News & Conservation

Newsletter Vol. 1 2006 January ALLEN COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



USDA Service Center

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Congressman Mark Souder

to speak at Allen County SWCD Annual Meeting

The **Allen County SWCD Annual Meeting** will be held on **March 4, 2006** at Advance Grain Farms (Dave and Roger Melcher) located just East of I-469 and US 24 on Harper Road.

An **All-You-Can-Eat Pancake and Sausage Breakfast** will start at 8:00am. The business meeting will begin at 9:00am and include supervisor election, financial report, a brief summary of District 2005 activities and recognition of the ***2005 Conservation Farmers of the Year*** and ***2005 Friends of the District.***

This year's guest speaker will be **Congressman Mark Souder**. Congressman Souder will be updating us on the latest efforts relating to the proposed Farm Bill, Bio-Fuel and US Foreign Trade policy related to Agriculture.

Producers, this is your opportunity to interact with your Congressman and receive feedback on your questions and concerns.

Bring the family and enjoy a FREE Saturday morning breakfast and fellowship.

To find **Advance Grain Farms**, from the intersection of US 24 and Harper Road, go East approx 1.5 mile to Ryan Road. Continue East to the 1st farm on the North side of Harper Road. Watch for the Conservation Sign out front.



Meet the Candidates for Allen County SWCD Board of Supervisors



Brian Roemke

Brian grain farms 3500 acres with his brother Mark, nephew Jon Roemke and neighbor Paul Fordham. Some of the ways Brian practices soil and water conservation are Waterways and Filter Strips; they also use GIS/GPS. He has served as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Allen County SWCD Board and also serves on the Allen County Planning Commission; Metes and Bounds Sell-off Sub-Committee. He lives in Springfield Township with his wife Micki. Brian enjoys the challenges of computers and the Internet.



Greg Kneubuhler

Greg Grain farms 1200 acres in Northeastern Allen County along with his father and uncle. Greg works with Nester Ag Management as an Independent Agricultural Crop Consultant. He has been with Nester for the last three years. Some of the conservation practices the farm uses are Set-backs, Filter Strips and Waterways; they also use Nutrient-Pest Management, GIS/GPS and a Yield Monitor. Greg lives in Springfield Township with his wife Kim and daughter Taylor.

Conserving Soil Makes $Cents$

This program is available through St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative and Allen County SWCD grants.

Phillips Rotary Harrows:
20 to 200 acres
$ 5.00/ac
-Any acreage over 200
$ 3.50/ac

To The Max Roller Harrow or Great Plains Turbo-Till
with Tractor, Fuel & Operator
-40 to 200 acres
$ 10.75/ac
-Any acres over 200
$ 10.25/ac

To The Max Roller Harrow Only
$ 7.00/ac

Zone-Tillage
Brillion Zone Commander, John Deere 9520 with RTK auto guidance system, Fuel & Operator Included
$22.00/ac

Great Plains Turbo-till
$ 7.00/ac

Blu-Jet In-line Ripper and Roller Chopper Harrow Combo Package:
In-line ripper, tractor, fuel & operator included
Plus one pass with the Roller Chopper Harrow:
Tractor, Fuel & Operator Included
$ 24.00/ac

***Blu-Jet in-line ripper only**
$ 10.00/ac

DMI Strip-Till Unit:
Tractor and Operator Included
$ 16.00/ac
Producer is responsible for fuel & fert.

12' Brillion Grass Seeder
$ 6.00/ac

$1.00 per acre discount available if invoice is paid within 10 days of billing.

*The Blu-jet will be available when we are not running the unit as a package.

There is a $100 minimum charge for equipment. Due to high fuel cost, there may be a fuel surcharge at the time of invoicing. For information or to reserve one of the units contact our office at 260-484-5848 ext. 3.

News from the Farm Service Agency

DCP Annual Sign up

Now is the time to call for an appointment to sign your farms into the Annual Farm Program (DCP). You must sign your farms up each year for this program. Make sure that you have all of your cash rent statements and/or Power of Attorney statements in order, make an appointment, and have your sign up complete before **June 1, 2006**. After June 1, 2006 there will be late fees assessed per farm.

