



Hoosier Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society Newsletter

Fall Issue

September 2017



From the Outgoing President - Chris Lee

Dear Members:

I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as your president this year. I will be honest with you and say that I was not sure I wanted to do it in the beginning. I will tell you this now that my year is nearly over. It goes really fast, and I got way more out of this experience than I gave. If you have ever considered being involved in our society as more than just a member, I urge you to do it. It takes far less time than you would think it does and the experience really is awesome. There are so many people that work behind the scenes to make things go well. Many of them have been members for a long time. I will not name them because as sure as I do I will leave someone out. Just know that they are all there and willing to help you in any way they can.

I began this term attending our meeting at the Indianapolis Zoo. It was a fantastic meeting tying soil health to the health of marine mammals in the Gulf of Mexico. If you have not got to see this program you really should make it a priority. It is one of the best most understated soil health promotions of the day. They literally use a dolphin show with video in the background to demonstrate how important land treatment here is to the people and creatures of the gulf.

This summer we had our June meeting at Eagle Marsh outside of Fort Wayne. This is the area where runoff water either goes to the Gulf of Mexico or Lake Erie. A true continental divide. NRCS had worked with various other groups and installed a berm that will prevent the migration of the exotic invasive Asian Carp from reaching the Great Lakes. We also learned about the other water quality concerns reaching the lakes and how drinking water supplies are being impacted by nutrient runoff.

Then in July there was the 72nd International Conference of SWCS in Madison, Wisconsin. This was the second time I was able to attend one of these with the other being in Biloxi, MS. If you have not attended an international conference you really should put that on your bucket list. These are so well put together with some of the best presenters in their field. I was fortunate enough to get to attend this one as your president and accept three awards on behalf of all of you in the Hoosier Chapter that made this possible.

Now, we are gearing up for our final meeting of 2017. The Hoosier Chapter has been working really hard along with CCSI Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative to get some great speakers. The focus will be insects and their relationship to soil health. The meeting will be on November 16th. Please, try to make this meeting if possible. The speakers are some of the best in their field and will show the relationship of insect pests, beneficial insects, and pollinators to overall soil health.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you this year. I urge each member to bring on one new member in 2018. If you are approached by someone from the Hoosier Chapter and asked to run or to serve in some capacity, just do it. You will not regret it. It will give you positive place to make a difference.

Best Regards,

Chris Lee, President, Hoosier Chapter, SWCS

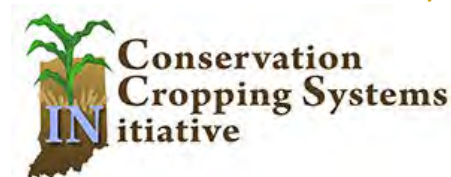
To foster the science and art of soil, water, and related natural resource management to achieve sustainability.

Mark Your Calendar

**Hoosier Chapter
Fall Annual
Meeting
Thursday,
November 16,
2017 at the
Indiana FFA
Leadership
Center in
Trafalgar, IN**

Healthy Soil - Happy Pollinators!!

Hoosier Chapter Fall Meeting and Professional
Development Workshop co-hosted by
Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative

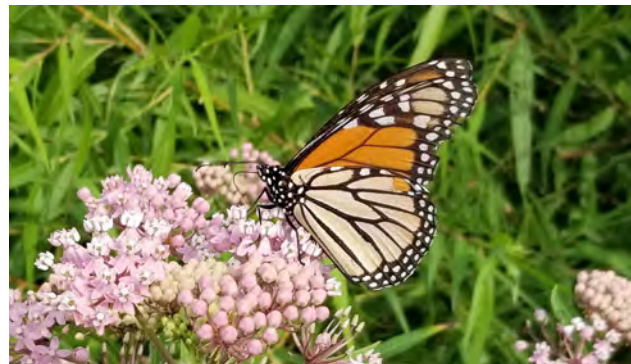


When: Thursday, November 16, 2017
9:00 am - 3:00 pm EDT

Where: Indiana FFA Leadership Center
Trafalgar, Indiana

Speakers will include:

- Dr. Jonathan Lundgren, Blue Dasher Farm and Ecdysis Foundation
- Jeff Belth, Author of Butterflies of Indiana Field Guide
- Xerces Society



**Registration forms and further
information will be sent out through
email and posted on the website !!**

Contact Curtis Knueven at curtis.knueven@in.usda.gov for more information.

Announcing the Hoosier Chapter SWCS 2017 Conservation Scholarship

One Scholarship of \$1000 will be awarded at the Hoosier Chapter Fall Meeting on November 16, 2017 to an applicant that has successfully completed at least two years of college in a natural resources or conservation related field. Applications for the scholarship may be emailed or sent regular mail and must be received the scholarship selection committee chairman by October 1, 2017.

