

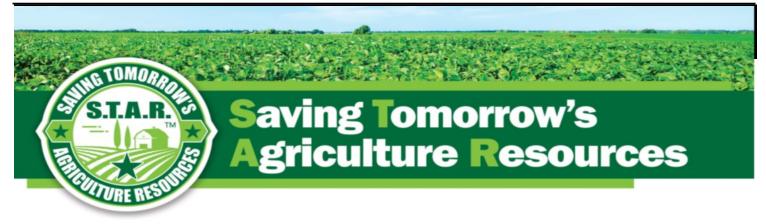




Rock Island County Soil and Water Conservation

Rock Island County SWCD Spring 2019 Newsletter

www.RockIslandSWCD.org



The Rock Island County SWCD has signed onto an agreement to promote the S.T.A.R program with area producers and landowners. S.T.A.R. stands for **S**aving **T**omorrow's **A**griculture **R**esources

S.T. A.R. is a **FREE** state-wide tool to assist farm operators and land owners in evaluating their nutrient and soil loss management practices on individual fields. The goal is to meet the goals of the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy by raising awareness and understanding of methods to use in order to meet the targets.

The S.T.A.R. evaluation program assigns points for each conservation practice such as cropping, tillage, nutrient application, and soil conserving activity. Higher points are assigned to those practices that align best with the NLRS goals and science assessment. From these points, a rating of one-star to five-star rating is assigned to each field the participate signs up for.

Participates will receive a free sign showing off their S.T.A.R. rating. Farmers can sign up one or more fields in the S.T.A.R program.

Potential Benefits of Using This Program:

- Inspire other famers and landowners to take action in helping to meet nutrient loss reduction goals for Illinois through a friendly competition atmosphere between farmers
- Promote a positive image of farmers and agriculture in the local community
- Assist producers in obtaining future market premiums for crops grown using conservation practices and potential to reduce crop insurance



SPRING TREE, PLANT & FISH SALES DEADLINES

Spring Tree Sale Deadline:

Close Of Business Wednesday April 10th

Spring Tree Sale Pick-up Dates:

Thursday April 25th & Friday April 26th from 8am -5pm

Spring Plant Sale Deadline:

Close of Business May 1st

Spring Plant Sale Pick-up Date:

Friday, June 14th from 8 am - 5 pm

Spring Fish Sale Deadlines

Grass Carp— April 19th All Other— April 29th

Spring Fish Pick-up Date:

Wednesday, May 8th @ 7am

ABOUT US....

2019 Election Results

The Rock Island County Soil & Water Conservation District held its annual Election of Directors on Friday, February 28th, 2019 at the USDA Service Center in Milan, IL. Rock Island County landowners/occupiers reelected Mr. Nathan Oak for another two-year term and elected a new Board member, Mrs. Sally Ferguson. She is a former AC and has been an associate Board member for several years and we are excited to have her!

MEET OUR STAFF

Joe Gates - Conservation Specialist

After 29 years as the District Conservationist for NRCS, Joe retired in December. In February, he accepted a part-time job with RISWCD as Conservation Specialist. He will be assisting the district with promoting conservation programs, working with landowners on the planning and application of conservation practices, reviewing construction site stormwater pollution prevention plans, tree and plant sales, and promoting NRCS programs among other things. The district is excited to retain his knowledge and expertise on conservation in Rock Island County!

Dawn Temple - Administrative Coordinator

Dawn joined RISWCD back in September, 2018 as the Administrative Coordinator. She holds a Master's of Business Administration from Western Illinois University and brings 20 years of administrative and accounting experience to the district. She will manage all administrative and accounting tasks as well as providing NRCS Administrative assistance, event planning, education outreach, grant writing and reporting, conservation sales, and participates on a variety of committees supporting conservation throughout the Quad Cities.

Rich Stewart - Resource Conservationist

Rich is a long-time employee of RISWCD providing conservation planning for local landowners from cost-share and NRCS programs to Copperas Creek watershed projects as well as construction site reviews for local municipalities, zoning reviews for Rock Island County and implementing NLRS reduction strategies on behalf of the IDOA. He participates on many committees supporting conservation efforts throughout the Quad Cities and was also named Co-Chair for the Illinois Soil & Water Conservation District Employees Association this past December.

