuses on items of importance to him which includes his passion for the land and conservation. Jack even placed a photo of a grassed waterway installed for erosion control on his blog that reads "Good Stewardship Pays!"



## AWARDS



### **LENNY FARLEE IS TIPPECANOE COUNTY'S 2014 FRIEND OF CONSERVATION AWARD WINNER**

*The Friend of Conservation award promotes & recognizes conservation efforts by community or civic leaders, homeowners, businesses, volunteers, teachers, students, and student organizations.*

Those nominated for the Friend of Conservation Award must have made a positive contribution to soil and water conservation efforts through their public conservation education/outreach programs.

Lenny Farlee is an Extension Forester with the Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center, Purdue University Department of Forestry and Natural Resources. He began his career as a Nursery Forester with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). He furthered his career within IDNR, serving as a District Forester for 15 years. In this role, he served landowners in a 10 county area, including Tippecanoe, providing advice and assistance with invasive species, tree plantings, plantation and forest management, forest improvement, harvesting and regeneration.

Lenny has been the program organizer for the Forest Pesticide Training Program since 2009, providing over 300 licensed pesticide applicators with important continuing education credits to maintain applicator certification through the Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC). Along with several partners, he assisted in the development of a new training manual and education program to prepare applicants for their Forest Pesticide Applicators test.

Lenny has affected change in the soil and water community by presenting countless forestry and conservation education programs through his forestry career including the Forest Management for the Private Woodland Owner workshop, an annual Tree Planting Program for Landowners within the Arrowhead Country RC&D area, the annual Indiana Tree Farm Landowners Clinic, and annual presentations for Master Gardener and Master Naturalist programs. These clinics, workshops, and presentations are designed to provide education related to subjects such as tree identification, forest biology, forest management planning and practices, forest investment and taxation issues, selling timber, forest wildlife management, and sources of advice, information and assistance.

Lenny was also involved with the formation of the West Central Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) which is a local organization that brings together all invasive plant management resources across jurisdictional boundaries to benefit entire communities. He has played an integral role in the development and facilitation of CWMA workshops across the state and has cooperated with the Tippecanoe County SWCD to provide two invasive plant management training programs.

Lenny is always willing to help and has a fantastic rapport with conservation professionals and landowners alike. Lenny Farlee is an asset to Indiana's conservation initiative and Tippecanoe County is proud to call him one of our own!



## FARM TO TABLE: Starting Small *Conservation Efforts on Your Small Farm*

# SAVE THE DATE!

**June 25, 2015**

**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**Silverthorn Farm**

**Introduction to Seasonal High Tunnels:** Liz Maynard of Purdue Extension shares how to get started, including information on types of hoop houses, site considerations, and crops.

**Soil Health:** Susannah Hinds of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service offers guidance on the importance of soil health, as well as how to improve the soils on your farm.

**Farm Tour:** Nate Parks owner/operator of Silverthorn Farm leads a tour of his operation.

**Lunch will be provided by The Juniper Spoon**

The Soil & Water Conservation District, Purdue University, & United States Department of Agriculture prohibit discrimination in all their programs and activities and are equal opportunity providers and employers. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of these organizations, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.





## 2015 SPRING PLANT SALE ORDER FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY, ST, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

### REMIT ORDER & PAYMENT TO:

Tippecanoe SWCD  
 1812 Troxel Drive, Suite C3  
 Lafayette, IN 47909-7367  
[www.tippecanoe-county-swcd.org](http://www.tippecanoe-county-swcd.org)

