



Conservation Lines

Volume 33 Issue 1

1944 64 years of Conservation 2008

Winter 2008

Calendar of Events

- February 6—Board Meeting
- February 18—President’s Day (Office Closed)
- February 28— 63rd Annual Meeting and Director Elections
- March 20— 1st Day of Spring
- March 23—Easter
- March 28-29— Tree Sale
- April 2—Fish Sale
- April 17— 5th Grade Conservation Day

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Bond SWCD to Host Annual Meeting Thursday, February 28

The 63rd Annual Meeting of the Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District will be held on Thursday, February 28, at the St. Lawrence Church Hall in Greenville. A buffet dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. followed by the business meeting and program at 7:00 p.m. Elections will be held during the Annual Meeting. Terms are expiring for current directors: Lester Harnetiaux, Artie Myers and Wesley Pourchot. Following the business meeting Mr. Chris Eg-

leston, a Magicomedian, will be performing. Mr. Egleston will provide a laughter filled evening of clean comedy, magic, and entertainment. Mr. Egleston has performed for Pepsi-Cola, Edward Jones, Inc., and many other groups and companies. His performances receive rave reviews and are guaranteed to provide an entertaining evening for you and your family. Dinner tickets are \$7.00 each if purchased by February 25 and \$8.00 at the door. Tickets



can be purchased from any of the directors or at the Soil and Water Conservation District office located at 1111 East Harris Avenue, Greenville. Call 618-664-0555 ext. 3 for reservations or details.

NAME OR ADDRESS CHANGES?

PREFER TO RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL?

Call our office at 618-664-0555 or email us at info@bondswcd.org.



*FISH AND TREE SALE
ORDER FORMS INSIDE*

NRCS Hires New District Conservationist

The Natural Resource Conservation Service, NRCS, Greenville Field Office welcomes a new District Conservationist, Justin King. Justin King originally hails from Windsor, Illinois where he grew up on a grain and beef farm. Over the past few years Justin has worked with NRCS in Jackson, Perry, Union and Shelby Counties.

Justin received his education from Lake Land Junior College and completed his Bachelor's of Science Degree in Plant and Soil Science from

SIU-Carbondale in the spring of 2004. Justin is an avid outdoorsman and says he enjoys, "just about any outdoor activity associated with wildlife or farming."

Justin is an ambitious, energetic leader that is looking forward to working with farmers, landowners, businessmen, educators, and community leaders to establish a outstanding working relationship between NRCS and Bond County residents. Justin's first day in the office was October 29 and the Greenville Field



Office Staff looks forward to a long working relationship.



5th Grade Conservation Day —April 17

Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District is looking forward to it's Fourth Annual 5th Grade Conservation Day scheduled to be held April 17 at the First Christian Church in Greenville, IL. The conservation district hosts the event with the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom for Bond County. This

educational outreach program hosted over 240 students, speakers, and volunteers during the 2007 event. The 2008 event has already received commitments to participate from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Division of Fisheries and Division of Wildlife. This years event will continue to focus on age appropriate, educa-

tional materials for all 5th grade Bond County students. Local FFA Chapters, community volunteers, University of Illinois Extension, and Southwestern Electric Cooperative have all volunteered their time and resources to continue this program.



No-Till and Soil Sampling on Rise in Bond County

Conservation practices are on the rise in Bond County. During 2007 the Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District Equipment Rental and Soil Sampling Programs saw a substantial increase in acreage compared to previous years. Specifically, the five John Deere 1590 No-till Drills were rented for use on 9,597 acres of no-till crop and CRP acres. Additional equipment available for rent includes

two Aerway tillage tools, and a John Deere Chisel Disk. A new rolling tine harrow was installed on one of the Aerway's during 2007. The Aerway is a minimum tillage tool designed to aerate the soil without disturbing surface residue. The equipment acreage for the year totaled over 12,000 acres.

Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District also offers soil sampling and testing services.

These services include GPS maps, soil samples collected and samples sent to a laboratory for testing. The Resource Conservationist reviews results and sends a summary of information to the landowner. Soil sampling increased to over 5,000 acres sampled during 2007. Bond SWCD looks forward continued increases in conservation practices in Bond County during 2008.

2008 Spring Tree Sale

The Bond County SWCD is taking order for tree seedlings, shrubs and ground cover. These items are bare root stock. The scheduled pick-up dates are March 28-29, 2008. Please contact us at 618-664-0555 ext. 3 or visit our website at www.bondswcd.org for more information. **SPECIAL ORDERS CONSIDERED UPON REQUEST — SPECIAL ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY MARCH 1.** Payment due at time of order. Bond County Soil & Water Conservation District purchases high quality stock, but we do not offer a guarantee.

