

A close-up photograph of a honeybee on a purple flower with yellow stamens. The bee is positioned in the center of the frame, facing left. The flower is a vibrant purple with several yellow stamens. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting a garden setting. The text is overlaid on a white, rounded rectangular box at the top of the image.

**DEARBORN COUNTY  
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
2021 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Dearborn County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Mission Statement:

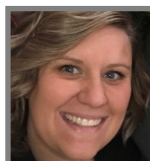
Promote wise use of natural resources through technical assistance and education.

Dearborn County SWCD & USDA are Equal Opportunity Providers, Employers, and Lenders.



Pictured left to right: Ken, Tom, Eric, John, Robert, Pat

## STAFF



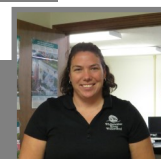
Jessica Rayburn  
District Coordinator



Vickie Riggs  
Educator/Technician



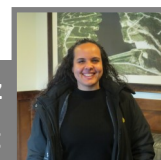
Jennifer Hughes  
Storm Water Coordinator



Heather Wirth  
Watershed Coordinator



Matt Jarvis  
NRCS District Conservationist



Alejandra González-López  
NRCS Soil Conservationist

## BOARD MEMBERS

Ken Gunkel — Chairman      Pat Holland — Supervisor  
 Eric Callahan — Vice-Chair      Tom Klump — Associate  
 John Kruse — Supervisor      Brad Dawson — Associate  
 Robert Schroeder — Supervisor

Aurora USDA Service Center  
 10729 Randall Ave, Suite 2  
 Aurora, IN 47001  
 812-926-2406 ext. 3  
[www.dearbornswcd.org](http://www.dearbornswcd.org)  
[facebook.com/dearborncountyswcd](https://facebook.com/dearborncountyswcd)

Office Hours  
 Monday — Friday  
 8:00 — 4:00  
 Due to the nature of our work  
 there will be times the office is  
 closed, please call before  
 making a special trip.

2022 Monthly Board Meetings  
 will be held on the  
 2nd Thursday of each month.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p><b>January</b> -IASWCD Annual Conference</p>	<p><b>February</b> -Native Plant Sale Order Forms Available</p>	<p><b>March</b> -Annual Meeting</p>	<p><b>April</b> -Weed Wrangle -Tree Giveaway</p>	<p><b>May</b> -Native Plant Sale pickup -Backyard Workshop</p>	<p><b>June</b> -Backyard Workshop</p>
<p><b>July</b> -Backyard Workshop</p>	<p><b>August</b> -Backyard Workshop -Pasture Field Day</p>	<p><b>September</b> -Backyard Workshop</p>	<p><b>October</b> -Backyard Workshop</p>	<p><b>November</b> -Tillage Breakfast</p>	<p><b>December</b></p>

Please watch for the dates of these events to be announced. Additional workshops and field days may be added throughout the year.  
 This calendar is tentative and dates may change.



# Snippet about Dearborn County SWCD...

The Dearborn County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) was established in 1957 and is a legal government subdivision of the State of Indiana that works at the grassroots level to provide leadership for all conservation developments. The SWCD district is managed by a board of five supervisors, three are elected and two are appointed, who own land in the county. The board is also made up of associate supervisors, who aren't elected or appointed and cannot vote, but provide important input to the elected or appointed supervisors.

Dearborn County SWCD works closely with many partners: Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Purdue Extension, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to provide services to the landowners. Thanks to these partnerships the SWCD can offer high levels of conservation services to the landowners in Dearborn County. The staff is passionate about helping landowners learn about and install best management practices that will have a positive impact on the environment and natural resources.

To educate the community about the positive impact they can make in the district, Dearborn County SWCD host several outreach and educational events throughout the year for adults and youth. These events help create awareness and education to the public. Some of the events held include: a cover crop field day, soil health field day, rain barrel workshop, AG day, permaculture workshop, and a conservation tillage breakfast. Another way the SWCD provides awareness is by e-newsletters, articles, social media, and flyers. Dearborn County SWCD also provides free soil, hay, pasture, and garden testing for Dearborn County landowners.

