



Grass Roots for Conservation



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www.elkcoswcd.org

Elkhart County Soil & Water Conservation District

17746 County Rd. 34, Ste. B ~ Goshen, IN 46528 ~ Phone: (574) 533-4383 ext. 3 – jhess@elkhartcounty.com



Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry

Tree Seedling Sales

The DNR will be accepting orders from October 1st – May 1st depending on inventory.

This year Elkhart County SWCD will be offering Third Party

Pick-up @ Jasper-Pulaski Nursery for a minimal fee.

Telephone: (219) 843-4827

Evergreen Seedlings, 3 Yr Old, 6" – 14"

Northern White Cedar
Norway Spruce
Red Pine
White Pine

Evergreen Seedlings, 4" – 8"

White Pine

Deciduous Tree Seedling, 1 Yr Old, 6" – 20"

Black Cherry	Silver Maple
Black Gum	Sycamore
Black Oak	Tuliptree
Red Oak	Bald Cypress
River Birch	Kentucky Coffee Tree
Scarlet Oak	

Deciduous Tree Seedlings, 2 Yr Old, 10" – 14"

White Oak	Tuliptree
Shagbark Hickory	

Wildlife Shrub Seedlings, 1 Yr Old, 4" – 10"

Buttonbush	Pawpaw
Hazelnut	Common Chokeberry
Gray Dogwood	

Packets

Bottomland Packet	Fine Hardwoods Packet
Nut Packet	

Select Hardwoods

Red Oak Select	Hybrid Butternut Select
Black Cherry Select	



The **Elkhart County SWCD** will be offering **third party pick up** for the Indiana DNR Tree Sale. You will need to order the trees directly from IDNR, pick up an order form at the Elkhart County SWCD office, or request one via email. When filling out an order you must fill out the "3rd Party Pick up" section with our information as shown in the sample below.

For information on how to order from the IDNR please visit <https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/3620.htm>

3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3rd Party Pick up (Complete one and check the nursery where trees will be picked up.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vallonia
Consultant Forester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jasper-Pulaski
Name _____	County Agency _____
Telephone Number () _____	Name <u>Soil & Water Conservation District</u>
	County <u>Elkhart County</u>
	Telephone Number <u>(574) 523-2030</u>



Elkhart County SWCD

59358 County Road 7, Elkhart, IN 46517 • 574-523-2030 • latkins@elkhartcounty.com

EDUCATING *With* EXCITEMENT

Pssst!
Educators, this
article is for
you. Access to
FREE resources



Recently I borrowed my friend's kids for a video I was making for an upcoming conference. I had everything ready and set up when they arrived to shoot the video. I was teaching a lesson to them, but as we began recording our first video I realized that they were being really squirrely. They were spinning in their seats, rolling on the floor, and moving out of the camera shot. This being something new and exciting for them, I knew that they just needed to burn some energy before we began rolling again. So what did we do? We ran around the yard for a couple of minutes giggling as we went, got a drink of water, and sat back down. The rest of the filming went much smoother. By the end of our time together, the kids had so much fun that they were begging to come hang out with "Aunt Jenna" again tomorrow.

Hanging out with these kiddos I was reminded of a few things. First, I was reminded that things do not always go according to plan, but if we have an open mind to be flexible and adapt to each situation we can still get the ultimate goal accomplished. Reminder number two was that each child is very individual and we cannot put them in a box according to our learning styles, but we can make lessons in a way that it teaches things in multiple ways. Lastly, I was reminded that these small acts of hands-on interaction can have a lasting impact on a child. When the kids showed up at the office, the first thing they asked was to see the worms which was a lesson that we had done earlier in the year. I was so happy to know that they remembered it and were excited to see them again. It is this type of excitement and hands on interaction that I strive to create in our education programs.

Elkhart County SWCD has many free resources available to Elkhart County residents that provide hands-on learning for students of all ages. You can find all of these resources on our website www.elkcoswcd.org under the education tab. There are videos, lesson plans, PowerPoints, and educational kits that you can check out.

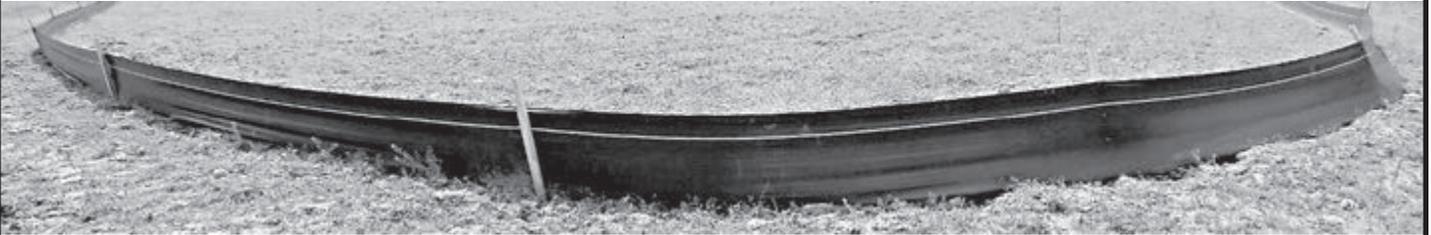
This month I would like to highlight our educational kits which provide resources for educators. When you check out one these kits you will receive a lesson plan, copies of student worksheets, and the supplies needed to carry out the activity in the lesson. There are a variety of topics which include forestry, soil health, soil physics, water cycle, water use, storm water, and many others. These kits are highly adaptable to any setting, whether it be formal classroom, virtual, home school, or any age group. The Elkhart County SWCD is willing to work with you to find a program to fit your needs.

