

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



TIPPECANOE SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

SUPERVISORS AND STAFF

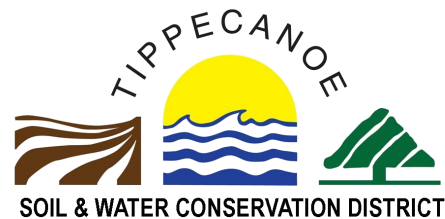
The official governing body of a Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) consists of five supervisors. Three supervisors are elected (one each year for a three year term) at a district annual meeting. Two are appointed (also for staggered three year terms) by the State Soil Conservation Board based 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:

Curt Vanderkleed, Chairman ~ Elected - Term Expires 2021
Michael Strasburger, Vice Chairman ~ Elected - Term Expires 2023
Melody Clouser, Supervisor ~ Appointed - Term Expires 2021
Doug Osborn, Supervisor ~ Elected - Term Expires 2022
Sally Unser, Supervisor ~ Appointed - Term Expires 2023

SWCD Staff:

Angie Miller, Rural Conservationist
Chris Remley, District Administrator



Michelle Gilbert, Conservation Technical Support Specialist
NACD Grant-Funded Position

Partnership Staff:

Mark Eastman, District Conservationist
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



Margaux Zook, Conservation Aide
Purdue University Federal Work-Study Student

We are pleased to reflect on our accomplishments of 2020 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.

TIPPECANOE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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.

Our Purpose:

The purpose of a Soil and Water Conservation District is to provide information about soil, water and related natural resource conservation; to identify and prioritize local soil and water resource concerns; to implement conservation practices and technologies, and to connect land users to educational, technical and financial assistance from local organizations and state and federal agencies.

Because each Conservation District develops its own programs to suit the needs of the people in its county, local citizens play an important role, and each district serves as a means for all interested people in a county to work together for natural resource conservation and development.

Our Vision for Tippecanoe County:

- **Stable Soils**
- **Clean Streams & Water Resources**
- **Sustainable Communities**

STABLE SOILS AND SOIL QUALITY

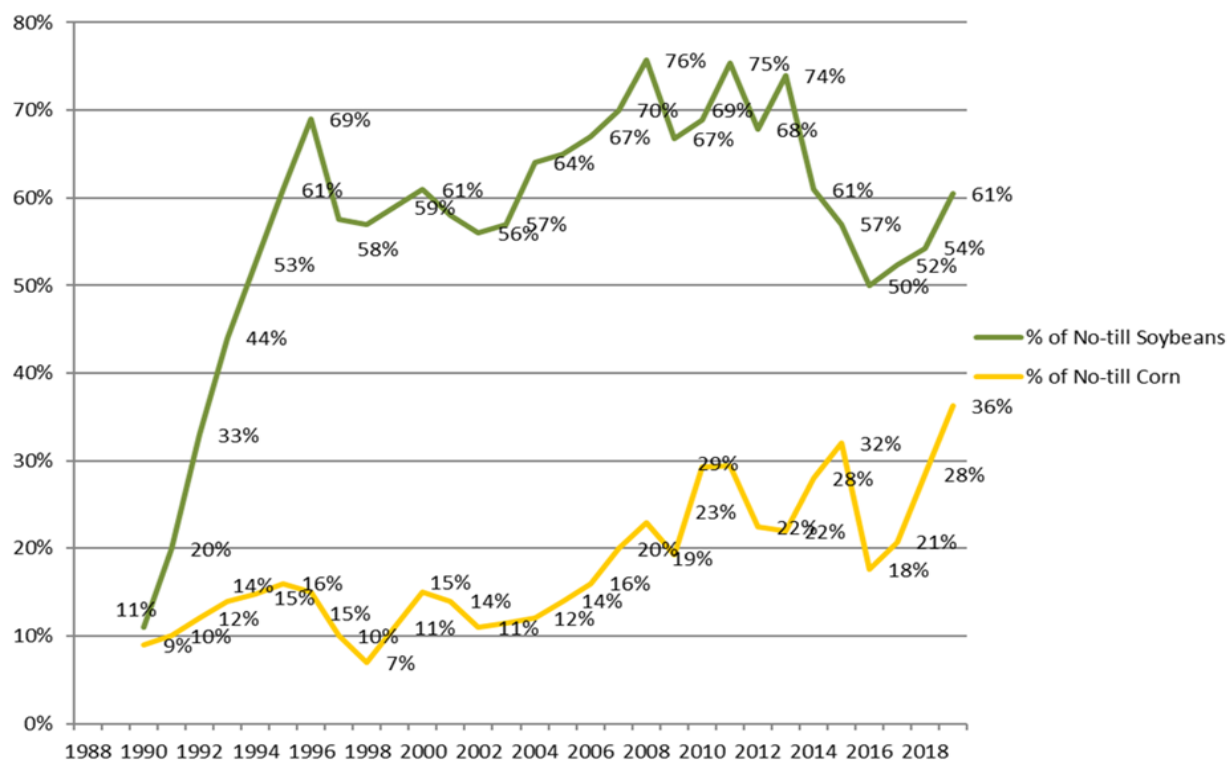
RESOURCE CONCERN — SOIL EROSION & SEDIMENTATION

