

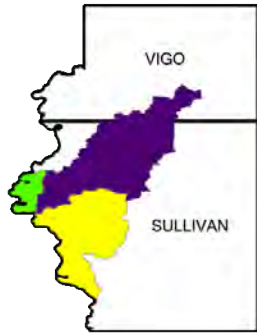


Spring 2015

TTK NEWSLETTER

TTK Watershed Management Plan Update

Do you live within the boundaries of the TTK watershed? Are you interested in a best management practice (cover crops, filter strips, precision ag, etc.) for your land? Contact us to review eligibility and options for your property - the TTK "Interest List" is filling up fast and engineering practices need more planning time. We can help with your conservation strategies!



The next TTK Advisory Committee meetings will be Tuesday, May 12th at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held at the Hoosier Energy Environmental Education Center, south of the Turtle Creek Reservoir; refreshments provided by Hoosier Energy.

Funded by an IDEM Section 319 Grant



Jim Love, Beck's Hybrids, speaks about UAVs, emerging technology in Merom, IN

Ag. Technology in TTK

The WCIWA recently hosted a successful field day at the historic Merom Conference Center on April 1st, 2015. Dave Wilson and Sheila Downey of FarmServer spoke about precision agriculture and the uses of emerging technology to increase efficiency while farming. Jim Love, Beck's Hybrids, was also present to talk about the many uses of 'drones' a.k.a. UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) and provide an exciting outdoor demonstration of their capabilities. The TTK 319 cost-share program (slated to be launched fall 2015) will likely include financial assistance for certain precision ag implements and no-till planter upgrades.



Quotes and Quips

"In the spring I have counted one hundred and thirty-six different kinds of weather inside of four and twenty hours."

- Mark Twain

"May is a pious fraud of the almanac."

-James R. Lowell

Check us out!

<http://watershed-alliance.org>

Twitter: @WCIWA

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

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**Sullivan County Soil and Water
Conservation District**

(Cont.) should contact the SWCD prior to planting to ensure compliance with the program. Producers may determine which management practices they wish to test. At the end of the year, INFA will supply each grower with the imagery and CSNT results from each field. Any fields with a Replicated Strip Trial will also have an RST report. A regional report, with each field assigned an anonymous ID number, will also be available to each grower.

INFA is a state-wide program coordinated by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. More information about the program and previous years' results can be found at:

<http://www.infieldadvantage.org/> The

CSNT results are calibrated based on Purdue University research -

<http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/soilfertility/news/cornstalknitrate.pdf>

Any producer interested in joining the Sullivan County INFA group should contact Laura Demarest at (812) 268-5157 ext. 3 or (812) 564-1162. The application for a GSS field consists of a single page and a field map. RST fields require a slightly longer application. For the RST to be valid, planting, fertilizer application and harvesting must follow OFN protocols. Applications and field maps are due to Laura Demarest before June 15th, 2015.



Turtle Creek Reservoir view from the top of the Merom Conference Center

Upcoming Area Events

April 26 - May 3

National Soil Stewardship Week
Theme: Pollinators- Local Heroes
Education Resources

<http://www.nacdnet.org/education/resources/local-heroes>

May 12 - TTK Advisory Committee Mtg.
June 5-7 - Merom Chautauqua Festival
June 19 - Pre/Post Harvest Workshop,
Vincennes, IN
June 25 - Reclamation Field Day, Bear
Run Mine, Sullivan, IN

INField Advantage Group

Sullivan County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is accepting new producers for the Middle Wabash INfield Advantage (INFA) group in 2015. INfield Advantage was previously known as On-Farm Network[®]. Any producer planting corn is eligible for the program. INFA is funded through the Indiana Corn Marketing Council/Indiana Soybean Alliance with checkoff funds and is being offered free of charge to producers.

INFA uses aerial imagery and the Corn Stalk Nitrate Test (CSNT) to determine nitrogen use efficiency in each field enrolled. Producers are not restricted on tillage, rotation, nitrogen form, timing or rate and may enroll multiple fields. The basic level of the program is called Guided Stalk Sampling (GSS) and fields may be enrolled after planting.

Growers may also use INFA to conduct on-farm research using replicated strip trials. Anyone interested in testing different management practices using INFA Replicated Strip Trials (RST)



Seasonal Recipe

Just in time for warm weather - coconut! Make these treats to fill easter baskets economically or to serve as a bite-sized party dessert. Shape them to your preferred size and enjoy!

Ingredients

- 8 oz softened cream cheese
- 1 tbsp softened butter
- 4 cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup shredded coconut
- 1 tbsp shortening
- 2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Instructions

1. Using a hand mixer, beat cream cheese and butter until blended.
2. Incorporate powdered sugar and coconut.
3. Refrigerate for 1 hour or until easy to mold with hands.
4. Prepare a baking sheet by lining with wax or parchment paper.
5. Dust your hands with powdered sugar and mold mixture into egg shapes.
6. Place on a prepared baking sheet.
7. Place in freezer for 2 hours or until eggs are firm.
8. Melt chocolate chips and shortening in microwave by heating for 30 seconds then stirring and repeating until melted and smooth.
9. Dip eggs into chocolate mixture; coat completely.
10. Place back on prepared pan.
11. Refrigerate until hardened.
12. Serve and enjoy!

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