2017 ANNUAL REPORT

TIPPECANOE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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:

Josh Cox, Chairman ~ Elected - Term Expires 2019 Curt Vanderkleed, Vice Chairman ~ Elected - Term Expires 2018 Michael Strasburger, Supervisor ~ Elected - Term Expires 2020 Sally Unser, Supervisor ~ Appointed - Term Expires 2020 Melody Clouser, Supervisor ~ Appointed - Term Expires 2021

SWCD Staff:

Angie Miller, Rural Conservationist Chris Remley, District Administrator

Partnership Staff:

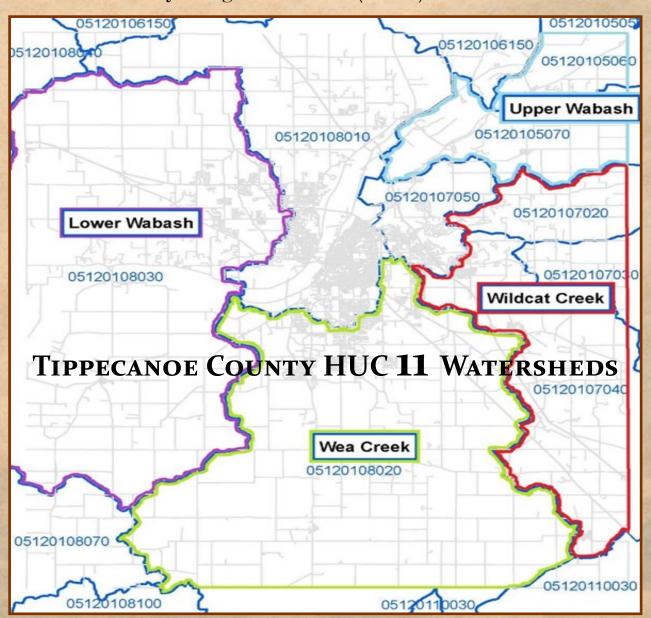
Mark Eastman, District Conservationist USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Katie Fagan, Soil Conservationist USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

We are pleased to reflect on our accomplishments of 2017 that follow 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.

WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is an area of land that collects and drains to one location, such as a river. When rain falls in a watershed, water travels toward the lowest point. Watersheds vary in size and they are identified by numbers called Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUCs).

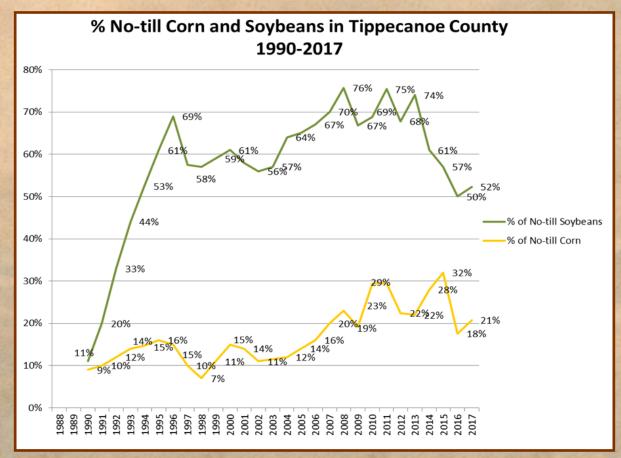


No matter the size, watersheds are important because they supply us with water that we rely on for survival. Lakes, rivers, and wetlands provide habitat for countless species of plants and animals. Human activities within a watershed can ultimately impact the water resources of the area.

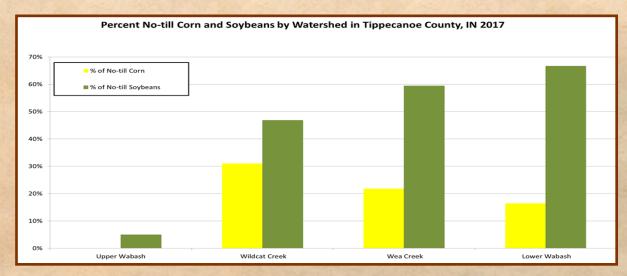
RESOURCE CONCERN — SOIL EROSION & SEDIMENTATION

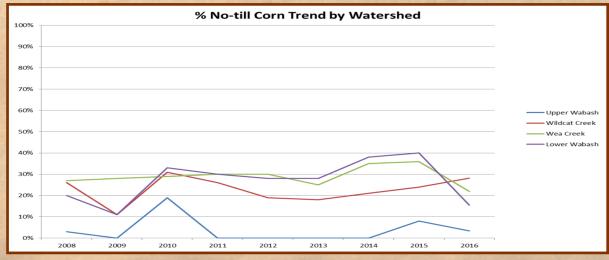
Our Goal: No till practices shall be increased by 2,500 acres from 84,127 acres in 2014 to 86,627 acres in Tippecanoe County by 2020. What we've accomplished...