Botanical Name	Common Name	Flower Season	Mature Height	Exposure	Quantity	Price	Total \$\$
<b>FORBS (WILDFLOWERS): 2-3/8" pot</b>							
Aquilegia canadensis	Columbine	May-Jun	2 - 3 ft.	psun-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly Weed	Jun-Aug	1 - 2 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Aster novae-angliae	New England Aster	Sep-Oct	3 - 5 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Baptisia australis	Blue False Indigo	May-Jun	2 - 4 ft.	sun-psun	x	2.50	\$ -
Chelone obliqua	Pink Turtlehead	Aug-Sep	2 - 4 ft.	pshade	x	2.50	\$ -
Coreopsis lanceolata	Lance-Leaf Coreopsis	May-Jun	1 - 2 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Dodecatheon meadia	Shooting Star	Apr-May	1 - 3 ft.	psun-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Echinacea purpurea	Purple Coneflower	Jun-Aug	3 - 4 ft.	sun-psun	x	2.50	\$ -
Eryngium yuccifolium	Rattlesnake Master	Jul-Sep	3 - 4 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Eupatorium maculatum	Spotted Joe-Pye Weed	Aug-Sep	4 - 6 ft.	pshade-sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Filipendula rubra	Queen of the Prairie	Jun-Jul	4 - 7 ft.	pshade-sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Gentiana andrewsii	Bottle Gentian	Sep-Oct	1 - 2 ft.	pshade-sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Geranium maculatum	Wild Geranium	Apr-May	1 ft.	psun-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Helianthus rigidus	Showy Sunflower	Aug-Sep	3 - 5 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Iris virginica shrevei	Blue Flag Iris	May-Jun	2 - 3 ft.	sun-psun	x	2.50	\$ -
Liatis spicata	Dense Blazing Star	Jul-Aug	3 - 5 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower	Aug-Sep	1 - 3 ft.	sun-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Lobelia siphilitica	Great Blue Lobelia	Aug-Sep	1 - 3 ft.	sun-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Lupinus perennis	Wild Lupine	Apr-Jul	1 - 3 ft.	pshade-sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Mertensia virginica	Virginia Bluebell	Mar-Apr	1 - 2 ft.	pshade-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Mimulus ringens	Monkeyflower	Jul-Sep	2 - 4 ft.	pshade-sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Monarda fistulosa	Bergamot	Jul-Aug	2 - 4 ft.	pshade-sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Penstemon calycosus	Smooth Penstemon	May-Jun	2 - 3 ft.	sun-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Phlox divaricata	Woodland Phlox	Apr-May	1 ft.	pshade-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Rudbeckia subtomentosa	Sweet Black-Eyed Susan	Aug-Sep	3 - 5 ft.	pshade-sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Scutellaria incana	Downy Scullcap	Jun-Jul	2 ft.	psun-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Sedum ternatum	Wild Stonecrop	May	3 in.	shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Silene regia	Royal Catchfly	Jul-Aug	2 - 4 ft.	pshade-sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Stylophorum diphyllum	Celadine Poppy	Apr-May	1 - 2 ft.	shade	x	2.50	\$ -
<b>GRAMINOIDS (GRASSES &amp; SEDGES): 2-3/8" pot</b>							
Andropogon gerardii	Big Bluestem	Jul-Oct	4 - 8 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Carex frankii	Frank's Sedge	Jun-Jul	1 - 2 ft.	sun-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Diarrhena americana	Beakgrass	Aug	1 - 2 ft.	pshade-shade	x	2.50	\$ -
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	Aug-Sep	2 - 3 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$ -
Sporobolus heterolepis	Prairie Dropseed	Jul-Sep	1 - 3 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$ -
<b>PRESELECTED MIXES (INCLUDES FORBS &amp; GRAMINOIDS): 2-3/8" pot (see</b>							
<b>Pollinator Mix (34 plants)</b> Nine species of wildflowers & one grass species, adapted to full sun.					x	80.00	\$ -
<b>Rain Garden Mix (34 plants)</b> Six species of wildflowers & two grass/sedge species, adapted to wet conditions.					x	80.00	\$ -
<b>Shade/Woodland Mix (34 plants)</b> Eight species of wildflowers & two species of grass/sedge, shade tolerant.					x	80.00	\$ -
TOTAL							
7% SALES TAX							
TOTAL DUE							

Please make checks payable to: Tippecanoe SWCD

ORDER DEADLINE: APRIL 17, 2015

PLANT SALE PICK-UP: Friday, May 1, 2015 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
 Saturday, May 2, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

For a complete order form including plant descriptions, please visit our website at [www.tippecanoe-county-swcd.org](http://www.tippecanoe-county-swcd.org) or call our office. Plant photos can also be found on our website. THINK SPRING!!!



**TIPPECANOE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**1812 TROXEL DRIVE, SUITE C3**  
**LAFAYETTE, IN 47909-7367**  
**PH: 765-474-9992, EXT. 3**

**[www.tippecanoecountyswcd.org](http://www.tippecanoecountyswcd.org)**



*All programs and services of the Soil and Water Conservation District are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, age, gender, national origin, religion, marital status, or handicap.*