



Soil Scoop!

Spencer County Soil and Water Conservation District

“Each soil has had its own history. Like a river, a mountain, a forest, or any natural thing, its present condition is due to the influences of many things and events of the past.” --- *Charles Kellogg*

Upcoming Events

Aug 24th: Board Meeting held in the conference room at the USDA Service Center

August 27th: SWCD Staff at an IN Field Advantage Training

Sept 7th: Labor Day USDA Service Center and the SWCD Office is Closed

Sept 28th: Board Meeting held in the conference room at the USDA Service Center

Teachers: Please Request Education Programs Early!

Spencer County SWCD Board

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Spencer County Soil & Water



Grants

Education and the Environment

The Spencer County Community Foundation, the Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana Grants have awarded grants to the SWCD! These funds will help increase the District's educational outreach and ability to reach the 7-12th grades with water quality educational experiences using real-world equipment and will allow the SWCD to utilize the equipment in the water of our district!



Lake and River Enhancement

The DNR Lake and River Enhancement grant will be utilized to contract for a diagnostic study in the Little Pigeon and Buckhorn Watersheds. Due to the nature of the watershed boundaries overlapping Warrick and Dubois Counties, they have agreed to assist with any work that we may need in their counties which will help accumulate in-kind. The study will allow the district to attempt to obtain more grants from the DNR!

Adventures with Nature

The 13th annual Adventures with Nature program held on June 27th at Tipsaw Lake had another great turn-out this year with over 250 visitors and volunteers.

The theme was “Pioneer Life” and participants could do wide range of activities such as make bird houses, corn husk dolls, butter, rope, try their hands at quilting patterns, and even made felted items such as worms and eggs. There were many more activities for every interest!



The featured event held at noon was the “Take Flight” event, where Mark Booth presented his birds of prey, live-flight demonstrations and spoke about the ecology of hawks, owls and falcons.

4-H Booth

Even with the storms which rolled through the 4-H fair this year, we still had several people stop by and see our world under the soil. They could see five foot long earthworms and information about fungi, microscopic animals, mammals, soil insects and about the soil itself.

Most importantly, the booth addressed soil health, with posters and information on cover crops, the nitrogen cycle, and no-till agriculture!



Thoughts of an Intern

Daniel Roos



I have been the summer intern at the Spencer County SWCD for two summers. I was able to learn a great deal about myself and about the role of the SWCD. This internship was an asset because it taught me skills I could use after college while the work week gave me the flexibility to be able to spend time with my family after my shift was over.

I have done a wide range of jobs in my internship such as educational programs, field work and office work. The programs were some of my favorite times I worked. I have been out in the field doing various types of field checks. I started with residue checks and then moved on to grassed waterway checks, filter strip checks, wildlife habitats, and surveys. I learned how to use different field-appropriate tools and office protocols. Two of my main tasks was to help create the 4-H booth for and helped prepare for the Adventures with Nature programs.

My advice to future interns is to be ready to spend many hot and humid days walking fields all over the county. The heat will drain your energy so bring water and food anytime you go out into the fields. My advice for the office work is to always try to find something to do, because sometimes the office work slow.

Through this position, I have grown as a person and developed into a more efficient worker. I thank all those I worked with for helping me do this. This internship has given me two great summers with an abundance of real-world experience. I recommend the position to others in similar fields.

Thank you, Daniel, for all of your help! Spencer County SWCD

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