For additional information and/or the application form, please visit our website:

<http://www.hoosierchapterswcs.org> or email questions to
scholarships@hoosierchapterswcs.org

Or you may contact:

Scott Wagner, Chairman
2825 Dan Jones Road

Plainfield, IN 46168 scott.wags@gmail.com

Hoosier Chapter Awards

The Hoosier Chapter has four awards that are presented every year at our Fall Annual Meeting. We will be taking nominations for these awards through **October 20, 2017**. If you know of an individual, group or a SWCD that has made an impact on conservation in Indiana, please consider nominating them. The following pages explain the eligibility requirements for each award. If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Swihart at 812-699-7296 or tnkswihart@minerbroadband.com

HOOSIER CHAPTER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY AWARDS

CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD (GROUP/INDUSTRY/BUSINESS)	CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD (INDIVIDUAL)
<p><u>Purpose of Award:</u> To recognize the outstanding conservation accomplishments of a specific group or industry or business whose activities have resulted in improving the quality of the environment by directed efforts to advance science and art of good land use.</p> <p><u>Criteria:</u> The nomination's accomplishments should display unmistakable evidence of specific activities which have resulted in positive improvement of the environment via the effective promotion of soil and water conservation principles. Award recognition will consider (but not be limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The activities which aim to accomplish the mission of the SWCS Hoosier Chapter. • The nature and type of conservation accomplishment(s) achieved • The variety and breadth of accomplishment(s) • The influence the accomplishment(s) have had on other groups, industries, or businesses to initiate similar activities • The quality of environmental improvement resulting from the accomplishment, the far-reaching effects of the accomplishment • The activities should have clearly contributed to bringing about better conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources and/or a better understanding of natural resources conservation issues. • Is the nature of the activity, product or service the result of an organized program or an individual's activities? • Please explain the audience that was primarily affected by this activity. <p><u>Eligibility:</u> Any group, industry, business, organization is eligible to be recognized. Membership in the Society is not required.</p>	<p><u>Purpose of Award:</u> To recognize the outstanding conservation accomplishments of a specific individual whose efforts have resulted in improving the quality of the environment through applied soil and water conservation activities.</p> <p><u>Criteria:</u> The nominee's accomplishments should display unmistakable evidence of the interest in and the advancing of wise resource management through positive application of soil and water conservation activities. Award recognition will consider (but not be limited to);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of the accomplishment to the overall mission of the SWCS Hoosier Chapter. • The nature and type of conservation accomplishment(s) achieved • The variety and breadth of accomplishment(s) • The influence the accomplishment(s) have had on others • The quality of environmental improvement resulting from the accomplishment • The activities should have clearly contributed to bringing about better conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources and/or a better understanding of natural resources conservation issues. • Are the nominee's accomplishments outside their normal working duties? • Have the nominee's professional achievements been recognized on a statewide, multi-state, nationwide or international level? • Summarize nominee's education, biographical and employment history that supports the nomination. <p><u>Eligibility:</u> Any individual is eligible to be recognized. Membership in the Society is not required.</p>

<p align="center">EDUCATION AND INFORMATION AWARD</p>	<p align="center">OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE HOOSIER CHAPTER AWARD</p>
<p><u>Purpose of Award:</u> To recognize the outstanding achievements of a specific individual or group whose efforts in educating and/or informing the public about natural resources issues has resulted in a positive greater awareness of the need for protecting or conserving these resources.</p> <p><u>Criteria:</u> There should be unmistakable evidence of the effectiveness of the individual's or group's efforts to increase public understanding and appreciation of the need for wise resource management. Award recognition will consider (but not be limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The communication effort of the individual/group and the audience to which such effort is directed (general public, professional groups, industrial groups, classrooms, etc.) • The frequency of the communication effort • The manner of presentation of information and/or education effort • The length of time such efforts have been demonstrated • The results which occurred because of the information/education effort • The specific message(s) conveyed as it relates to the mission of the SWCS Hoosier Chapter • Was the scope of the project countywide, less than 25%, 25 -50%, 50-75% of the state, Statewide, Multi-state, Nationwide or International. <p><u>Eligibility:</u> Any individual or group is eligible to be recognized. Membership in the Society is not required.</p>	<p><u>Purpose of Award:</u> To recognize an individual or group for outstanding service to the SWCS Hoosier Chapter in developing and carrying out its objectives and program goals.</p> <p><u>Criteria:</u> Nominee’s services should display unmistakable evidence of service performed on behalf of the SWCS Hoosier Chapter which was distinctly above and beyond the service expected to be rendered by any member. Award recognition will consider (but not be limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noteworthy participation in Chapter activities or projects. • Influencing and motivating others to actively participate in SWCS Chapter programs. • Support of the SWCS Hoosier Chapter that results in significant growth and development of the Chapter • Encouraging others to engage in activities that support the mission of the SWCS. • Other activities that bring special recognition to the Hoosier Chapter. • The number of years that the member has been active • The length of time such efforts have been demonstrated • Describe activities outside of Chapter Society level • List activities of nominee outside the Chapter <p><u>Eligibility:</u> Any SWCS Hoosier Chapter member is eligible to be recognized. The award is not limited to one recipient per award year if the Committee believes that there has truly been outstanding service demonstrated in the nomination of activities as described in the nomination(s) documents.</p>

Nomination Procedure: Nominations should be submitted in letter form (with any supporting material as appropriate). Documentation need not be lengthy but should clearly address all the criteria for each award respectively. **Submit nominations by Friday, October 20, 2017, to Tammy Swihart, Membership Growth and Involvement Chair, 3597 N 1000 W., Linton, IN 47441, Email: tnkswhart@minerbroadband.com.** Members of the Membership Growth and Involvement Committee will judge all entries. For more information call Tammy Swihart (812) 699-7296.

