



**ELKHART COUNTY**  
**SOIL & WATER**  
**CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

59358 CR 7

Elkhart, IN 46517

[www.elkcoswcd.org](http://www.elkcoswcd.org)

574-523-2030

**80<sup>th</sup>**  
**Annual**  
**Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 15, 2022**

**Dinner starts at 6:30pm**

**Martin Room, Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds**

Make your reservations by contacting the SWCD.

There is no ticket fee, but consider supporting the SWCD with a donation or membership

**FEATURING**

**Michelle Miller "Farm Babe"**

# Letter from the Chairman

To Elkhart County Soil & Water District Supporters,

2021 was great and exciting year for the Elkhart County SWCD despite the continued challenges the COVID-19 pandemic threw in our path. We did not waiver from our mission. "To assist and educate citizens, land users, and agencies in the wise use of natural resources in Elkhart County." Through your support and participation, and that of our many partners, much has been accomplished. A few highlights of the many things we did this year. We've organized and hosted many meetings, workshops, events and projects some were done in person, others virtually.


Conservationist, Todd Clark, was kept very busy in 2021. Reviewed 136 erosion control plans. Performed 529 construction site inspections and closed out 73 projects. Conservationist, Jenna Wait, whose focus is on education, was invaluable at navigating us through the "tech" side of virtual meetings. Her online education videos she produces are outstanding. You can go to our website and check them out. She also organizes the Indiana Master Naturalist program and had 22 students take the course in 2021.

District Manager Jim Hess, who also is our Ag Conservationist, has been a real innovator for conservation in Elkhart County. He oversees the SWAMP program that puts conservation practices on the land. Including over 14,000 acres of cover crops in 2021. I am looking forward to new innovative programs in 2022, building on the success of SWAMP.

We completed our move to our new office. For a multitude of reasons, we can now better serve our customers. Our new address is 59358 County Road 7, Elkhart, IN 46517.

I would like to thank the Elkhart County elected officials for your continued support. I would also like to thank the SWCD staff, the SWCD Board, NRCS, and all of our partners who contributed to make 2021 a success. Our challenge continues: To provide leadership, education, and implementation of conservation practices and to utilize and protect our resources to the best of our ability for us and future generations.

To leave it better than we receive it,



Yours for Conservation,  
Thomas Kercher  
SWCD Board Chair



## Mission Statement

The Mission of the Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District is to assist land users and other agencies in the wise use of natural resources in Elkhart County

# Elkhart County SWCD Annual Meeting Minutes March 4, 2021

The 79th annual meeting of the Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) was held virtually via Zoom, 19 people attended. The meeting began at 5:00 pm with Jim Hess welcoming everyone to the meeting.

The minutes of the March 5, 2020 annual meeting were approved on a motion by: Michelle Blough and Jason Kauffman. The motion carried. The 2020 Annual Financial Report was approved on a motion Jason Kauffman and Michelle Blough. The motion carried.

Alex Wait, Vice Board Chairman, conducted the supervisor election. He stated the requirements for being a candidate and for voting. He then presented the slate Tom Kercher's term of office will expire at the close of this annual meeting, and he has chosen to run for re-election. No nominations were made from the floor. Motion to reelect Tom Kercher was approved by Michelle Blough and Jason Kauffman.

Jim Hess, District Manager for the SWCD spoke about Agriculture, including the SWAMP program. Jenna Wait, Conservationist spoke about Education highlights, Todd Clark spoke about Urban Conservation in the county.

The Elkhart County SWCD sponsored the awards. Darrell Shover presented the Agriculture awards, Jenna Wait presented Education the award, and Todd Clark presented the urban award. Winners were as follows: Conservation Farmer of the Year Award was Woodsbrook Farms, LLC; Educator of the Year Award was Krista Daniels; River Friendly Farmer Award was Stoney-M Farms; Urban Conservationist of the Year Award was Tony Harman; Friend of the SWCD went to Mike Yoder.

Alex Wait, Vice Board Chairman announced that Tom Kercher was elected to a three-year term. ISDA Support Specialist, Heath Hurst, will administer The Oath of Office at our Board meeting for Tom Kercher, and the reappointment of Supervisor, Darrell Shover.

