

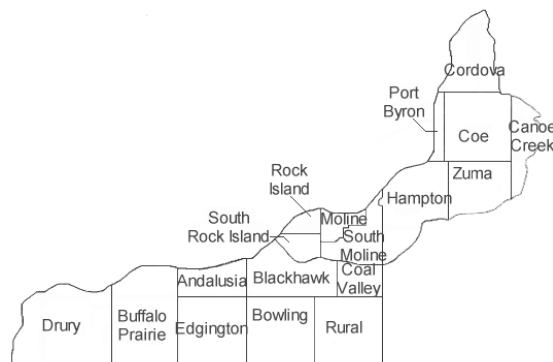


Rock Island County Soil and Water Conservation

Rock Island County SWCD Summer and Fall 2018 Newsletter

State of Illinois Cost-Share Funds Available

Rock Island Co SWCD is opening up enrollment through November 1 for cost-sharing for new practices under the Partners For Conservation Program (PFC). The state PFC program provides up to 60% cost-sharing not to exceed the average cost on many practices to control erosion on cropland. Not all landowners in Rock Island qualify for cost-share. Cost-share funds are able to be used anywhere with in Rock Island County. Farmers can sign-up for cost-sharing for cover crops on up to 40 acres for a cost-share not to exceed \$40 per acre. While cover crops is a priority for farmers, other practices can be signed up for including Grassed Waterways, Grade Stabilization Structures, Water & Sediment Control Basins (WASCOB's), Pollinators, Saturated Buffers, Denitrifying Bacteria, and Abandoned Well Sealing. All applications will be ranked before they are approved for contracts. To sign-up or learn more about the application process, contact Rich Stewart at the Rock Island SWCD office at 309-7641486, Ext. 3.



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Position is 40 hours/week. Office hours are Monday to Friday 8:00-4:30. Attendance at monthly board meetings, special events, outdoor activities and other evening meetings as necessary throughout the year is expected. Starting salary will be based upon skill and experience. RISWCD offers individual health, dental, and vision insurance benefits, short-term disability insurance, long-term disability insurance, and retirement contributions.

The Rock Island County SWCD is accepting resumes through close of business (4:30pm) August 15th, 2018. All interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to riswcd@rockislandswcd.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

RISWCD Conservation Tour

RSVP by Aug 15 - Event Aug 22

Fall Tree Sale

Close of Business Friday, September 21st

Fall Fish Sale

*Grass Carp October 12th
All others October 22nd*

Eco Camp - Education program

October 3rd & 4th

PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION- RISWCD PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Wetland Reserve Easements

Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) provides technical and financial assistance directly to private land-owners and Indian tribes to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands through the purchase of a wetland reserve easement. For acreage owned by an Indian tribe, there is an additional enrollment option of a 30 year contract.

Through the wetland reserve enrollment options, NRCS may enroll eligible land through:

- Permanent Easements are conservation easements in perpetuity. NRCS pays 100 percent of the easement value for the purchase of the easement, and between 75 to 100 percent of the restoration costs.
- 30 Year Easements expire after 30 years. Under 30 year easements, NRCS pays 50 to 75 percent of the easement value for the purchase of the easement, and between 50 to 75 percent of the restoration costs.
- Term Easements are easements that are for the maximum duration allowed under applicable state laws. NRCS pays 50 to 75 percent of the easement value for the purchase of the term easement and between 50 to 75 percent of the restoration costs.
- 30 year Contracts are only available to enroll acreage owned by Indian tribes. Program payment rates are commensurate with 30 year easements.



For wetland reserve easements, NRCS pays all costs associated with recording the easement in the local land records office, including recording fees, charges for abstracts, survey and appraisal fees, and title insurance.

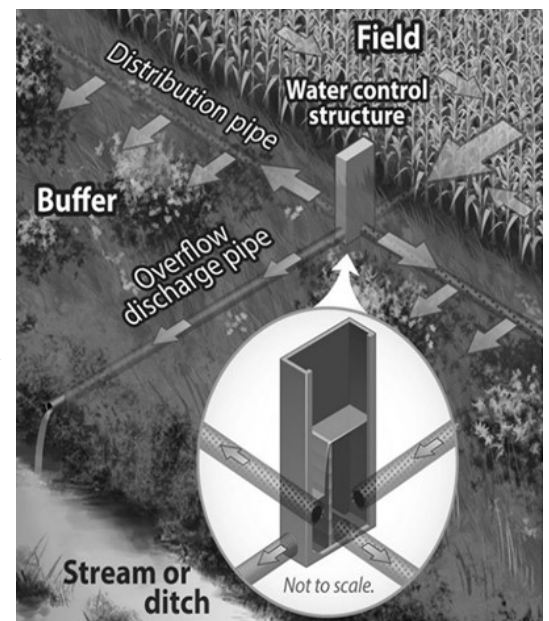
Contact Joe Gates District
Conservationist
For More Information

