District Announces New Director



Dr. Julie Davis Good
Director
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Julie Davis Good joins ACSWCD from Indiana Institute of Technology where she was Professor of Biology. She was hired by Indiana Tech in 2018 to design the first applied biology major after spending over 25 years in research and teaching. Tech's Molecular Environmental Biology major originated from the advice of experts in Allen and Adams Counties (notably ACSWCD) as well as the City of Fort Wayne and private entities. A graduate of Columbia City Joint High School, Julie is delighted to return home after years on the eastern seaboard and Western Michigan, marrying Darrin Good (her 9th grade boyfriend) in 2017.

Julie's roots in conservation come from a family of organic gardeners and floral producers. As a First Generation college student, Julie graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology from Hanover College (IN) followed by grad school at Emory University and high school teaching in Atlanta, GA. She completed her PhD in cellular and molecular biology at the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), after which she earned an ASM-NCID Fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention where she focused on the cellular mechanisms of HIV-tuberculosis synergy. Along with a modest research program in infectious diseases and leukemia in medicine (University of Virginia) and R1 research (Van Andel Institute, Grand Rapids, MI), she built curriculum and instructional methods, incorporating active learning, technical skills, and online organizational tools. Each of these environments have cultivated her motivation to design experiments, engage the public, and evaluate outcomes. Her pride in championing the role of women in science led her to design, execute, and evaluate peer mentoring programs among faculty, students, interns, and postdoctoral fellows to facilitate the scientific growth of all who "do" science.

Julie comes to ACSWCD with some trepidation of the enormous shoes left by Greg Lake, long-time Director in Allen County. She is blessed not only by his professional legacy and immense success in conservation, but also by his willingness to mentor her as she moves into the role. She anticipates close collaborations with all of the SWCDs, and hopes you will reach out any time. jgood.swcd@gmail.com



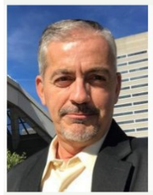
Educational breakout sessions include:

Successful Termination of Cover Crops - Dan Kaminski, Rhiannon Lake
Herbicide Trials, Residuals, and Impacts on Cover Crops - Allen Dean, Dave Lamore
The Dirt on Soil Health - Soil pit/analysis



7:30	Doors Open/ Registration/ Vendors
8:00	Welcome, Dr. Julie Davis Good, Director, Allen County SWCD
8:15-11:15	Educational Breakout Sessions
11:15	Keynote Speaker, Dr. Luke Baker, CEO, Brookside Labs
12:15	Lunch
12:30	Keynote Speaker, Dr. Jim Ippolito, Professor, SENR, Ohio State University
1:30	Q&A w/Luke Baker, Jim Ippolito, Allen Dean, Clint Nester
1:30	Optional PARP Session

About Our Keynote Speakers



Dr. Jim Ippolito is a professor of environmental soil health. His 30+ year career has focused on improving environmental soil fertility/chemistry/microbiology/soil health within agricultural, shortgrass steppe, grazed, burned, and metal-contaminated mined-land ecosystems. His research program connects the intimate linkages between soil macro- and micro-nutrients, trace and heavy metals, microbiological activity, and soil physical attributes, and how these factors combine to influence ecosystem sustainability, resiliency, food, climate and environmental security.

Luke Baker, Ph.D., is the President/CEO at Brookside Laboratories, Inc. (BLI) located in New Bremen, OH. He received his B.S. in agriculture and chemistry (2003) at Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio. He earned his M.S. in soil fertility/soil chemistry (2005) and Ph.D. in soil environmental chemistry (2008) from Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS.
BLI provides testing for plant, soil, and waters for agronomic and environmental purposes. In addition, BLI has a fully accredited Geo-tech laboratory for testing of putting green and top dressing materials. BLI was the first and remains one of only 10 accredited laboratories in this field.



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Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District
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Watershed Project Manager

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District Support Specialist

Farewell Greg Lake

The Allen County Soil & Water Conservation District staff and Supervisors would like to thank Greg Lake for his life of service and wish him all happiness in retirement. Greg has been at the helm of the SWCD for nearly 42 years. His commitment to conservation is one of the driving factors for the success of the Allen County SWCD where he acquired millions of dollars in grant funding to promote conservation efforts in our region and the State of Indiana. Greg Lake is an innovator, facilitator, and visionary, as well as a “mover and shaker”. To quote Dan Wire, a Fort Wayne river advocate, “Greg Lake has created and forgotten more programs than anyone else would ever dare to create.” The programs created by and/or facilitated by Greg Lake include the Water Quality Monitoring Information System / Water Quality Sampling, Indiana District Employee Association (IDEA), Allen County Partnership for Water Quality, the educational element “Where My River Runs”, 4Rs Nutrient Management Program, Hoosier Riverwatch in Allen County, citizen science programs, and many others.

Greg Lake has forged collaborative efforts with numerous organizations throughout Indiana and the Tri-State Area for the greater good of improving water quality in the Western Lake Erie Basin. He helped to form the St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative and the Tri-State Watershed Alliance [now the Maumee Watershed Alliance (MWA)], the Auglaize/Flatrock Group, St. Marys Group, and has served the Maumee River Basin Commission for over 39 years. Greg has a special talent for achieving great outcomes by overlooking county, state, and social boundaries bringing together citizens, businesses, and political leaders to forge a path forward to improved water quality. As a result, he was the 2021 recipient of the Chairman's Award for Outstanding Service in Support of INAFSM (Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management).

Greg Lake’s commitment to conservation and water quality led him to secure and implement more Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Water Quality Improvement Grants than any other person in the State of Indiana. He partnered with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to identify areas where water quality has deteriorated and to help guide Best Management Practices (BMPs). He led Watershed Management Plans (WMPs) as well as subsequent implementations throughout the Western Lake Erie Basin.

Greg Lake is a true leader in our community and a friend to conservation. We are all fortunate to have served our District by his side. We wish all the best for his retirement, and thank him for all he has done for us. We promise to keep the plates spinning, Greg.