The meeting adjourned by Vice Board Chairman, Alex Wait, at 5:35 pm

**Thomas Kercher**  
Chairman

**Alex Wait**  
Vice Chairman

**Lora L. Atkins**  
Secretary

**Dale Leer**  
Board Member

**Dean Rink**  
Board Member

**Darrell Shover**  
Board Member

# 2021 Conservation Highlights Featured at 80th Annual Meeting

The 80th Annual Meeting of the Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2022. We will highlight the conservationists and conservation activities in Elkhart County that contributed to conservation in 2021. The meeting will be held in the Martin Room of the Elkhart County Community Building on the 4-H Fairgrounds in Goshen. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. There is no fee to attend, but reservations are requested, and donations or affiliate memberships are accepted.

This Annual Meeting provides the District with an opportunity to share activities and provide a financial accounting of the year. We will recognize the adults and youth who have advanced conservation efforts in the county in 2021. A preview of those receiving recognition is available in this report.

As 2021 is our 80th anniversary we are looking back and reflecting on how we got where we are and the importance of each partnership that worked together to get us here. As we remember the past, we also look to the future to continue to build a legacy of conservation for generations and generations to come. An important item on the agenda is the election of a member to the Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors. Every county in Indiana has a Soil and Water Conservation District. Each District is supervised by a board of local landowners who are responsible for the policies and programs of the SWCD. This board has five members; two are appointed for three-year terms and three are elected for three-year terms. Darrell Shover was appointed to his term, which will expire in two years. Dean Rink holds the other appointed position and that term will expire next year. The elected positions are staggered, with one elected supervisor's term expiring each year. Dale Leer has one year remaining in his term of office and Tom Kercher has two. Alex Wait's term of office will expire at the close of this annual meeting, and he has agreed to run for re-election. Alex Wait, Elkhart, has been an Elkhart County SWCD supervisor since February 2010. A Concord High School graduate, he farms and works as an excavating contractor. In addition to serving on the SWCD board, he is on the Elkhart County Farm Bureau board, and is a 4-H Leader. Alex has experience with filter strips, grassed waterways, and cover crops.

Nominations can be made from the floor by anyone eligible to vote in the election. Anyone who attends the Annual Meeting, is of legal voting age, and occupies land in Elkhart County is eligible to vote in this SWCD supervisor election. An individual may also vote if they attend; are of legal voting age; and represent a firm, company, or corporation that occupies land located within Elkhart County. Eligible individuals include the owner and tenant of the same land; as well as any owner's or tenant's spouse.

If you are interested in supporting the SWCD with an affiliate membership, you can be recognized at our 80th annual meeting. Individual/family affiliate memberships are available for a donation of \$25 or more. Your membership will be recognized at least twice a year in our monthly newsletter Grass Roots, and during the slide show at the annual meeting. Second tier or business memberships are available for an annual donation of \$125 or more. Second tier membership guarantees at least two business card sized ads in our monthly newsletter Grass Roots and recognition at our 80th Annual Meeting during the slide show.

Make your reservations for the 80th annual meeting of the Elkhart County SWCD by visiting [www.elkcoswcd.org](http://www.elkcoswcd.org), calling (574) 523-2030 or stopping in our office at 59358 CR 7, Elkhart, IN.



# 2021 Annual Financial Report

Form approved by State Board of Accounts, 2002

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT OF Elkhart COUNTY SWCD

January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

File an Annual Financial Report with SBOA by March 1, 2022 (via Gateway) and send this form to your ISDA District Support Specialist by March 31, 2022.