<u>Evergreen Trees</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>\$ Due</u>	<u>Groundcover</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>\$ Due</u>
White Pine	6-12"	\$ 15.00/25	_____	_____	Hosta (Green w/white edges)	Root bud	\$ 2.00	_____	_____
Norway Spruce	10-18"	\$ 15.00/25	_____	_____	Vinca Minor (Periwinkle)	Clump	\$ 1.50	_____	_____
<u>Shade & Nut Trees</u>					<u>Shrubs</u>				
Northern Red Oak	3 ft	\$ 5.00	_____	_____	Burning Bush	8-12"	\$ 2.00	_____	_____
Red Maple	3 ft	\$ 5.00	_____	_____	Common Lilac	18"	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
Pecan	3 ft	\$ 5.00	_____	_____	Forsythia	2 ft.	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
<u>Ornamentals</u>					<u>Ornamentals</u>				
Pink Flowering Dogwood	2-3 ft.	\$ 6.00	_____	_____	White Flowering Dogwood	3 ft.	\$ 6.00	_____	_____
Red Bud	3ft.	\$ 6.00	_____	_____	Bradford Pear	2 ft.	\$ 6.00	_____	_____
				Subtotal					\$ _____
								Subtotal	\$ _____
								Total Amount Due	\$ _____

* Also available—Marking Flags \$0.10 each

PLACE ORDERS BY MARCH 3

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

CONTACT BOND SWCD AT 618-664-0555 x.3 or email us at info@bondswcd.org

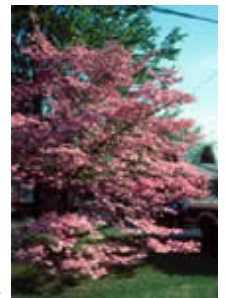


Shown above: Vinca Minor (Periwinkle)

GROUND COVER: Vinca Minor (Periwinkle or myrtle) Grows anywhere. It thrives in sun or shade, in any type of soil. It is an evergreen creeper that has purple blooms in May. Grows 6-12" tall and 12" wide. Works well on hard-to-mow banks and under trees or in planters. Hosta (Alba Marginata): Grows 12-18" tall. Morning sunshine is tolerated, then prefers full shade during afternoon. Water often. This variety has medium green leaves with creamy-white margin and a lavender blossom in late spring. Works well as lawn border.



SHRUBS: Burning Bush: Grows to 4-5' tall and 3' wide. In autumn the green leaves turn bright red. It is popular for fall color, but also for its ability to thrive in difficult situations. Common Lilac: Grows to 8-15' tall and 8-12' wide. Considered fast growing, noted for showy, fragrant blooms. Requires well drained soils and full sun. Can be used as a screen or hedge plant when planted 2-4 feet apart. Forsythia (pictured at left): A fast growing shrub with a bright yellow, showy flower that blooms in the spring. Often used to control erosion on steep slopes and suggested for use as border, specimen plant and screen. Grows 8-10 feet tall and 8-10 feet wide. **TREES:** Red Maple trees are popular for color, red flowers in the spring, bright green foliage in the summer that turns yellow



to red in the fall. Well adapted to many soils and grows 40-60' wide and 40-60'tall. Red Oak trees grow best in sandy to loam soil in full sun. They are the fastest growing of all oak tree and can grow to 75' tall. Leaves turn red in the fall. Pecan trees will grow fast the first 5-10 years and then growth slows as fruit production increases. Needs a pollinator and likes moist, well drained soils with full sun. Dogwood: Offering both white and pink varieties (at right). The typical size is 15' tall and 15-20' wide with white or pink blooms. Partial shade is best, but it can tolerate full sun. Redbud: Flowers in early spring with purple-pink blooms. Likes moist, well drained soil, but is adaptable to most soils. Grows well in full sun or light shade. Typically 10-15' tall and 12-15' wide.

2008 SPRING FISH SALE

Deadline for fish orders: Grass Carp—March 17, All other fish—March 25

For more information call our office at (618) 664-0555 ext. 102 or visit our website at www.bondswcd.org

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER:

Make Check Payable to: Bond County SWCD,
1111 E. Harris Ave., Greenville, IL 62246

DELIVERY—APRIL 2, 2008 AT 8:00 A.M. at the Bond SWCD Equipment Shed located directly behind Greenville Veterinary Clinic on Hwy. 40 East of Greenville.