The SWCD board, staff, and partners are making it possible for the Dearborn County Soil and Water Conservation District to make a difference and better the environment for the community and our future generations. If you are interested in one of our programs, please contact us. As a reminder, due to the nature of our work there will be times the office is closed, please call before making a special trip to the office.



# EQIP Installed Conservation Practices 2021



## EQIP Watering Facility and HUAP

Pictured above is a 23' x 23' HUAP (Heavy Use Area Protection) that a landowner installed. This HUAP includes a Watering Facility. For more information on EQIP and the install of practices like this please contact Matt Jarvis 812-926-2406 ext. 3.

Access Control — 63 ac  
Access Road — 150 ft  
Brush Management — 422 ac  
Conservation Cover — 4 ac  
Conservation Plans Written — 1,024 ac  
Conservation Planning to Improve Soil Health — 459 ac  
Cover Crop — 13 ac  
Fence — 11,965 ft  
Fire Break — 5,940 ft  
Forest Management Plans — 6 units  
Heavy Use Area Protection — 25,083 sq. ft  
Herbaceous Weed Control — 47 ac

Improving Soil for Organic Matter — 55 ac  
Grassland Conservation — 103 ac  
Grazing Land Conservation — 737 ac  
Livestock Pipeline — 5,419 ft  
No-Till — 522 ac  
Pasture & Hay Land Planting — 53 ac  
Prescribed Grazing — 88 ac  
Reduced Tillage Planning System — 325 ac  
Roof Runoff Structures — 7 units  
Subsurface Drain — 365 ft  
Underground Outlet — 665 ft  
Watering Facility — 15 units  
Wildlife Habitat Development — 28 ac



## EQIP Fence Exclusion

Pictured above is part of the 1,250' of Woodland Livestock Exclusion Fencing that this landowner installed. For more information on EQIP and installing fence please contact Matt Jarvis 812-926-2406 ext. 3.



# American Agriculture; History in the Making!

By: Don Donovan, Indiana Soil Health Team

From the time man changed from a hunter and gathering lifestyle to producing his own food through cultivation of plants and the domestication of animals, agriculture has gone through many revolutions up to modern day. The use of animals to pull implements, the steel plow to break up sod, the tractor to replace those domestic animals, hybrid seed, commercial fertilizer, herbicides, genetically modified seed, and precision technology are just a few of the many revolutions that have taken place over the years. From a historical point of view, the eye-opening thing is most of these have occurred in the last 120 years, since the beginning of the 1900s. As we look ahead to the days before us, one could ask where is agriculture going and what might the next big revolution be?

As with all things that come along, these revolutions were not 100% good or 100% bad. The invention of the tractor and steel plow allowed the conversion of thousands of acres of fragile grass lands into wheat production needed during World War I. Then a few years later, that soil was being blown all the way from the southern Great Plains to Washington DC during the Dust Bowl. Herbicides have provided a way of controlling unwanted plants in our crops, increasing yield, but some weeds have grown resistant to herbicides making their control more challenging. Farming has always been a challenge in every aspect, putting seeds in the ground, nourishing a plant to maturation, and harvesting the bounty. Then a few days after harvest was completed, start the process all over again for the next year. Farming is a way of life, not a job and therefore the challenge was always accepted, and the next crop planted.

So where does agriculture go from here? What is the next great revolution in agriculture? There is talk of technology being the answer to future production needs and in all likely hood it will play a role. But does technology have a ceiling limiting how far it can go, and is it the true answer? Does more technology solve all the issues and challenges agriculture faces? Is the answer something much simpler, but much more complex? If you are a thirty something farmer, what will American agriculture look like when you retire? Should you be excited to be a young farmer in 2022?

A lot of buzz words get tossed around, but one you may be hearing is “regenerative agriculture”. Now like a like of things, sometimes it is hard to pin down the exact definition of regenerative agriculture and everyone has their opinions. This writer’s opinion is relatively simple; Build a healthier soil that grows healthier plants, that produces healthier humans. Whether those healthier plants are consumed by humans or animals that are consumed by humans, a healthier human is the ultimate goal. So where do we start?

