

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

St. Joseph County Soil & Water Conservation Partnership



St. Joseph County
Soil & Water Conservation District





2008 St. Joseph County SWCD *Supervisors, Associate Supervisors & Honorary Members*

Supervisors

John Dooms
Chairman

Paul Williams III
Vice-Chairman

Jan Ivkovich
Carole Riewe
Dave Craft

Associate Supervisors

Melvin Kulwicki
John Kulwicki
Randy Matthys
Jim LaFree
Chuck Lehman
Joe Long
Gene Myers
Richard Schmidt
Stacey Silvers
Dale Stoner
Dru Wrasse

Honorary Members

Bernie Byrd
Al Gostola
Jerry Knepp
Keith Lineback
William Millar

Partnership Staff ~ NRCS & SWCD

Debbie Knepp, District Conservationist (NRCS)

Rafael Vega, Soil Conservationist (NRCS)

Lindsay Martinez, SCEP (NRCS)

Rick Glassman, Environmental Educator (SWCD)

Troy Manges, County Conservationist (SWCD)

Katie Kurtz & Jenny Davis, MS4 Conservationist (SWCD)

Sara McClaran, Administrative Assistant (SWCD)

Purdue Cooperative Extension Service

Rick Podell

Maryanne Denisi

Edie Sutton

Phil Sutton

Eileen Nowak

Sylvia Schoen

Libby Wukotich

Eileen Connolly

Dianna Mendelsohn

Farm Service Agency

Morgan Thornburg, CED

Helene Cannoot

Cindy Philhower

Denise Trimboli





Woods-Lands-Lakes Recognition
Gene Myers
Award Presenters: Jan Ivkovich & Richard Schmidt

Congratulations to our 2008 Conservation Award Winners!

Conservation Farmer of the Year
Mike Burkholder

Training Certificate
Jan Ivkovich



Conservation Educator of the Year
Evie Kirkwood
Award Presenter: Jan Ivkovich



Wildlife Habitat & Forestry Award
Gunter Kison
Award Presenter: Jan Ivkovich



20 Year Service Award
Randy Matthys



Tree Sales Recognition Award
Bernie Byrd
Award Presenter: Richard Schmidt

49th ANNUAL MEETING

Join us at the Scottish Rite
427 N. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601
Friday, January 30, 2009
6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker: **Professor Tom Turpin**
Purdue University Professor of Entomology and
Cooperative Extension Service Entomologist



Professor Tom Turpin

Adult Education Programs

Programs	# Attended
1 Tree Seminar	19
2 Composting Seminars	150
MS4 SWPP & BMP Workshop	65

Community Outreach
St. Joseph County 4-H Fair
South Bend EcoFest
Hoosier River Watch-3 Test Sites
Izaak Walton League
IUSB Ecofest





What We Do

The St. Joseph County SWCD provides the public with information, education and technical assistance on soil, water and related natural resource conservation; identifies and prioritizes local soil and water resource concerns; and connects land users to sources of education, technical and financial assistance to implement conservation practices and technologies, to improve soil and water quality



Who We Are

The St. Joseph County SWCD is a subdivision of State Government. It is a public body which exercises public authority. It is governed by five supervisors, each a resident of St. Joseph County, three elected and two appointed. Staff members are employees of the county.

The district receives its statutory authority from Indiana District Law (Indiana Code IC 14-32-5-1).



Our Mission

To provide guidance and education to the youth and adults of St. Joseph County and to administer programs to preserve, protect, and improve soil, water, air, plant and animal resources for future generations.



Tree Sales Program

Final Numbers for the 2007-2008 program year:

Evergreen Trees Sold	10,765
Deciduous Trees Sold	4,855
Flowering Trees Sold	3,180
Total Trees Sold	18,800
Total Groundcover Sold	3,400
Total Wildflower Seed Packets Sold	135

AGRICULTURE THAT PRODUCES CONSERVATION

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



FILTER STRIPS



TREE PLANTING

6,749 acres	Conservation plans on cropland
4,123 acres	Conservation plans applied on cropland
211 acres	Conservation plans on grazing land
158 acres	Conservation plans applied on grazing land
1	Comprehensive nutrient management plan written
The following conservation practices were completed in St. Joseph County	
90 acres	Conservation cover
310 acres	Cover crop
8 acres	Early successional habitat
17,471 feet	Fence (grazing)
26 acres	Filter strip
2 acres	Firebreaks
1	Grassed waterway
2	Heavy use protection areas
195 acres	Irrigation water management
1,102 acres	Nutrient management
81 acres	Pasture/Hay planting
644 acres	Pest management
638 feet	Waterline (grazing)
75 acres	Prescribed grazing
965 acres	Mulch-till
1,474 acres	No-till
145 acres	Tree planting
1,793 acres	Upland wildlife habitat
2	Watering facilities (grazing)
24 acres	Wetland enhancement
117 acres	Wetland restoration
140 acres	Wetland wildlife habitat
6,920 feet	Windbreak establishment



Thank You To The Following Agencies For Their Continued Cooperation & Support

Army Corps of Engineers
Area Plan Commission
City of South Bend
Ducks Unlimited
Elkhart County SWCD
● Farm Service Agency
● IDNR - Division of Fish & Wildlife
● IDNR - Division of Forestry
ISDA - Division of Soil Conservation
Quail Unlimited
Ivy Tech Community College
John Glenn High School FFA
John Kuharic
Kosciusko County
Master Gardeners
Matthys Farm

