



Winter 2017

TTK NEWSLETTER



Pictured Above: WCIWA Coordinator Laura Demarest presents an award to Friend of the Watershed recipient Travis McKinney at the 2016 SWCD Annual Meeting. For more information on the Annual Meeting, see page 2.

319 Cost-Share Funding Available in the Turman Creek Watershed

Do you live in the Turman Creek Watershed? Are you interested in a best management practice (cover crops, filter strips, precision ag, etc.) for your land? Contact us now to review eligibility and available options.

Visit our website or office for Cost-Share Program information

Pollinator-Friendly Practices

Planning a garden? Need a pollinator?

It may seem a little early to be dreaming of spring gardening, but it's never too soon to start planning for pollinators. This year, think about organizing your beds to increase appeal for a variety of pollinators, including honey bees and bumble bees, ants, butterflies, moths, beetles, and hummingbirds.

Fun Fact! One of every three bites of food we eat is dependent on pollinators that play an enormous role in plant production. Pollinators provide approximately \$20 billion worth of pollination for American crops each year!

Promote pollinators in your own backyard!

Ensure sufficient foraging options for pollinators by including plant species that can serve as high value sources of nectar and pollen, especially during late summer. Include a showy flower variety on your garden borders, as different flower shapes can attract specific pollinator species. For instance, deep or complex flowers may be suited for hummingbirds and certain types of bumblebees. Open flowers such as asters are easily accessible to types of bees with short tongues, as well as small-sized flies and beetles.

For more information on making your backyard a friendly host for pollinator species, visit the USDA Forest Service website.



Quotes and Quips



“The hard soil and four months of snow make the inhabitants of the northern temperate zone wiser and abler than his fellow who enjoys the fixed smile of the tropics.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

“In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy.”

- William Blake



Above: Laura Demarest, WCIWA Coordinator, presents at a TTK Advisory Committee meeting this past fall.

Upcoming Area Events

Conservation Showcase Farm Tour

Thursday, January 27th
1:00-3:00 pm

Travis McKinney Farm
(Call SWCD for location)

CCSI Basic Soil Health Training

Wednesday, February 8th

Beck Ag. Center, West Lafayette, IN

2017 Indiana Small Farm Conference

March 2-4
Danville, IN



Above: Two 8th grade students participate in the fishing portion of the Sullivan 8th Grade Wabash River Expedition. The West Central Indiana Watershed Alliance is a proud partner of the annual SWCD educational event. After attending the day-long affair, students write an essay detailing their experiences. Award winners will be honored at the SWCD Annual Meeting this coming February.

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



72nd Sullivan Co. SWCD Annual Meeting Monday February 27, 6:30 Sullivan Civic Center

Dinner, Entertainment & Door Prizes

The Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District, along with the West Central Indiana Watershed Alliance, will host an evening with Dr. Peter Coppinger, Associate Professor at Rose Hulman Institute of Technology and regular Nature Contributor to local news station, WTHI.

Along with a dinner presented by *Mike's Custom Catering*, the Annual Meeting will feature a public election for the SWCD Board of Supervisors as well as year-end reports. In addition, awards will be presented to the 8th Grade River Expedition Essay winners, *Friend of Conservation*, *Friend of the Watershed*, and *Conservation Farmer of the Year*. Door prizes will also be awarded at the end of the evening. Tickets can be purchased by contacting SWCD District Coordinator Allison McKain at 812-268-5157, ext. 3.



Seasonal Recipe

Sausage & White Bean Soup
This hearty, homemade bean soup kicks the store-bought stuff to the curb!

Ingredients

- 1/2 lb. sausage, casing removed
- 1/2 tsp. fennel seed
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 c. diced onions
- 1/2 c. dry white wine
- kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 2 c. marinara sauce
- 32 oz. low-sodium chicken stock
- 1 15- oz. can cannellini beans, rinsed and drained
- 1/2 c. anelletti pasta, or any small-shaped pasta
- 3 c. baby spinach, washed and dried

Directions:

1. Heat a large pot over medium-high heat. Brown sausage and break up using a wooden spoon. Add fennel seed, garlic and onions stirring from time to time. Cook for 4 minutes. Deglaze with wine and season with 1 tsp. salt and 1/2 tsp. black pepper; simmer for 2 minutes. Add marinara sauce and stock; bring to a boil and simmer for 3 minutes.
2. Add beans and pasta; cook according to package directions for al dente pasta. If soup is too thick, add splash of chicken stock or water.
3. Just before serving, add fresh spinach. Stir until warmed through and spinach is wilted. Serve immediately.

<http://www.delish.com>

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