



July 2018

# TTK NEWSLETTER

## Habitat Stewardship

Conservation of our natural resources is important in every community. Citizens are often looking for ways to be involved at their home or with community conservation projects. Habitats are all across North America, and healthy habitats can include native plants, water features such as ponds, wetlands and rain gardens. Planting native trees along stream banks to stabilize the soil, preventing soil erosion or planting native plants to attract pollinators make citizens good stewards of the land. Through collaboration, new habitat areas can be developed or maintained. When we think about protecting and managing our natural resources we can provide healthy habitats for the ecosystems on our planet. Each of us can make a difference by starting in our own backyard, our school or in our community. By providing habitat areas, you assist in providing food and shelter for animals, birds and insects. A simple step in creating a healthy, inviting neighborhood is by taking the healthy yard pledge. Create and maintain a healthy environment for you, your family and local wildlife by pledging to:

- Reduce pesticide use
- Conserve water (think rain barrels!)
- Remove invasive exotic plants
- Plant native species
- Support wildlife on your property

For more information and to make the pledge online, visit [audubonathome.org/pledge](http://audubonathome.org/pledge)



*Above: Corn is seen emerging this past spring amidst the residue of Cereal Rye. Producers who want to prevent soil erosion, improve nutrient cycling, sustain their soils and protect their environment are returning to this very old practice. The local producer and SWCD Supervisor, Mike Bell, participates in healthy soil techniques to improve his overall operation. Soil stewardship is not reserved for crop production farmers; individuals in all communities can do their part. Interested in available programming? We encourage you to reach out to your local SWCD.*

**NEXT TTK Advisory Committee Meeting:  
Tuesday, July 31st - 6:30 pm  
Hoosier Energy Environmental Ed. Center**

## Quotes & Quips



*“As with most fine things, chocolate has its season. There is a simple memory aid that you can use to determine whether it is the correct time to order chocolate dishes: any month whose name contains the letter A, E, or U is the proper time for chocolate.”*

*--Sandra Boynton*

Inspired? See our seasonal recipe on the next page!

## Upcoming Events

### Sullivan County 4-H Fair July 14-21, 2018



### Sullivan County SWCD "Planting with Natives"

Join our SWCD and Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management on July 31st for an instructive talk on using native plants for landscaping. Native plants are more adapted to the Indiana climate and are typically easier to maintain. For more information, contact the District..

### Welcome Mariah Sweet, NRCS Intern!



Above, WCIWA Watershed Coordinator Laura Demarest instructs Mariah Sweet, summer intern for NRCS, about the duties and responsibilities of water monitoring while under a bridge in the TTK watershed. Mariah, a junior at Purdue University, is a native of Jasonville, IN. She is a 10 year 4-H member, and hopes to one day enter the workforce as a District Conservationist. Mariah started with us in early May, and will continue her learning experience until her return to school this fall. Mariah has been participating in many hands on activities and is learning the ropes in regards to the wise management of our natural resources. Welcome to the conservation partnership, Mariah!

## Check us out!

<http://watershed-alliance.org>

Twitter: @WCIWA

Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/100018070@N07/>

#### Contact:

(812) 268-5157 ext.3

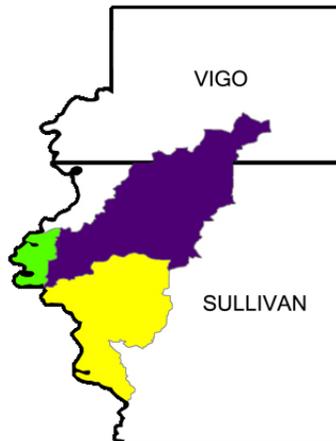
(812) 564-1162 mobile

[laura@watershed-alliance.org](mailto:laura@watershed-alliance.org)



Sullivan County Soil and Water  
Conservation District

### Cost-Share Funding for Cover Crops and more!



Eligible participants must live or farm in the **Turman Creek Watershed** (purple on map above) to qualify for the TTK 319 program. Funding has been **COMPLETELY OBLIGATED**, though more is being sought. **Schedule an appointment to review eligibility and add your project to the WAIT LIST!** Cost-Share Program information available: <http://watershed-alliance.org/index.php/ttk-cost-share-program-guidelines/>



### Seasonal Recipe Black Bottom Icebox Pie

Yields: 8-10 servings

Time: active 1 hr. | chill 8 hrs.

#### Ingredients

- 1 9 oz. package chocolate wafers
- ½ cup butter, melted
- ⅔ cup sugar & ¼ cup sugar, separated
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 4 egg yolks
- 2 cups milk
- 2 4 oz. bittersweet chocolate bars, chopped
- 1 tablespoon dark rum
- 1 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream

#### Directions

1. Pulse wafers in a food processor 8-10 times until finely crushed. Stir together crumbs and butter and firmly press mixture to the base and sides of a lightly greased 9 inch pie plate. Freeze crust 30 minutes.
2. In a saucepan, whisk together ⅔ cup sugar and cornstarch. Set aside.
3. In a small bowl, whisk together egg yolks and milk, then add to the saucepan with sugar and cornstarch mix. Cook over medium heat, whisking constantly until mixture thickens. Remove from heat.
4. Microwave chocolate until melted, stirring at 30 seconds intervals. Whisk melted chocolate, rum and vanilla into thickened filling. Spoon filling into prepared crust and place plastic wrap directly onto filling. Chill 8 hours.
5. Beat whipping cream and remaining sugar with electric mixture until soft peaks form. Top pie and enjoy.

Recipe courtesy of [southernliving.com](http://southernliving.com)