



2903 Gary Drive
Plymouth, IN 46563
www.marshallcountyswcd.org
574-936-2024 x 3



FALL 2026

NEW PLAT BOOKS!!!

Just in case you haven't heard, the District is offering new plat books for 2026! The company that put them together sent postcards to landowners in the county, but just in case you didn't get a postcard, we want to let you know that they are available here in the office for \$25. They would make a great Christmas gift for Dad! Or Mom, or anyone that would like to see who their neighbors are!

CONSERVATION CONVERSATIONS

A SUPPORT GROUP FOR LANDOWNERS

It seems that there is a support group for everything these days, and our local invasives working group **SMIPP** has organized a gathering of landowners so that attendees can connect, learn, and support one another in their efforts to battle invasive plants on their properties. This is a different kind of meeting than our Weed Wrangles, where we work hard and remove invasives on a public space. At a SMIPP Land Steward informal gathering, we share personal experiences at a landowner's property, where management techniques can be shared and successes and frustrations can be discussed. The Land Stewards have met several times at different locations, there will be one more this year at District Coordinator Jodie Overmyer's home right here in Marshall County on November 4th at 5:30 p.m. The enthusiasm at past events has made it clear, there is a strong interest in protecting our natural areas and restoring them to health. SMIPP members that have been involved since its inception are in attendance, and can answer questions and help attendees understand how important their efforts are to our local environments. Managing invasive plants is vital to improving soil health, protecting wildlife habitat and improving timber stands. Whether you are just beginning to tackle invasives on your property or have years of experience, SMIPP Land Stewards welcomes you and values your input. Join us and bring your questions, your tips and tricks, and most of all, your positive attitude because together, we CAN make a dent! Check www.SMIPP.org for details!



UPCOMING EVENTS

SMIPP Fall Weed Wrangles - Always more weeds to wrangle! We'll be at Rum Village at 10 am on October 23rd, Centennial Park on October 24th and don't miss helping out at Potato Creek State Park on November 7th! See the SMIPP website for details www.SMIPP.org

Breakfast with a Forester— One more time in 2026! Join us to ask local foresters and conservation professionals about your woodlands and how to manage them! October 20th, 8:00 am at Christo's Family Dining in Plymouth.

NRCS deadlines—NRCS programs, such as EQIP, CSP or WRE, will have deadlines coming up in early December. For more info, give us a call!

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.

FALL IS FOR PLANTING!

We held our first Annual Native Tree & Shrub sale earlier this fall and it was a great success! If you missed it, watch for it next year, but why do we promote planting in the fall rather than the spring? Because the conditions are more conducive to transplanting success. If you set out new trees and shrubs in the fall, they will almost take care of themselves with the help of Mother Nature. Rainfall is usually consistent through the fall months and cooler temps prevent drying out. Soil temps remain warmer and promote root growth and plant establishment through the fall, helping plants to be better prepared as the temps start rising in the spring. This can be very important when planting away from a water source when plants may only be able to get limited care. Fewer disease and pest problems are hanging around to plague a plant that is already weakened from transplanting. Another reason? Nurseries and garden centers will usually have fall sales to help move inventory so that it doesn't have to be stored and protected through the winter, so go out and find a great deal and add a few plants to your property this fall!

MARSHALL COUNTY SWCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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USDA NRCS

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Jodie Overmyer - District Coordinator

Annabelle McCarthy—RITA Tech

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

Marshall County SWCD

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PLANT THIS, NOT THAT!!!

Now here's a great native to plant! Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) can be seen growing in wetter areas, along ponds and wetlands. It's red berries are just stunning in the late fall through early winter months, and are an invaluable late winter food source for birds. All hollies require male and female plants to produce heavy fruit, so it's important to have both on your property in close proximity to each other. Cultivars are available, chosen for outstanding fruit set and also for size variation. The straight species can get quite large, up to 10' tall and wide, but there are cultivars, such as 'Red Sprite' that stay more compact. The fruit is stunning against a background of snow and twigs can be trimmed and used in decorative holiday pots and arrangements! Use this great native for screening instead of invasive burning bush, forsythia or privet. Plant Mr. and Mrs. Holly this fall, the birds will be happy you did! **#gonative**



Native Winterberry Holly