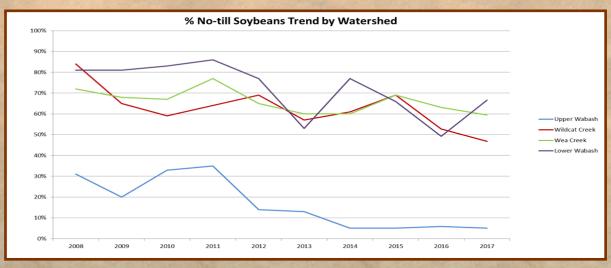
- 2079 acres converted to no-till
- Performed annual tillage transect
- Conducted site visits with landowners promoting conservation systems on an ongoing basis
- Promotion of no-till as part of conservation cropping system through website and social media
- Promotion of no-till and soil health at:
 - Little Wea Creek "MRBI and Pie" outreach meetings (MRBI Mississippi River Basin Initiative) from 2015-2016
 - Cover Crop "Root Dig" event in 2016
 - 4-H Fair "Soil Health" displays from 2015-2017
 - Women Caring for the Land events from 2015-2017



ADDITIONAL NO-TILL GRAPHS:



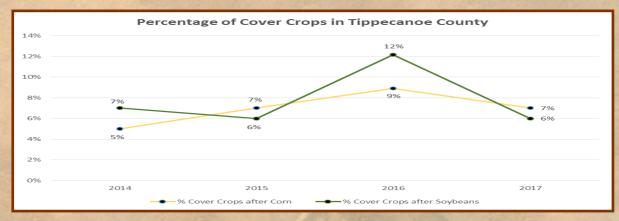


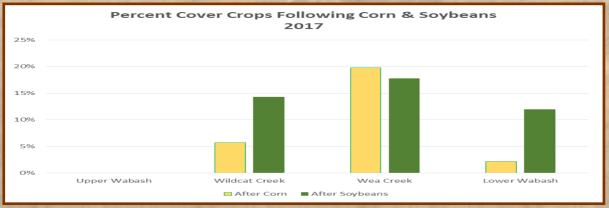


RESOURCE CONCERN — SOIL EROSION & SEDIMENTATION

Our Goal: Cover crops shall be increased by 3,000 acres from 11,523 acres in 2014 to 14,523 acres in Tippecanoe County by 2020. What we've accomplished...

- 5,027 acres of cover crops planted
- Conducted annual cover crop transect
- Conducted site visits with landowners promoting conservation systems on an ongoing basis
- Promotion of use of cover crops as part of conservation cropping system through website and social media
- Promotion of cover crops and soil health at:
 - Little Wea Creek "MRBI and Pie" outreach meetings (MRBI Mississippi River Basin Initiative) from 2015-2016
 - Cover Crop "Root Dig" event in 2016
 - 4-H Fair "Soil Health" displays from 2015-2017
 - Women Caring for the Land events from 2015-2017





RESOURCE CONCERN — SOIL EROSION & SEDIMENTATION

Our Goal: Identify fifty (50) erosive areas for stabilization by 2020. What we've accomplished...

- Conducted 39 site visits with landowners from 2015-2017 to discuss soil stabilization options
- Distributed "Residential Guide for Soils, Drainage & Erosion Control" that highlights streambank stabilization and other conservation best management practices



Streambank Erosion

RESOURCE CONCERN — SOIL QUALITY AND RESILIENCE

Our Goal: One hundred twenty five landowners will be educated to improve soil quality and resilience by 2020. What we've accomplished...

