



# CONSERVATION AT THE CROSSROADS

Vol. 34, No. 3 Autumn, 2013

## SWCD Announces Annual Fall Tree & Shrub Sale *Order by Oct. 3rd - Pick up on Oct. 12th*

**F**all is the best time to plant trees and shrubs as it allows the plants to get established and begin growing during the most ideal times for growth – the fall and spring months. The Marion County SWCD is providing high quality trees and shrubs as a fund raiser for conservation work in our county.

These trees and shrubs are container stock with exceptional root systems to give them a great start. They are easy to plant and most are native to Indiana. Native plants have the advantage of being well suited to our soil types and climate. They are also the most beneficial plants for wildlife and they are not invasive.

Newly planted trees need extra TLC – be sure to provide an inch of water for them every week if we don't have adequate precipitation. Check our website for more tips on caring for new trees the first year.

Contact the SWCD or our website for a description of the trees available. The descriptions include whether the tree is best suited to full sun or partial shade, the type of soil it grows best in and the size the plant will be at maturity.

Orders can be picked up on Saturday, October 12th between noon and 2:00 p.m. at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

**[www.marionswcd.org](http://www.marionswcd.org) - Click on  
Trees tab at the top of the screen**



See pages 4-6 for an order form. Be sure to get your orders to us by October 3rd.

### SWCD

#### Board of Supervisors

Brian Neilson, Chairman  
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Mark Mongin  
Henry Wallis

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Pete Baldwin

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## Tree Help Available at SWCD Website

As many residents will be taking advantage of the best planting time to plant new trees and shrubs, the Marion County SWCD provides helpful information on their website – [www.marionswcd.org](http://www.marionswcd.org).

At the top of our homepage you will see the “Trees” tab. Under it you will find information on:

- The benefits of trees
- How to select the right species for your location
- How to plant a tree and give it a good start
- A listing of our favorite helpful links to tree related websites.

You will also find information on our tree & shrub sales and a description of the trees and shrubs we’re offering this fall.

Visit our website often as we’re continuing to improve and add helpful information to benefit the landowners of our county.



## Congratulations Project Showcase Winners!

Congratulations to Leslie White and the Fall Creek Watershed Program! This Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) project has been selected as one of the 2013 District Showcase Award winners. Projects were chosen because of their excellent initiatives in conservation practices to showcase to SWCDs across Indiana. Projects will be shown to leaders of the Indiana Conservation Partnership later this summer/early fall.

2013 District Showcase Award winners will receive one complimentary registration apiece to the 2014 Annual Conference for Indiana SWCDs and will be provided a table at the 2014 Conference to set up a display and materials to showcase the projects.



*Volunteers install a rain garden at Fort Benjamin Harrison with help from the Fall Creek Watershed Project.*

**The Mission of the Marion County SWCD is to assist Marion County land users in conserving soil, water and related natural resources by providing technical, financial and educational services.**

Conservation at the Crossroads is published quarterly to give information to landusers by the Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District, Discovery Hall, 1202 E. 38th St, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46205  
Phone: 317-786-1776 FAX: 317-786-1757 website: marionswcd.org  
The Marion County SWCD holds a regular monthly board meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. These meetings are open to the public & are held at the SWCD office at the address above. This board meets to administer the program of soil & water conservation in Marion County. The district prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

# Tackling Green Invaders

## First Phase of Conservation Projects

**T**ackling green invaders - Millersville at Fall Creek Valley Inc., the Town of Fortville and Fortville Action Inc. are progressing with projects to remove invasive plants and reestablish native vegetation along a retention pond and Stottlemeyer Ditch, respectively. This fall, the Indianapolis Sailing Club will launch a similar project along its portion of Geist Reservoir's shoreline. The Upper White River Watershed Alliance awarded cost-share grants to these organizations, and the Fall Creek Watershed Partnership (FCWP) Backyard Conservation Program, West Central Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area (WCICWMA), and Indy Parks and Greenways are providing technical assistance to train community volunteers on plant identification, removal, and naturalization of these waterscapes with native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees. Native flora help reduce erosion and sedimentation with their deep root structures and filter out pollutants from storm water runoff, thereby enhancing water quality as well as providing valuable wildlife habitat.

