

Coming Together

S.W.C.D.

PUBLISHED BY:

**VANDERBURGH COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
921 NORTH PARK DRIVE ❖ EVANSVILLE, INDIANA 47710**

VOL. XLVI No. 3

CELEBRATING 84 YEARS

FALL 2024

New ISDA Resource Specialist for Vanderburgh, Posey & Warrick Counties

Megan Ritterskamp joins ISDA as the Resource Specialist for Posey, Vanderburgh, and Warrick County in the Southwest corner of the state.

After 17 years working in the dungeons of healthcare, Megan was looking for a career change and received a degree in Environmental Science from the University of Southern Indiana in 2018. She comes to the ISDA after working the last 6 years for the local SWCDs in the South-Southwest where she worked with landowners on rural and urban resource concerns ranging from backyard gardening to erosion control to invasive plants.

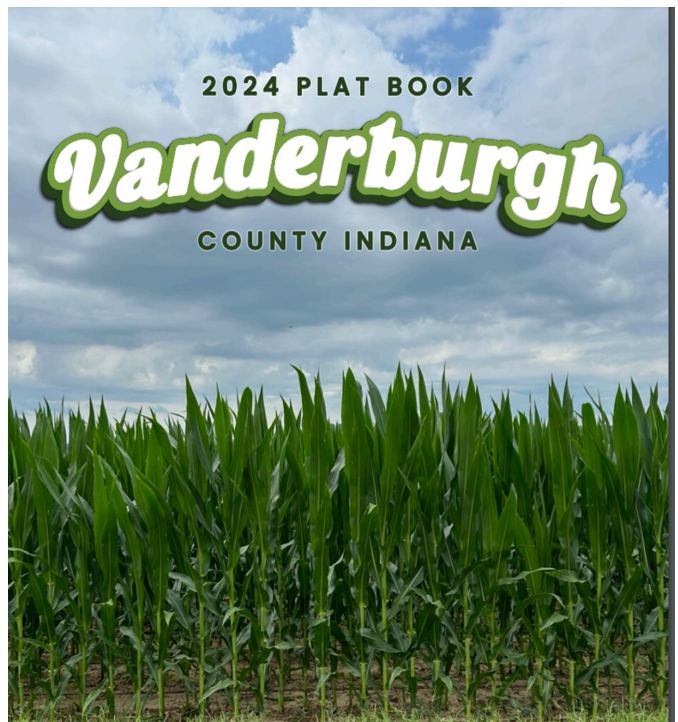
She is also the president of the Southwest Chapter of the Indiana Native Plant Society. Megan lives in Evansville with her husband, teenage son, incredibly expensive dog and two cats that aspire for world dominance. She enjoys cooking and baking, reading lighthearted YA novels, and spending time with her friends and family.



New 2024 Plat Books arriving soon!

The new 2024 Vanderburgh County Plat Books are expected to arrive by October 1st!

The price of the new books are \$25 and can be paid with cash or check only. Please be sure to call the office at 812-423-4426 x3 before you stop by, as we are frequently out of the office.



North Woods Cleanup Day was a Success!

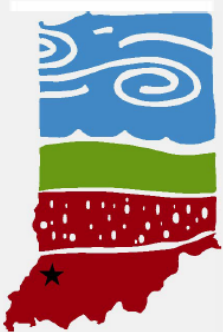
Saturday, June 15, volunteers from Evansville Rotary and Vanderburgh CISMA joined forces to clean up North Woods at Igleheart Park. They cleaned the nature signs, Rotary signs, overlooks, bridges and picked up litter, aligned directional signs, and cleared trails. WOW! An amazing couple of hours to accomplish so much! Thank you Rotary and CISMA!



MISSION STATEMENT :

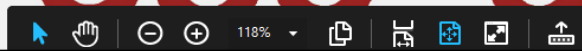
OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE
QUALITY CONSERVATION SERVICES
RESULTING IN A HARMONIOUS BALANCE
BETWEEN NATURAL RESOURCES,
SOCIAL CHANGE
AND ECONOMIC HEALTH WITHIN
VANDERBURGH COUNTY

ROADSIDE BUFFER TO INCREASE VISIBILITY.



Sponsored by:
**Gibson County Soil & Water
Conservation District**

812-385-5033



FREE COVER CROP SEEDS (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)

- Covers Gardens 250 - 1,000 sqft.
- Mix Includes Crimson Clover, Daikon Radish, and Winter Oats
- Plant after vegetable harvest before Sept 30th for best results

Please call the office at 812-423-4426 x3 before stopping by, as we are frequently out of the office. Office located at 921 North park Dr., Evansville, IN



PRESCRIBED FIRE WORKSHOP

Friday, September 20, 2024

11:00 AM EST / 10:00 AM CST

Rain Date: Friday, September 27

Tell City, Indiana

TOPICS COVERED

- Equipment
- Ecological benefits
- Fire behavior
- Weather
- Resources

LIVE FIRE DEMONSTATION

- Weather permitting
- Walking to the live fire demonstration is difficult, with uneven terrain and steep hills.
- Closed toe shoes and natural fiber clothing are recommended.