- Promotion of the importance of soil health and conservation cropping systems through website and social media
- Promotion of the use of soil health as part of a conservation cropping system at:
 - Little Wea Creek "MRBI and Pie" outreach meetings (MRBI Mississippi River Basin Initiative) - 18 landowners from 2015-2016
 - Cover Crop "Root Dig" event 20 landowners in 2016
 - 4-H Fair "Soil Health" displays –1000 landowners (general public) annually
 - Women Caring for the Land events 32 landowners from 2015-2017



Women Caring for the Land



Cover Crop "Root Dig"

CLEAN STREAMS AND WATER RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONCERN — EXCESS CHEMICALS, NUTRIENTS, PATHOGENS & SEDIMENTATION

Our Goal: One hundred twenty five acres of buffers will be installed by 2020. What we've accomplished...

- 56 acres installed from 2015-2017
- Promoted installation of buffers as part of the 2015-2016 Mississippi River Basin Initiative outreach meetings "MRBI and Pie", 2015-2017 Women's Conservation Learning Circles, 2017 Forestry and Wildlife Habitat Field Day, and 2017 Indiana Master Naturalist program

Our Goal: Fifty (50) landowners will be educated on streambank stabilization by 2020. What we've accomplished...

- Conducted 28 site visits with landowners, primarily along the Wildcat Creek, to discuss streambank stabilization options from 2015-2017
- Distributed "Residential Guide for Soils, Drainage & Erosion Control" that highlights streambank stabilization and other conservation best management practices

Our Goal: Twenty (20) Landowners who are located in high manure application areas will be educated on best management practices by 2020. What we've accomplished...

• Provided educational materials and information to 10 landowners in high manure application areas from 2015-2017

Our Goal: Two hundred (200) Landowners will be educated on best management practices to address excess chemicals, nutrients, pathogens and sedimentation by 2020. What we've accomplished...

- Promotion of best management practices to address excess chemicals, nutrients, pathogens and sediment at:
 - Little Wea Creek "MRBI and Pie" outreach meeting (MRBI Mississippi River Basin Initiative) - 18 landowners from 2015-2016
 - 4-H Fair "Soil Health" display –1000 landowners (general public) annually
 - Women Caring for the Land event 32 landowners from 2015-2017
 - Indiana Master Naturalist program 15 landowners
 - Cover Crop "Root Dig 20 landowners in 2016

CLEAN STREAMS AND WATER RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONCERN — STORMWATER RUNOFF

Our Goal: Participate in four (4) community events to promote best management practices to reduce stormwater runoff by 2020. What we've accomplished...

- Conducted Spring Native Plant Sale
- Conducted Fall Native Tree and Shrub Sale
- Promotion and distribution of Residential Guide for Soils, Drainage, and Erosion Control at Indiana Master Naturalist Program & Outdoor Explore!







SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

RESOURCE CONCERN - WILDLIFE HABITAT LOSS, DEGRADATION & FRAGMENTATION

Our Goal: Three hundred twenty five (325) acres of wildlife and pollinator habitat will be installed in Tippecanoe County by 2020.

What we've accomplished...

- Installed **521** acres of wildlife and pollinator habitat from 2015-2017
- Promoted native pollinators and habitat creation at Forestry & Wildlife Habitat Field Day, Women Caring for the Land events and Outdoor Explore!
- Supported Million Pollinator Garden Challenge through promotion and sale of native plants
- Developed pollinator garden at Cole Elementary School in 2015
- Developed pollinator garden at Battle Field Park in cooperation with Tippecanoe County Park & Recreation Department & Battle Ground Elementary School in 2016

RESOURCE CONCERN - INVASIVE SPECIES

Our Goal: Three hundred (300) landowners will be educated about the negative impacts of invasive species by 2020. What we've accomplished...