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...**

- *Increased no-till acres by 8,885 acres from 2015-2020*
- *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 2015-2016*
 - *Cover Crop “Root Dig” event in 2016*
 - *4-H Fair “Soil Health” displays from 2015-2016*
 - *“Women Caring for the Land” events from 2015-2019*

NO TRANSECT SURVEY COLLECTED IN 2020 DUE TO COVID-19

% No-till Corn and Soybeans in Tippecanoe County 1990-2019

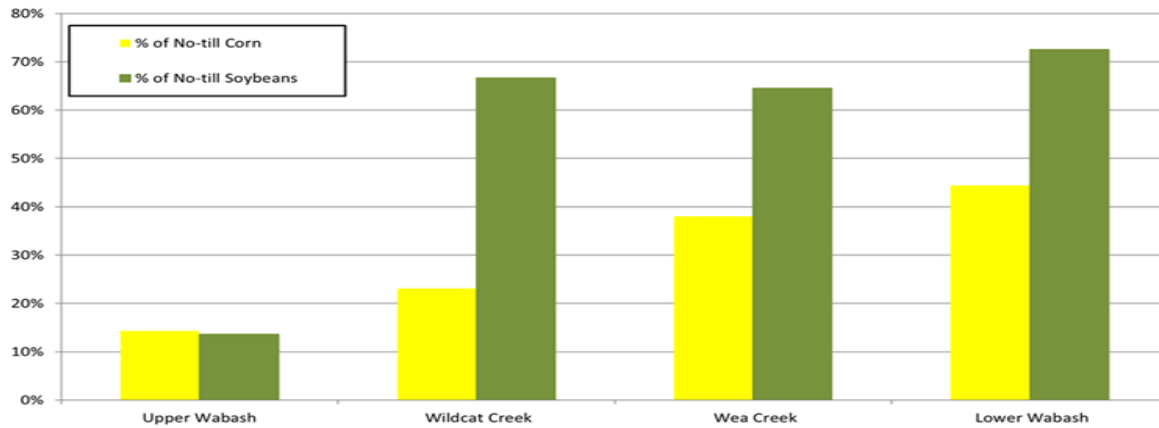


STABLE SOILS AND SOIL QUALITY

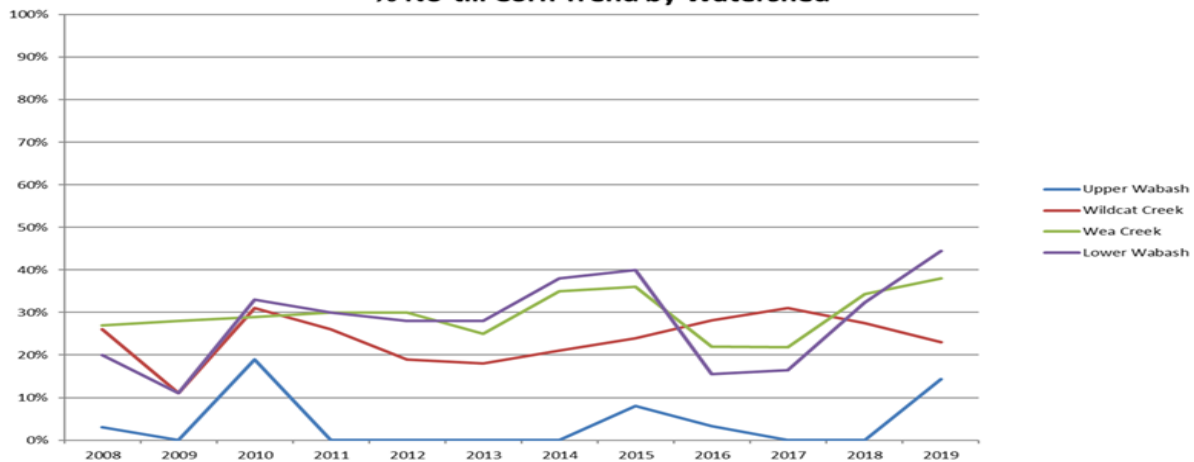
NO TRANSECT SURVEY COLLECTED IN 2020 DUE TO COVID-19

ADDITIONAL NO-TILL GRAPHS

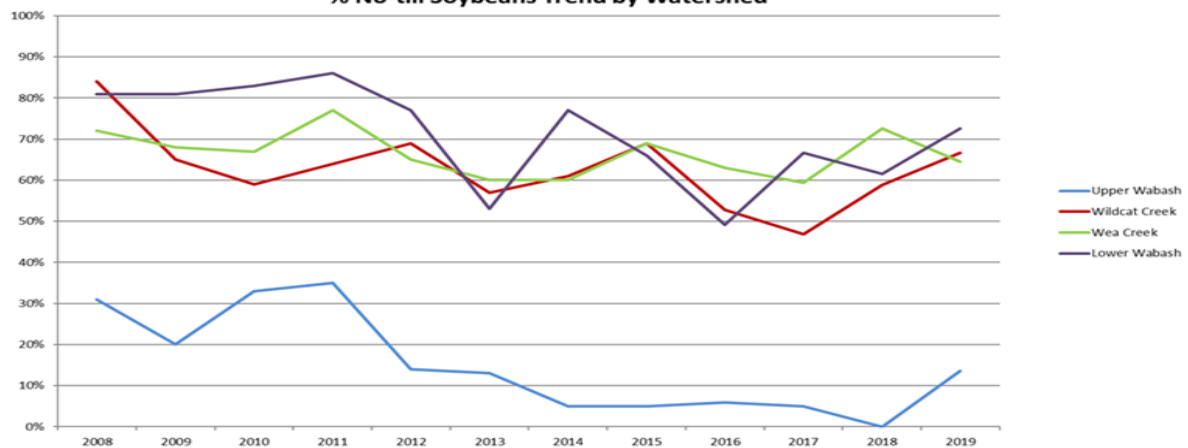
Percent No-till Corn and Soybeans by Watershed in Tippecanoe County, IN 2019



