



Conservation Times

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For Johnson County residents interested in agricultural and natural resource issues.

Fall 2010

Volume 8, Issue 3

2010 Soil & Water Education Programs

To better facilitate County Educators, we have tried to develop programs that incorporate the Indiana Academic Standards, and most programs can be adjusted to integrate a particular standard you are trying to attain.

Our programs provide an excellent opportunity to educate on the importance of natural resource conservation and are free to all types of Educators throughout Johnson County, not just the public schools. If you are an Educator in a Public, Private, or Home school, Girl or Boy Scouts, Daycare, or any other avenue of education, please take advantage of our very informative **FREE** programs!

All of the programs provide a hands-on, educational, fun learning opportunity. A few of our most popular programs include: Soil Pizza, Fish Tales-Fred the Fish, It's Alive-Earth Worms, Water Bingo, Enviroscape, and The Incredible Journey. Call us today to schedule a program at 736-9540!

Youth Conservation Board

The Youth Conservation Board is open to all Johnson County High School students. The Youth Board kicked off its 2010-2011 year with a planning meeting on Sept 8th. They have several fun projects planned for the upcoming year, so if you're a high school student interested in learning more and helping preserve our natural resources feel free to join us!! Contact the SWCD office for more information or just show up and join the fun.

Oct 11 - 6pm @ SWCD Office - Storm Drain Labeling & Pizza

Nov 8 - 7pm @ SWCD Office - Black Blizzard Movie & Popcorn

Email Newsletter

Would you like to receive our newsletter via email instead of regular mail? In these difficult economic times, we are working to reduce our costs, and an e-newsletter is a great way to do so. If you are interested, please call us at the office or send an email to swcd@swcd.org to submit your request.

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Mission — To conserve and enhance our soil, water, and other natural resources by coordinating with local partners to provide technical, financial, and educational opportunities in Johnson County.

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Ag Conservation Programs

Published quarterly and distributed to land-owners, farm operators, schools, local agencies, public officials, conservation organizations, and other interested individuals.

Aesthetic and Property Value of Trees

Trees add beauty to their surroundings by adding color to an area, softening harsh lines of buildings, screening unsightly views and contributing to the character of their environment. Trees have also proven to contribute to a community's economy and way of life. Depending on species, maturity, quantity and location, property values increase 5 to 15 percent when compared to properties without trees.

When planted along and around buildings trees soften the background and screen unsightly views. Trees also contribute eye-catching colors to their surroundings, from the different shades of green found in the leaves, the colors found in flowering trees and sometimes even the bark of the tree.

Trees help preserve and lengthen the life of asphalt streets. Without shade provided by trees, the oil binding the stone aggregate heats up and volatilizes, leaving the aggregate unprotected. Vehicles then drive over the aggregate causing it to loosen which grinds down the pavement. Therefore, not only do trees help to maintain the integrity of community roads, they also lower costs expended on re-paving roadways.

The condition of a community's trees and collectively, its urban forests, are usually the first impression a community projects to its visitors. A community's urban forest is an extension of its pride and community spirit. Studies show that trees also enhance community economic stability by attracting businesses and tourists as people tend to linger and shop longer along tree-lined streets. Studies have also shown that apartments and offices in wooded areas rent more quickly and businesses leasing office spaces in developments with trees reported higher productivity and fewer absences.

Rain Barrels

Are you tired of seeing your water bill increase every time you have to water your plants? Are you worried about your well going dry when you water the lawn? Don't you wish you had purchased a rain barrel before it stopped raining? We have plenty of barrel kits available for \$100/kit. Each kit contains a rain barrel with fittings, diverter kit and installation instructions. The system is closed to avoid mosquito problems and to minimize debris in the barrel. Call or email the office for more information.

Trees for Wildlife Habitat

Of the many benefits of planting trees around the home, the potential to attract wildlife can be one of the most satisfying. Whether you live in the city, suburb or a rural community, planting trees can be an important part of making your yard a better place for wildlife.

It is only natural that wherever trees are planted, wildlife and other plants are sure to follow. Trees provide shelter and food for a variety of birds and small animals, such as squirrels. Enhancing growth diversity, trees create an environment that allows the growth of plants that otherwise would not be there.

Flowers, fruits, leaves, buds and woody parts of trees are used by many different species. Bacteria and fungi contained in tree parts cause decay which makes nesting easier for some birds and increases soil fertility and structure for burrowing by other land animals.

Trees also provide shade, reduce water and air temperatures, and contribute to the overall health of aquatic ecosystems by providing habitat, shelter, and food for aquatic species such as turtles, otters, beavers, and fish.

Hoosier Heartland RC&D Council - 2011-2016 Area Plan

The Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Program was developed by USDA based on the premise that local people, working together, can identify and solve problems and realize opportunities that will enhance their quality of life.

Because RC&Ds are incorporated as a private business and have a not-for-profit status designation, the program is not “government run.” The organization is a special blend of “public and private enterprise” and because of this we can serve as a strong community resource to assist in addressing many local needs that cannot be met otherwise.

We are very unique in the not-for-profit world with our connections to science-based, technical assistance and the resources of all USDA agencies, plus the private delivery system through our sponsors. The focus for most of our work is regional however we can take on projects anywhere in the area.