SPECIES	SIZE	PRICE	QTY	\$	SPECIES	SIZE	PRICE	QTY	\$
Channel Catfish	4-6"	45 ¢ ea.			Hybrid Sunfish	1-2"	\$50 / Bag of 250		
	6-8"	60 ¢ ea.				3-5"	\$ 0.60 ea		
	8-10"	75 ¢ ea.				5-7"	\$ 1.00 ea		
Largemouth Bass	2-3"	65 ¢ ea.			Bluegill	1-2"	\$50/ Bag of 250		
	5-8"	\$1.45				3-5"	\$0.60 ea		
Redear (bag of 250)	1-2"	\$50/ Bag of 250			Crappie	2-3"	\$40/ Bag of 100		
<i>Hybrid Redear</i>	2-4"	35 ¢ ea.			Fathead Minnows		\$ 7.50 / lb.		
Triploid Grass Carp*	8-11"	\$8.00							
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE								\$	

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

***Location of pond/lake: (Required if ordering Grass Carp)**

TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ SECTION: _____ POND SIZE (acres): _____



FISH STOCKING FOR NEW AND REHABILITATED PONDS

The most widely used and successful stocking combination for ponds in Illinois is largemouth bass, channel catfish, bluegill and redear sunfish. These species are popular among fishermen and are adapted to a wide variety of pond conditions. The bluegill eat small aquatic insects and serve as food for bass. The bass control the numbers of small fish so those remaining grow to large size.

Crappies are popular with anglers, but may not be suitable for small ponds. Crappies produce large numbers of offspring which can quickly overpopulate. High numbers of bass must be maintained to provide control of crappie populations.

Bluegill often have a reputation of overpopulation, but that is traceable to overharvesting of largemouth bass. Redear sunfish are sometimes substituted for bluegill or stocked in combination at a ration of 70% bluegill to 30% redear. Bass and bluegill are sometimes stocked alone if redear or channel catfish are not desired.

Fingerling fish are recommended for initial stocking of NEW ponds or rehabilitated ponds. Fathead minnows also can provide an abundant food supply that will eventually be eliminated by bass. Other minnow species can cause problems, only fathead minnows are recommended.

It is very important that the proper number of fish be stocked, since this original stocking must support the pond for the first four to five years of fishing. For more information, see the information booklet Management of Small Lakes and Ponds in Illinois, produced by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

AGRICULTURAL WEBSITES

Agricultural Regulations
<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/ezregs/>

Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation
www.aiswed.org

Illinois Department of Agriculture
<http://www.agr.state.il.us>

Illinois Farm Bureau: www.ilfb.org

University of Illinois Extension
<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu>

University of Illinois Farmdoc
www.farmdoc.uiuc.edu

United States Department of Agriculture
<http://www.usda.gov>

To see the latest news, information, activities, calendar of events, and more. . . visit our website and add us to your "Favorite's List."

WWW.BONDSWCD.ORG



Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District



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**Farm Real Estate and Equipment
 Loans for Beginning Farmers**

First National Bank is working with the IFDA to offer the Beginning Farmer Bond Program. This program helps save you money by offering lower interest rates. Call a First National Ag Loan Representative for more information.



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**Vandalia
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**Patoka
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Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District Equipment Rental Program



John Deere Chisel Disk

1 Available for Rent

12' wide—9 Shanks— 2' Sweeps

\$ 3.75/acre



John Deere 1590 No-Till Drill

5 Available for Rent

15' wide— Markers— Grass Seeder

\$ 8.00/acre first 50 acres
\$7.00/acre for each add'l acre



Aerway PT 6300 Tillage Tool

2 Available for Rent

15' wide-2 Styles of Harrows

\$ 3.00/acre

SOIL SAMPLING AND TESTING



The Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District utilizes a customized Suzuki SUV containing internally mounted soil sampling equipment to extract soil samples from your farm. Our Resource Conservationist will travel the perimeter of your field and will use GPS technology to map your acreage. He will travel throughout the field to take multiple soil samples and provide an accurate map of the sample locations. In addition to sampling, the Bond SWCD offers lab analysis. Contact our office at 618-664-0555 ext.3 for more information or visit our website.

Soil Sampling

5 acre grid or more \$ 1.00/ac
Less than 5 acre grid \$ 1.50/ac

Soil Test (lab analysis)

\$ 5.00 per sample

For more information visit www.bondswcd.org



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will soon conduct the 2007 Census of Agriculture, and we need your help to make it the most effective tool it can be! The Census is only conducted once every 5 years. The 2007 Census of Agriculture will collect information concerning all areas of farming and ranching operations, including production expenses, market value of products, and operator characteristics.

