



# Soil Scoop!

December 2015/January 2016

## Spencer County Soil and Water Conservation District

Around one acre of land is needed to supply the food for one person in the world. Arable land (farmable land) is disappearing daily.

### Upcoming Events

Monthly meetings are held the 4th Monday of every Month at 7 PM with the exception of holidays and the annual meeting. Public welcome!

January 25th: Annual Meeting—**Please RSVP by January 8th**  
**SWCD Closed the following dates:**  
December 24th-25th  
December 31st January 1  
January 18th  
January 14th - 15th (IASWCD Annual Conference)

### Spencer County SWCD Board

#### Supervisors

Mike Roos - Chair  
Brian Rahman - Vice Chair  
Alan Waninger - Secretary  
Mark Lubbehusen  
Burke Sibrel

#### Associate Supervisors

Paul Giles  
Chad Goldman  
David Gogel  
Roy Raider  
Phillip Schmidt  
Steve Trinkel  
Holly McCutchan

#### District Administrator

Courtney Hall

#### District Technician

Dave King

#### District Conservationist

Rita Becker Forler

#### ISDA RS

Amy Sims

812-649-9136 ext 3  
<http://spencerswcd.org/>  
<http://spencercounty.in.gov>

#### Find us on Facebook!

Spencer County Soil and Water



### The Soil and Water 72nd Annual Meeting!

The Spencer County Soil and Water Conservation District will hold its 72nd Annual Meeting on Monday, January 25, 2016 at the Youth and Community Center in Chrisney beginning at 6:00 p.m. CST. A meal catered by New Boston Tavern will be served for \$5.00 per person. If the meeting is postponed due to severe weather, it will be held February 1, 2016 at the same time and location.

Following the meal, awards will be presented to the 2015 Conservation Farmer of the Year, Spencer County River Friendly Farmer and the 4H Soil and Water Grand Champion. An election will be held for a supervisory position on the Board of Supervisors of the Soil and water conservation district, followed by Matt and Steve Leiberger, the guest speakers for the evening.

Every individual with interest in Spencer County and the Soil and Water District is invited to attend. Please RSVP at (812) 649-9136 ext. 101 by January 8th, 2016.



Thanks to the **Spencer County Community Foundation Grant** and the **Toyota Foundation Grant**, the SWCD was able to utilize the new field water testing supplies with Heritage Hills High School in October!



### Another Benefit of Cover Crops – Rita Becker Forler

Do you have cover crops? As long as the primary purpose of the cover crop is not compromised, grazing cover crops can be a positive move. While livestock graze the annuals, ungrazed pastures are resting. If not yet dormant, ungrazed pastures continue to grow forage.

Do **not** graze cover crops under wet soil conditions to avoid compaction. Ensure adequate growth before grazing is initiated (start grazing with more than 8") and stop before removing too much (stop by 4" or more). Maintaining adequate live plant residual is critical for keeping the cover crop growing and benefitting your soil. Moving livestock on cover crops every day or two to help avoid overgrazing. Livestock can remove vegetation very fast, so check your cover crops daily.

### An excerpt from the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Making the selections for the annual District Showcase awards was difficult this year for the judging committee, because there were many excellent applications. In the end, four awards were given:

Dubois County  
Owen County  
**Spencer County**  
Wabash/Miami/Kosciusko Counties

These districts will have the chance to give ICP leaders a tour of their district and project this fall, and in January at the annual Awards Luncheon, you'll hear more about their projects in the District Showcase video. For now, take a minute to congratulate them on a job well done!

The Spencer County Showcase Presentation and tour occurred on November 23, 2015.

### Boehm Family to be honored at the Annual Meeting



The Spencer County SWCD is honored to have the Boehm Family continuing conservation-minded farming practices. This photo is from the Indiana State Fair where Richard, Becky, Heather, & Lee Boehm were recognized on August 19th, 2015.