ORIENTATION
FOR NEW
SWCD SUPERVISORS & STAFF

Empowering you to become a confident and contributing member of the team.
Congratulations on becoming a Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor! You have joined 460 other soil and water conservation district supervisors in Indiana and more than 15,000 other leaders of conservation district programs and services across the United States who are committed to the stewardship of natural resources at the local level.
AGENDA

This orientation will help you understand:

- Why SWCDs were formed
- SWCD Responsibilities
- Your Role as a Supervisor
- Indiana’s Conservation Partnership
SWCD HISTORY
SWCD HISTORY

SWCD Act –
Indiana Code 14-32
SWCD HISTORY
SWCD HISTORY

To provide information about soil, water and related natural resource conservation; identify and prioritize local soil and water resource concerns; and connect land users to sources of educational, technical and financial assistance to implement conservation practices and technologies.
To serve as the local hub for connecting land users to direct sources of educational, financial, and technical assistance for applying conservation practices and best management technologies on the land to address soil and water quality problems.
YOUR CLEARING HOUSE FOR INFORMATION & ACTION

Local Businesses
Landowners
County Officials
Homeowners
Ag/Commodity Organizations
ISDA Division of Soil Conservation
IN Dept. of Environmental Management
IDNR- Division of Fish & Wildlife
IDNR- Division of Water
Purdue Cooperative Extension
IN Dept. of Transportation
Environmental Organizations
IDNR- Division of Forestry
USDA Rural Development
USDA Farm Services Agency
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
SWCD
Developers
Farmers
Recruitment
Media

INDIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SWCD SUPERVISORS

Five local citizens oversee the planning and implementation of soil and water conservation district programs in each county.
SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Identify local conservation priorities, and then develop, implement and evaluate plans and programs to address these needs.

- Participate in appropriate multi-district activities such as watershed projects, river basin projects, resource conservation and development efforts, the Clean Water Indiana program, and multi-district conservation efforts such as field days, workshops, and seminars.
SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Administer the SWCD programs and activities by delegating tasks through a structure of SWCD supervisors, committees, staff and volunteers

- Supervise SWCD staff and volunteers working with the SWCD, and coordinate conservation efforts with cooperating agency personnel
SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Coordinate assistance and funding from local, state and federal government sources; commercial, charitable and private entities

- Manage all district-owned funds, facilities and equipment

- Comply with all Federal, state, and local tax guidelines (e.g. paid supervisor per diem and commuting mileage to Board Meetings is subject to all federal, state, and local withholding/reporting tax requirements)
ROLE OF DISTRICT STAFF

- Bring information, new opportunities and recommendations to the board
- Accept direction from board
- Assist the board in fulfilling the district’s mission and goals
- Help carry out an effective information outreach program
- Assist the board in carrying out a well planned and effective monthly board meetings
 ROLE OF DISTRICT STAFF

- Assist Board of Supervisors with applying for grants and managing grants
- Pursue opportunities for cooperative agreements and/or contracts for services with partnering agencies and organizations
- Help connect land users to sources of educational, financial, and technical assistance in order to address soil and water quality problems.
- Help provide direct technical assistance
WHAT ARE THE SWCD’S LEGAL POWERS?
TWO KEY POWERS

- Develop comprehensive plans for the proper management of soil and water resources within the district; publish such plans and information to bring them to the attention of land occupiers within the district.

- Carry out soil erosion/water runoff preventive and control measures within the district.
KEY SWCD BUSINESS PLAN COMPONENTS

- Purpose of the district
- Who the district serves and why
- Mission statement
- Critical natural resource issues
- Critical geographic areas
- Statements of intent
- Priority actions
- Staffing needs
- Annual budget needs
WHAT IS AN SWCD REALLY TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH?

To lead people to a decision to implement conservation practices and technologies that conserve soil, improve water quality and enhance related natural resources!
WHAT ARE SOME THINGS A SWCD CAN'T DO?
The Indiana Conservation Partnership

Understanding the purpose of the Conservation Partnership, who the members are, and what they do.
State Soil Conservation Board

Chairperson

Secretary

Governor Appointed: Larry Clemens
Scott Ham
Nola Gentry
Warren Baird
Brett Glick
Bob Eddleman
Bill Mann

Non-Voting Position: Jerod Chew

Advisors:
ISDA
IDNR
IDEM
NRCS
FSA
IASWCD
Purdue Extension
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Approve appointed supervisors based on SWCD recommendation
- Assist districts in carrying out their programs
- Keep supervisors informed of the activities and experiences of all other districts
- Coordinating the diverse programs of districts through advice and consultation
- Securing cooperation from other state and federal agencies in the work of districts
- Administer the Clean Water Indiana Program and oversee other soil conservation and water quality protection programs of the ISDA-Division of Soil Conservation
ISDA Environmental Stewardship Team Organizational Chart

Director

Special Assistant

Program Manager Accountability, Planning, Technology

District Support, District Support Specialist/Team Leader

Program Manager Agricultural Affairs

Program Manager Water Quality Initiatives/CRP

Technical Support SW Team

Regional Resource Specialist

Regional Support SE Team

Regional Resource Specialist

Regional Support NE Team

Regional Resource Specialist

Regional Support NW Team

Regional Resource Specialist

Regional District Support Specialists
DIVISION OF SOIL CONSERVATION

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Perform all administrative duties requested by the State Soil Conservation Board.
- Assisting districts with program planning, development and information exchange
- Arrange for or provide training for supervisors and district staff.
- Provide conservation technical assistance
- Assist the State Soil Conservation Board in administering the Clean Water Indiana Program in cooperation with conservation districts.
NRCS TECHNICAL TEAMS

Rensselaer
Albion
Lebanon
Greencastle
Greensburg
Washington
Salem
NRCS ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS
IASWCD ORGANIZATION

Soil & Water Conservation Districts
a member of

IASWCD
Board of Directors
Executive Committee
Executive Director
8 Regional Directors

Exec. Committee
District Capacity
Information/Outreach
Natural Resources
Legislative
Ways & Means

Board of Directors
President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Past President

Exec. Director
Admin. Assistant
STATE APPROPRIATIONS TO CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
(excluding cost-share)

Chart 5

NACD 2004
CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM
BENEFITS OF SERVING

- Satisfaction in seeing conservation practices applied
- Interaction with others interested in natural resources conservation
- Involvement in shaping local, state, and federal conservation programs
For more information visit our website at:  
http://www.in.gov/isda

Contact information:

Laura Fribley
1855 Gardner Lane NW
Corydon, IN 47112
812.595.5641
lfribley@isda.in.gov

Tara Wesseler-Henry
2590 N. Park Rd.
Connersville, IN 47331
765.745.0306
twesseler@isda.in.gov

Jim Lake
3718 New Vision Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46845
260.341.6966
jlake@isda.in.gov

Nathan Stoelting
1303 E. Co. Rd. 100 S.
Center Point, IN 47840
812.320.9873
nstoelting@isda.in.gov
Thank You