Since the soil is the basis for most of our food production, it is the starting place for a regenerative agriculture journey. Four basic principals are involved in producing a healthier soil: increase diversity of plants grown, keep the soil surface always covered, limit soil disturbance or tillage, and keep a living root growing as much of the year as possible. This system, while requiring a higher level of management, starts the soil on that journey to being healthier, more resilient, capable of infiltrating and storing more water, and increasing nutrient cycling efficiency. The incorporation of grazing livestock into this system brings even more benefits, speeding up the journey to soil health, while improving the production profit margin.

Any discussion of regenerative agriculture must include the ultimate reason for farming at any level, the consumer of the agriculture products being produced. It really does not matter if we improve our soil health and raise healthier plants and animals if we cannot put those products into the hands of the consumer at a quantity, quality, and price that they desire. They are the drivers of this great agriculture engine; they have much to say about where we go in the future with American agriculture. Where all of this goes in the future remains somewhat an unknown mystery, but at the same time it is exciting. We could be on the cusp of that next great agriculture revolution, regenerative agriculture, where we build soils instead of derogating them, produce food, fiber and fuel that is not only higher in quantity, but higher in quality and the ultimate goal, improve the human health of our nation.

Everyone has a role to play! If you are a farmer, start your personal soil health journey or continue marching onward if you have already begun. A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step, take that step forward! If you are a consumer, become more involved with your food selection. Buy local if you can, get to know the local person growing your food not only so you know about the quality of the food they produce, but learn about the challenges they face to produce that food for your table. Let us make 2022 the start of a journey, a journey of health, a journey of understanding, and a journey of all of us making our county, state, country and earth a better place!

## Soil & Hay Testing

The Soil and Water Conservation District paid for 103 soil/forages tests for 45 Dearborn County landowners. These samples consisted of testing for: gardens, feed analysis, pastures/hay lands, lawns, cover crops, shrubs, trees, plant analysis, flowers, pollinators and orchards. A total of \$1,432.70 was spent on these activities this past year.

The tests can assist in proper nutrient management of your land and feed value, which can save you money by applying/adding only what is needed. The SWCD has a soil probe and a hay probe for loan, free of charge to Dearborn County landowners. If you need a soil test/forage test contact the office at 812-926-2406 ext. 3 and ask for Vickie.



## Equipment For Rent

Great Plains 7 ½' No-Till Drill has three seed boxes which can be used for hay/pasture land, warm season grasses, and small grains. The Brillion Seeder has two boxes and works excellent for seeding new alfalfa stands and other legumes or grasses. A 50HP tractor with hydraulics is needed for use with either piece of equipment. Rental fee is \$8.00/Ac. (minimum \$50.00). Call the office two to three days ahead of time to reserve, or for more information at (812) 926-2406 ext. 3.



## 2021 Equipment Rental Totals

### No-Till Drill

- 253.1 acres — Pasture/Hay
- 89.2 acres — Grain Crops
- 26.9 acres — Pollinator
- \$2,267.40 — Income
- 27 — Landowners
- 369.2 — Total Acres

### Brillion Seeder

- 144 acres — Pasture/Hay
- 27 acres — Grain Crops
- \$1,110.00 — Income
- 14 — Landowners
- 171 — Total Acres



# Educational Field Day and Workshop

## Pollinator Field Day Held at Echo Hills Farm, Dearborn County



The Pollinator Field Day was filled with lots of information. Jim Orem, Southeastern Indiana Beekeepers Association, presented Successful Beekeeping and Honey Bees. Savannah Dyer, Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist, presented Pollinator Habitat Management. Don Duncan and Jason Utley, IDNR District Foresters, presented Invasive Management. There was 94 people in attendance and they all provided positive feedback.



SWCD partnered with Dearborn County Purdue Extension to host a virtual Pond Clinic. Dave Osborne, Extension Educator Ripley County Purdue Extension presented Fish Filleting/Cleaning.

## Virtual Pond Clinic Workshop





# Dearborn County SWCD River Friendly Farmer Recipients

We are very pleased to recognize our two River-Friendly Farmer recipients: Cutter Family Farm and Jeffries Farms, both from the Dillsboro area, were named Dearborn County's 2021 River Friendly Farmers.