SAVE THE DATE



**NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
COVER CROPS
& SOIL HEALTH
HARVESTING
THE POTENTIAL**

**DECEMBER
7»8
2017**

**SHERATON
INDIANAPOLIS HOTEL
AT KEYSTONE CROSSING**

**INDIANAPOLIS,
INDIANA**

Curious about the growing interest in cover crops, no-till, and soil health? Join the conversation on December 7-8, 2017, and hear from farmers and conservationists as they discuss what works and how it can work for you.

WWW.SWCS.ORG/17NATIONALCOVERCROPS

SPONSORED BY:




Join SWCS

Your support can make a difference! It's individuals like you who make healthy land and clean water for life possible. How can you benefit?

- Support local, national, and international conservation and land stewardship
- Be a part of the conservation community
- Share your work and be informed on other advances in the industry
- Enjoy professional development opportunities on current and emerging interdisciplinary topics
- Network with professionals from many disciplines through local, regional and international meetings
- Be eligible for awards and scholarships only available to SWCS members
- Effective representation in policy circles on environmental, agricultural and conservation issues
- Interaction and education through local chapter membership in US and Canada

All members receive:

- One year Subscription to the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation
- Monthly e-newsletter Conservogram
- Discount to the SWCS annual conference
- Discount on SWCS publications
- Discounts on page charges
- Free book: Aldo Leopold: The Man and His Legacy

Presidents Club \$275 annually

Leader \$180 annually

Conservationist \$115 annually

Student* \$40 annually

Conservation District† \$140 annually

Developing Country Conservationist‡ \$36 annually

Leaders also receive:

- Special recognition in our annual report
 - A gift from the Society and Membership Lapel pin
- * President's Club Members also receive

- Special recognition in our annual report
- A gift from the Society and Membership Lapel pin
- Invitation to the VIP reception during our annual conference

‡ Student members must be full-time students taking 12 credits/semester

Contact Tammy Swihart with the Hoosier Chapter SWCS for more information – tnkswihart@minerbroadband.com or

812-699-7296

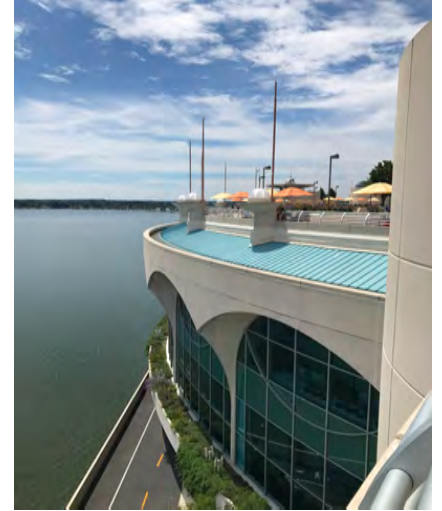
This past July, the Hoosier Chapter was recipient of three International SWCS Chapter Achievement Awards. The center photo below shows Chris Lee, Chapter President at the 2017 International Meeting in Madison, WI accepting the awards. Special thanks goes out to our Hoosier Chapter Past President and Council and all the Hoosier Chapter members for your efforts and support. It is exciting to see our chapter being recognized nationally and on an annual basis!!



The Historic State Capital Building



Chris Lee accepting one of the three HC awards



Monon Terrace Convention Center



The Hoosier Chapter was well represented at the Conference

Make Plans now to attend the 2018 International Soil and Water Conservation Society's Annual Conference which will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico - July 29-August 1, 2018

Hoosier Chapter SWCS
PO Box 70
Kingman, IN 47952

Connect with us!
www.hoosierchapterswcs.org

Facebook: Hoosier Chapter-
Soil & Water Conservation
Society



Summer Meeting Wrap-Up

On Tuesday June 20, 2017, approximately 50 people, both Hoosier Chapter members and non-members met at the Eagle Marsh Little River Wetlands Project just outside of Ft. Wayne. Speakers included Betsy Yankowiak, Director of Preserves and Programs, LRWP; Dr. Chris Winslow, Director, Ohio Sea Grant College Program; Rick Duff, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Field Coordinator, NRCS; Duane Riethman, Area Engineer, NRCS; and Andrew Pursifull, Engineer, NRCS. After the morning session, the group had the opportunity to stand on the continental divide between the Lake Erie Basin and the Mississippi River Basin. The berm was built so to ensure that aquatic wildlife invasive species could not easily pass from one major watershed basin to the other.



Newsletter Editor:
Tammy Swihart

For more information, contact Tammy Swihart
at tnkswihart@minerbroadband.com.