2019 Rock Island County District Directors:

Gary Blanchard: Chairman Sally Ferguson: Treasurer/Secretary Brian Parkinson: Vice-Chair Nathan Oak: Director Twila Cederstrom: Director

We are working with The Augustana Web Guild at Augustana College on the update and redesign of our website. The new site will be up and running soon! We will now be able to offer online payment options and increased content for programs, more up to date news and info, and an easier and more functional format for users on all types of devices.

·^^^\

AUGUSTANA WEB GUILD







AUGUST 8, 2019 From 9am-3pm

@ Scott Community College

This workshop will cover a variety of invasive species in woodland, wetland, and prairie habitats. There will also be sessions on control methods, identification, and native alternatives. Participants should dress for the outdoors, as a large portion of the day will be spent in the field.

Cost is free however registration is required (includes lunch).

To register online, go to www.eicc.edu/continuing-education or call

563.441.4100. Reference class ID #4436.

PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION- RISWCD PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

Natural Resources Conservation Service: 2019 EQIP Applications Deadlines Set

The primary financial assistance program for NRCS is the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural and forestland producers. To participate, producers can apply for EQIP throughout the year; however, Illinois NRCS has established two application deadlines for **April 19, 2019** and **May 17, 2019**. NRCS encourages producers to submit applications by one of the deadlines if they are interested in the program.

Hundreds of Illinois producers have successfully used EQIP to address natural resource issues on their farm. Some EQIP activities include installing structures to address gully erosion, improving pastureland diversity using interseeding techniques, and improving soil health by increasing organic matter with cover crops. A special Illinois funding pool also targets monarch butterflies by creating or improving monarch habitat with stands of milkweed and nectar plants.

These conservation practices can be completed through NRCS EQIP funding pools, such as grazing land operations, confined livestock operations, organic, monarch butterfly, and wildlife habitat, just to name a few. In addition to conservation practices, EQIP funds plan development, such as Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs), Grazing Plans, Drainage Water Management Plans, and more.

Producers interested in EQIP should submit a signed application (NRCS-CPA-1200 form) to the local NRCS field office. Applications submitted by April 19, 2019 and May 17, 2019 will be evaluated by NRCS staff for the funding period submitted.

Applicants must meet program eligibility requirements to participate in EQIP. Local NRCS field office staff will work with applicants to determine eligibility and answer ranking questions. If an application is ranked high enough to be funded, NRCS staff will work with each applicant to develop a contract.

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program available for agricultural producers and forestry producers. Through EQIP, NRCS provides financial and technical assistance to install conservation practices. For more information on EQIP, contact your local NRCS field office or visit:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/il/programs/financial/eqip/

Contact Wyatt Junis, Soil Conservationist For More Information (309) 764-1486 X 3004



University of Illinois Extension:



University of Illinois Extension hired 2 Watershed Outreach Associates as part of a grant by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to serve as educators and technical advisors on implementing the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy (NLRS).

Haley Haverbeck, located in the Henry-Stark Extension office works within two nitrogen priority watersheds outlined by NLRS, including the Rock River Watershed in Rock Island County. Haley has developed a series of podcasts discussing strategies to meet NLRS targets. Each podcast episode highlights a different BMP (best management practice) to protect water quality and increase soil health. The podcast features perspectives of Extension Educators, University of Illinois Researchers/Professors, Watershed

Outreach Associates and farmers using the practices. There are 13 podcasts to date covering topics ranging from denitrifying woodchip bioreactors to manure application. All podcasts are available at the following link:

https://soundcloud.com/narrowrow/sets/the-illinois-nutrient-loss

If you have any questions regarding the podcast or NLRS, contact Haley Haverback @ 309-932-3447.

IN OTHER NEWS....

County Cost-Share Program (PFC) Increases Payout Rate to 75%

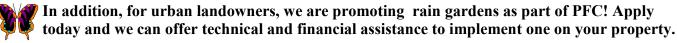
RISWCD has funds available to producers and landowners to address numerous resource concerns through a program called Partners for Conservation (PFC). The program is funded by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. The program implements strategies for maintaining the viability of Illinois' soil and water resources for the future.

