

As always the Allen County SWCD is grateful for the support received from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management through Section 319 grant programs and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture through Clean Water Management programs, as well as the Allen County Council & Commissioners for continued support of District activities. All programs and services of the Allen County SWCD are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, age or disability.

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Interseeding—Concept in Planting Cover Crops

This unit can be used with 6 or 8 rows to match most planter widths. It has two row openers between each row of corn which are being fed by a Valmar air seeder to place the cover crop seed in the soil. The concept is to plant the cover crop when the corn is at V-4 to V-7, ankle to knee high, at or after side dress. The plant germinates and emerges to start growing but then is shaded by the corn and becomes dormant throughout the summer season due to lack of sunlight. In September when the corn leaves start browning at black layer the sunlight and moisture allow the cover crop to thrive and grow again.

The early seeding gives the cover crop an extra two months of growing time compared to planting after corn harvest and has the advantage of being placed in the soil verses broadcast seeding by airplane or ground methods. One of the main concerns when interseeding in corn is to match the weed control herbicides with the cover crop being planted. The interseeding concept works not as a competing plant but as a companion plant. The recommended species mix that works well in our area is annual ryegrass, radish and crimson clover.



After three years of study there has been no documented yield loss. In fact some plots have experienced a 2+ bushel per acre increase! Studies at Penn State University have yielded responses as high as 7 bu./acre.

The unit will be available for rent on your fields. You will need to contact the office for rental details. Rental rates are \$/6acre plus \$55/tach hr. Program funds may be able to cover the cost of your interseeding. If you would like to put a demo plot in your field in conjunction with the Infield Advantage program you may be eligible for a free rental. Please call the office for more details or to rent.

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Watershed Project Manager
- Brooke Dennis**
Watershed Project Manager
- Mike Werling**
Conservation Programs Specialist

NRCS

- Tim Bomba**
District Conservationist
- Arthur Franke**
Soil Conservationist
- Joyce Thompson**
Soil Conservationist

ISDA

- Jennifer Thum**
District Support Specialist
- Lindsey Bluhm**
Resource Specialist



International Soil Health Specialist Jill Clapperton

is coming to Fort Wayne on **March 11, 2019** at the Parkview Mirro Center. Registration starts at 8, the program is from 9 a.m.—3 p.m. with lunch provided.

She will be speaking on topics related to creating and managing healthy productive soils, crop rotation and cover crops. She is currently working to develop and adapt technologies for improved on farm decision-making based on science.

Allen County SWCD's 74th Annual Meeting March 30, 2019

Join us for breakfast at 8 a.m. at the Parkview Mirro Center for the District's Annual Meeting. We plan to share what the water quality monitoring data is telling us for the Indiana portion of the Western Lake Erie Basin. We've also invited Jon Cavanaugh & David Kohli to share the highlights of the USDA Spring Planting Intentions Report along with a LIVE Broadcast by WOWO's Farm Director, Rob Winters.

A free-will donation breakfast will be provided. RSVPs are greatly appreciated for an accurate meal count! Please call 260-484-5848 x 3 or email Krista at krista.voors@in.nacdn.net

There are three nominees for the open spot with the Board of Supervisors:

Don Rekeweg

Kyle Quandt

Kellie Adkins



Meet the Newest Member of the Conservation District Team

Hello my name is Brooke Dennis, I am working under a NRCS Contribution Agreement and I will be providing assistance to conservation partners in the Indiana portion of the Western Lake Erie Basin. My goal is to help with education & outreach efforts.



I grew up on a grain and livestock farm in Roanoke, IN, where my family raised beef cattle, goats and chickens to name a few and grew wheat, soybeans, corn and sunflowers. My family also owns Dennis Grain and Fertilizer Company (Dennis Farms) which is a grain elevator located in Huntington County which sparked my interest in agriculture. Both my mothers' and my fathers' side of the family farm, so I was destined to obtain my Bachelor's degree in Agronomy with a minor in Entomology at Purdue University. Boiler Up! During my collegiate career, I interned for Brodbeck seeds as their first agronomy intern during the 2015 flood year. I also achieved my Master of Science degree at Purdue University in Field Crop Entomology with Dr. Christian Krupke as my advisor. My research determined what native bee and syrphid fly species were foraging in Indiana soybean fields and their potential contribution to yield. I finished my college career in May of 2018. After graduation, I worked for legacy Monsanto or now known as Bayer. I worked at the Windfall, IN, location which is a soybean processing facility. I was in charge of all quality laboratory operations while at Bayer.

I am a very active person who enjoys the outdoors. I am an avid hunter for waterfowl, deer and rabbits and I also love to fish. In the winter, I am busy snow skiing and snowmobiling and, in the summer, you can find me at the lake most week ends. In the beginning of June, I will be unavailable for a while as I will be getting married and heading to a relaxing honeymoon in Antigua. I am excited to start this new journey and eager to meet all of you. Feel free to reach out anytime for a meet and greet or if you have any questions.

Upper Maumee Implementation GLRI grant

Cost-Share is now available! This grant is focused on implementing best management practices within the critical watersheds listed in the Upper Maumee Watershed Management Plan. Those critical watersheds include: Black Creek, Marsh Ditch, Six-Mile Creek & Trier Ditch. Practices available for a 75% cost-share are cover crops, filter strips, conservation tillage, nutrient management, residue management, drainage water management, gypsum and comprehensive nutrient management plans (CNMP) and equipment modifications.

Call the SWCD office for more information!



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FREE Soil & Manure Sampling:

Free soil and manure sampling is being offered by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Great Lakes Commission (GLC).

Farms must be located within the **Auglaize River Watershed-** Brown Ditch - Flatrock Creek

St. Mary's River Watersheds- Blue Creek—Headwaters Blue Creek

Upper Maumee River Watershed- (entire watershed)

The goal of this program is for growers to know how much phosphorus is already in their soil in order to make better fertilizer decisions. Contact Lindsey Bluhm at 260-210-2477.

Fingerling Fish Sale

All orders due by 4:30 pm on April 19, 2019
Pick-up date is April 25, 2019

For an order form please call the office at 260-484-5848 x 3,
email krista.voors@in.nacdnet.net or stop in the office!



Equipment Available for Rent

Great Plains Turbo Max w/ Valmar Seeder \$16 / acre (includes tractor, subject to availability)
Great Plains Turbo Max without the Valmar Seeder \$11 / acre (does not include tractor)
Phillips Harrow \$6 / acre
Interseeder \$6/acre + \$55 / tach hr. for tractor
Salford 522 Air Seeder \$16 / acre (price includes unit, tractor & operator)



FOOD PLOT SEED

Late-April the SWCD will have FREE Food plot seed available in limited quantities.

Thank you to:

Pheasants Forever is dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education and land management policies and programs.

Visit the website pheasantsforever.org for more information



Upcoming Events

SWCD Board Meeting @ 8 a.m.

March 27

April 24

May 22

June 26

July 24

August 28

Sept. 25

Oct. 23

Nov. 27

Dec. 18

Mar. 11

Jill Clapperton in Fort Wayne!

Mar. 30

SWCD Annual Meeting @ the Parkview Mirro Center

Sept. 4

Soil Health Field Day at Roemke Farms