Balance Brought Forward	\$66,565.63
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	
State for District Operations	\$10,000.00
Clean Water Indiana Grant	\$0.00
County for District Operations	\$0.00
Federal and State Funds (not CWI)	\$0.00
Non Government Grants	\$0.00
Other Grants (List)	\$0.00
<b>Total Intergovernmental Receipts</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
Equipment Rental & Farm Income	\$0.00
Donations & Memberships	\$1,930.00
Other Charges for Services (Example, Rule 5 inspections)	\$0.00
Other Charges for Services (Describe)	\$0.00
Other Charges for Services (Describe)	\$0.00
<b>Total Charges for Services</b>	<b>\$1,930.00</b>
Advertising	\$0.00
Annual Meeting Income	\$0.00
Interest from Checking, CDs, Savings, Etc.	\$191.03
Reimbursements & Refunds (From County Government)	\$8,398.36
Sale of Used Equipment	\$0.00
Sales Income	\$5,259.80
Workshop/Field Day Income	\$3,800.00
Other Miscellaneous Revenue (AR Sandbox Rental)	\$1,000.00
Other Miscellaneous Revenue (Registration Fee Refund)	\$970.00
Other Miscellaneous Revenue (Shipping & DNR Tree Handling)	\$47.00
<b>Total Miscellaneous Revenue</b>	<b>\$19,666.19</b>
Sub-Total (before investment activity)	\$31,596.19
Sale of Investments (CDs, saving accounts, transfers)	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL (balance forward + receipts + investments)</b>	<b>\$98,161.82</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>	
Capital Outlays (Equipment)	\$1,665.91
Annual Meeting Expenses	\$500.00
Audit Expense	\$583.00
Bonding and Liability Insurance	\$0.00
Clean Water Indiana Projects or other State grant funded projects	\$0.00
Conservation Education Programs	\$4,708.60
Contractual Services	
Cost-Share Projects/Federally-Funded	\$0.00
Cost-Share Projects/SWCD-Funded	\$0.00
CWI Payments to other SWCDs	\$0.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$2,955.00
Employee Salaries Paid by District	\$0.00
Office Supplies	\$2,883.33
Other Services & Charges	\$1,847.50
Postage & Delivery Expenses	\$0.00
Printing/Copying Expense	\$0.00
Rent	\$0.00
Repair Expenses	\$0.00
Sales Tax Paid to IN Dept. of Revenue	\$209.21
Supervisor Per Diem	\$0.00
Supplies for Resale	\$1,035.00
Telephone or Other Utilities	\$0.00
Travel/Lodging/Mileage/Registration/Meals	\$2,973.69
Workshop/Field Day Expense	\$0.00
Other Disbursements (Ex. Contribution Agreement)	\$0.00
Other Disbursements (AR Sandbox)	\$1,000.00
Other Disbursements (Tree Sale Expenses)	\$1,493.05
Other Disbursements (Credit Card Fee - Square)	\$113.34
<b>Total General Government Disbursements</b>	<b>\$21,967.63</b>
Sub-Total (before investment activity)	\$21,967.63
Purchase of Investments (CDs saving accounts, transfers)	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (disbursements + investments)</b>	<b>\$21,967.63</b>
<b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31</b>	<b>\$76,194.19</b>
<b>CLAIMS PAID BY COUNTY</b>	
Salaries	\$228,483.46
Fringe	\$120,027.80
Other	\$61,882.84
<b>INVESTMENT INVENTORY</b>	
Beginning Investments	\$70,568.48
Ending Investments	\$70,665.03
Change (+/-)	\$96.55
<b>CASH BOXES</b>	
Petty Cash	\$0.00
Cash Change	\$35.00

## River Friendly Farmer of the Year: Woodsbrook Farms Inc.

In these days of water quality concerns, there are those that are utilizing conservation practices on their farms that



are protecting waterways and water quality in Indiana and beyond. In Elkhart County, the Blough family, Woodsbrook Farms Inc. of Middlebury, is among 31 farmers who received the statewide award of "River-Friendly Farmer". This award, hosted by the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (IASWCD), recognizes landowners and farmers in the state of Indiana for the work they do on their land to protect Indiana's natural resources. The Elkhart County SWCD nominated Woodsbrook Farms Inc. for the award based upon their farm management practices. Some of the conservation practices that are used on the Blough farm are conservation crop rotations, nutrient and manure management plans, filter strips, and cover cropping. The livestock conservation practices that are being used are pasture renovation, pollinator strips, rotational grazing, exclusion fencing, watering systems, and heavy use areas.

Since 1999, key conservation and agricultural organizations have sponsored the River Friendly Farmer (RFF) Program. The statewide initiative recognizes farmers, who through good production management practices, helps keep Indiana's rivers,

lakes, and streams clean. The River-Friendly Farmer Award has been presented by the IASWCD and sponsored by the 92 SWCDs and Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc. This year's group of award winners brings the total number of River-Friendly Farmers in Indiana since the awards beginning to 992.

# 2021 Award Recipients

## Conservation Farmer of the Year: Brookins Farms Inc.

Mark Brookins and family farming operation consists of corn, soybeans, and chickens. They have been no-tilling a large portion of their farming operation for nearly 6 years, which has improved water infiltration and reduced surface water runoff. In addition to minimizing tillage, Brookins' have added cover crops on their farm with the goal of building organic matter. They have found that no-till combined with cover crop has helped reduce moisture loss and has improved soil quality. They also follow nutrient & pest management plans to optimize fertilizer & herbicide applications, using the smallest amount possible to get maximum results.

