

THE OBSERVER

For Shelby County Residents
interested in agricultural and
natural resource issues.

Shelby County
Soil and Water Conservation District
www.shelbycountyswcd.org Phone: 317.392.1394 Ext 3

Issue 139
Winter 2010

Don't miss the 2010 Shelby County Soil & Water annual meeting on:

Wednesday February 10, 2010 @ 6: 30 P.M.

Shelbyville Middle School Cafetorium

Dinner will be provided by Blue Bird Restaurant

Speaker: Hans Kok

Tickets: \$11 adult, \$7 children 8 & under

Reservations and Payments are due by February 3, 2010

Annual Meeting Speaker

HANS KOK

Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative

Dr. Hans Kok is the coordinator of the Indiana Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative, a program sponsored by the Indiana Conservation Partnership. Dr. Kok received a Bachelors and Masters in Science from the Agricultural University in The Netherlands, and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Idaho. Since 2004, he has worked on a joint appointment between Washington State University and the University of Idaho, covering Extension programming for conservation tillage and bioenergy for both Idaho and Washington. Prior to this Extension role, he worked as

conservation tillage specialist for Monsanto for 7 years. At Monsanto, he conducted EPA compliance checks for retailers, managed four conservation tillage research farms, conducted biotechnology training sessions, and interacted with state and local government entities. From 1990 to 1998 he worked for the Kansas State Cooperative Extension Service as the state specialist for soil and water conservation. A native of the Netherlands, he has worked on erosion protection projects in Spain and Israel, and worked for the USDA-ARS in Washington State.

Shelby County Soil & Water Annual Meeting & Banquet

Wednesday February 10, 2010 @ 6:30 P.M.

(Reservations Due By : Wednesday February 3, 2010)

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

_____ **Number of Adult tickets @ \$11.00 each=\$** _____

_____ **Number of Child tickets @ \$7.00 each=\$** _____

Make checks payable to : Shelby County SWCD
Mail to: 1110 Amos Rd Suite C, Shelbyville, IN 46176

YOU STILL HAVE TIME!



The Little Blue River Watershed cost share grant ends in September 2010, so you still have time to apply. Since the grant is aimed at water quality improvement, a wide variety of projects such as fencing livestock from a stream, installing or widening filter strips, and switching from conventional to conservation tillage are all available. The grant pays 60% for establishing most Best Management Practices (BMPs) with the participant contributing 40%. A couple unique opportunities in this grant are:

- 50% cost share for equipment modifications. The modifications must reduce tillage (no-till planter attachments) and/or reduce surface application of manure (no-till or most types of injection equipment). GPS technology is included if you are willing to implement additional BMPs.
- 75% cost share for cover crops. The grant requires a five-year commitment and can pay only for the first year of implementation. EQIP funds could help with three more years, but you must apply right away to be considered for this option.

Land must lie in the watershed to be eligible. Both landowners and operators in the watershed are invited to contact either the Rush or Shelby County SWCD or the watershed coordinator to find out more details.

Rush County SWCD 765-932-2813 x 3
 Shelby County SWCD 317-392-1394 x 3
 Noell Krughoff, Coordinator 317-512-1091 or nkrughoff@gmail.com

Every Drop Counts

Did you know that an American home can waste, on average, 11,000 gallons of water every year due to running toilets, dripping faucets, and other household leaks? Nationwide, more than 1 trillion gallons of water leak from U.S. homes each year. That's why WaterSense promoted Fix a Leak Week from March 16 to 20, 2009, to remind Americans to check their plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks.

For additional information you may contact the WaterSense helpline at 866.987.7367.

Article from WaterSense, EPA

Farmers Mutual Insurance

Shelby County Agents Serving You

Larkey Ins. Agency 835-7232	Kevin Carson 835-4404	Ryan Marshall 763-7875
George Larrison 525-4580	Olinger Ins. Agency 398-8936	

RON L. DIXON
 Natural Resource Consulting, Inc.