Milan NRCS Field Office
3020 1st Avenue East
(309) 764-1486 Ext. 3

Pheasants Forever Update - Saturated Buffers

By Scott James, Pheasants Forever Partnership Biologist - sjames@pheasantsforever.org

Field buffers can help stabilize a streambank/ditchbank but one reason field buffers are planted is to improve the quality of water entering the stream. Unfortunately in a tiled field, tile drainage water goes straight to the stream/ditch and is not filtered which cancels out the water-quality benefits of field buffers. An easy way to fix this is by creating a saturated buffer! Saturated buffers are buffers (grass filter strips or riparian buffers with trees) that have a perforated lateral line that runs along the field edge of the buffer and parallel to the stream/ditch, and have a water control box that diverts some water flow from the tile drainage main line into this buffer's lateral line. Water diverted to the lateral line seeps slowly into the buffer where the vegetation, roots, and soil remove nitrates from the water. You can enroll/re-enroll CRP buffers as a saturated buffer with cost-share and annual payments. Saturated buffers work best on soils with good organic matter, on clay soils, and on slopes that aren't too steep. Construction is relatively short in duration and inexpensive. And the buffers provide good wildlife habitat. Contact the Milan NRCS Office, SWCD staff, or PF Biologist for more information.



What RISWCD is up to!

Copperas Creek Watershed Progress Report

Since the start of the 319 Grant for Copperas Creek, we completed four streambank stabilization projects for total of 1340 feet of Lateral Peaked Stone Toe Protection. Some had stream barbs, and some did not, depending on the site. We also completed 3 acres of grassed waterways, two dry dams, and 525 feet of Water and Sediment Control Basins in Copperas Creek.

We are still completing layout and installation of four more dry dams and 6 streambank projects to be completed by November of this year before the current grant ends in December.

We updated our current Copperas Creek Watershed Resource Plan to meet IL EPA standards for us to be able to apply for future 319 grants from their office. A separate grant was applied for and received to cover 60% of the work done by Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. to do the update.

For More Information Or To Submit
An Application
Contact Rock Island County SWCD
Rich Stewart
(309) 764-1486 Ext. 3
riswcd@rockislandswcd.org
3020 1st Avenue East Milan, IL 61264

And from that update Watershed Resource Plan, we recently applied for another grant, and if approved, will be for work to start in July of 2019. This grant will allow us to continue the work we started to implement conservation practices currently being done. In addition, we added Denitrifying Bio-reactor and

Saturated Buffers to the list of practices that landowners can apply.



RISWCD Summer Internship Opportunities

Sarah Blount, RISWCD summer intern from Augustana College, finished up her time with us on August 1st before leaving to study sustainability in Sweden. During her time with us, Sarah worked hard to help us complete a new Section 319 grant for the Copperas Creek Watershed project and spent much time designing flyers and planning for our upcoming Conserve & Preserve conservation tour. She really enjoyed visiting with farmers in the field and working with Rich, Joe, and landowners to solve their conservation issues.

Sarah will be a senior at Augie this fall and is excited to begin work in the agriculture industry in some capacity when she graduates next spring. She enthusiastically claims to love the work we do here at the SWCD and is hopeful to be involved in similar work in her career. We will miss having her around the office but wish her the best!



This summer, Irene Lewis is interned as a Soil Conservationist Student Trainee with USDA-NRCS in our Milan Field Office. She is a junior Plant and Soil Science major at Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Last summer, she interned in Effingham, IL. Through the USDA Pathways Program, college students have the opportunity to intern with NRCS during the summer, and upon completion of the program, receive a full time job offer with the agency. At Southern University, she is an 1890 Scholar with USDA-NRCS and a Dolores Margaret Richard Spikes Honors College student. She also serves as the Region IV National Undergraduate Student Vice-President for MAN-RRS, a professional development organization for minorities in agriculture, natural resources and related sciences. In her free time, Irene enjoys spending time with her friends and family. Best of luck in your future endeavors!