% No-till Corn Trend by Watershed



% No-till Soybeans Trend by Watershed



STABLE SOILS AND SOIL QUALITY

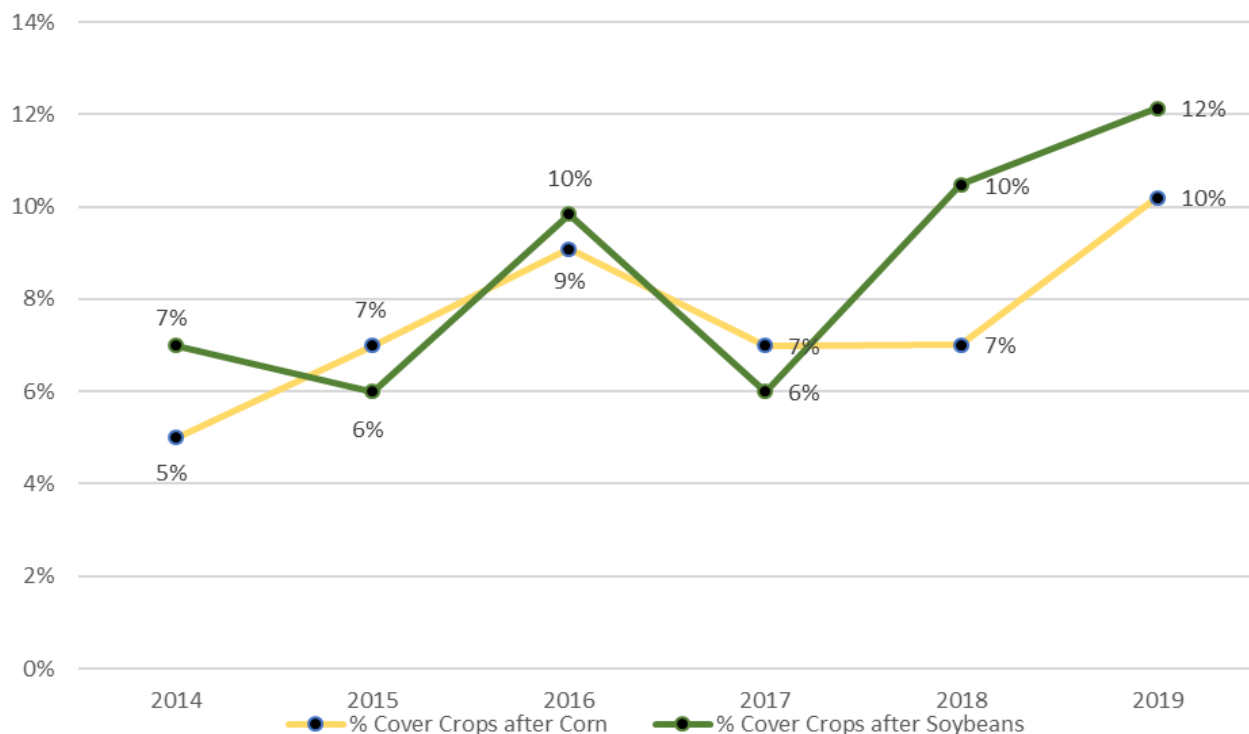
RESOURCE CONCERN — SOIL EROSION & SEDIMENTATION

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...**

- *Increased cover crop acres by 12,512 acres between 2015-2020*
- *Conducted annual cover crop transect*
- *Conducted site visits with landowners promoting conservation systems on an ongoing basis*
- *Promotion of use of cover crops through 2019 SWCD cost-share program, targeting both prevent plant and fall seeded cover crops*
 - *Cost-share program - 390.53 acres*
- *Promotion of cover crops and soil health at :*
 - *Little Wea Creek “MRBI and Pie” outreach meetings from 2015-2016*
 - *Cover Crop “Root Dig” event in 2016*
 - *4-H Fair “Soil Health” displays from 2015-2017*
 - *Women in Agriculture Conference in 2018*
 - *Clean Water Indiana Watershed Grant Recipients from 2016-2018*
 - *“Women Caring for the Land” events from 2015-2019*

NO TRANSECT SURVEY COLLECTED IN 2020 DUE TO COVID-19

Percentage of Cover Crops in Tippecanoe County



STABLE SOILS AND SOIL QUALITY

RESOURCE CONCERN — SOIL EROSION & SEDIMENTATION

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

- *Conducted 66 site visits with landowners from 2015-2020 to discuss soil stabilization options*
- *Distributed “Residential Guide for Soils, Drainage & Erosion Control” that highlights streambank stabilization and other conservation best management practices*

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...**

- *254 landowners educated one-on-one between 2015-2020*
- *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 - 18 landowners from 2015-2016*
 - *Cover Crop “Root Dig” event - 20 landowners in 2016*
 - *Annual Meeting Hugh Hammond Bennett presentation - 72 attendees - 2018*
 - *“Women Caring for the Land” events - 82 landowners from 2015-2019*
 - *4-H Fair “Soil Health” displays – 2015-2017*



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...