Clay Cutter along with his wife Natalie, and parents Curt and Cathy work together on the Cutter Family Farm raising show and beef cattle. Clay has implemented many conservation practices, which continually improve the operation. Recent practices installed include alternative watering facilities allowing him to fence the cattle out of previous water supplies, such as a pond and streams. He implements rotational grazing, for healthier soils and forage, and reducing compaction and erosion. He also does routine soil testing and applies fertilizer per recommendations, accordingly, saving less run off and adding only the required nutrients for healthy sustainable forage growth. No-till is used to inter-seed into the pastures and hay ground. Heavy Use Area Protection pads are in place at round bale feeding areas, at walkways through gates, and around all watering facilities, reducing ponding and pooling, sediment runoff, and provides a healthier environment for the cattle preventing them from standing or walking in mud. These practices have prevented erosion of the soil and sediment in the streams that run through their farm ground and improves soil health.

Clay was a longtime member of 4-H and is still very actively involved with the local 4-H program. The farm has been in the Cutter family for nearly 90 years and has been passed down three generations.

Twin brothers, Matt and Mark Jeffries of Jeffries Farms, have been raised farming with their parents and grandparents. Mother Marilyn still lives on the farm that has been in her late husband's, Paul, family for over 150 years. They farm approximately 2,000 acres of row crop fields corn/soybean rotation, and manage 60 head of beef cattle. Best management practices are very important to them as they continue to strive to improve their land continuously. Their farming operation involves no-till, cover crops, precision soil testing, precision chemical applications, manure management, rotation grazing, grassed waterways, livestock exclusion from woodland and waterbodies, alternative watering systems, and heavy use area protection pads. Their goal is to implement conservation practices that reduce sediment runoff and erosion, improve soil health and water quality, use less chemicals and increase production while spending less hours in the field.

Matt and Mark both attended 10 years of 4-H, received Star Chapter Award and Green Hand Award in FFA. Matt was recipient of the Ripley County Conservation Farmer Award in the past and serves on the Board of Directors for Laughery Valley Ag. Both are 30 year members of the local Friendship Volunteer Fire Department.

The Dearborn County Soil & Water Conservation District is honored to work with all the great farm families in the county, striving to meet the same goal to protect and improve our natural resources.

## Congratulations: Cutter Family Farm and Jeffries Farms



Pictured above: Cutter Family Farm, Clay Cutter, receiving his RFF Award.



Pictured above: Jeffries Farms, Matt & Mark Jeffries, receiving their RFF Award.



## Dearborn County SWCD Friend of Conservation

Congratulations to Don Duncan, IDNR District Forester, and John Hawley, Dearborn County Purdue Extension Educator, on receiving the Friend of Conservation Awards. The Dearborn County Soil & Water Conservation District has been honored to work with both, Don and John.

### Don Duncan, IDNR District Forester

Don has partnered with SWCD for many years. He graduated from Purdue in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science in Forest Production. He has been with DNR for 23 years in two stints. He was manager at Yellowwood State Forest for 14 years, worked in 26 counties as a District Forester, and was a Forest Consultant for 25 years in Brown County area. He now resides in southwest Bartholomew County with his wife Colleen, retired nurse, and owner of Cute As Shihtz Kennel. He has two daughters and six grandchildren.



### John Hawley, Dearborn County Purdue Extension Educator

John started with Dearborn County Purdue Extension in July of 2017. He has partnered with SWCD on many meetings and events. He has been a huge supporter of the district's soil testing program. He is married to Jamie Hawley, and they have a daughter, Joanna. John graduated from Texas Tech University with a degree in Agricultural Communications in 2015. He attended Utah State University and graduated with a Masters of Agricultural Extension and Education in 2017.





# Educational Fun..



## Ag Day!

Dearborn County SWCD, NRCS, Hogan Creek Watershed, and Whitewater River Watershed presented to local 3rd graders at Ag Day!

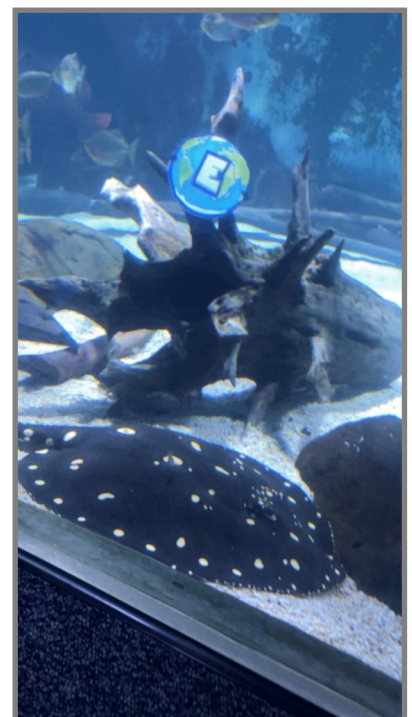
Matt Jarvis, NRCS, and Alejandra González-López, NRCS, demonstrated the cover crop/bare soil rainfall simulator and the slake test.