- Conducted invasive species site visits or discussed invasive species with 80 landowners from 2015-2017
- 10 landowners enrolled 221 acres in the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) to address invasive species from 2015-2017
- Outreach at Forestry & Wildlife Field Day 18 participants in 2017
- Outreach at Indiana Master Naturalist Program 25 participants from 2015-2017
- Outreach at Women Caring for the Land events 32 landowners from 2015-2017
- Outreach at Outdoor Explore! Event 1150 participants from 2015-2017
- Outreach at Greater Lafayette Home and Garden Show 250 participants in 2015
- Outreach at Riverfest—200 participants in 2015
- Website/social media outreach







2017 SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

"AT A GLANCE"

NINE (9) ADULT CONSERVATION FIELD DAYS, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS IN 2017 WITH APPROXIMATELY 1700 PARTICIPANTS



- Annual Meeting (56)
- Spring Sampling Blitz (100)
- Outdoor Explore (300)
- Forestry & Wildlife Field Day (18)
- 4-H Fair (1000)
- Battle Ground Rafting Program (108)
- Fall Sampling Blitz (100)
- Indiana Master Naturalist (15)
- Women's Caring for the Land (12)



FOUR (4) YOUTH CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS, PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS IN 2017 WITH APPROXIMATELY 1200 PARTICIPANTS

- Ag Days (500)
- Battlefield Invasive Species Project (150)
- Battle Ground Rafting Program (162)
- Outdoor Explore (350)



SALE ITEMS - CONTAINER TREES, NATIVE PLANT PLUGS AND SEEDS, FLAGS, AND PLAT BOOKS - ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) CUSTOMERS

EQUIPMENT RENTAL - THIRTY (30) RENTALS OF NO-TILL DRILLS, HAND SEEDERS, AND BACKPACK SPRAYERS IN 2017



APPROXIMATELY
3000 FACE-TO-FACE
EDUCATION,
IN-OFFICE, AND
OUTREACH CONTACTS
IN 2017. THESE
NUMBERS DO NOT
INCLUDE SOCIAL
MEDIA OUTREACH.



2017 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

February 22, 2017

The Tippecanoe County Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at the Wright Forestry Center, 1007 North 725 West, West Lafayette, Indiana.

After dinner was served at 6:00 p.m., the meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by SWCD Supervisor, Krista Ziller. Participants were provided information on the meeting's agenda, and supervisor and staff introductions were made. Following introductions, Ziller recommended that in the interest of time, the actual reading of the 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes and Financial Report be foregone and requested a motion to accept both as presented. Said motion was made by Nola Gentry and seconded by Joe Rund, carrying unanimously.

At this time, the Election Committee was recognized along with elected supervisor nominees, Melody Clouser and Michael Strasburger. Both provided information about their background and discussed their interest in serving as a SWCD supervisor. Ziller presided over the supervisor election calling for nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed, carrying unanimously, and the election committee collected the ballots..

SWCD conservation awards were then presented, beginning with the 2016 Conservation Stewardship Award. This award is a local initiative to provide recognition to a producer or landowner who has recently adopted conservation practice(s) which improve soil and water resources. Kerkhoff Ranch, Inc. was selected as our winner, with John Kendell accepting the award. Keep Stockwell Beautiful, Inc. was named the 2016 Friend of Conservation award winner and their award was accepted by Nathan Foley. Keep Stockwell Beautiful, Inc. was recognized for their conservation efforts including establishment of a Recycling program and their annual Bulky Trash, Tire & Electronic collection event, in addition to continued sponsorship of the annual Cole Pond education field day. The River Friendly Farmer award was the last award presented, but unfortunately our recipient, Chuck Brettnacher, was unable to attend. This award recognizes farmers, who through good production management practices helps keep Indiana's rivers, lakes and streams clean.

Following the awards, Lenny Farlee, of Purdue University, Forestry and Natural Resources Department was introduced and presented a 30 minute "Why Manage Woodlands?" presentation. At the conclusion of the presentation, Nola Gentry of the Indiana State Soil Conservation Board then came forward to assist with swearing in Michael Strasburger as the newly elected Soil and Water Conservation District official and Sally Unser as the recently appointed Soil and Water Conservation District supervisor.