In addition to the conservation practices on the land, they have constructed a manure storage facility, so that the chicken manure can be utilized to its fullest potential. Mark's goal is to make sure he implements "wise use" practices to help his farming operation have an impact on the future. These conservation practices directly help the Turkey Creek Watershed that affects the water quality of the Elkhart River. The reduced soil erosion and improved water quality creates not only healthier soil, but also greater return on investment for Brookins Farms. Mark has also been involved with many of the SWCD's field days and activities throughout the years, helping to encourage others to implement cover crops and conservation practices around the county. The Elkhart County SWCD thanks Mark Brookins of Brookins Farms Inc. for being a good steward of the land.





## Educator of the Year: Jeff Zavatsky

Jeff stepped into the role of director of the Elkhart Environmental Center at the end of 2020 and blew us away with his passion and drive for education. His first year on the job, Jeff took the Indiana Master Naturalist course through the SWCD. Even though he was a student, he was a great leader in the class and was always willing to help. Beyond the class, Jeff helped the SWCD with a few events, one of which was two days long and quite the drive. Jeff is an educator who has a wide range of life experience that help him excel at his job. Since starting his position at the EEC, Jeff has taken on many land management projects that make education a little easier and accessible for people visiting. Jeff is kind, caring, knowledgeable, and always has some funny story to make anyone laugh. Thank you Jeff for being an excellent resource and educator in Elkhart County.



## Urban Conservations of the Year: Greg Jones

The 2021 Urban Conservationist of the Year is Greg Jones from Panzica Building Corporation. Over the past year, Greg has worked on the Beacon Health Clinic of Nappanee project and, most recently, at the Beacon Health Clinic of Dunlap. He has been in the construction industry for over 37 years and has been a project superintendent with Panzica since 2018. Greg is being recognized for this award not because of how perfect things have gone for him, rather his ability to overcome water issues, willingness to problem solve, and ambition to ensure the job is done right. Greg is a born and raised South Bend native and has a wife of 38 years, Lauren, and two daughters Kaila and Kelsey. When I asked Greg his thoughts on clean water he told me this: "Clean water is vital to all living creatures, and in our region we are very blessed to have abundant water resources, including lakes, rivers and aquifers. Good stewardship of these precious resources, especially in the planning and management of new construction, is something I personally and the entire Panzica Building Corporation team take very seriously. Being forward-looking and making the effort to properly protect our sources and watersheds is at the core of sustainability and a responsibility we owe all future generations, to leave things better than we found them." I couldn't agree more! The SWCD congratulates Greg and I personally look forward to working with him many years to come!



## 2021 Friend of the SWCD: John Bowers

John Bowers is our Friend of the SWCD this year. John serves as director of the Elkhart Co. landfill. John spends his days thinking and talking about how to deal with what others have discarded. John is constantly on the lookout for ways to work more productively. With that, John helped the SWCD and created our new habitat. John met with us years ago and said, "You need your own office, let me get you an office." After a while, it made sense that we needed to take on ownership of conservation programs in the county and work with all the other county departments. John helped get that started by renovating what we now call our home. Thank you John for creating a great environment for the SWCD. Thank you John for being such a good steward to the community and the Elkhart County SWCD.



# Education Highlights

As an SWCD, it our duty to educate the public and local landowners on the wise use of natural resources. Despite challenges thrown our way in 2021, we were able to reach 210,928 people through our education efforts. We try to reach people on many levels through workshops, large events, school presentations, social media, our website, and monthly publications.

As we do every year, we hosted an Indiana Master Naturalist course where 22 adult students learned about the many aspects of natural resources in Elkhart County. This year we were able to offer two scholarships thanks to the Elkhart County IMN alumni group and the Indiana State Alumni group.

We enjoyed many hours in the classrooms throughout the county facilitating lessons on natural resources. One of the highlights was the Northridge field trips to Riverbend Park in Middlebury. 8th grade students from Northridge participated in real life water quality testing in the Little Elkhart River. They learned how to test for chemical, physical, and biological attributes that indicate water quality and what each of those means for life in the water. The transportation for the field trip was paid for by the Greater Elkhart Co. Stormwater Partnership.