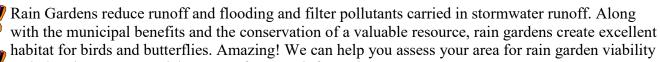
Practices that landowners and farmers can apply for include:

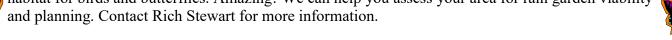
- Grassed Waterways
- Grade Stabilization Structures
- Cover Crops
- Pollinator Plantings

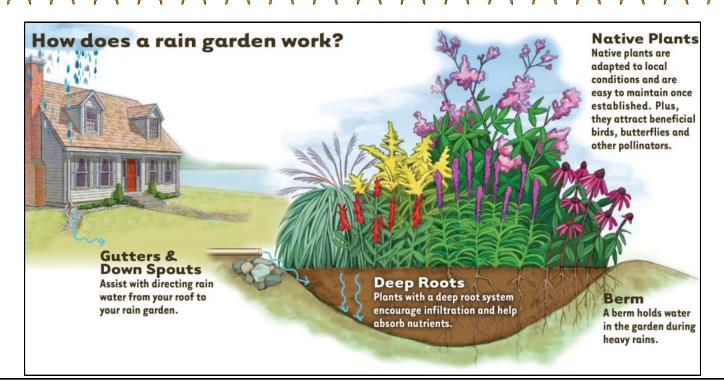
- Abandoned Well Sealings
- Water & Sediment Control Basins
- Denitrifying Bioreactors
- Saturated Buffers











CONSERVATION SUCCESS STORIES

Rock Island Soil & Water Conservation District holds 6th Annual Stormwater Conference

ROCK ISLAND - For the 6th consecutive year the Rock Island Soil & Water Conservation District, while partnering with other local entities, held its Annual Stormwater Conference on Tuesday, February 12th at Jumer's Hotel and Casino in Rock Island, IL. The conference is an initiative as part of an education grant with IL EPA. With both a record number of attendees and exhibitors coming out to expand and share their knowledge about all things stormwater, the event was deemed a huge success.

The planning committee for the event this year included RISWCD, as well as representatives from Rock Island County, City of Rock Island, City of Davenport, City of East Moline, and Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LLC.

The theme of this year's conference was "Bridging the Gap" between Iowa and Illinois stormwater management techniques and permit requirements. The committee felt is was very important this year to focus on the fact that while Iowa and Illinois often share contractors, engineers, designers and inspectors, there are some key differences related to stormwater practices and policies that everyone in these professions should be aware of including NPDES permits and MS4 Audits. The event was kicked off with a welcome from Coal Valley Mayor, Mike Bartels, who emphasized the importance of sharing knowledge and working together, and thanked everyone in attendance for their great land stewardship and compliance practices. A representative from the regulatory division of the Army Corps of Engineers was also there to discuss the status of WOTUS (Waters of the US), which is currently under review. The keynote presentation was from George Ryan, the I-74 Bridge Corridor Manager. His presentation -Building a Bridge for the Future - covered details and updates about the largest project currently underway in the Quad Cities. Mr. Ryan's presentation was very well received and provided great insights and talking points that were carried over well into the social event after the conference, where attendees were treated to a free craft beer tasting provided by Wake Brewing, located in Rock Island.

The committee looks forward to this event every year and as the only conference devoted to stormwater concerns in the QC area, it continues to provide insight and strategies for establishing new and improved ways to protect our water, our most valuable resource.



QCSC Planning Committee









The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps announced the new Clean Water Rule. The new rule would end years of uncertainty over where federal jurisdiction begins and ends.



Voice your support of common-sense water rules.

Text WATERS to 52886



CONSERVATION SUCCESS STORIES

First Copperas Creek Watershed Project Grant Comes to a Close

Rock Island Soil & Water Conservation District completed the first IEPA 319 grant in December, 2018. As part of a 2-year grant fourteen landowners completed sixteen BMP (Best Management Practices) projects within the watershed including:

- 1,440 feet of Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOBs)
- 2,625 feet of Longitudinal Peak Stone Protection (LPSTP)
- 4 Grade Stabilization Structures
- 3.4 Acres of Grassed Waterways
- 3 Acres of Filter Strips
- 460 feet of Diversion

This was the District's 3rd attempt at obtaining 319 grant funding and due to diligence from RISWCD staff, local residents, and the RISWCD Board, this project was a true collaborative success story. These are big projects and the landowners in the watershed have made significant contributions to them as well. These stewards of the land should be commended for their desire to improve conditions within the watershed. RISWCD is proud to have facilitated these projects and look forward to doing more work within the watershed with a number of additional projects already identified.