With no further business at hand, Ziller called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Meeting attendance – 56

Minutes recorded by Chris Remley.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017

Balance Brought Forward	\$19,338.79
RECEIPTS	
State for District Operations	10,000.00
Clean Water Indiana Grant	6,814.20
County for District Operations	15,000.00
Federal and State Funds (not CWI)	4,185.00
Total Intergovernmental Receipts	35,999.20
Equipment Rental & Farm Income	6,391.55
Donations & Memberships	21.66
Total Charges for Services	6,413.21
Annual Meeting Income	527.52
Interest from Checking, CDs, Savings, Etc.	24.96
Reimbursements & Refunds	4,209.58
Sales Income	40,576.69
Workshop/Field Day Income	261.29
Other Miscellaneous Revenue (Sales Tax & Interest)	
Total Miscellaneous Revenue	1,372.96 46,973.00
	The second secon
Sub-Total (before investment activity) Sale of Investments (CDs, saving accounts transfers)	\$89,385.41
Sale of Investments (CDs, saving accounts, transfers)	\$1.05
TOTAL (balance forward + receipts + investments)	\$108,725.25
DICHIDCEMENTS	
DISBURSEMENTS	10,000,05
Capital Outlays (Equipment)	12,889.97
Annual Meeting Expenses	1,019.52
Clean Water Indiana Projects or other State grant funded projects	6,814.20
Conservation Education Programs	7,605.29
Contractual Services	800.00
Cost-Share Projects/SWCD-Funded	7,075.40
Dues & Subscriptions	3,385.00
Office Supplies	900.22
Other Services & Charges	1,346.69
Postage & Delivery Expenses	295.40
Rent	2,160.00
Repair Expenses	1,460.61
Sales Tax Paid to IN Dept. of Revenue	1,363.35
Supplies for Resale	41,628.83
Telephone or Other Utilities	1,117.82
Travel/Lodging/Mileage/Registration/Meals	480.00
Other Disbursements (Advertising, Marketing, Awards, Training & Insurance)	6,800.57
Total General Government Disbursements	97,142.87
Sub-Total (before investment activity)	\$97,142.87
Purchase of Investments (CDs saving accounts, transfers)	\$81.49
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (disbursements + investments)	\$97,224.36
BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31	\$11,500.89
CLAIMS PAID BY COUNTY	¥ - 1,0 0 0 10 0
Salaries	\$94,072.16
Fringe	\$34,572.60
INVESTMENT INVENTORY	ψθ 1,0 12.00
Beginning Investments	49,921.68
Ending Investments	
Change (+/-)	50,002.12
	80.44
CASH BOXES Potter Cook	200.60
Petty Cash	300.00
Cash Change	0.00

TIPPECANOE COUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Summary of Conservation Practices Provided by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Fiscal Year 2017 $\sim 10/01/16$ through 09/30/17

Summary Conservation Practices	Planned	Applied
Agricultural Energy Management Plan - Written (128) (no)	5	5
Brush Management (314) (ac)	425	268
Conservation Cover (327) (ac)	127	325
Conservation Crop Rotation (328) (ac)	545	784
Cover Crop (340) (ac)	5514	5027
Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647) (ac)	125	45
Fence (382) (ft)	200	150
Field Border (386) (ac)	3	16
Filter Strip (393) (ac)	1	2
Forage and Biomass Planting (512) (ac)	2	27
Forest Stand Improvement (666) (ac)	32	124
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)(no)	5	1
Grassed Waterway (412) (ac)	14	9
Heavy Use Area Protection (561) (sq ft)	4050	4591
High Tunnel System 9325) (sq ft)	1416	0
Lined Waterway or Outlet (468) (ft)	40	40
Livestock Pipeline (516) (ft)	350	870
Mulching (484) (ac)	8	4
Nutrient Management (590) (ac)	133	1626
Nutrient Management Plan - Written (104) (no)	1	0
Pond (378)(no)	1	0
Prescribed Grazing (528) (ac)	12	12
Pumping Plant (533) (no)	1	1
Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (329) (ac)	159	2079
Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345) (ac)	50	592
Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats (643) (ac)	2	0
Roof Runoff Structure (558) (no)	156	116
Subsurface Drain (606) (ft)	6280	4205
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) (ac)	45	63
Underground Outlet (620) (ft)	210	210
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645) (ac)	6	2
Water and Sediment Control Basin (638) (no)	7	0
Water Well (642) (no)	1	1
Watering Facility (614) (no)	3	5
Wetland Restoration (657) (ac)	45	41

SAVE THE DATES!



OUTDOOR EXPLORE!