All RC&Ds are directed locally by representatives appointed by their sponsoring members to a Council. Hoosier Heartland is sponsored by County Commissioners, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and Extension Service Boards in each of our ten counties. Additionally, we have 10 at-large positions on our council made up of like-minded organizations, agencies, and individuals. A board of directors runs the day to day work of the Council.

Every 5 years, Hoosier Heartland reviews and updates its Area Plan. The plan identifies the current and emerging needs and opportunities in the RC&D area and the goals the Council wants to accomplish. This document becomes our contract with USDA which allows them to provide technical assistance and resources to the organization and it is also the foundation for all of Hoosier Heartland’s projects and activities.

Please take a moment to complete our on-line survey to help identify upcoming priorities:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/W828KCR>

	1 Gallon	3 Gallon	5 Gallon	7 Gallon	10 Gallon	15 Gal- lon	Quantity	Price Each	Total
Accolade® Elm					*				
Allee ® Elm					*				
Arrowwood Viburnum		*							
Autumn Blaze' ® Maple		*				*			
Bald Cypress		*							
Black Chokeberry	*	*							
Bur Oak	*	*	*		*	*			
Buttonbush	*	*							
Common Ninebark	*								
Eastern Red Cedar	*		*						
English Oak		*							
English Oak (Columnar)					*				
Grey Dogwood	*	*							
Hazelnut			*						
Nannyberry Viburnum		*							
Norway Spruce		*							
Pagoda Dogwood		*							
Pin Oak	*	*	*			*			
Red Oak	*	*	*		*				
Red Osier Dogwood	*	*							
Red Sunset Maple		*				*			
Redbud	*	*	*		*				
River Birch	*	*				*			
River Birch 3-4 stem			*		*	*			
River Birch 3-4 stem (Heritage)			*						
Shingle Oak			*			*			
Shumard Oak	*	*	*	*	*	*			
Silky Dogwood	*	*							
Sumac—Fragrant		*							
Sumac—Staghorn		*							
Sun Valley Maple						*			
Swamp White Oak	*	*	*	*	*	*			
Sycamore		*	*			*			
Triumph® Elm					*				
White Pine		*							

* indicates what size the tree is available.



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the tree you
wish to
order.**

Cost Per Tree (without cost share*)

1 gallon	\$20.00
3 gallon	\$25.00
5 gallon	\$35.00
7 gallon	\$50.00
10 gallon	\$85.00

Send completed order and payment to:
Johnson County SWCD
550 E. Jefferson Street
Franklin, IN 46131

Please Note: All sales are final. Any order not picked up will be given away to a local public facility and no refunds will be issued unless arrangements have been made with the SWCD in advance.

**Orders are due by:
October 15, 2010**

* Note: Johnson County residents may deduct \$10.00 per tree for cost share. Call for details. Cost sharing provided by the 2010 Clean Water Indiana Fund Grant.

Name _____

Phone Number (_____) _____ - _____

Trees & Reduced Energy Costs

Trees help to modify local climate by lowering air temperature, increasing humidity, influencing wind speeds and reducing glare. In the warmer months of the year, urban areas realize lower air temperatures when trees are strategically planted along streets and near buildings. These trees provide shade and evaporation of water through the transpiration process. The evaporation from a single large tree can produce the cooling effect of 10 room-sized air conditioners operating 24 hours a day. Communities in which homeowners utilize trees in their landscaping also benefit. When homeowners properly place trees in landscaping they benefit from savings on daytime air conditioning. For example, three or more large trees strategically placed on the sunny sides of a house will provide enough shade to reduce air-conditioning costs by as much as 30 percent. Trees also help with energy costs in the winter by blocking cold winds thereby reducing the strain on heating units. Be careful not to place evergreens on the south side of the home because during the winter months they will shade the roof and prevent the winter sun from warming the attic space. However, deciduous trees on the south side will let the winter sun warm up the attic space and reduce heating costs. These energy savings, when spread over many houses, neighborhoods and urban areas, can reduce the demand for power production by utility plants, which also reduce the amount of air pollutants produced by these power plants.

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Phil Gorrell
Manager

Office Space for Rent

The Johnson County SWCD has office space available for rent in our building. We are located in downtown Franklin on Jefferson Street.

For more information please contact

Ric Schlosser.

317-736-9540 ext. 102.



Visit us on the web at www.swcd.org

We are located at 550 East Jefferson Street in Franklin, Indiana in the Alva Neal Building (old² Franklin High School Building) across from Franklin College.

Available at the SWCD

2009 Plat Books \$15.00 (+ \$2.00 if mailed)

Sponsored by the Johnson County Youth Conservation Board

SWCD Marking Flags \$10.00 per bundle (100 flags per bundle)

Erosion Control Netting \$0.25 per linear foot (includes staples)

Geotextile Fabric, 8 oz. non woven, 15 ft. wide x 300 ft. long rolls or cut to length

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\$1.00 per sq. yd.

\$0.11 per sq. ft.

Rain Barrel Kits \$100.00

Straw Blanket (Call for Price)

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Soil and Water Conservation District

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