7719 Knapp Road • Indianapolis, IN 46259
 Tel: (317) 862-7446 • Fax: (317) 862-7437

Shelby County Co-op

 Farm Store 317-398-9729		 Crops 317-392-4472
 Petroleum 317-398-6655	2350 E. State Road 44 Shelbyville, Indiana 46176	 L.P. Gas 317-392-5677

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 Fairland, IN 46126
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 775 N 425 E, SHELBYVILLE, IN 46176
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2010 DCP/ACRE Sign -up Under Way



It is that time of year again for you to make your one of your annual visits to the local Farm Service Agency. Sign up for the 2010 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program and ACRE program has begun. Please contact the local office to make an appointment. Please allow a little extra time this year as we will be going over your maps prior to running contracts. Please call today at 317.398.4351 ext. 2 to set your appointment up.

Did You Pick Up New Ground?

If you have acquired new ground for the 2010 crop year, you will need to provide the office with a written statement from the owner verifying the change of operator. Changes will not be made without this verification.

Small Grain Certification

Small grains must be certified by May 31, 2010. If you planted wheat this fall, stop by the office with your planting date. Let's get it done now so you won't have a late fee to pay in June!

Susan D Houston
Rush/Shelby Farm Service Agency
County Executive Director



4-H SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION PROJECT

We are excited to be the project superintendents for the 4-H Soil & Water Conservation Project and hope to see lots of entries at next summer's Shelby County Fair!

The project offers many activities from performing a worm census to interviewing conservation professionals -- and everything in between! Also, there is an opportunity for some winners to attend Camp Whitley courtesy of the SWCD. If you are interested in more information about this project, or would like someone to come talk to your club about it, please contact Ashley Carlton at the SWCD Office. Our number is 317.392.1394, ext. 3 or by e-mail at ashley.carlton@in.nacdn.net. You can also contact the Purdue Cooperative Extension Office at 317.392.6460.

2010 Envirothon

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting the Central Region 2010 Envirothon Contest at Symbiosis on March 16, 2010. The Indiana Envirothon is a competitive learning event for high school aged students. It is open not only to school groups but scouting groups, FFA's, Green Teams, 4-H groups, home-schoolers, and more. Envirothon tests students' knowledge on a variety of topics including soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatics and current environmental issues.

Please contact our office at 317.392.1394 x 3 if you are interested in registering a group for this event.

Wetland/HEL Determinations

If you are needing a wetland or highly erodible land determination on your farm, please remember that it is imperative to allow adequate time for the determination to be completed before you are ready to begin working. Determinations should be requested at least three months before you are ready to begin. Please see FSA to fill out the proper paperwork.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 11-13—2010 IASWCD Annual Conference
January 18—Martin Luther King Day (Office Closed)
February 10—Shelby County SWCD Annual Meeting
February 15— Presidents Day (Office Closed)
February 18—Snow date for SWCD Annual Meeting
March 10—SWCD Monthly Board Meeting
March 16—2010 Envirothon

www.shelbycountyswcd.org

Shelby County SWCD Board of Supervisors:

Chris Lux – Chair
Aaron Swinford – Vice Chair
Mike McCain – Member
Mike Smith – Member
Chris Eck – Member

Shelby County SWCD Office Staff:

Jill Williams – District Administrator
Ashley Carlton – Resource Specialist &
CWI Tri-County Technician
Bill Harting – NRCS District Conservationist
James Stewart – Educator
Noel Krughoff - 319 Grant Coordinator

SWCD Office Notice

Due to the nature of our work, there will be times when staff is in the field and not available. Please call the SWCD/NRCS office at 317.392.1394, ext 3 to make an appointment

Equipment for Rent

No-Till Drill:

8' Great Plains No-Till Drill
Call the SWCD for rental information.



The no-till drill is great for planting soybeans, small grain or clover without tilling the ground, also plants warm season grass seed.

Strawblower:

Price: \$25.00/hour (two hour minimum)

The strawblower is great for mulching newly seeded areas such as lawns, grassed waterways, pond dams, or any area to be seeded.



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