Your responses help provide information that is used for all types of agricultural planning and decision-making. This information helps USDA work with other organizations to develop short-term and long-term improvements, strategies, and safeguards.

Here are just a few examples of how the information is used to benefit your operation and your entire community:

- Your county extension office uses the data in community planning to ensure you are getting the services you need.
- Companies use the statistics to see where to put the next feed store or equipment dealer.
- Lending institutions use the information to provide sufficient funds for operational loans.
- USDA uses the information to determine if its service centers are staffed at appropriate levels to assist farmers and ranchers.

Your input, along with that of all American's farmers and ranchers, can make a real difference for you and your community.



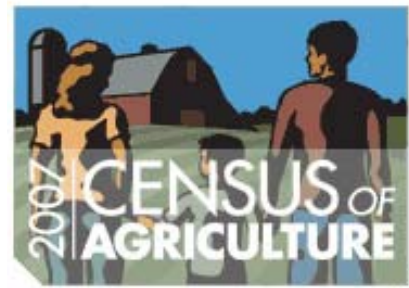
For more information call toll-free: (888) 424-7828 or visit online at: www.agcensus.usda.gov

To be as helpful as possible, this information needs to be accurate. That's why we ask you and other farm and ranch operators across the United States to carefully complete your 2007 Census of Agriculture form. You are the most important resources for this information, because you understand it best.

Your response to the Census of Agriculture is required and protected by law, Title 7, U.S. Code. This law safeguards the privacy of your responses. Federal law requires that your individual answers be kept completely confidential. We will not disclose any data about an individual farmer's or rancher's operation. No individual information is shared with any other Federal, State, or local agency. USDA publishes the data totals for statistical purposes only, and the information cannot be used for purposes of taxation, investigation, or regulation.

Additionally, you can expect that USDA will provide you with access to the Census results in summary reports that can help you make decisions about your operations.

You should receive your 2007 Census of Agriculture report form in early January 2008. Please submit your completed report no later than February 4, 2008.





**BOND COUNTY SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

1111 East Harris Avenue
Greenville IL 62246
Phone: 618-664-0555 ext 3
Fax: 618-664-3958

www.bondswcd.org

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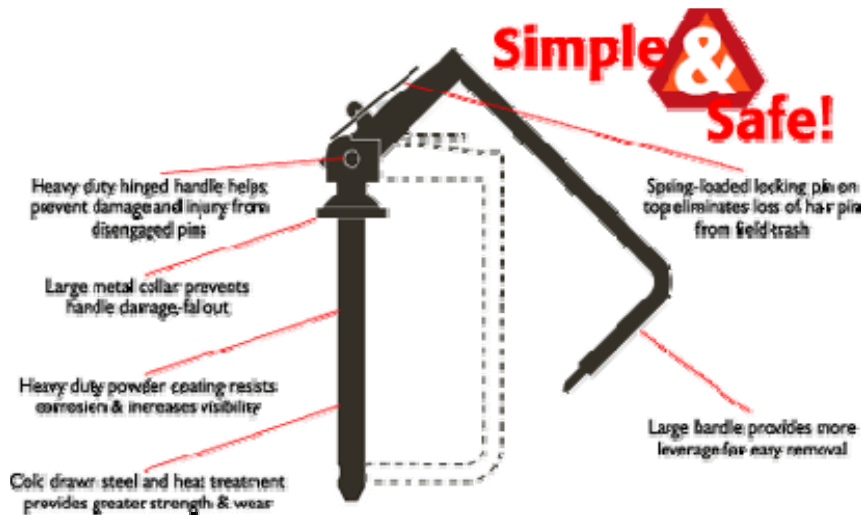
DISTRICT DIRECTORS

*Artie Myers—Chairman
Mike Bingham— Vice Chairman
Harold Gehrig—Secretary
Lester Harnetiaux—Treasurer
Wes Pourchot—Director
Karen File— Associate Director*

District Staff

*Emily Hartmann—Administrative Coordinator
Dan Feldmann—Resource Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Justin King—District Conservationist
Rob Reinhart—Soil Conservation Technician
Mike Andreas—Area Engineer
John Grab—Ag Engineer
Roger Staff—Grassland Specialist*

SAFETY EQUIPMENT FOR SALE



Lockease Safety Hitch Pins

3/4" x 6"	\$20	1 1/8" x 7"	\$30
7/8" x 6"	\$23	1 1/4" x 7"	\$34
1" x 6"	\$25	1 1/2" x 8"	\$38



MAGNETIC SAFETY LIGHTS

\$20.00 each

Battery operated safety lights provide that added security for your farm transportation needs. Contact the Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District Office at 618-664-0555 ext. 3 for more information.