A FREE PUBLIC EVENT TO TRY DIFFERENT OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES
AT THE TIPPECANOE COUNTY AMPHITHEATER AND
BICENTENNIAL NATURE AREA ON JUNE 9, 2018

RIVER SCHOOL

AN "ADULTS ONLY" EDUCATIONAL RAFTING TRIP DOWN THE WABASH RIVER ON JUNE 30, 2018

NATIVE TREE & SHRUB SALE

25 SPECIES OF TREES & SHRUBS AVAILABLE ORDERS DUE BY OCTOBER 12, 2018

2018 SPRING PLANT SALE ORDER FORM											
NAME:				REMIT ORDER & PAYMENT TO:							
ADDRESS:	Tippecanoe SWCD										
CITY, ST, ZIP:	1812 Troxel Drive, Suite C3										
PHONE:	-		Lafayette, IN 4	7909-736	7						
EMAIL:	-	www.tippecanoecountyswcd.org									
www.uppecanoecountyswcd.org											
Botanical Name	Common Name	Flower Season	Mature Height	Exposure	Quantity Price		Total	\$\$			
FORBS (WILDFLOWERS): 2-3/8	" pot										
Asclepias incarnata	Marsh Milkweed	Jul-Aug	3 - 4 ft.	sun	X	2.50	\$	-			
Asclepias sullivantii	Sullivant's Milkweed	Jul-Aug	3 - 4 ft.	sun	X	2.50	\$	-			
Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly Weed	Jun-Aug	1 - 2 ft.	sun	X		\$	-			
Baptisia australis	Blue False Indigo	May-Jun	2 - 4 ft.	sun-psun	X		\$	-			
Coreopsis lanceolata	Lance-Leaf Coreopsis	May-Jun	1 - 2 ft.	sun	X		\$	-			
Dalea purpureum	Purple Prairie Clover	Jul-Aug	1 - 2 ft.	sun	X		\$	-			
Echinacea purpurea	Purple Coneflower	Jun-Aug	3 - 4 ft.	sun-psun	X		\$	-			
Gentiana andrewsii	Bottle Gentian	Sep-Oct	1 - 2 ft.	sun-psun	X		\$	-			
Hibiscus moscheutos	Swamp Rose Mallow	Jul-Sep	3 - 6 ft.	sun	X		\$	-			
Iris versicolor	Wild Iris	May-Jun	2 - 3 ft.	sun-psun	X	2.50	\$	-			
Liatris 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		\$	-			
Lobelia siphilitica	Great Blue Lobelia	Aug-Sep	1 - 3 ft.	sun-shade	X	2.50	S	-			
Monarda fistulosa	Bergamot	Jul-Aug	2 - 4 ft.	pshade-sun	X	2.50	-	-			
Oenothera pilosella	Prairie Sundrops	Jun-Jul	1 ft.	sun	X	2.50	\$	-			
Parthenium intregrefolium	Wild Quinine	Jul-Aug	2 - 3 ft.	sun-psun	X	2.50	\$	-			
Penstemon calycosus	Smooth Penstemon	May-Jun	2 - 3 ft.	sun-shade	X	2.50	\$	-			
Penstemon hirsutus	Hairy Penstemon	May-Jun	1 - 2 ft.	sun-psun	X	2.50	\$	-			
Ratibida pinnata	Yellow Coneflower	Jul-Aug	3 - 5 ft.	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	\$	-			
Solidago caesia	Blue-stemmed Goldenrod	Sep-Oct	1 - 2 ft.	shade	X	2.50	\$	-			
Solidago speciosa	Showy Goldenrod	Sep-Oct	1 - 3 ft.	sun-psun	x	2.50	\$	-			
Stylophorum diphyllum	Celadine Poppy	Apr-May	1 - 2 ft.	shade	X	2.50	\$	-			
Symphyotrichum novae-angliae	New England Aster	Sep-Oct	3 - 5 ft.	sun	x	2.50	S	-			
Symphyotrichum oolentangiense	Sky Blue Aster	Sep	1 - 2 ft.	sun-psun	X	2.50	\$	-			
Tradescantia ohiensis	Ohio Spiderwort	Jun-Jul	2 - 3 ft.	suns	x	2.50	\$	-			
Vernonia fasciulata	Smooth Ironweed	Aug-Sep	3 - 6 ft.	sun	X	2.50	\$	-			
Zizia aurea	Golden Alexanders	May	2 - 3 ft.	sun-psun	x	2.50	S	-			
GRAMINOIDS (GRASSES & SED)GES): 2-3/8" pot										
Carex muskingumensis	Palm Sedge	May-Jun	1 - 2 ft.	shade	x	2.50	\$	-			
Carex radiata	Straight-Styled Wood Sedge	Apr-May	1 ft.	shade	X	2.50	\$	-			
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	Aug-Sep	2 - 3 ft.	sun	X	2.50	\$	-			
Panicum virgatum	Switchgrass	Jul-Aug	3 - 5 ft.	sun	x	2.50	\$	-			
Sporobolus heterolepis	Prairie Dropseed	Jul-Sep	1 - 3 ft.	sun	X	2.50	\$	-			
PRESELECTED MIXES (INCLUD	ES FORBS & GRAMINOIDS):	2-3/8" pot		•							
Pollinator Mix (34 plants) 9 species	s of wildflowers & 1 grass speci	ies, adapted t	o full sun.		X	80.00	\$	-			
Rain Garden Mix (34 plants) 8 spe		x	80.00	\$	-						
Shade/Woodland Mix (34 plants) 8	species of wildflowers & 2 spec	ies of grass/s	edge, shade	tolerant.	X	80.00	\$	-			
If no sing with a gradit gord girele the gord time and provide the following							s				
If paying with a credit card, circle the card type and provide the following						ş	-				
information: 7% SALES TAX							\$	-			
VISA / MasterCard / Discover / American Express TOTAL DUE							\$				
Card No: ORDER DEADLINE: APRIL 13, 20						18					
Expiration Date: CVV Code: PLANT SALE PICK-UP @ FAIRGE						AIRGR	OUNE	os:			