DNR

Indiana Department
of Natural Resources



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Perry County Soil
and Water
Conservation
District

REGISTER

Email Morgan Oberly, District 5
Wildlife Biologist – Indiana DNR
at moberly@dnr.in.gov or call
812-817-0206.

***Parking is limited. Please
carpool as able.**



Use Lower Pigeon Creek cost share funds to make your fields green!

Contact the Vanderburgh SWCD office for a cost share application. Use funds to plant cover crops or target nutrient management, convert to conservation tillage or for other soil conservation practices!

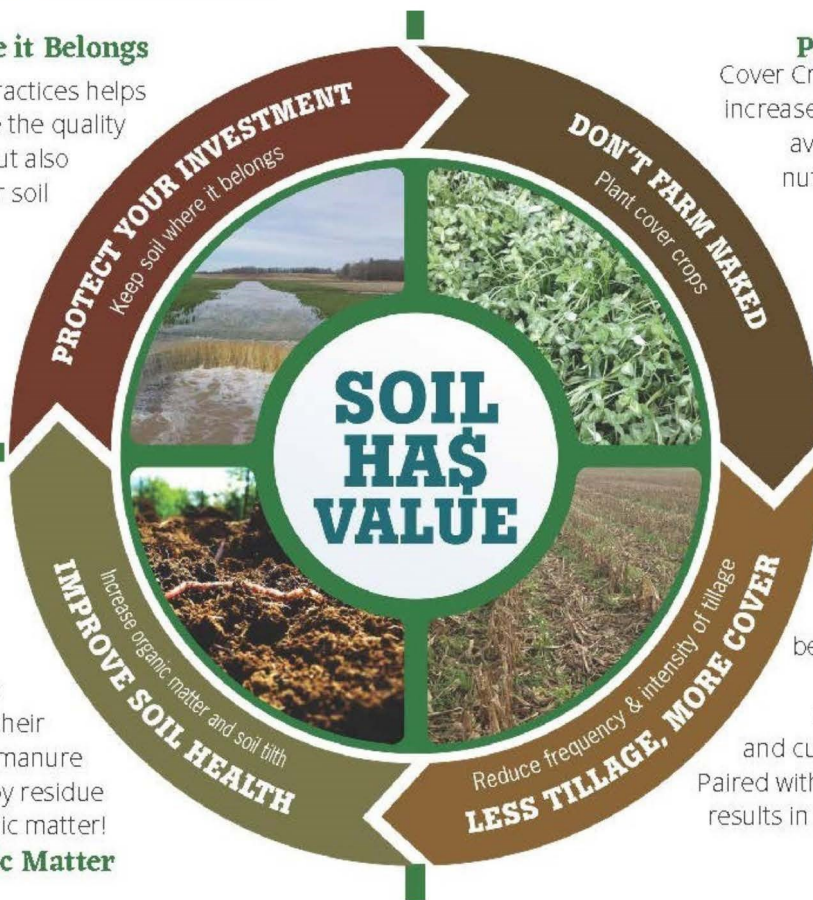
Learn more at www.lowerpigeoncreek.com/costshare

Keep Soil Where it Belongs

Combining these practices helps to not only improve the quality of soil you have, but also helps preserve your soil and keep it from drifting during high weather events like high winds or heavy rains!

Implementing cover crops into your cycle, especially cereal or grass varieties, provide additional organic matter as it breaks down after their season. Spreading manure and leaving corn/soy residue also increase organic matter!

Increase Organic Matter



Plant Cover Crops

Cover Crops build soil quality, increase soil fertility and help avoid, control and trap nutrients and sediment on your property. Cover crops will increase long term production of crops and improve soil health!

Working the ground less also promotes economic and environmental benefits. This improves soil health, reduces runoff, limits erosion and curbs soil compaction. Paired with cover crop planting, results in improved soil health!

Reduce Tillage



Volunteers Needed

Saturday, November 2, 2024 - 9am to 12pm

(Rain Date: Saturday, November 9, 2024)

North Woods at Igleheart Park

Vanderburgh County



CISMA

Please join the Vanderburgh Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) and fellow community volunteers to continue removing harmful, invasive species from the park.