- *116 acres installed from 2015-2020*
- *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, 2017 Indiana Master Naturalist program; 2018 Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) filter strip meeting, and 2018 Learn-To-Burn: Grassland Management Workshop*

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

- *Conducted 56 site visits with landowners, primarily along the Wildcat Creek, to discuss streambank stabilization options from 2015-2020*
- *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 twenty-three (23) landowners in high manure application areas from 2015-2020*

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...**

- *160 landowners educated one-on one between 2015-2020*
- *Promotion of best management practices to address excess chemicals, nutrients, pathogens and sediment at:*
 - *Little Wea Creek “MRBI and Pie” outreach meeting - 18 landowners from 2015-2016*
 - *Cover Crop “Root Dig - 20 landowners in 2016*
 - *Indiana Master Naturalist program - 15 landowners in 2017*
 - *CREP Filter Strip meeting - 20 landowners in 2018*
 - *“Women Caring for the Land” events - 82 landowners from 2015-2019*
 - *4-H Fair “Soil Health” display - 2015-2017*

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...**

- *Participated in a minimum of (5) community events annually*
- *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 Outdoor Explore! annually*
- *4-H Fair "Water Quality" display in 2017*
- *Indiana Master Naturalist Program Water Quality Session in 2017 & 2019*
- *Connecting your Classroom to our Indiana State River - 2018 Educators' Workshop*



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 1,360 acres of wildlife and pollinator habitat from 2015-2020*
- *Promoted native pollinators and habitat creation at Forestry & Wildlife Habitat Field Day, Outdoor Explore!; Women Caring for the Land; Learn-To-Burn: Grassland Management Workshop; Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) filter strip meeting; and through website and social media*
- *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 2016 and installed native plants along pathway at Battle Field Park in 2018, in cooperation with Tippecanoe County Park & Recreation Department & Battle Ground Intermediate School*
- *Developed pollinator plantings at Bicentennial Nature Area in 2018*
- *Developed and funded pollinator planting at Tippecanoe County Amphitheater*

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...**

- *479 landowners educated one-on-one between 2015-2020*
- *Movie Theater Advertising 2018-2020 - 590,985 Delivered Impressions*
- *Forestry & Wildlife Field Day - 18 participants in 2017*
- *Learn-To-Burn: Grassland Management Workshop - 16 participants in 2018*
- *23 landowners educated on the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) to address invasive species from 2015-2020*
- *Indiana Master Naturalist Program - 40 participants from 2015, 2017, & 2019*
- *"Women Caring for the Land" events - 82 landowners from 2015-2019*
- *Tippecanoe Invasive Cooperative Task Force - 20 Events with 130 in attendance - 2018-2019*
- *Riverfest - 2015*
- *Greater Lafayette Home and Garden Show - 2015*
- *4-H Fair Invasive Species display - 2018*
- *Outdoor Explore! Event - 2015-2019*
- *Website/social media outreach - 2015-2020*



2015-2020 SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

“AT A GLANCE”

MANY ADULT CONSERVATION FIELD DAYS, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS IN THE LAST 5 YEARS WITH APPROXIMATELY **8,875 PARTICIPANTS**.

- *Annual Meeting (328)*
 - *Spring Sampling Blitz (500)*
 - *Outdoor Explore (1,350)*
 - *4-H Fair (5000)*
 - *Fall Sampling Blitz (500)*
- Just to Name a Few*



MULTIPLE YOUTH CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS, PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS IN THE LAST 5 YEARS WITH APPROXIMATELY **5,275 PARTICIPANTS**.

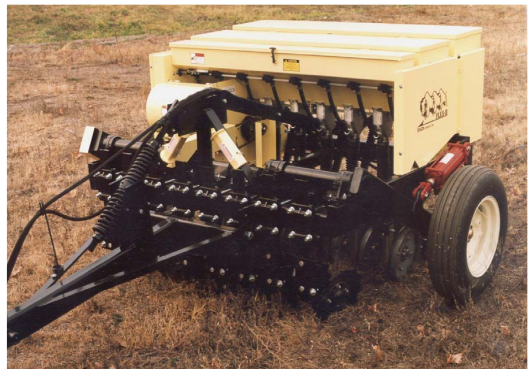


- *Battlefield Invasive Species, Native Plant & Pollinator Projects (450)*
 - *Make A Splash (1,000)*
 - *Ag Day (1,500)*
 - *Outdoor Explore (1,470)*
- Just to Name a Few*