Heather Wirth, Watershed Coordinator and Jessica Rayburn, SWCD, provided information on the importance of watersheds and demonstrated using the EnviroScope.



## OKI-RCC Annual Conservation

Dearborn County SWCD was invited to attend the OKI-RCC (Ohio Kentucky Indiana—Regional Conservation Council) Annual Conservation Tour Celebrating 50 Years. It was a very educational tour. The day consisted of taking a tour of the NKU Research and Education Field Station and St. Anne Wetlands, visiting Casson and Ahrman Farm, lunch and educational talk at Seven Wells Vineyard and Winery, listening to keynote speaker Dave Brant, and a tour of Newport Aquarium. It was a great way to celebrate 50 years of the OKI-RCC.





# And Outreach

## River Clean Up!

Dearborn County SWCD volunteered to spend half a day out on the Ohio River riverbank cleaning up with Living Lands and Waters. It was a great day with lots of cleaning up.

The following are the stats from the clean up:

- Tires: 23.5
- 5 gallon buckets: 19
- Bags: 14
- Random plastic: 225 lbs.
- Barge Line: 36 ft
- A 50 lb. office chair
- Milk crate: 1
- Scrap: 50 lbs.
- Wet foam: 30 lbs.



For more information about Living Lands and Waters please visit: <https://www.livinglandsandwaters.org/>.



## DIRT

We now have a Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMA) group for Dearborn County made up of citizens and public officials, called DIRT, short for Dearborn Invasive Removal Team.

This group is working together to build awareness about invasive species to all demographics of Dearborn County and to find solutions to invasive control so people can have meaningful and productive time in the outdoors.

In April, 40 people came together to remove garlic mustard and honeysuckle from the Bright Meadows Park.

To join DIRT and share your input, contact Jennifer Hughes at 812-532-9527 or [jennifer.hughes@in.nacdnet.net](mailto:jennifer.hughes@in.nacdnet.net). Watch your email for the next Weed Wrangle by joining the SWCD mailing list at <http://eepurl.com/P95rD>.





## Backyard Conservation Cost Share

In 2021, rain barrels and tumbling composters were installed and projects for native planting were planned. The Dearborn County SWCD will offer a Backyard Conservation cost-share program again for 2022. Any Dearborn County landowner is eligible to participate. Eligible practices will be Rain Barrels, Tumbling Composters, and Native Plantings. To determine eligibility, a site visit must be conducted, and an application must be signed and submitted.

- Native Plants will be cost-shared at 50% up to a maximum of \$100 per homeowner
- Rain Barrels will be cost-shared at 50% up to a maximum of \$25 for one per homeowner
- Tumbling Composters will be cost-shared at 50% up to a maximum of \$50 for one per homeowner

All Cost Share is reimbursed after a field visit, conservation plan is implemented on the homeowner's property and receipts have been submitted. Projects must be installed within one year of a signed conservation plan. If you are interested in signing up for the cost share program or would like more information, call the office at (812) 926-2406 ext. 109.

## Backyard Conservation Series

The program kicked off in May with classes at the Lawrenceburg and North Dearborn branch libraries. The topics included Beneficial Bugs, Gardening in Containers (pictured to the right is a Tower Garden), Selecting the Right Tree, Plants for Birds and Butterflies, and Beneficial Bats. Attendance started off slow, but classes soon were filled up. Some of the classes were videoed and can be found on our YouTube page.

Classes will resume this May. Watch our Facebook page for upcoming classes or sign up for our newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/P95rD>.



## Native Plant Sale

The 2021 native plant sale was a huge success. We are excited to be having the native plant sale again this year. Order forms are available at the office or by contacting Jennifer Hughes, [jennifer.hughes@in.nacdnet.net](mailto:jennifer.hughes@in.nacdnet.net) or 812-532-9527. Please see next page for a copy of the order forms and plants being offered this year. Orders will be due May 2nd. Don't miss out on the opportunity to get some beautiful native plants.