Friday, April 20, 2018: 5:00 - 8:00 pm Saturday, April 21, 2018: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

If paying with a check, make checks payable to: Tippecanoe SWCD

Payment will be processed at the time of order pick-up.

2017 RIVER FRIENDLY FARMER - PURDY FARMS

The River Friendly Farmer (RFF) statewide initiative recognizes farmers, who through good production management practices helps keep Indiana's rivers, lakes and streams clean.

Our award for the Tippecanoe County River Friendly Farmer of the Year goes to Purdy Farms.



Purdy Farms produces soybeans, corn, wheat and turf grass utilizing crop rotation, no-till, and cover crops (including the wildly popular sunflower cover crop mix- shown left). Cover crops have been beneficial in increasing soil organic matter and reducing compaction. This improved soil health has helped water to infiltrate better and has reduced surface water runoff and therefore a reduction in sediment and nutrients running into adjacent water bodies. Their land also includes both wetlands and woodlots, which provide wildlife habitat. Vegetation runs along ditches to act as a buffer, helping to protect water quality.

Congratulations to Purdy Farms in being recognized as the 2017 River Friendly Farmer of the Year!

2017 FRIEND OF CONSERVATION AWARD WINNER USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY LAFAYETTE OFFICE

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

Our Friend of Conservation Award recipient this year is the USDA Farm Service Agency Lafayette Office. They have affected change in the local soil & water community by encouraging local farm producers and landowners to make wise land use decisions. They discuss cover crop installation to reduce soil erosion and encourage soil health, referring the producer and/or landowner to our office for additional information. They also recommend to producers that they take their less productive ground out of production and enroll it into a conservation program such as the Conservation Reserve Program or CRP. Over the past year, they've enrolled 743 CRP acres with 27 producers/landowners and re-enrolled 117 CRP acres with 27 producers/landowners.



We are pleased to recognize the USDA Farm Service Agency Lafayette Office for their conservation efforts and a great partnership throughout the year!

2017 CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP - DAVID SWANK

This award was created by the Tippecanoe County Soil and Water Conservation District in 2016 and is a local initiative to provide recognition to a producer or landowner who has recently adopted conservation practice(s) which improve soil and water resources.



David Swank is our 2017 recipient. David and his family farm in the southern portion of Tippecanoe County where they produce corn and soybeans. The farm has implemented reduced tillage and cover crops have recently been incorporated into their cropping system; providing conservation benefits associated with soil health, such as erosion control and increased soil organic matter.

Congratulations to David Swank and the Swank family on their conservation efforts!

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



"I consider the soil conservation districts movement one of the most important developments in the whole history of agriculture."

Hugh Hammond Bennett

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.