SALE ITEMS - CONTAINER TREES, NATIVE PLANT PLUGS AND SEEDS, FLAGS, AND PLAT BOOKS - SEVENTY HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE (765) CUSTOMER SALES IN OFFICE THE LAST 5 YEARS

EQUIPMENT RENTAL - ONE HUNDRED FORTY-NINE (149) RENTALS OF HAND SEEDERS, BACKPACK SPRAYERS AND NO-TILL DRILL RENTALS

APPROXIMATELY
15,025 FACE-TO-FACE
EDUCATION,
IN-OFFICE, AND
OUTREACH CONTACTS
IN THE LAST 5 YEARS.
THESE NUMBERS DO
NOT INCLUDE SOCIAL
MEDIA OUTREACH.



ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2020

The Tippecanoe County Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 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 6:50 p.m. by SWCD Chairman, Curt Vanderkleed. Participants were provided information on the meeting's agenda, and supervisor and staff introductions were made. Following introductions, Vanderkleed recommended that in the interest of time, the actual reading of the 2019 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 elected supervisor nominee, Michael Strasburger. Strasburger provided information about his background and discussed his interest in continuing to serve as a SWCD supervisor for a second term. Chairman Curt Vanderkleed 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 was not required. By a simple show of hands with the majority voting in favor of Michael Strasburger's nomination, he was duly elected for a second three-year term, expiring in 2023. At this time, Kenny Cain, President of the Indiana State Soil Conservation Board came forward to assist with swearing in Strasburger as the newly reelected Soil and Water Conservation District official.

SWCD conservation awards were then presented, beginning with the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award being presented to Roger Strasburger. Next, was the Conservation Stewardship Award being presented to Larry Gamble. The Greater Wabash River Resource Conservation and Development Corporation received the 2019 Friend of Conservation Award, and Bryan Shelby received the River Friendly Farmer Award.

Following the awards, Jeff Dukes, Director of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center and professor in Purdue's Departments of Forestry and Natural Resources and Biological Sciences gave an informative presentation entitled "Climate Change and its Effects on Agriculture and Invasive Species".

With no further business at hand, Vanderkleed called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Meeting attendance – 62

Minutes recorded by Chris Remley

2020 Annual Financial Report

Balance Brought Forward	\$22,982.60
RECEIPTS	
State for District Operations	\$10,000.00
County for District Operations	\$15,000.00
Federal and State Funds (not CWI)	\$7,306.88
Non Government Grants	\$19,750.00
Total Intergovernmental Receipts	\$52,056.88
Equipment Rental & Farm Income	\$5,232.75
Total Charges for Services	\$5,232.75
Annual Meeting Income	\$580.00
Interest from Checking, CDs, Savings, Etc.	\$8.26
Reimbursements & Refunds	\$501.11
Sales Income	\$75,382.59
Other Miscellaneous Revenue (Sales Tax)	\$1,664.72
Total Miscellaneous Revenue	\$78,136.68
Sub-Total (before investment activity)	\$135,426.31
Sale of Investments (CDs, saving accounts, transfers)	\$1.70
TOTAL (balance forward + receipts + investments)	\$158,410.61
DISBURSEMENTS	
Capital Outlays (Equipment)	\$2,026.50
Annual Meeting Expenses	\$1,551.85
Audit Expense	\$2,339.00
Conservation Education Programs	\$261.69
Contractual Services	\$6,444.04
Cost-Share Projects/SWCD-Funded	\$3,545.36
Dues & Subscriptions	\$3,544.40
Office Supplies	\$606.62
Other Services & Charges	\$411.33
Postage & Delivery Expenses	\$496.87
Rent	\$1,440.00
Repair Expenses	\$6,579.73
Sales Tax Paid to IN Dept. of Revenue	\$1,680.45
Supplies for Resale	\$64,896.63
Telephone or Other Utilities	\$1,256.04
Travel/Lodging/Mileage/Registration/Meals	\$725.58
Other Disbursements (Advertising)	\$7,656.35
Other Disbursements (Awards)	\$265.00
Other Disbursements (Insurance)	\$2,305.00
Other Disbursements (Training)	\$195.00
Total General Government Disbursements	\$108,227.44
Sub-Total (before investment activity)	\$108,227.44
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (disbursements + investments)	\$108,227.44
BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31	\$50,183.17
CLAIMS PAID BY COUNTY	
Salaries	\$99,302.14
Fringe	\$33,730.47
Other	\$0.00
INVESTMENT INVENTORY	
Beginning Investments	\$50,002.12
Ending Investments	\$50,000.42
Change (+/-)	-\$1.70
CASH BOXES	
Petty Cash	\$300.00

