

2020 NRCS REPORTING YEAR		Conservation Practice	Planned Amt.	Applied Amt.
		Brush Management (ac.)	524	108
		Conservation Cover (ac.)	27	35
		Cover Crop (ac.)	316	1,815
		Early Successional Habitat Development Mgmt. (ac.)	37	
		Forest Management Plans Written (no.)	2	4
		Forest Stand Improvement (ac.)	70	
		Herbaceous Weed Treatment (ac.)	10	
		High Tunnel System (sq ft)	2368	2,700
		Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (ac.)	162	162
		Riparian Forest Buffer (ac.)	10	
		Subsurface Drain (ft.)	1040	300
		Tree and Shrub Establishment (ac.)	32	
		Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (ac.)	368	4
		Wildlife Habitat Planting (ac.)	2	1
		Windbreak/shelterbelt Establishment (ft.)	4864	
		Wetland Restoration (ac)	11	4
Farm Bill Program	2020 Fiscal Year			
EQIP	\$34,723.97			
WRP/WRE	\$32,234.12			
CSP 2014	\$13,918.37			
CREP	-0-			
CRP	\$508,458.00			
TOTAL	\$589,334.46			

Marshall County SWCD

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Conservation: the careful maintaining and protection of something valuable especially in its natural or original state

SUPERVISOR ELECTION AT SWCD ANNUAL MEETING

The Marshall County Soil and Water Conservation district will elect one supervisor and appoint one supervisor to its board during the district’s annual meeting on January 27th at 6:30 pm. These Supervisors each serve a three year term. The nomination committee has submitted Mike Large for re-election, he has served as an SWCD supervisor for five years. The nomination committee has submitted Rance Glinge for re-appointment, He is completing his ninth year as a supervisor. (see Supervisor’s Bios for more information on Mike and Rance) Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the meeting.

Voting will take place at the Annual Meeting. An eligible voter is a person of voting age, a representative of a firm, company or a corporation that owns or rents

a tract of land properly located with the District. (Marshall County) All parties of jointly held property may vote.

Due to the ongoing health concerns for our county, this year’s Annual meeting is going to be held virtually. A ZOOM meeting will be conducted, and we invite everyone to attend. We do request that you either call in to our office at (574) 936-2024 ext. 3 or email us at info@marshallcountyswcd.org by January 26th so that we may send you the link to the ZOOM meeting.

We will be posting our Annual Financial Report on our website www.marshallcountyswcd.org for the public to view. It may also be picked up at our office at 2903 Gary Drive or sent by request. Thank you for your understanding, all of us here at the MCSWC appreciate your willingness to do things a bit differently this year and we hope things are back to normal in 2021!



WINTER 2020/2021



ANNUAL REPORT

CHANGES IN 2020,
LOOKING FORWARD TO 2021

2020 has been a different year for everyone, and for us in the Soil and Water Conservation office, it has brought quite a few changes. Attending conferences and regional meetings has gone virtual. We’ve had to learn some new technology...a year ago most of us had never heard of ZOOM, except when referring to the sound a Mazda makes! We’ve had to move our board meetings outside, and the last two were virtual. We are in the process of acquiring our own license so we can host virtual meetings in the future if neces-



sary, and may even be posting educational videos on You Tube. For example, we helped the ArrowHead RC&D put together a series of videos based on their River Rafting Expedition that had been held on the Tippecanoe River and posted them on a You Tube channel. The link was then sent out to high schools as a course that can be added to a teacher’s curriculum. Now students can experience the River Expedition online! As we move into the new year, we will do our best to keep you informed, continuing to reach out to you with new programs and opportunities to participate in conservation on your farms and in your backyard. We urge you to follow our Facebook page, check our website and let us know your email address to include you in on-line education. We are committed to conservation, we’ll be here to help you and are looking forward to a positive, healthy new year!

AWARDS!

We are proud to announce that Marshall County has two recipients of state-wide awards. Adam Lemler received the River Friendly Farmer award. The RFF Program is a statewide initiative that recognizes farmers, who through best management practices help keep Indiana’s rivers, lakes and streams clean. Adam Lemler utilizes best management practices such as no-till, cover crops and a 4R fertility plan to improve not only soil health but also water quality. Adam has been a long time supporter of conservation and has served as a resource to many producers in the county who are new to implementing conservation.

The Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Fund received the Friend of Conservation award which recognizes individuals and organizations that have made an outstanding contribution to soil and water conservation in Indiana. The LMEF has organized efforts to install and maintain a series of wetlands that help keep the lake healthy and to educate the public about the importance of water quality in our lives. Congratulations to both honorees and thank you for your efforts!

KAYAK LAUNCH TO BE INSTALLED IN BREMEN

In 2020 MCSWCD was awarded \$32,000 from Indiana Division of Natural Resources (IDNR) through their Lakes and River Enhancement (LARE) grant program. These funds will be utilized to complete a streambank stabilization project, which will include a kayak/canoe launch. The site is located on the banks of the Yellow River near Hwy 106 in Schumacher westside park in Bremen. The banks in this area were washed out by the flood of 2017 and have continued to erode since. This project will stop the severe bank erosion by regrading the bank and adding a combination of rocks and deep rooted native plants which will continue to hold the bank in place. We are excited to be able to work on a project that will increase the accessibility of the Yellow River. This launch will be approximately a 4 hour casual canoe/kayak trip to the launch that is installed in River Park Square in Plymouth. If you have any questions or would like to find out how you can help on projects like this one contact our office!

2020 MARSHALL COUNTY SWCD PROJECTS

ARGOS POLLINATOR AND RAIN GARDENS

The Marshall County SWCD received a grant in 2020 from the Arrow Head RC & D that was put to good use for the town of Argos. Not one, but TWO projects were able to be funded, a pollinator garden near the Water tower downtown and a raingarden near the south entrance of Community Park. With help from some great volunteers, the gardens were installed in October. Native plants were used to attract pollinators and beneficial insects, and in the case of the raingarden, their deep roots will filter run-off water.



BOURBON POLLINATOR GARDEN

The town of Bourbon installed one area of pollinator garden this past year and is planning on planting more habitat for the butterflies and bees in 2021. We are happy to assist local parks and municipalities plan for conservation!

NATIVES 101

One of the ways we can contribute to conservation as homeowners is to use native plants in our landscaping. The Culver Library asked us to work alongside the Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Fund to do a presentation which we participated in this past July. The slide presentation combined several subjects that interrelated-using native plants in your landscaping, avoiding and removing invasive plants, and an introduction to raingardens. We were able to speak to a group of about

15 people, who found out why this is important to do. Using native plants in your landscaping contributes to the success and health of native insects, which can be pollinators and/or an important food source for birds and other wildlife. There are a number of great books out about this subject, but a current best seller is by author Doug Tallamy entitled Nature's Best Hope. He has several other publications as well but his theme remains the same....Conservation can start in our

own backyards! Using native plants and removing invasive ones can go a long way toward helping our planet!

“knowledge generates interest, and interest generates compassion,”
— **Douglas W. Tallamy**, *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard*

If you have a group you'd like us to speak to, give us a call!

A BOUNTY ON BURNING BUSH AND BARBERRIES!

The bounty that we offered last fall on Burning Bush and Barberries was successful with nearly 20 people participating and reaching over 16,000 on our FB page! Our district has plans to continue with bounty programs in 2021, targeting problem plants and getting the word out to the public that they are problems to begin with! Many folks commented that they had no idea that Burning Bushes and Barberries were causing so much trouble in our woodland areas, crowding out our native species because they are so prolific and easily spread, quickly taking over. We will also be participating in Weed Wrangles in the spring, working with SICIM (Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management) and possibly forming a CISMA (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area). Watch for more news about these activities in the year ahead. Tentatively we have plans for a Weed Wrangle this spring in our own Marshall County Forest. Look out weeds and invasive plants, we're coming for you!

WANTED, DEAD OR DEAD!

It's a **BOUNTY** on **BURNING BUSH** and **JAPANESE BARBERRY**! These shrubs, commonly used in landscaping statewide, are causing problems in our woodlands, both being listed as highly invasive by the DNR, with Barberry being on the Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial List (illegal to be sold or traded). Spread by birds, they are popping up everywhere in our wooded areas, crowding out our native shrubs and other important perennial plants, which are vital to the health of our wildlife. The Marshall County Soil and Water District would like to offer a **BOUNTY** on these problematic shrubs, we will reimburse you up to \$50 to replace one with an acceptable native shrub! Give us a call here at the office 574-936-2024 ext. 3, or email us at info@marshallcountyswcd.org for details!

MCSWCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Tyson Edwards

Tyson is a graduate of Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science Wildlife Science. He is a Certified Wildlife Biologist and has worked with the Indiana and Michigan DNR's as a Wildlife as a wildlife biologist. He has also worked with Cardno as an Ecological Resource Specialist and is currently employed at Corteva as an agronomist and is also a CCA certified crop advisor. Tyson and his wife Heidi live in Center Township with their five kids: Josie, Blake, Winston, Graham and Lincoln. They enjoy raising chickens and sheep and enjoy gardening on their hobby farm. Tyson is competing his 10th year as a supervisor after being re-elected in 2020. He serves as the Board Chairman.



Craig Hawley

Craig Hawley resides in Bourbon Township with his wife Serena and their five daughters: Cheyenne, Sierra, Savannah, Sabrya and Soroja. The Hawley family enjoys their days spending time outside on their family farm while raising horses and pigs. For 18 years, Craig has successfully operated his construction business, specializing in new home construction, pole barns and frame work. He is an owner of Farmer's Drainage, LLC, which actively provides all tiling and farm drainage needs throughout the community. Craig is in his 3rd term as an elected supervisor.



Tim Gochenour

Tim is a 1992 graduate of Purdue University with a B.S. In electrical engineering. He is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force where he achieve the rant of TSgt. With his wife Stacha, they currently farm 800 acres in Bourbon and Tippecanoe Townships where they employ soil conservation practices such as no-till and cover crops. They also have a farm seed business selling a variety of seeds including corn, soybeans, wheat, cover crops, deer/wildlife food plot and bee/butterfly and wildflower pollinator mixes. Hobbies include traveling to visit grandchildren, hunting, fishing and motorecycling. Tim was appointed in 2016 to fill a term and was re-appointed in 2020.



Mike Large

Mike graduated from Bethel College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. He owns and operates Large Farms, LLC and lives with his wife Terri and their four boys Connor, Caden, Colton and Camden. . Mike is the treasurer of the Camp Creek Church and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Marshall County REMC. Mike was appointed in 2016, was then elected in 2018 and is up for re-election in 2021. Mike currently serves as vice-chairman of the MCSWCD.



Rance Glingie

Rance graduated from Purdue University in 2002 with an Agribusiness Management degree. He is employed at Wholesome Grain Solutions in Milford. Rance and his wife Kelsey reside near Bremen with their two children and operate a small farming operation utilizing cover crops and no-till practices. He is also active on the family farm with his dad and brother. He enjoys spending time in the outdoors hunting and cutting wood. Rance and his family attend the Nappanee Missionary Church where he serves on the Safety Team. He is completing his 9th year as an appointed supervisor and is up for re-appointment in 2021.

Board meetings are normally held the 2nd Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 pm, times can vary depending upon the month. Check our website to determine location and times. Meetings are open to the public, but due to COVID concerns, they are being held virtually at this time. Call or email us to request a link to our virtual board meetings, we will be happy to get that to you so can you participate.

MCSWCD AWARDED 319 IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

The Marshall County SWCD is excited to announce that it has been preliminarily awarded \$293,000 from the Section 319 grant program. This grant is the first 319-implementation grant that MCSWCD has received. In 2015 MCSWCD received a 319 planning grant to write the current Watershed Management Plan for the Headwaters Yellow River Watershed (HYR), which guides all implementation activities. The goal of this grant is to improve awareness of water quality concerns in the HYR and to improve water quality in the Headwaters Yellow River watershed (HYR) by providing funds which will be utilized to implement conservation practices and increase outreach efforts. There will be a robust cost-share program available for residents or land owners/operators in the HYR which we anticipate will include both urban and ag conservation practices. These funds will also be utilized to continue to employ our fulltime Watershed Coordinator. This grant will be in partnership with St. Joseph and Kosciusko Counties. If you have any questions about the 319 program or if you would like to be added to the list to receive 319 grant updates please contact our office.

USDA and the Marshall County SWCD prohibit discrimination in their programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status.

OFFICE STAFF



Jodie Overmyer

SWCD District coordinator



Erica Wyss

SWCD Watershed Coordinator



Troy Manges

NRCS District Conservationist



Chris Gardner

ISDA Resource Specialist
CREP Leader Tippecanoe CREP