

Board Report

March 2010

Jonathon Manuel, Resource Conservationist

### **Water Initiatives**

The SSRP program has been funded again for this year. Wayne Kinney is going to come up in the next couple of months to look at two possible projects.

Allerton Park is letting Drew go this April. He made sure that Barbara and I met. She has assured me that the project is going to still move forward.

### **Natural Resources Initiatives**

The new Farm Bureau Wildlife committee is off the ground and trying to grow. They are holding a picture contest and hope to have a deer harvest contest this fall.

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

### **Farm Land Initiatives**

John Leishner's waterway has had the tile in stalled.

Stan Foley's waterway is waiting for the creek to go down so that Matt D. and I can get some shots in the creek.

The two terraces for Bruce Stoddard are designed and the contractor has the plans.

Larry Simonton and Sam Brandenburg have a waterway rebuild that has been Surveyed and designed. They are now going to wait until spring to build.

John Gyorr's waterway rebuild project will be going in this spring as well.

Tim Menacher waterway project has changed to the Plunk waterway. The tile has been installed and ground work should begin this spring.

Steve Catlin is fixing his waterway; this is on hold until the old tile can be replaced and the fabric checks can be installed. Spoke with Seevers this month, whole things will be moving along.

Charles Hendrix waterway system has been designed. They look to be starting work on it this spring.

Fred Amdor's waterway is in the planning stage. Hope to get it surveyed Thursday.

The NRI are changing due to changes in the materials that we base them on.

The LESA will need some small changes to match new material.

I am already working on next years Tillage Day. This time it might have to be a joint County Tillage Day. This would be do to finding a wheat field.

I have completed one NRI for Sonia Carlton.

### **Education Initiatives**

We have 12 teams signed up for the Land Use Councils Envirothon.

On April 10<sup>th</sup> the 4-H will be holding a rock hound event. Terri Lieb has agreed to allow the kids to hunt for rocks on the old gravel pit.

With Earth Partners, Piatt County Farm Bureau and us we have a Stewardship Day planned for May27<sup>th</sup> at White Heath.

### **District Operations Initiatives**

We have billed NRCS as per our agreement. We are going to get 3007.00 for last year's contribution agreement.

As you know the RC&D has a few empty committee seats for Piatt County.

I completed my computer training to stay on the NRCS computer system.

The news letter was sent out. We are going to look at a different style to save money next time.

The two resolutions were approved by Champaign County SWCD.

I have also been trying to work with Senator Rolland Burris's office to get the Heartland RC&D fully funded.

The Contractors meeting was held on March 11<sup>th</sup>. We had 16 contractors at the meeting. At this time we are going to be in the Monticello guide.

I have been appointed to the State Pheasants Forever Board. I am also the secretary for that board as well.

We have sent in for another contribution agreement with NRCS for this up coming year.

I have already done quite a bit for the new agreement.

We have sold about 44 more potted trees this year than last year.

I sent a letter off to the States Attorney with our questions on 2-19-2010. I have yet to get a response.