## Construction Site Run-off

The old "Rule 5" was replaced by IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management) with the new Construction Stormwater General Permit in December. The requirements of the Construction Stormwater General Permit apply to all persons who are involved in construction activity (which includes clearing, grading, excavation and other land-disturbing activities) that results in the disturbance of one (1) acre or more of total land area. If the land-disturbing activity results in the disturbance of less than one (1) acre of total land area but is part of a larger common plan of development or sale, the project is still subject to storm water permitting.

The major problem associated with erosion at construction sites is the movement of soil off the site and its impact on water quality. Construction site erosion is a source of sediments, toxins, and nutrients which pollute our receiving waters such as the Ohio, Whitewater, and Great Miami Rivers.

2021 saw an increase in construction with 23 new projects that consisted of borrow sites, commercial, doctor offices, fill projects, new parks and trails, subdivisions, road and bridge improvements, school improvements, and utility improvements. Twenty (20) projects were completed. Each construction site can lose up to 100 tons of sediment a year if they do not implement erosion and sediment control practices. By implementing the Construction Site Run-off General Permit in Dearborn County, approximately 50,000 tons of sediment was kept out of our creeks and rivers.

## Erosion Control Ordinance

The Dearborn County Erosion Control Ordinance is in place for the non-incorporated parts of the county. This ordinance requires any building project to minimize erosion and sedimentation potential and is enforced by the Building Department with technical assistance provided by the SWCD. The Building Department is the jurisdictional entity that will bring any project into compliance. In 2021, there were two projects in violation of the Erosion Control Ordinance and one compliant project that was corrected. The Building Department and SWCD continue to partner together.

**2022  
Native Plant  
Order Forms  
Available  
Now!!**



**LoBELIA cardinalis (Cardinal Flower)**

Cardinal Flower has red flowers and reaches 1-3 ft tall. Plants should be planted 6" - 16" apart. Each flower has three spreading lower petals and two upper petals, all united into a tube at the base. The flowers bloom from August through September. It prefers wet to medium wet soil and full or partial sun.



**Silphium laciniatum (Compass Plant)**

The common name refers to the plant's leaves, which orient in a north-south direction. It grows in medium wet to dry soil. It requires full sun and grows to a height of 5-8 ft. Plants should be planted 3-4 ft apart. The yellow flowers bloom from July through September and produce large seeds that birds favor.



**Amorpha canescens (Leadplant)**

This deciduous shrub grows in medium to dry soil. It does best in full sun but will tolerate part sun and grows to a height of 1-3 ft. Plants should be planted 1-2 ft apart. The purple flowers bloom in June through July. It will attract abundant bees, butterflies, moths, beetles and other beneficial insects.



**Chelone obliqua (Pink Turtlehead)**

This forb grows in moist to wet soils. It needs partial shade to reach heights of 2-4 ft. Plants should be planted 2-3 ft apart. The pink flowers bloom from August through September. Flowers purportedly resemble the heads of open-mouthed turtles.



**Sporobolus heterolepis (Prairie Dropseed)**

This graminoid (grass) grows best in medium wet to dry soils. It requires full sun and grows to a height of 1-3 ft. Plants should be planted 2-3 ft apart. It takes on a nice golden hue all throughout the fall and winter.

Dearborn County SWCD 2022 Native Plant Sale  
**Order Deadline is May 2, 2022**  
Orders not paid for in advance cannot be guaranteed.

After May 2, call 812-926-2406 ext. 3 before sending payment to guarantee we have those plants in stock.