National Wildlife
Turkey Federation
Michiana Area Council of
Government
Mishawaka Engineering
Department
Mishawaka High School
Waltonian League
Natural Resources
Conservation Service
NorthWest Territory RC&D
Pheasants Forever
Indiana University at
South Bend
St. Joseph County & County
Commissioners
St. Joseph County Council

St. Joseph County
4-H Fair Board
St. Joseph County
Engineering Department
St. Joseph County
Health Department
St. Joseph County Parks
St. Joseph County
Surveyor/Drainage Board
Solid Waste
Management District
South Bend
Engineering Department
Town of Osceola
Town of Roseland
Woods-Lands-Lakes
Zahls Elevator

Urban Conservation Achievements

Educating the public, land developers and contractors, and promoting best management practices on construction sites are keys to protecting storm water in St. Joseph County.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP's)

MS4 Area	Plans Reviewed
St. Joseph County	20
Rule 5	20
Mishawaka	15
Notre Dame	14
South Bend	4
Indiana University	1
TOTAL:	74



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Wetlands Reserve Program



The Band is utilizing the USDA-NRCS Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) to help re-connect to its ancestral cultural uses and activities.

Over the long term, the restoration will provide a Tribal land preserve. The preserve is envisioned to offer recreational, cultural, and educational opportunities which can enhance the quality of life for our Tribal citizens.



- The WRP project provides benefits to our local and regional neighbors by helping reduce the severity of flooding by retaining water on the Band's property that would have been conveyed to the Miller Ditch.
- The wildlife habitat created by the project provides a corridor link to surrounding State Conservation Areas, State Parks, and other private landowner efforts.



The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians have installed a weir structure in a former ditch (pictured at bottom left), completed a ditch realignment, put in ditch plugs and created macrotopography areas. They have also planted 140 acres of Warm Season Grasses on the upland part of the WRP project.



Youth Educational Programs



500 School programs for over 26,000 students.

St. Joseph County Public Library's Science Alive
Over 5,500 participants!

Marian High School Canoe Trip - 40 students.

Christ the King Family Owl Prowl - 165 participants.

Corpus Christi Family Owl Prowl - 70 participants.

Elm Road Family Owl Prowl - 120 participants

Prairie Vista Family Owl Prowls - 140 Participants

Rolling Prairie Family Owl Prowl - 40 Participants

Walt Disney Family Owl Prowl - 230 participants.

Raggedy Ann Pre-school family night - 70 participants.

St. Joseph County 4-H judging.

Marshall County 4-H judging.

St. Joseph County Public Library's summer programs -
5 presentations for over 150 participants.

Cass County 5th grade field day -

8 wetland presentations for 638 students.

Arrowhead RC&D River Rafting Captain - 500

Warsaw River Adventure - 530



Community Garden

Northwest Territory Resource
Conservation & Development

2008 GARDEN TOTALS

Sweet Corn: 4,000 lbs.

Cucumbers: 300 lbs.

Green Peppers: 400 lbs.

Okra: 1,100 lbs.

Turnips: 300 lbs.

Tomatoes: 500 lbs.

Zucchini & Squash: 2,000 lbs.



2008 Habitat Plantings

These plantings were made possible by using the District owned
Warm Season Grass Drill.

Pasture/Hay Plantings: 55.6

Wildlife Plantings: 73.4

Total Acres Planted: 97.0

2008 Affiliate Members

Bellman Oil Company, Inc.

Bob's Country Store

Barbara & Larry Bromley

Craft's Orchard

D&D Stoner Farms, Inc.

Jane & George Dearing

DeSchepper Farm Supply, Inc.

Lois & Robert Ehninger

Farm Bureau Insurance

The Farmer's Exchange

First Source Bank (Bremen)

Frick Services, Inc.

Jan & Ronald Ivkovich

Kabelin Ace Hardware

Kauffman & Sons, Inc.

Erika & Gunter Kison

Phil Lehman

Lehman & Lehman, Inc.

Lineback Realty Appraisal

Matthys Milling

McCormick Electrical Services, Inc.

Jeff Peterson

Portage Realty Corporation

Rader Equipment, Inc.

Red Hen Turf Farm, Inc.

Ritschard Brothers, Inc.

River Bend Hose

St. Joe County Farm Bureau, Inc.

Shady Lane Farms

Shoemaker Welding

Sitescapes, Inc.

Rick Stoner dba Stoner Farms

Mr. & Mrs. Roger Teske

Robin C. Vater

Weaver Electric & Heating

Violet & Charles Wolfram

Wyatt Feed Supply, Inc.

Zahl's Elevator & Feed Mill

The St. Joseph County SWCD needs you!

Contact the office for more information on becoming an Affiliate Member.



Conservation Partnership Members Mission Statements



St. Joseph County
Soil & Water Conservation District
To provide guidance and education
to the youth and adults of
St. Joseph County and to administer
programs to preserve, protect and



Natural Resources Conservation Service
To help people manage, conserve
and enhance natural resources for
present and future generations
through education, public
information, leadership, technical
assistance and development
of innovative programs.



Indiana State Department of Agriculture
Division of Soil Conservation
To facilitate the protection and enhancement of
Indiana's land and water.

All Programs and Services of the Soil Conservation Service are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.