



Marion County SWCD Conservation News

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Vice-Chairman

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Board Member

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Administrative Coordinator

USDA-NRCS Staff

Tony Antonacci
District Conservationist

Laura Smithenry
Soil Conservationist

James Petrea
Soil Conservation Technician

65th Annual Meeting and Dinner

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District board members and staff are pleased to announce plans for the 65th Annual Meeting and Dinner which will be held on February 18, 2010 at the Marion County Fair-ground Exhibit Building. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with a catered meal. The catered meal includes fried chicken and ham along with mashed potatoes and gravy, beef noodles, green beans, corn, slaw and rolls. Your choice of fruit cobbler will top off the meal.

Three District directors will be elected during a brief business meeting after the evening meal. A power-point presentation will highlight district activities during 2009. Selected area landowners and cooperators will be honored with conservation awards. The 2009 winning soil judging team and poster contest winners will also be recognized. The evening will conclude with the presentation of door prizes.

Tickets are \$6.00 and can be purchased from the District office located at 1550 E. Main Street in Salem. Tickets can be reserved by calling Debbie or Burke at (618)548-2230 ext 3. The deadline to purchase or reserve tickets is February 16, 2010.

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Spring Tree Sale

HARDWOODS \$2.00 each	SEEDLING SIZE	MATURE HEIGHT	FEATURES	QTY	COST
Bald Cypress	12 -18"	50-70'	Good for wet areas		
Pecan	12 -18"	70-100'	Plant 2 trees for best pollination		
Persimmon	6 - 10"	40-60'	Native tree, edible fruit		
Redbud	12 -18"	20-30'	Rosy pink flowers		
Red Maple	12 -18"	60-70'	Brilliant fall colors		
Sawtooth Oak	12 -18"	40-50'	Fast growing oak tree		
Tulip Poplar	12 -18"	70-90'	Greenish yellow flowers in spring, fast growing		
White Flowering Dogwood	12 -18"	20-30'	Attracts songbirds		
HARDWOODS \$3.00 each	SEEDLING SIZE	MATURE HEIGHT	FEATURES	QTY	COST
Paw Paw	12 -18"	15-20'	Pest free, banana like fruit		
EVERGREENS \$2.00 ea. or Bundle of 25—\$25	SEEDLING SIZE	MATURE HEIGHT	FEATURES	QTY	COST
White Pine	12-18"	50-100'	Most universal evergreen		
Norway Spruce	10-18"	60-90'	Drooping branches		
White Spruce	10-18"	60-80'	Good for windbreaks		

Wildflower Seed Sale

SEED MIXTURES (4oz) \$15	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COST
Countryside Sunny Mix (2500 sq. ft. coverage)	This mix lends itself to full sun, drier conditions with a full spectrum of color. Perfect for low maintenance areas in the landscape plan		
Bird/Butterfly Mix (2500 sq. ft. coverage)	The flowers in this blend attract Hummingbirds and Butterflies all summer long. The heavy reseeding annuals act as a natural food source for song-birds all winter.		
Countryside Shady Mix (1350 sq. ft. coverage)	Designed for low light conditions but will perform in full sun also. Will not tolerate dense shade but does well with dappled or part day sun exposure.		
Old Glory Mix (2500 sq. ft. coverage)	Show your spirit with a blend of six red, white and blue wildflowers. A patriotic all purpose mix.		
Countryside Original (2500 sq. ft. coverage)	A balanced blend of perennial and annual species designed to perform a in a wide variety of growing conditions with a full spectrum of colors and bloom times.		

Spring Fish Sale

SPECIES/ DESCRIPTION	SIZE	WATER REQUIRED	PRICE	QTY	COST
Channel Cat - They are excellent for food and sport fishing and can grow up to 1 pound per year if fed with commercial feed.	4-6"	15 gal/100	.70 each		
	6-8"	20 gal/100	.80 each		
	8-10"	30 gal/100	\$1.00 ea.		
Largemouth Bass - One of the most sought after game fish. The average size is 20 inches and they may live up to 23 years.	3"	15 gal/100	.80 each		
	5-8"	30 gal/100	\$1.75 ea.		
Flathead Minnows - These are especially important when stocking new ponds. They are good as a food source for young bass.		None	\$9 per lb.		
Crappie - Excellent for food and sport fishing. However, they can quickly overpopulate and are not recommended for small ponds.	2"	None	.60 each		
Hybrid Sunfish - These fish come from crossing a male bluegill with a female green sunfish. They produce 90% males and do not overpopulate a pond. They are a good choice for a small pond. They can reproduce with bluegills if they are present in the pond.	1-2"	None	\$60.00 (Bag of 250)		
	3-5"	20 gal/100	.75 each		
Bluegill - An excellent sport fish that grows a little slower than the sunfish.	1-2"	None	\$60.00 (Bag of 250)		
	3-5"	20 gal/100	.75 each		
Hybrid Redear - Excellent in deeper ponds and with bluegill and hybrid sunfish	1-2"	None	\$60.00 (Bag of 250)		
Triploid Grass Carp - They eat many weeds, but not algae, and do not reproduce. They will eat up to 2-3 times their weight each day. Care should be taken when stocking these fish.	8-11"	None	\$ 9.00 ea.		

Please fill out this section ONLY if you are ordering Triploid Grass Carp. The information is needed for an IDNR permit and your order cannot be processed without it.

COUNTY _____ TOWNSHIP _____ SECTION _____

Name _____	Grand Total Trees \$ _____
Address _____	Grand Total Seed \$ _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Grand Total Fish \$ _____
Telephone _____ Alternate Number _____	
Payment is expected when order is placed. Make check payable to Marion County SWCD. Mail to 1550 E. Main St., Salem, IL 62881	Grand Total All Orders \$ _____

All orders must be received by March 15, 2010

MARION COUNTY SWCD
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Visit us on the Web!

www.marioncountyswcd.com

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Does your address need
updated??? Please call
Debbie at (618)548-2230
ext 3 to get it corrected!!!

State Fiscal Problems Affect SWCD Program Delivery

Six months into it's fiscal year, Marion County SWCD is patiently awaiting the arrival of appropriated funds from the state of Illinois. The first half of the funding was released but is buried somewhere in the stack of the state's unpaid bills. Over the past 65 years, appropriations from the state of Illinois were the major funding source for our SWCD office since we do not have taxing authority for operational expenses. Some SWCD offices have been able to levy for reimbursable insurance costs through the Tort Immunity Act but Marion County's status as a PTELL county has hindered our SWCD from even recouping these costs.

A statewide task force is looking into possible changes in legislative laws that would provide a stable source of SWCD operational funds. As more on this initiative is learned, we may be contacting many of you to write letters of support to our elected officials. Until then, we encourage you to recognize the importance of your local SWCD as we strive to continue our program delivery to the residents of Marion County.