RISWCD 2018 Fall Fish Sale — Proceeds Support Conservation!

Grass Carp Orders Due: October 12th Payment & Other Orders Due: October 22nd
Pick Up: Monday October 29th 7:00 AM* at SWCD Office, 3020 1st Ave E, Milan, IL

Sale Questions: 309-764-1486 x3 *Stocking Questions: IDNR Fisheries Biologist Dave Wyffels 630-360-4185
 Visit rockislandswcd.org for additional information and order forms.

Make checks payable to: RISWCD, 3020 1st Ave E, Milan, IL 61264

Species	Size	Price	Qty.	Subtotal
Channel Catfish	4-6 in	\$0.85 each		\$
	6-8 in	\$1.05 each		\$
	* 8-10 in	\$1.30 each		\$
Albino Catfish	4-6 in	\$1.45 each		\$
Hybrid Sunfish	1-2 in	\$65.00 Bag of 250		\$
	3-5 in	\$1.00 each		\$
	5-7in	\$1.45 each		\$
Largemouth Bass	2-3 in	\$1.05 each		\$
	5-8 in	\$3.50 each		\$
Bluegill	1-2 in	\$65.00 Bag of 250		\$
	3-5 in	\$1.00 each		\$
Redear Sunfish	1-2 in	\$65.00 Bag of 250		\$
± Black Crappie	2-3 in	\$55.00 Bag of 100		\$
Fathead Minnows	Avg. 100 per lb.	\$13.50 per lb.		\$
**Tripliod Grass Carp Rec: 6 /vegetated acre	8-11 in	\$13.50		\$
± Black crappie only recommended in ponds over 5 acres.			Total	\$

Remind me prior to pick up by:

Phone Email Both

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Email Preferences:

- All SWCD/NRCS Emails
- Newsletter
- NRCS News
- Ponds and Fish Sale
- Forestry and Tree Sale
- Wildlife
- Backyard & Urban Conservation
- Livestock and Forage
- Agricultural Conservation
- Conservation Education
- Copperas Creek Watershed

**REQUIRED FOR TRIPLOID GRASS CARP ORDERS

County	Township, Range, Section If unknown, Property Address	Pond Size (Acres)	Water Name	# of Fish
Ex: Rock Island	T16N R2W S16	2ac	Pond	4

Getting Your Fish Home Safely— Save This Portion of Form

- All fish, except 8-10" catfish, will be bagged at the time of pick up and sealed in oxygenated water.
- Bring containers such as 5 gallon buckets, coolers, or totes, to secure the bags while travelling.
- 8-10" catfish: Due to their spines, you must provide a container with pond water. Pond water should be collected on pick-up day to ensure sufficient oxygen.
- Bagged fish should be kept out of sunlight on your trip home.
- After pickup, go directly to your pond and put your fish in.

Pick Up is at 7:00 AM* at SWCD Office, 3020 1st Ave E, Milan, IL 61264

***This is NOT an All-Day Event; Please be On Time.**



RISWCD 2018 Fall Tree Sale— Proceeds Support Conservation!

Payment and Orders Due: September 21st, 2018 – Early Orders Recommended

Pick-Up: October 18th and 19th at SWCD Office, 3020 1st Ave E, Milan, IL 61264.

***Pick Up: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM**

Sale Questions: 309-764-1486 x3 * Visit rockislandswcd.org for planting tips, questions, and order forms.

Make check payable to: RISWCD, 3020 1st Ave E, Milan, IL 61264

Special Orders

A wide selection of species and sizes are available from our nursery vendors. If you are interested in a special order, the sooner you call, the sooner we can reserve with the vendor. Call 309-764-1486 x3 for more information.

Pecan Spotlight

This tree is truly the jack of all trades and has great benefits for everyone, including:

- Nut production for human **and** wildlife consumption
- Providing large shaded areas
- An affinity for direct sunlight
- Easy growth in multiple soil types

Pecan trees became scarce when early settlers chopped them down in order to harvest their nuts. Help add to the nation's repopulation of pecan trees **and** produce food for wildlife (or yourself)!