Millersville's retention pond at 56<sup>th</sup> Street and Fall Creek was infested with Asian bush honeysuckle and Canada thistle, among other unwanted plants and debris. Along with the conservation work, plans include making this riparian area a user-friendly pocket park with picnic tables and benches. Fortville's Stottlemeyer waterscape is a central feature in town flowing by residences and between Landmark and Memorial Parks. Its banks show the signs of increasingly aggressive invasives such as Asian bush honeysuckle and Reed canarygrass. These invasives, among others, are exotic species that are ecological pioneers and colonizers. Once introduced these undesirables can quickly establish themselves and crowd out native vegetation. Additionally, they can negatively impact indigenous wildlife



because their fruit and seeds provide little to no food value.

With ever increasing numbers of invasives on land and in the water (a topic to dive into later), removal and maintenance projects like these are an essential first step to re-establishing native Indiana plants and healthy ecosystems.

Contact Bob Eddleman or Harold Thompson (WCICWMA), [bobeddleman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bobeddleman@sbcglobal.net) or [harold.thompson58@sbcglobal.net](mailto:harold.thompson58@sbcglobal.net), and/or Leslie White (FCWP), [leslie-white@iaswcd.org](mailto:leslie-white@iaswcd.org), to learn of resources (workshops, presentations, and field days) available to help you and your community.

The Nature Conservancy, the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society, and other environmental organizations and land trusts focus considerable time, funds, and effort controlling undesirable non-native and invasive species in natural areas. Visit <http://www.in.gov/dnr/naturepreserve/6346.htm> for a listing of invasive exotic plants in Indiana. Kudos to Fortville, Millersville, the Indianapolis Sailing Club and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts' partners for curbing the outgrowth!

**Save Trees!**  
A pdf version of this newsletter can be sent to your email mailbox. Contact Marilyn at [marilyn-hughe@iaswcd.org](mailto:marilyn-hughe@iaswcd.org) to be put on our email mailing list.

# Marion SWCD Fall Tree & Shrub Order Form

\*\*\* Trees & shrubs are in limited supply this fall so please order early!

Tree Species	Sizes Available	Price Each	Quantity Ordered	Total Amount
River Birch - single stem	3 gallon	\$25		
Tulip Poplar	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
Redbud	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
Shumard Oak	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
Swamp White Oak	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
Bur Oak	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
Red Oak	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
White Oak	1 gallon	\$18		
Red Sunset Maple	3 gallon	\$25		
Red Maple	3 gallon	\$25		
Black Cherry	3 gallon	\$25		
Allegheny Serviceberry	1 gallon	\$18		
Sweetgum	1 gallon	\$18		
Sycamore	3 gallon	\$25		
Bald Cypress	3 gallon	\$25		
	5 gallon	\$32		

A brochure with descriptions of each species is available at the SWCD Website: [www.marionswcd.org](http://www.marionswcd.org), call 317-786-1776 or email [marilyn-hughes@iaswcd.org](mailto:marilyn-hughes@iaswcd.org)

Shrub Species	Sizes Available	Price Each	Quantity Ordered	Total Amount
Coralberry	1 gallon	\$18		
Arrowwood Viburnum	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
Indigo Bush	3 gallon	\$25		
Pasture Rose	3 gallon	\$25		
Black Chokeberry	3 gallon	\$25		
Buttonbush	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
Common Ninebark	1 gallon	\$18		
Silky Dogwood	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
Red Osier Dogwood	1 gallon	\$18		
	3 gallon	\$25		
Elderberry	3 gallon	\$25		
Nannyberry Viburnum	3 gallon	\$25		
Blackhaw Viburnum	3 gallon	\$25		
American Cranberry Bush	1 gallon	\$18		
<b>Total Quantity Ordered</b>			<b>#</b>	
<b>Total Amount Due</b>				<b>\$</b> <b>(Transfer totals to next page)</b>



**Trees & Shrubs are in limited supply. Updated supply information can be found under the "Trees" tab of our website:**

**[www.marionswcd.org](http://www.marionswcd.org)**

*Pick up at the Indiana State Fairgrounds - a reminder and directions will be on our website and will be mailed to you. Call the office (786-1776) with any questions before the Saturday pick-up date as the office will be closed on October 12th.*