- No experience necessary!
- Volunteer shifts range from 1 to 3 hours to fit your schedule
- Learn about invasive species and best management practices
- Location: Igleheart Park, 6101 N First Ave, Evansville, IN 47710 (meet in Lloyd Pool parking lot)
- Dress for the weather, sturdy shoes/boots and work gloves recommended
- Bring loppers if you have them (some tools will be available for use)
- Snacks and refreshments provided for all volunteers

**PLEASE HELP PRESERVE THE PARK'S
NATIVE TREES AND PLANTS!**

Event is coordinated by the Vanderburgh CISMA in partnership with the Vanderburgh County Soil & Water Conservation District and the Department of Parks & Recreation

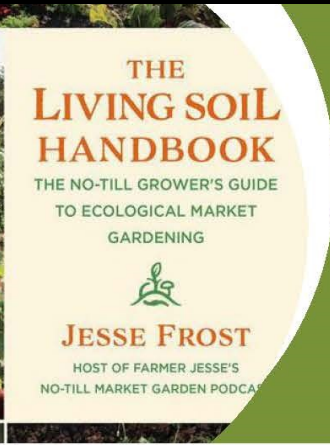
RSVP to Vanderburgh.CISMA@gmail.com



North Woods is owned by Evansville Parks and Recreation.



Vanderburgh County Soil and Water Conservation District



JESSE FROST

FARM VITALITY WORKSHOP

Featuring Soil Health & Agriculture Networking

Date: November 16th from 8:00am to 3:30pm CST
Address: City View at Sterling Square
210 Fulton Ave.
Evansville, IN 47710

CALLING ALL SMALL GROWERS!

LUNCH BY PANGEA
using locally sourced ingredients

For dietary restrictions or other accommodations, please contact Warrick SWCD 812.897.2840 x3 or email warrickswcd@gmail.com

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Discussion led by local farmers and growers

TOPICS

- Cut Flowers
- Marketing
- Livestock
- Vegetable growing
- Berry growing
- Orchards
- Regenerative Ag
- Soil Contamination
- & MORE!

AGENDA

- 8:00-8:30am: Registration
- 8:30-11:30am: Jesse Frost
- 11:30-11:45am: Break
- 11:45-12:15am: Networking & Resource Fair
- 12:15-1:00pm: Lunch
- 1:00-3:00pm: Breakout Sessions
- 3:00-3:30pm: Networking & Resource Fair



Register NOW!

Registration is only \$10

Please use the QR code or link below to register



<https://events.humanitix.com/farm-vitality-soil-health-and-agriculture-networking-workshop>

VANDEBURGH COUNTY SWCD

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

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 Kevin Rexing, Vice-Chair, Farmer
 Joe Schalasky, Treasurer, farm manager at Seton Harvest
 Pat Bittner, Member, Farmer
 Misty Minar- Botanical Curator, Mesker Park Zoo

ASSOCIATES:

Kay Hoffherr, Teacher, Central High School
 Linda Freeman, County Surveyor
 Heath Hamilton, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Biologist
 Steve Helfrich, Retired USI Facilities Director
 Eldon Maasberg, Retired Farmer

Board Meetings are held on the fourth Monday at 4 p.m. of each month Unless otherwise advertised. The public is invited to attend all meetings

OFFICE STAFF:

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SWCD)

Megan Klenck, Water Quality Specialist
 Erin Shoup, Administrative Assistant

NATURAL RESOURCE, CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

Vacant, District Conservationist

INDIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (ISDA)

Megan Ritterskamp, Resource Specialist

OFFICE LOCATION

VANDEBURGH COUNTY SWCD
 921 North Park Dr.
 Evansville, IN 47710-3629
 http://www.vandswcd.org
 TELEPHONE: (812) 423-4426 X 3
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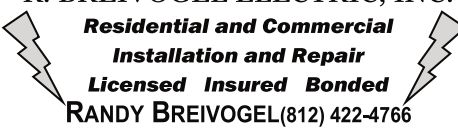
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IN THIS ISSUE:
 NEW ISDA RESOURCE SPECIALIST
 NORTH WOODS CLEANUP DAY WAS A SUCCESS!
 NEW 2024 PLAT BOOKS ARRIVING SOON!
 ROADSIDE BUFFER- GIBSON COUNTY
 FREE GARDEN COVER CROP SEEDS
 PRESCRIBED FIRE WORKSHOP
 LOWER PIGEON CREEK COST SHARE FUNDS AVAILABLE
 WEED WRANGLE
 JESSE FROST- FARM VITALITY WORKSHOP

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 812-963-8102 www.adlerexcavating.com "SINCE 1963"	 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FISHERY MANAGEMENT FOUNTAINS & AERATION DIY SUPPLIES & ADVICE 2447 Locust Creek Drive, Evansville, IN 812-402-1001 AQUATICCONTROL.COM	
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