TIPPECANOE COUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

*Summary of Conservation Practices Provided by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Fiscal Year 2020 ~ 10/01/19 through 09/30/20*

Summary Conservation Practices	Planned	Applied
Brush Management (314) (ac)	1,259	75
Conservation Cover (327) (ac)	145	196
Conservation Crop Rotation (328) (ac)	6,122	6,823
Cover Crop (340) (ac)	7,858	4,255
Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647) (ac)	155	4
Fence (382) (ft)	440	200
Field Border (386) (ac)	2	0
Forest Management Plan– Written (106) (No)	1	4
Forest Stand Improvement (666) (ac)	258	47
Grade Stabilization Structure (410) (no)	0	3
Grassed Waterway (412) (ac)	16	17
Heavy Use Area Protection (561) (sq ft)	14,840	900
Hedgerow Planting (422) (ft)	4,335	0
Herbaceous Weed Treatment (315) (ac)	31	0
Livestock Pipeline (516) (ft)	720	116
Nutrient Management (590) (ac)	3,111	3,095
Pasture and Hay Planting (512) (ac)	0	39
Pest Management (590) (ac)	3,111	3,095
Pumping Plant (533) (no)	1	0
Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (329) (ac)	5,813	3,362
Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345) (ac)	1,009	871
Roof Runoff Structure (558) (no)	1	0
Subsurface Drain (606) (ft)	1,120	2,340
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) (ac)	18	3
Underground Outlet (620) (ft)	466	60
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645) (ac)	39	16
Waste Facility Closure (360) (no)	17	0
Watering Facility (614) (no)	4	0
Wetland Restoration (657) (ac)	26	5
Wetland Habitat Planting (420) (ac)	47	7
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380) (ft)	3,719	0

SAVE THE DATES!



Outdoor Explore!

Tippecanoe County Bicentennial Nature Area

This event is brought to you by "The Power of Partnership", a unique collaboration between the Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Department and the Tippecanoe County Soil and Water Conservation District.

**DUE TO THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC WATCH OUR WEBSITE,
FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM FOR PROGRAMS AND UPDATES**

NATIVE PLANT SALE

MAY 8, 2021 PUBLIC SALE

OUTDOOR EXPLORE!

JUNE 12, 2021

NATIVE TREE & SHRUB SALE

SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

TIPPECANOE
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Public Sale
May 8, 2021
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Ross Camp, West Lafayette

NATIVE PLANT SALE

30 + species of flowers
5+ species of grasses

Pollinator, Rain garden &
Woodland Mixes

Pre-Orders & More information at
www.tippecanoecountyswcd.org
765-474-9992, ext. 3

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.

STRETIGIC PLAN OUTLINE

Soil Health

Goal 1: No till practices shall be increased by 2,500 acres.

Goal 2: Cover crops shall be increased by 2,500 acres.

Goal 3: Five Hundred (500) landowners will be educated on improving soil health.

Water Quality

Goal 1: Seventy-five (75) acres of water quality practices will be installed.

Goal 2: Fifty (50) landowners will be educated on streambank stabilization.

Sustainability Communities

Invasive Species

Goal 1: Five hundred (500) acres of invasive species control will be implemented

Goal 2: Five hundred (500) landowners will be educated on the negative impacts of invasive species

Wildlife Habitat

Goal 1: Two hundred fifty (250) acres of upland grassland/pollinator habitat will be installed in Tippecanoe County.

Goal 2: Two hundred (200) acres of wetland restoration habitat will be installed in Tippecanoe County.

Goal 3: One hundred (100) acres of trees will be installed in Tippecanoe County.

Goal 4: Five hundred (500) landowners will be educated on the im-

“Take care of the land, and the land will take care
of you”

-Hugh Hammond Bennett



TIPPECANOE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT