

Dubois County Soil & Water Conservation District

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

Winter 2011

The Conservation Conversation

Indiana Prairie Farmer Magazine's Tom Bechman Guest Speaker at Annual Meeting

The 65th Annual Meeting of the Dubois County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ireland, 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 2010 programming.



Joining the SWCD as guest speaker is Tom Bechman. In addition to serving as editor of the *Indiana Prairie Farmer* magazine, Tom is nationally known for his coverage of Midwest agronomy, conservation, no-till farming, farm management, farm safety, high-tech farming and personal property tax relief. His byline appears monthly in many of the 18 state and regional farm magazines published by Farm Progress.

Tom graduated from Whiteland (Ind.) High School, earned his B.S. in animal science and agricultural education from Purdue University in 1975 and an M.S. in dairy nutrition two years later. He first joined the magazine as a field editor in 1981 after four years as a vocational agriculture teacher. At the heart of Tom's stories is an appreciation for family farmers that stems from a childhood growing up on a small, Midwestern tenant dairy farm.

"Agriculture in the Midwest is very different today," he says. "But I still believe that the core beliefs I learned many years ago on the farm apply. Hard work, dedication, responsibility, and commitment to family and American values are still hallmarks of successful farm families."

Items on the agenda for the meeting include the announcement of this year's Otto J. Bauer Outstanding Conservation Farmer of 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 2010 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 25th, the meeting will be held on Thursday, January 27th.

SWCD Annual Meeting

Tuesday, January 25, 2011
6:30pm

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Ireland

\$7.50 per meal ticket

For more information
or to register:
812-482-1171 x3

Or stop by our office to pick
up your tickets:
1486 Executive Blvd. Suite A
Jasper, IN 47546

Southwest Indiana Crop Seminar

Tuesday
March 1, 2011

8:00am to
4:45pm



Dubois County
4H Fairgrounds

PROGRAM IS FREE!
But reservations
are required:

Call Purdue Extension
at 812-482-1782
by February 22
to reserve your spot!

Great Plains 10' No-till Drill Available For Rent



Need to rent a drill to plant your soybeans, wheat and native or warm season grasses this year?

If you've never no-tilled before, why not give it a try!?

Call the SWCD at 812-482-1171, extension 3 to schedule your time to rent the drill.

Other Conservation Items Available

Tile Flags

Flags on 36" wire staff can be used to mark underground power lines or surveying jobs. \$7.00/ bundle of 100; various colors.

Blanket Staplers

Installing erosion control blankets? This stapler makes completing the job easy! The plunger simply pushes the cartridge staples into the ground. \$20/day. Boxes of 1,000 staples costs \$80.

Spinning Jenny

Use to install high-tensile wire fences. Load with wire and set on the ground. Walk away pulling the end of the wire and it will spin, preventing your wire from tangling. Slow down gradually before stopping to prevent over-spinning and tangling. Can also be used to rewind wire in the field. No rental fee.

Contact us for more details about any of these!

Southern Indiana Grazing Conference

February 3, 2011

7am - 4pm

Simon J. Graber Building
Montgomery, IN



Late Registration \$35 (by Feb 2)
Last Minute Registration \$40 (after Feb 2)

Topics Include:

- Moving from production to profit
 - Finish beef cattle on grass
- Grass based beef cattle finishing
 - Marketing grass fed beef

Featured Speakers:

Kit Pharo, Steve Wallace and
Seven Sons Cattle Company

For more information or to register, contact
the Daviess County SWCD at
812-254-4780 x3

Category 14 Fertilizer/Manure Applicator Exams



March 22, 2011
4pm - 7pm

Dubois County 4H
Fairgrounds Office
Bretzville, IN

To order study materials, contact
Purdue Extension at
812-482-1782

For more information, visit:
www.isco.purdue.edu
(click on "Fertilizer Applicator Certification Rule")

Purdue Program Sends Farm Managers Back to School

School will be in session for farmers wanting to better educate themselves on sound business management practices during Purdue Management Academy: Target 2015. The new program takes place February 17 and 24 and March 3 at several locations across Indiana. It is sponsored by Purdue University Extension and the North Central Risk Management Education Center.

Producers of family-owned, multigenerational agricultural operations are the intended audience, said Kelly Heckaman, educator, Purdue Extension Kosciusko County, and the program coordinator. "We are going to provide tools, resources and a network for producers to create a strategic business management program targeting 2015," Heckaman said. "A Purdue Extension survey in 2008 found that our producers are requesting more information on product and enterprise diversification strategies, marketing plans and strategies, business and strategic planning, employee management and transition, and estate planning."



Session titles and topics include:

- * Feb. 17, "Strategic Business Planning & Human Resources" - Positioning the farm business, mission and vision statements, goal setting and measurement, business plan development, and standard operating procedures, personality assessments and why every farm needs a public relations plan.
- * Feb. 24, "Gathering and Utilizing Financial Information & Marketing" - Measuring profitability, managing debt, using management accounting to link financial performance analysis, benchmarks and trends in financial information, standard operating procedures and developing a marketing plan.
- * March 4, "Human Resources & Risk Management" - Enhancing work force productivity and job satisfaction, communicating with family members, communicating with stakeholders, how to train the next general manager and managing the farm in turbulent times.

Sessions will be conducted by a combination of Internet protocol (IP) video broadcasts and live speakers at workshop locations. Keynote speakers appearing by IP video include Purdue agricultural economists Corinne Alexander, Mike Boehlje and Allan Gray; Robert Milligan of Dairy Strategies LLC; and Dick Wittman of Wittman Consulting. Other presentations will be made by local Purdue Extension educators and agricultural professionals.

Program times will be the same all three days. The sites in our area hosting the program from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. EST include:

Knox County - 4367 N. Purdue Road, Vincennes

Vanderburgh County - Southern Indiana Career & Technical Center. Lynch Ro., Evansville

Registration is \$120 per person and includes program materials and meals. Registration for additional members from the same farm operation or family is \$75. A \$25 late charge will be assessed for registrations after the February 9 deadline.

A program brochure with additional information and registration form is available online at www.extension.purdue.edu/Kosciusko/ANR.htm

Further details also are available by contacting Kelly Heckaman by phone at 574-372-2340 or by email at kheckaman@purdue.edu



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The Conservation Conversation

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OFFICE HOURS: MON-FRI 8 AM TO 4 PM

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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**Visit us on the web at:
www.duboisswcd.org**

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

SWCD Supervisors:

Alan Weyer, Chair
Brenda Sermersheim, Vice Chair
Greg Hoffman, Member
John Jackle, Member
Glenn Menke, Member

SWCD Associate Supervisors:

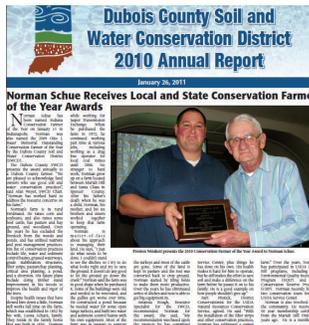
Duane Hopf
Lee Schnell
Jack Welp

Service Center Staff:

Judi Brown, Executive Director
Amanda Bough, Resource Specialist
Radius Weisman, Technical Specialist
Michael Wilhite, Program Assistant
Bart Pitstick, District Conservationist

Due to the nature of the work performed by the Service Center Staff, occasionally there are times when no one will be in the office. Please call before making a special trip to the office.

SWCD Runs Annual Report in Ferdinand News



The SWCD will once again run its Annual Report as an insert into the Ferdinand News on January 19, 2011!

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 19th!

SWCD Board Meetings

The Dubois County SWCD Board of Supervisors meet on the first Thursday of every month at 7:40am at the Fairgrounds Office in the Clover Pavilion on the 4H Fairgrounds. Anyone interested in soil and water conservation issues is encouraged to attend.

Looking for Grazing Bites?

Check out our new website to read the latest edition!

www.duboisswcd.org