

Board Report

July 2010

Jonathon Manuel, Resource Conservationist

### **Water Initiatives**

Allerton Park is moving forward on the special grant.

On August the 5<sup>th</sup> I will be meeting with the Lake Side Homeowners Association to talk about the Mansfield Special Project. This will be to make sure that the money for match is in place and what the plan is.

June 23<sup>rd</sup>, I went to the flood plan mapping meeting. I was very upset that our government just paid this other group to draw maps that NRCS had already done. They also made no new changes and are completely out of touch with what a land owner has to go thru because of the poor mapping. (I was not very happy about this!!!).

### **Natural Resources Initiatives**

The e-waste collection is going very well. We are requiring a new trailer every two weeks.

June 22<sup>nd</sup> I attended CREP Training with Phyllis and Terre. We did not learn to much new other then it is going to reopen.

### **Farm Land Initiatives**

John Leishcner's waterway has had the tile in stalled; the earth shaped, and has been seeded. I am meeting with Tom Book on Wednesday to look at the outlet. We have to do something to stabilize the out let. This may mean an adm. to the agreement.

Larry Simonton and Sam Brandenburg waterways are built. We are told that the tiller will not be putting the tile in until this fall.

John Gyorr's waterway rebuild project is underway. I believe they have the earth shaped and are waiting on the tile to be put in. I have asked the NRCS engineer to take a look at this project.

Steve Catlin is fixing his waterway; a new tile has been installed.

Charles Hendrix waterway system has had all the earth shaped, rock checks installed and fabric checks. We are waiting for August 1<sup>st</sup> to seed.

I meet with Fred Amdor, James McClure, and Ken Dalenburg about their waterway projects. They are on hold at the moment as we try and work on a problem with the new Highway commissioner and the railroad. I meet with the old and new County Highway Comminisioner on the Fourth of June. They gave permission to move ahead but would not give any money to the project. I have also heard a little from the Railroad, still not sure where they stand on the project. My next step is to try and get the next property to sign up for EQIP to get some cost share. I am still trying to get a hold of the farm manager.

William Gallagher's waterway is designed; I hope he will be starting construction soon.

I have surveyed Patrick Hayes waterways.

Terry March Waterway has been completed we are waiting until August 1<sup>st</sup> to get it seeded.

George Riley's big waterway has been shaped and they have started on the smaller one.

### **Education Initiatives**

The State PF and QF are going to sponsor the State Envirothon for the next several years with \$1000 or \$2000 if money raising events go well. As well as trying to set up a speaker template for wildlife.

The RC&D purchased bottle water to be given out at the 1<sup>st</sup> Responders Training. This event went rather well. It was to train rural fire fighters on emergency situations.

I had the honor of being a Judge at the 4H fair for Natural Resources.

### **District Operations Initiatives**

We are well over half way done with this year's contribution agreement. We have received money for the work completed. I have asked if we can modify this year's agreement, for another \$4380. I was told that it is waiting for approval in the state office.

As you know the RC&D has a few empty committee seats for Piatt County. If you know of anyone willing to take one please let me know.

I have been working with Terry Lieb, Joel Hertz, and Seevers to see about a LICA show for next year. This is still in the discussion phase and may not materialize due to costs and time restraints. The presentation to the LICA Committee went well on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> of June.

June 17<sup>th</sup> Phyllis and I attended the FOIA training in Springfield. This was informative about things we have to do like post minutes and agenda's on our website.

June 24<sup>th</sup> attended the RC&D meeting. Some good discussion was had on were the group was headed and what to do about it. They are now trying to look at getting a grant to get every fire Dept. a grain bin rescue tube.

July 15<sup>th</sup> was my First Illinois State Technical Committee meeting. This was a new experience. A lot of good information was taken in.