LDP Payments

May 31, 2006 is the last day that we can accept evidence for bushels on corn or soybeans. If you have corn or soybeans that you think you can get LDP on, now is the time to get them to us.

CRP

Producers with CRP contracts that expire on September 30, 2007

You will be receiving letters in the next few weeks detailing a new procedure for re-enrollment or extension of your contracts. Watch your mail, these letters will contain very important steps that must be completed in the near future to be eligible to extend or re-enroll your acreage.

New CRP General Sign-up Announced

There will be a general CRP sign-up from March 27, 2006 thru April 14, 2006. This sign-up is open to any eligible farm ground that is not currently in CRP, and to those CRP contracts that will expire on September 30, 2006. Any producer with an eligible expiring contract will be receiving a letter in the next few weeks. If you have questions or wish to schedule an appointment please call 260-484-5848 ext. 2.

5th Annual
Tri-State Conservation Tillage Expo

February 22, 2006 **7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Kruse WWII Victory Museum Auburn, Indiana

(Interstate 69 at Exit 126, DeKalb CR 11A, across from Kruse Auction Park)

For Tickets:
Call SJRWI (260) 484-5848 x3
or contact your county SWCD
or selected local
Agricultural Retailers

Featured Speakers

- Dr. Elwynn Taylor, Iowa State Univ.
  Increasing Risk, Mitigating Management
- Ray Rawson, Rawson Operations and
  Rich Recker, Recker Farm Supply
  Improving Crop Performance Through Zone Tillage
- **Andy Hill**, Premier Technologies
- **Barry Fisher**, NRCS Conservation Tillage Specialist
- **Fred Whitford**, Director Purdue Pesticide Program
- **John Larkin**, Precision Planting
- **G. Kelly Robertson**, Certified Professional Agronomist
- Tractor-GPS Demonstrations All Day

Partial List of Commercial Exhibitors

- *Beck's Hybrids*
- *Dairyland Seed Co., Inc.*
- *Campbell Seeds Bridge Mfg. & Equipment, Inc.*
- *Unverferth Mfg.*
- *The Andersons Waterloo Ag Center*
- *R & G Sales Co.*
- *Golden Harvest Seeds Inc.*
- *Syngenta Crop Protection*
- *Kroeger Sales & Service - Conklin Ag Products*
- *Agri-Tech*
- *Archbold Equipment*

Registration $15

Registration includes

- Coffee & doughnuts
- Lunch by Country Chef
- Afternoon refreshments

Continuing Education Credits

- Commercial Applicators
- Private Applicators
- Certified Crop Advisors
- $10 additional fee

Brought to you by

- The St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Allen, DeKalb, Hillsdale, Noble, Steuben & Williams Counties
- The Nature Conservancy
- Purdue Cooperative Extension Service
- UADS - NRCS
- IN Dept. of Environmental Management

Allen County SWCD

3718 New Vision Dr
Fort Wayne IN 46845

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Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting March 4, 2006,

All You can Eat Pancake and Sausage Breakfast
Location: Advance Grain Farms, 13931 Harper Road, New Haven, Indiana

Dates To Remember

February
20 Federal Offices Closed
Presidents Day
22 Tri-State Conservation
Tillage Expo

March
1 CRP Spring Seeding until March 10, 2006

4 Allen County SWCD Annual Meeting
Advance Grain Farms,13931 Harper Rd

27 CRP General Sign-up until April 14, 2006

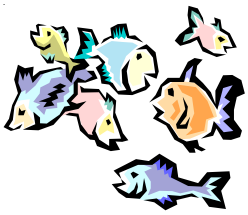
April
14 Last Day for Fish Order

20 Fish Delivery

May
31 Last Day for 2005 Corn
and Bean LDP

June
1 Last Day for DCP Sign-up
without late fees

July
15 Last Day for Crop
Certification



Spring Fish Sale

Last day to order will be April 14, 2006
Delivery on April 20, 2006

Available in the Spring
2-3" Bluegill
2-3" Hybrid Bluegill
2-3" Redear Sunfish
4-6" Channel Catfish
8-12" Triploid Grass Carp
(Min. Order of 6)
Fathead Minnows by the pound
Jumbo Tadpoles (100)

To place an order or for more information and to get on the mailing list
Call 260-484-5848 ext #3