In addition to this BMP implementation grant, RISWCD also completed a new USEPA approved nine-element watershed-based plan with additional 319 grant funding in June of 2018. This updated plan will serve as a guidebook to water quality improvement in Copperas Creek watershed for the next 25 years with overall targets of 30% implementation rate during that time period. This also includes a detailed watershed resource inventory. Furthermore, due to continued interest among landowners within the watershed and mounting success of completed projects, RISWCD applied for a second round of grant assistance for BMP implementation in August 2018 and we should hear within the next month if we are approved. It is our hope to continue the conservation work in this area as we see the direct effects of these BMP's first hand as well as hear the positive feedback from the participating landowners.

As a direct tributary into the Mississippi River, Rock Island County Soil & Water Conservation District has made restoring this watershed a priority in order to improve water quality, reduce erosion and pollutant loads both locally and regionally.

Depiction of a LPSTP Project



CONSERVATION SALES & EVENTS







ALL SALES SUPPORT CONSERVATION IN ROCK ISLAND COUNTY!

Sale Questions: 309-764-1486 X 3 or info@rockislandswcd.org



Tumbling Composters Available!

We now have 55 gallon composters available for \$150 each. The Upcycle Composter is an upcycled food grade barrel. It only requires a 3' by 4' area. It is low maintenance, pest resistant and can fully compost the product in the barrel in 4-6 weeks. Order yours now!



Our 7.5 foot Great Plains No-Drill Seeding Drill is available for rent for spring seeding. Can be used for grain, small seed or native grasses.

Rent our drill for \$100/day + \$12/acre. Pick-up at our office in Milan. All proceeds support conservation in Rock Island County.

Potted Native Prairie Plants Available Again This Year!

21 species of native wildflowers and 5 species of native grasses are available. See the Native Wildflower Plant Sale order form for details.



*Orders for Native Wildflowers are due by May 1st, pick up at the SWCD office on June 14th.



Theme: Ways that we can environmentally clean up areas along the Mississippi River.
This 1 hour event is free and open to the public and there will be breakfast foods served.





Soil and Column Soil and Soil

RISWCD 2019 Spring Fish Sale — Proceeds Support Conservation!

Grass Carp Orders Due: April 19th Payment & Other Orders Due: April 29th Pick Up: Wednesday 5/8 @ 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 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
	4-6 in	\$0.85 each		\$
Channel Catfish	6-8 in	\$1.05 each		\$
	* 8-10 in	\$1.30 each		\$
Albino Catfish	4-6 in	\$1.45 each		\$
	1-2 in	\$75.00 Bag of 250		\$
Hybrid Sunfish	3-5 in	\$1.00 each		\$
	5-7in	\$1.50 each		\$
Largemouth Bass	2-3 in	\$1.05 each		\$
Largemouth bass	5-8 in	\$3.50 each		\$
D1211	1-2 in	\$75.00 Bag of 250		\$
Bluegill	3-5 in	\$1.00 each		\$
Redear Sunfish	1-2 in	\$75.00 Bag of 250		\$
± Black Crappie	2-3 in	\$65.00 Bag of 100		\$
Fathead Minnows	Avg. 100 per lb.	\$14.00 per lb.	_	\$
**Triploid Grass Carp Rec: 6 /vegetated acre	8-11 in	\$14.00		\$
± Black crappie only recommended in ponds over 5 acres.			Total	\$

**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

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	

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 2019 Spring Tree Sale — Pick up dates 4/25 & 26 from 8:00 AM—5:00 PM

1 Gallon Potted Trees Approx. 12-18" in Height						
SPECIES	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL			
American Arborvitae	\$11.00		\$			
Colorado Blue Spruce	\$11.00		\$			
Norway Spruce	\$11.00		\$			
Eastern White Pine	\$11.00		\$			
Swamp White Oak	\$12.00		\$			
Pin Oak	\$12.00		\$			
Bur Oak	\$12.00		\$			
Northern Red Oak	\$12.00		\$			
Subtotal:			\$			
Trees - Co	3 Gallon Potted RPM (Root Production Method) Trees - Conservation Grade					
SPECIES	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL			
White Oak	\$18.00		\$			
Red Oak	\$18.00		\$			
Bur Oak	\$18.00		\$			
Shingle Oak	\$18.00		\$			
Sycamore	\$18.00		\$			
Paw Paw	\$18.00		\$			
Pecan	\$18.00		\$			
Witchhazel	\$18.00		\$			
Black Chokeberry (Aronia)	\$18.00		\$			
Subtotal:			\$			