The SWCD staff can also teach the lessons for you either virtually or in person. This picture is an example of one of the educational kits that we offer. Please contact us at jwait@elkhartcounty.com if you would like to checkout one of our kits.

~ Jenna Wait

BLOGGING BMP'S

A monthly Blog discussing the Best Management Practices (BMP's) that must be used to aid in erosion and sediment control.

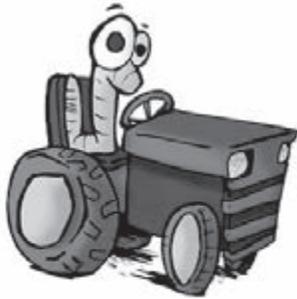


Welcome back to another edition of Blogging BMPs. I know that many of you are just as excited as I am when I bring up everyone's favorite fall pastime, Raking Leaves! I'm pretty sure most of you may argue with me and say something like watching football or trick or treating with your kids is 100 times better than raking leaves, but not this year. This year is the year of staying home, working on those projects that you have put off for years, and "staying safe". BLAH BLAH BLAH! So what does raking leaves have to do with Best Management Practices? Hear me out and you will understand.

A large part of what the SWCD does has to do with Stormwater and how the county and its various villages, towns and cities manage it. We take a great deal of care in monitoring where it goes and what goes in it. One thing that we could do a much better job of is monitoring the stormwater that is in neighborhoods. This time of year, people are doing everything they can to get the leaves out of their yard and into the street for the sweepers to come by and pick them up. It is a great service that is provided to much of our county and solves a problem that face many homeowners. But what people may not realize is that those piles of leaves are often next to or on the drains that are intended to haul stormwater away. The leaves very easily slide through the grates and get into the pipes that transport the water into your neighborhood retention basin or pond. Then, the leaves prevent the pond or basin from draining properly and guess what? Your neighborhood is at risk of flooding. Something many homeowners are unaware of is that fact that some of the money you pay for your HOA dues goes to maintaining the retention in the neighborhood making something as simple as a leaf pile a costly problem.

The good news is that you have control over where you place your unwanted leaves. Make sure when you pile them up, they are not in the street and they are away from any storm drains. If you look at storm drains in your neighborhood and you see them covered in leaves, kick the leaves away and get that thing flowing again. If we take a little time to make sure we are doing what is best for our neighborhood, we can prevent major problems down the road (pun intended). If you would like more information on leaf management in this area, visit your city's website for dates and regulations. As always, I appreciate you taking time to think about our stormwater and how to better manage it. Until next month, I will LEAVE it at that.





Send your questions to Walden the Worm

The "Dear Abby" of conservation farming!

Q: How late in the fall can I plant cereal rye for a cover crop?

A: Walden here,

I like cover crops even if they are planted late in the fall season. As I push my way through your fields, I find 4 to 8 inch roots on cereal rye plants with as little as 3 inches of top growth. If your field has surface crop residue, the early snows often keep the soil warm enough for me to do late season work. I work well at 47° temperatures and rye can also germinate at these temperatures. Yes, germination and growth will be slow, but remember I work for food. No crop residue on surface means no food for us, which means no work from us night crawlers.

Now from my underground library guide, The Midwest Cover Crop Council's Field Guide suggests cereal rye can be planted until the middle of November. Temperatures that are above normal in the late fall and winter, will help cover crop growth if they are planted late. If your late fall seeded field is planted last in the spring, the rye will have more time for growth. Understand the overall benefit of late planted cover is less than early seeded cover. You will have a spring benefit from roots in the soil, lower soil loss from wind and water, soil cover, and lower spring time crop nutrient loss. If you are in a no-till crop system, consider planting into the green and growing rye. Terminate the rye prior to it being competitive with emerging crops. This will give rye time for more growth which will allow for more bio mass to return to the soil and the soil will be covered for longer. Having ground cover in the spring will increase soil moisture content which helps crops grow rapidly in the early weeks.

Until next month,

— *Walden*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 26-27 Thanksgiving Holiday:** The SWCD Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 21 SWCD Board Meeting:** 5:30 PM, New SWCD Office, 59358 County Road 7, Elkhart
- December 24-25 Christmas Holiday:** The SWCD Offices will be closed for the Christmas Holiday
- January 1, 2021 New Year's Holiday:** The SWCD Office will be closed for the New Year's Holiday.

UPCOMING FSA/NRCS DEADLINES & CLOSURES

- November 26** Office Closed for Thanksgiving
- December 11th** Coronavirus Assistance Program 2 (CFAP2) Deadline
- December 11th** 2021 Dairy Margin Coverage Signup Deadline
- December 15th** Fall Seeded Crops (wheat, rye, etc.) Reporting Deadline
- December 25th** Office Closed for Christmas
- March 15th, 2021** 2021 ARC/PLC Signup Deadline

SWCD - NRCS CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP DIRECTORY

17746 County Road 34, Ste. B, Goshen, IN 46528-9261

Ph. (574) 533-4383, ext. 3

www.elkcoswcd.org

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NRCS Staff:

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