Name of Plant	Quantity/ Number of Plugs	Cost Per Item	Total Cost
LoBELIA cardinalis (Cardinal Flower)		\$2.50	
Silphium laciniatum (Compass Plant)		\$2.50	
Amorpha canescens (Leadplant)		\$2.50	
Chelone obliqua (Pink Turtlehead)		\$2.50	
Sporobolus heterolepis (Prairie Dropseed)		\$2.50	
<b>Special Request:</b>		<b>Subtotal</b>	
		<b>7% Tax</b>	
		<b>Total</b>	

If you need special arrangements or have questions, before ordering, contact us at:  
**812-926-2406 ext. 3 or  
jennifer.hughes@in.nacdn.net**

**Mail this order form and payment to**  
**Dearborn County SWCD**  
**10729 Randall Avenue**  
**Aurora, IN 47001**

Name:

Address:

City:  Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Day & Time of Pickup:

## Hogan Creek Watershed 2021 Review

The Hogan Creek Watershed Project is currently wrapping up its fourth 319 implementation grant. 2021 was a big year for the project and we would like to highlight a couple items. In June, a River Sweep Clean-up was held at Lesko Park with the South Dearborn Student Government. Fifteen students came and picked up trash on a Saturday morning. In August, we were able to hold a field day on Pollinators and 94 people were able to attend on a beautiful day to learn about pollinators and beekeeping.

The Hogan Creek Cost-share Program was also very active in 2021. Eleven cost-share participants installed the following practices this year:

Animal Walkway — 200 ft	Pipeline — 4,535 ft
Fence — 8,196 ft	Riprap Pad — 1 unit
Heavy Use Area Protection — 20,661 sq. ft	Water Tanks — 10 units
Hay Planting — 31.7 ac	Subsurface Drain — 845 ft.

These practices saved 2,359 tons of sediment, 2,206 lbs. of phosphorus, and 4,420 lbs. of nitrogen from polluting the streams in the watershed yearly.

The Hogan Creek Watershed Project has been active for over 15 years. The committee decided to not apply for additional implementation funding. The watershed management plan was developed in 2007 and is getting outdated. If the project wants to continue in the future, the watershed management plan will need to be redeveloped with updated information and data. We would like to thank everyone who has participated in the project's events and cost-share program. Improvements in the watershed were made and as a result two stream segments will be delisted from IDEM's Impaired Streams List for Biotic Communities in 2022.





## Whitewater River Watershed Project – 2021 Accomplishments

Overall, 2021 was a good year for the Whitewater River Watershed Project. We were able to host a couple educational events, a stream clean-up, and install many best management practices through its cost-share program. In March, we held a Conservation Workshop virtually where participants could receive PARP credits if needed. Many weed topics were covered along with seed treatment. Partnership agencies provided updates on programs available. In May, many people took time on their Saturday morning to help pick up trash along the Whitewater River. A lot of trash was removed especially where bridges crossed over the river. We closed out the year with a septic system workshop. Attendees were given information on different types of septic systems, how they function, and how to properly maintain them. The Whitewater River Watershed cost-share program helped landowners install many best management practices in 2021.

The following practices were installed at 70% cost-share:

**Cover Crops — 352.5 ac**

**Fence — 3,785 ft**

**Heavy Use Area Protection — 2,800 sq. ft**

These practices helped save the following reductions of sediment and nutrients from entering the streams in the watershed.

**Sediment – 2,282 T/yr**

**Phosphorous – 2,689 lbs/yr**

**Nitrogen – 5,380 lbs/yr**

If you are interested in participating in the cost-share program or would like to see if a certain educational topic covered, please contact Heather Wirth – 812-212-1066 or [heather.wirth@in.nacdnet.net](mailto:heather.wirth@in.nacdnet.net)



Dearborn County SWCD  
10729 Randall Avenue, Suite 2  
Aurora, IN 47001

Phone: (812) 926-2406 ext. 3  
<http://www.dearbornswcd.org>

Non-Profit Org

U.S. Postage

**PAID**

Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

Permit No. 139

# Dearborn County SWCD 2021 Annual Report

## Annual Meeting March 8, 2022

You're invited to attend the 64th Annual Meeting of the Dearborn County Soil and Water Conservation District. It will be held **Tuesday, March 8th at 6:30 PM at Carnegie Hall**, 14687 Main St, Moores Hill, IN 47032. The public is welcomed to attend and learn more about the SWCD and its services. The elected supervisors and appointed supervisors will be sworn in.

Please contact the office, by **Tuesday, March 1st**, at 812-926-2406 ext. 3 or email Jessica Rayburn, District Coordinator, [jessica.rayburn@in.nacdnet.net](mailto:jessica.rayburn@in.nacdnet.net) to RSVP.