Bare Root Seedlings—mainly 1-year-old Must order in multiples of 25 Quantities of Seedlings are Limited				
SPECIES	PRICI for 25	Ξ	QTY	TOTAL
Aromatic Sumac	\$30			\$
Blackberry	\$30			\$
Serviceberry	\$30			\$
Northern Red Oak	\$30			\$
Witchhazel	\$30			\$
Norway Spruce	\$30			\$
White Pine	\$30			\$
Persimmon	\$30			\$
Rose Mallow	\$30			\$
White Oak	\$30			\$
Subtotal:				\$
Tota	als			
Bare Root Seedlings Subtotal		\$		
1 Gal. Potted Evergreens Subtotal		\$		
3 Gal. Potted RPM Subtotal		\$		
Tumbling Composter (\$150 each)		\$		
Grand Total:		\$		

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO RISWCD—ORDERS DUE BY 4/10/19

Name:		AVE THE EN
Address:		
Phone:	Email:	

Note: 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.

Rock Island County SWCD Spring 2019 Newsletter

www.RockIslandSWCD.org



2019 Rock Island County SWCD Native Wildflower Plant Sale

All plants come in 2.5"- 3" containers and are \$2.75 each. Place your order before May 1st. Pickup at the SWCD office on Friday, June 14th. Please remember that the possibility of plant failure exists, so substitutions may be necessary. Please call 309-764-1486 ext 3 with any questions.

Wildflowers	Color	Bloom	Height	Number	Cost @ \$2.75 each
Smooth Blue Aster	Blue	Aug-Sept	3-4'		
Rough Blazing Star	Purple	July-Sept	3'		
Purple Coneflower	Purple	July-Sept	4'		
Prairie Coreopsis	Yellow	June-Aug	2'		
Foxglove Beardtongue	White	June-July	3'		
Golden Alexanders	Yellow	May-July	2-4'		
Butterfly Milkweed	Orange	June-Aug	2'		
Whorled Milkweed	White	July-Sept	2'		
Prairie Milkweed	Pink	June-Aug	3'		
Common Mountain Mint	White	June-Sept	2-3'		
Ohio Spiderwort	Blue	May-July	2-4'		
Starry Campion	White	July-Sept	1-3'		
Wild Petunia	Lavender	June-July	1-2'		
Cardinal Flower	Red	July-Sept	4'		
Swamp Mallow	White/Pink	July-Sept	5'		
Indian Physic	White	May-June	5'		
Oxeye Sunflower	Yellow	June-Sept	5'		
Showy Goldenrod	Yellow	Sept-Nov	5'		
Calico Beardtongue	Pink	June-July	4'		
Rattlesnake Master	White	July-Sept	4'		
Prairie Alumroot	Green	May-July	2'		
Grasses					
Little Bluestem		Aug-Sept	2-4'		
Junegrass		May-July	1-2'		
Prairie Dropseed		July-Aug	2-3'		
Fox sedge		June-July	3'		
Bristly sedge		June	2'		
Total					

Make checks payable to Rock Island Soil and Water Conservation District (RISWCD). The plants are all locally grown at Pleasant Prairie Nursery and Simply Native Nursery. Additional plant information is also available on their websites.

RISWCD NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIPS

A big thank you to our current sponsors featured below! The printing of our bi-annual newsletter would not be possible without their support.



M & M Enterprises QCA

Quad City Water Conservation Specialist

http://mmenterprisesqca.fixr.com/ 309-854-3983

FREE 1 HOUR CONSULTATION

Special Promotion

First Five New Customers to Hire MME QCA for their Lake Or Pond Services Receives 20% Off With This Coupon

- Lake Aeration Engineering/Stocking
- Lake Treatment Consultation
- Shoreline Cleanup/Repair
- Water Hazard Removal/Marking

- Beach/Seawall Engineering
- Annual Maintenance Plans
- Eco-Friendly Products
- Transect Mapping





Phone: 309-755-7644 3303 John Deere Rd. Silvis, IL 61282

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Office: (309)537-9993 Website: www.keithfriedenexcavating.com

Kirk R. Wainwright Construction

PHONE: 309-523-3418



Soil Conservation-Land Clearing-Excavation Demolition-Site Prep



Quad City Conservation Alliance

2621 4th Avenue Rock Island, Illinois 61201

A Non-Profit Coalition of Conservation Clubs



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

Spring 2019 Newsletter

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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

Tumbling Composters: \$150

FOR RENT

7' Great Plains No-Till Drill: \$100/day & \$12/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).