Remind me prior to pick up by:

Phone Email Both

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Email Preferences:

- All SWCD/NRCS Emails
- Newsletter
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- Wildlife
- Agricultural Conservation
- Backyard & Urban Conservation
- Livestock and Forage
- Conservation Education
- Copperas Creek Watershed

*Weather and planting conditions beyond the control of the nursery may affect the tree pick-up date. We cannot be responsible for trees after the specified pick-up date. Please make arrangements to pick them up on time.

Plants are for conservation purposes only, and shall not be used as ornamentals or for landscaping. We make every effort to provide excellent quality stock, but we cannot provide any guarantees of survival or growth.

RISWCD 2018 Fall Tree Sale – Proceeds Support Conservation!

3 Gallon Potted RPM (Root Production Method) Trees - Conservation Grade			
SPECIES	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Bur Oak	\$17.50		\$
Red Oak	\$17.50		\$
Swamp White Oak	\$17.50		\$
White Oak	\$17.50		\$
“Bucks Unlimited Oak”	\$25.00		\$
Shagbark Hickory	\$18.50		\$
American Hazelnut	\$15.00		\$
American Chestnut	\$18.50		\$
Pecan	\$17.50		\$
Wild Plum	\$15.00		\$
Black Chokeberry	\$15.00		\$
Eastern Redbud	\$17.50		\$
Flowering Dogwood	\$18.50		\$
Norway Spruce	\$18.50		\$
Eastern White Pine	\$18.50		\$
Subtotal			\$

Accessories			
SPECIES	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Tree Wrap 2'	\$2.50		\$
Tree Tube 3' with Stake	\$5		\$
Tree Tube 4' with Stake	\$7.50		\$
Tree Tube 5' with Stake	\$8.50		\$
Subtotal:			\$
Totals			
3 Gal. Potted RPM Subtotal			\$
Accessories Subtotal			\$
Grand Total:			\$

Fall Planting

Fall planting, ideally between October 20th and December 10th is recommended for RPM trees. Fall's cooler air temperatures, warm soil, and plentiful rain create optimum conditions for developing strong root systems.

Dig a hole twice as wide and slightly shallower than the root ball. Remove the container; gently separate roots and guide them outward. Cut very long roots or ones that will not straighten. Position the tree straight and refill the hole around the roots



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This newsletter is mailed to 2000+ recipients. Mailings are timed to promote RISWCD events, sales, and conservation news. Sponsors are selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact RISWCD and Mail a \$200 check to sponsor three consecutive newsletters in 2019. RISWCD staff will work with you to format your sponsorship space.



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309-854-3983

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- Lake Treatment Consultation
- Shoreline Cleanup/Repair
- Water Hazard Removal/Marking
- Beach/Seawall Engineering
- Annual Maintenance Plans
- Eco-Friendly Products
- Free 1 Hour Consultation

Thank you to our RISWCD newsletter sponsors. Their support makes this publication possible.



Rock Island County
 Soil and Water Conservation District
 3020 1st Ave E
 Milan, IL 61264

Summer and Fall 2018 Newsletter

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Rock Island County SWCD & NRCS
 3020 1st Ave E, Milan, IL 61264 • 309-764-1486
www.RockIslandSWCD.org

Monday - Friday • 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. • Closed Federal Holidays

Rock Island County District Directors:

Gary Blanchard: Chairman
 Bill Parchert: Director
 Twila Cederstrom: Director
 Brian Parkinson: Director
 Nathan Oak: Director

Staff:

Rich Stewart..... Resource Conservationist,
 SWCD
 McCala Miller..... Administrative Coordinator,
 SWCD
 Joe Gates..... District Conservationist,
 NRCS
 Wyatt Junis..... Soil Conservationist,
 NRCS
 Ed Griffin Soil Conservation Technician,
 NRCS

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250- 9410 or call (866) 632-9992. Rock Island County SWCD operates in accordance with the USDA policy.

FOR SALE

Flags (multiple colors): \$.15 each or 100 for \$12

Native Grass Seed and Pollinator Mixes
 Call office at 309-764-1486, Ext. 3 for pricing.

5' Tile Probes: \$30

FOR RENT

7' Great Plains No-Till Drill: \$100/day & \$12/acre
 Pheasants Forever member rate: \$100/day & \$10/acre

ATV Broadcast Seeder \$25/day

Tree Planter (Seedlings): \$50/day

Donations

Cash or property donations to RISWCD are tax deductible under IRS Code 170(c)(1).