Another high point in education in 2021 was the JA Jobspark career event where we reached over 4,000 students. We collaborated with the Elkhart County Parks and the Elkhart Environmental Center (EEC) where we demonstrated career pathways in natural resources. The Augmented Reality Sandbox was a big hit with the students as well as the EEC solar and wind display and the many native animals Elkhart County Parks exhibited.

Now that 2021 has ended, we are looking forward to another great year in education at the SWCD. We will continue with our yearly efforts, but we hope to expand on some things such as our Augmented Reality Sandbox and our Rain Garden program and updating our website. Here is to another great year!





# State of Stormwater

Normally, this would be where I would talk about how surprised I was at the amount of projects we reviewed (136 over 1 acre), the inspections that were performed around the county (529 by the SWCD alone), and acres that were gobbled up by new development (well over 1000), but this year is a little different. Although we are hitting new heights with all of these categories, none of this was actually a surprise, rather something I saw coming with the momentum that had started late in 2020. Jim and I often share a laugh when we discuss the proverbial “kicking of the tires” business owners are no longer wasting time with as they sign the check for the new addition or brand new building they have been wanting for so long.

With this major increase in development on the horizon, my relationship with The Greater Elkhart Stormwater Partnership was made a priority and through the year the SWCD has facilitated monthly meetings (or as we lovingly call them, Powwows) to ensure clean water is at the forefront of all we do. These meetings have been critical in formulating a unified approach to the education of contractors and land-users ensuring they have the best interest of our waterways in mind. With the introduction of the new Construction Stormwater General Permit late in 2021, we are now poised to have medium sized, in person events to further educate those contractors and land users on the best management practices we recommend for keeping our waterways clean.

As we look to 2022, I expect development in Elkhart County to continue on it current trajectory. Here at the SWCD, with the assistance of the partnership, we will continue with our mission to assist land-users and other agencies in the wise use of natural resources in Elkhart County by leading, guiding, and directing them in ways that benefit all parties involved, but especially our most coveted natural resources, SOIL and WATER!



# Conservation in Agriculture

## National Resource Conservation Service 2021 Programs

Cropland Conservation Practices	Applied
Conservation Crop Rotation	136.1 ac
Nutrient Management	174.8 ac
Field Border	0.2 ac
Pest Management	137.3 ac
No-Til	137.3 ac
Cover Crop	2167.8 ac
High Tunnel	1470 sqft

Wildlife Conservation Practices	Applied
Upland Wildlife Habitat Mgmt	22.8 ac
Forest Stand Improvement	3.8 ac
Wildlife Habitat Planting	2.3 ac
Refuge Crop	191.2 ac
Conservation Cover	13.6 ac
Brush Management	3.8 ac
Hedgerow Planting	700 ft

Livestock Conservation Practices	Applied
Prescribed Grazing	8.4 ac
Watering Facility	5
Livestock Pipeline	885 ft
Heavy Use Area	3750 sqft
Comprehensive Nutrient Mgmt Plan	1
AG Energy Plan	1
Pasture and Hay Planting	35.2 ac

Cover crops were the most popular conservation practice implemented through NRCS programs in 2021. This is the 8th year it has topped the conservation charts in Elkhart County. Wildlife related practices gained popularity in 2021 as well. The practices listed were implemented with help from the following Farm Bill Conservation Programs: Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

## Storm Water Alliance Management Program (SWAMP)

The Storm Water Alliance Management Program (SWAMP) was established to provide financial assistance to landowners to help implement conservation practices that reduce non-point source water pollution, especially sediment erosion, into waterways in Elkhart County.

SWAMP is a cost-share program assisting with up to 75% of the total cost of the conservation project. It is administered by the Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Elkhart County Surveyor.

The program includes practices such as blind inlets, cover crops, filter Strips, grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, and exclusion fencing. Through this cost share program, we had 60 participants planting 13,560 acres of cover crops, 5 acres of grassed waterways were installed on critical areas, 2 acres of filter strips were constructed on stream banks, and 1 blind inlet installed. All of these best management practices (BMP's) will help reduce the amount of sediment entering local ditches.



