



Dubois County Soil & Water Conservation District

1486 Executive Blvd. Suite A • Jasper, IN 47546
812-482-1171 x3 • www.duboisswcd.org

Winter 2012

The Conservation Conversation

SWCD 66th Annual Meeting

January 24, 2012
6:30pm

St. Anthony
Community Center
St. Anthony, IN

\$7.50 per meal ticket

For more information,
call us at:
812-482-1171 x3

Or visit us online:
www.duboisswcd.org

Dubois County SWCD To Hold 66th Annual Meeting

The 66th Annual Meeting of the Dubois County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at the St. Anthony Community Center in St. Anthony, IN. Join the SWCD Supervisors for food, fellowship, timely information about agriculture programs, and an update on SWCD activities. Dinner will begin at 6:30 PM, followed by highlights of the SWCD's 2011 programming.

Joining the SWCD as guest speaker is Hal Wolford. Hal graduated from Indiana University in 1958 with a degree in radio and television broadcasting. He went to work for Channel 7 in Evansville right away, but later moved to Channel 25 in 1966. Hal retired in 1998 and is best known for his "Backroads" series, which started in 1988 and ran until his retirement in 1998. During this ten year span, Hal accumulated more than two thousand stories! Hal will be sharing some of his favorite stories from this area at the Annual Meeting.

Items on the agenda for the meeting include the announcement of this year's Otto J. Bauer Outstanding Conservation Farmer of



Hal Wolford, best known for his "Backroads" series on Channel 25 in Evansville, will be the guest speaker at the SWCD's Annual Meeting January 24th.

the Year award recipient and presentation of the OFS Brands Forest Stewardship Award. An election will be held to fill a SWCD Supervisor position, and the SWCD financial report and 2011 accomplishments will be reviewed.

Tickets for the meal are \$7.50, and can be purchased from any SWCD Supervisor or at the SWCD office at 1486 Executive Blvd., Jasper. There is no charge to attend the annual meeting. In case of inclement weather on the 24th, the meeting will be held on Thursday, January 26th. For more information, call the office at 812-482-1171 x3 and be sure to visit our website at www.duboisswcd.org for complete details on the meeting.

Southwest Indiana Crop Seminar



Coming
March
2012

Dubois County
4H Fairgrounds

Complete program
details will be
posted on our
website once they
have been finalized:
www.duboisswcd.org

Applications Now Being Taken for USDA Farm Bill Programs

Now is the time to sign up for USDA Farm Bill Programs! If you are interested in installing conservation practices on your farm, now is your chance! Funding will soon be available for conservation practices like:

- Water And Sediment Control Basins (WASCOBs)
- Manure Storage Buildings
- Animal Mortality Buildings
- Grassed Waterways
- Watering Facilities
- Timber Stand Improvement
- Heavy Use Area
- Spring Development
- Wildlife Habitat Management
- And much more!

The 2008 Farm Bill offers America's agricultural producers more assistance than ever before! Check out these programs through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to see if they may be right for you!

EQIP: Environmental Quality Incentives Program. EQIP helps promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. EQIP offers financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and management practices on eligible agricultural land. EQIP activities are carried out according to a plan of operations developed in conjunction with the producer that identifies the appropriate conservation practices to address the concerns.

WHIP: Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program. WHIP helps develop and improve wildlife habitat primarily on private land. WHIP provides both technical assistance and up to 75 percent cost-share assistance to establish and improve

fish and wildlife habitat. WHIP agreements between NRCS and the participant generally last from 5 to 10 years from the date the agreement is signed.

CRP: Conservation Reserve Program. CRP provides technical and financial assistance to eligible farmers to address soil, water, and related natural resource concerns. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers CRP, and NRCS provides technical assistance, land eligibility determinations and conservation planning. CRP en-

courages farmers to convert highly erodible cropland or other environmentally sensitive acreage to vegetative cover, such as grassed waterways and filter strips. Farmers receive an annual rental payment for the term of the contract.

Applications are currently being taken for these Farm Bill Programs. Whether you need a grassed waterway to control soil erosion, a waste storage building to safely store animal manure or a

timber stand improvement to protect your forest resources, NRCS has a program that can help.

If you have conservation needs on your farm, now is the time to act! Contact NRCS District Conservationist Bart Pitstick today to set up an appointment. Call the office at 812-482-1171 x3 or stop by at 1486 Executive Blvd. Suite A in Jasper.

To learn more about the different options for your resource needs, be sure to check out our website at www.duboisswcd.org. Choose the 2008 Farm Bill link at the top of the page to explore the options available to you through NRCS.



Sign-up is currently underway! Contact NRCS District Conservationist Bart Pitstick today at 812-482-1171 x3 to make an appointment to discuss your conservation needs.

SWCD Hosts Successful Cover Crop Field Day

On November 22, the Dubois County SWCD sponsored a Cover Crop Field Day held at Ring Farms in Huntingburg, Indiana. Barry Fisher, Indiana State Agronomist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, was the guest speaker. The field day included a hands-on demonstration plot with multiple cover crop species to view, as well as a question and answer time where local producers were able to ask tough questions about using cover crops on their land.

The field day was part of a Clean Water Indiana grant received by the SWCD. The grant also helped cover expenses for a cost share program to plant cover crops on Dubois County farmland. Just over one thousand four hundred acres of cover crops were planted through this program.

The SWCD has also received another Clean Water Indiana grant for 2012 and 2013, making cover crop cost share programs available for the next two years. Look for more information about the next round of cost share funding to come out in the Summer 2012 newsletter.

The SWCD also has a special cover crop section on its website, including pictures of common cover crops and answers to common questions about implementing cover crops successfully. Check it out at www.duboisswcd.org!



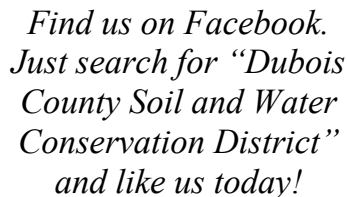


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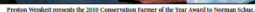


For address corrections or to be taken off the list,
please contact the office by email at
michael.wilhite@in.nacdn.net
or call 812-482-1171 x3



Norman Schue Receives Local and State Conservation Farmer of the Year Awards

Norman Schae has been named Idaho Conservation Turner of the Year on January 11 in Indianapolis. Norman was also named the 2009 Ohio Hooper Memorial Outstanding Conservation Turner of the Year by the Indiana County Soil and Water Conservation District while working for Inland Northwest Energy Exchange. When he purchased the farm in 1972, he commenced working part time at various jobs, including working as a drug law operator for

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The SWCD will once again run its Annual Report as an insert into the Ferdinand News on January 18, 2012!

If you don't get the Ferdinand News, but would like to get a copy of the Annual Report, stop by the SWCD office at 1486 Executive Blvd. in Jasper to pick up a complimentary copy after the 18th!

Purdue University's Crop Management Workshop

Thursday, January 26, 2012
8:30AM - 4:30PM

Huntingburg Events Center
Huntingburg, IN

CCH, CEU and PARP credits are available.

***For more information,
call Purdue Extension at
812-482-1782***

You can also register online at:
www.conf.purdue.edu/crop

\$75 Registration Fee