**Rain Barrels are also still available - see our website for details!**



**Orders Due  
by Oct. 3rd**

**Pick Up Date -  
October 12th,  
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.**

<b>Tree &amp; Shrub Totals</b> <i>(sales tax is included)</i>	<b>Qty. -</b> _____	<b>\$</b> _____
	<b>Minus Discount *</b>	<b>-</b> _____
* \$20 discount on orders of 10+ trees/shrubs \$200 discount on orders of 100+ trees/shrubs		
	<b>Total - discount</b>	<b>\$</b> _____

Note: Some 5 gallon trees may be up to 6' tall - bring a vehicle large enough to accommodate

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Order form and payment to: **Marion County SWCD, Discovery Hall - Suite 200,  
1202 E. 38th Street Indianapolis, IN 46205**

**If trees are not picked up on October 12th or other arrangements have not been made for your trees before this date the trees will be donated -- NO REFUNDS**

## Right Tree - Right Location

- ◆ Plant only dwarf trees and shrubs under utility lines.
- ◆ Think long term - plan for the mature height and width of the tree when planting
- ◆ Leave plenty of space between trees for future growth and sunlight needs
- ◆ Don't plant trees close to building foundations
- ◆ Don't plant trees over septic fields or old sanitary sewer lines
- ◆ Plant trees to shade your home and outdoor living spaces during the hot summer months. You will be more comfortable and will save electricity
- ◆ Plant evergreen trees along the north and west sides to help block cold winter winds
- ◆ Plant berry producers and evergreens in view of windows to enjoy birdwatching throughout the year.

### Farm Services Agency News

Marion/Johnson Counties

3059 N. Morton  
Franklin, IN 46131  
317-736-6822



Return Signatures for DCP for 2013  
due by 9/16

## Where to Plant

**W**here do I plant this thing? Just like real estate, the most important thing about planting a tree is location, location, location! Fall is the best time to plant trees and shrubs – but plan for the long term before digging that first hole. First off, be sure to have all underground utilities marked before you dig. Call 811 at least 2 days ahead to have utilities marked for you. Then choose your trees based on what you are looking for – shade, windbreak, wildlife food or shelter, aesthetics – and based on what the tree needs.

Trees do best in environments that meet their requirements for soil type, sunlight and space. Some species are well suited to urban settings and others are not. Be sure to plan with the mature tree height and width in mind. See the column on the left for specific limitations to keep in mind.

For more information contact the Marion County SWCD at 317-786-1776 or visit their website: [www.marionswcd.org](http://www.marionswcd.org)



### 2013 SWCD Affiliate Members

#### Silver Member

Marion County Farm Bureau

#### Nickel Members

Professor Frederick Bein  
George Haerle in honor of Eli Bloom

#### Copper Members

Bob Eddleman  
Ruth & Paul Hayes in honor of Eli Bloom

Thank you Affiliate Members for your support of conservation through the Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District!

## Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District



Discovery Hall, Suite 200  
1202 East 38th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205  
(317)786-1776  
marionswcd.org

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# Ron Lauster Memorial Rain Garden Dedicated at Indiana State Fair

During the Indiana State Fair last month family, colleagues and friends of Ron Lauster gathered in front of the greenhouse on the north side of the fairgrounds to participate in a dedication ceremony for the Ron Lauster Memorial Rain Garden. Ron served as the Director of the Marion County SWCD from 2005 until his death in April of 2011. He was an extremely active and knowledgeable conservationist whose career took him to serve in many locations across the United States.

Ron worked with many groups in Indianapolis to promote a wide variety of conservation practices. He worked to help design a number of rain gardens, including this one at the state fairgrounds. This rain garden provides an opportunity to show a multitude of people how small measures such as a rain garden constructed in your yard can help improve



water quality and take a step towards helping reduce flooding problems as it helps keep rain water from running off into the storm drains.

Ron was a great leader and the SWCD was pleased that the State Fair decided to honor his memory in this way. Our thanks to his family who traveled long distances to join us.

### SWCD

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Marilyn Hughes,  
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Conservationist  
Julie Haxton Farr,  
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#### Clean Water Indiana

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Conservation Coordinator

#### NRCS Staff

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