# Conservation Partnership Directory

## Board of Supervisors

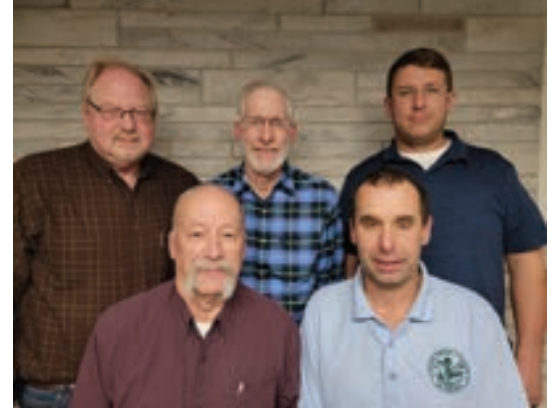
Tom Kercher, Chairman (top, left)

Alex Wait, Vice Chairman (top, right)

Dale Leer (bottom left)

Dean Rink (top middle)

Darrell Shover (bottom right)



## SWCD Staff

Jim Hess, District Manager (top right)

Lora L. Atkins, Secretary (bottom right)

Todd Clark, Conservationist (top left)

Jenna Wait, Conservationist (bottom left)

## NRCS Staff

Wes Krug, District Conservationist

## Associate Supervisors

David Bontrager, Joe Brown, Brian Campbell

Gary Kauffman, Keith E. Miller

## Farm Service Agency (FSA) Staff

Jeff Beerbower, Acting County Executive Director

Jenny Brosius, Program Technician

## Elkhart County Purdue Extension Staff

Robert Kelly, County Extension Director; Nancy Borkholder, Secretary;

Jeff Burbrink, Extension Educator; Brandy Cavanagh, Office Manager;

Lindsey Caterina, NEP Community Wellness Coordinator; Penny Conover, Secretary;

Jennifer Fink, Secretary; Sthele Greybar, Extension Educator;

Julie Miers, NEP Assistant; Susan Stine, Secretary;

# THANK YOU to our Affiliate Members

ADT Farm (Gary & Patti Kauffman)

Aquatic Weed Control (Jim Donahoe)

B & A Reed Farms, LLC (Brent & Ashley Reed)

Bontrager, David

Brookview Farms Partnership (Richard Brookins)

Brown, Joe & Nancy

Burtsfield & Erb Farms, LLC (Rick & Jill Erb)

Brian & Renee Campbell

Casey's Erosion & Seed Solutions (Doug Beasy) \*

D2 Land & Water Resource (Al McAuliffe)

Elkhart County Farm Bureau, Inc (Lynn Loucks)

Garber, James & Peggy

Hibschman, Joe & Donna

Himes, Stephen

Hinds, Mike \*

Keeling Simmental (Roger & Cyndy Keeling)

Kuert Concrete, Inc. (Steve Fidler) \*

Lar-Lee Farms (Rick Yontz)

Leer, Dale & Ruby

Lienhart-Cross, Mary Ann

Lo-Ke Dairy (Keith E. Miller)

Loucks, Lynn & Carol

Marbach, Brady, Weaver, Inc. (Chris F. Marbach) \*

Neff, David & Luann

Neff, Mike & Annette

Perry, Thomas

Roush, Marvin & Judy

Snider, Rich & Sue

Stroup, Martin & Penny

Sunrise Orchards, Inc. (Tom & Maureen Kercher)

Sweet Corn Charlie Produce, LLC (Chuck & Tami Mohler) \*

The Farmer's Exchange (Matt Yeater) \*

Wakarusa Sawmill, Inc. (Steve & Annette Brown) \*

Wenger, Tina

Weybright, Garry & Linda

Woodsbrook Farm (Blough, Michelle)

Zell, Bob & Laura

There is still time to renew your membership for 2022, or to become a new supporter of conservation in Elkhart County. The Elkhart County SWCD is again offering two tiers of Affiliate Membership. The first tier or individual membership is an annual donation of \$25 or more. Your membership will be recognized at least twice a year in our monthly newsletter Grass Roots. The second tier or business membership guarantees at least two business card sized ads in our monthly newsletter Grass Roots and recognition at our Annual Meeting by way of a slide show. Second tier membership has an annual donation of \$125 or more.

If you wish to become an Affiliate Member, you can mail a check or money order to:

Elkhart County SWCD  
59358 County Road 7  
Elkhart, IN 46517.

Be sure to include your name as you would like it to appear in the upcoming editions of Grass Roots, and your full mailing address. For further information contact the SWCD office.