

## Calendar of Events

- June 12th Last day to order Rain Barrels
- June 15th Employee Training (office will be closed)
- June 16th Piatt County SWCD Board Meeting
- June 24th Farming Series on ACRE at Community Building, Mansfield
- June 25th & 26th Rain Barrel pick up
- June 25th Farming Series on ACRE at Community Building, La Place
- June 26th Farming Series on ACRE at FS Building, Monticello
- July 3rd office closed for Independence Day
- July 16th Conservation Tillage Day
- July 21st Farming Series on Trucking Rules of the Road
- July 21st Piatt County SWCD Board Meeting
- July 23rd & 24th 61st Annual SWCD Conference (office will be closed)
- August 14th-23rd Illinois State Fair
- August 18th Piatt County SWCD Board Meeting

The Piatt County Soil and Water Conservation District does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, age, marital status, veteran's status or disability. This policy covers all programs, services and procedures of the District, including employees.

Piatt County Soil and Water Conservation District  
1201 A Bear Lane  
Monticello, IL 61856

Non Profit  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Monticello, IL 61856  
Permit # 14



**PIATT COUNTY**  
Soil & Water Conservation District

**Est. May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1942**

THE BOARD MEETS THE THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE SWCD OFFICE  
MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

### SWCD Board Members

Bruce Stoddard, Chairman  
John Beckhart, Vice-Chairman  
Derrick Bruhn, Secretary-Treasurer  
Allen Williams, Director  
Bill Meyer, Director  
Kurt Robson, Associate Director  
Loyd Wax, Associate Director  
Dylan Gallagher, Associate Director  
Doug Gucker, Associate Director



### SWCD Staff:

Jonathon Manuel, R.C.  
Phyllis Muse, A.C.  
Terre Zeigler CREP

### NRCS Staff:

Michelle Lewis, D.C.

**We are now on the World wide Web!**  
**www.PiattCountySWCD.com**



Once again the Piatt County Soil and Water Conservation District with the help of the Monticello True Value made sure that every Third grader in Piatt County received a White pine tree this year.



Pictured is one of the third grade classes from White Heath with their trees. The large white pine was used to show the children that they can grow them in pots.

Inside: Fish and Rain Barrel order forms!!!!



# Partners for Conservation Program

The program provides cost-share assistance and other financial incentives for the construction or adoption of projects that conserve soil and protect water quality, that reduce soil erosion and improve water quality, Nutrient Management Planning to encourage farm operators to utilize soil testing to increase efficiency of fertilizer use and reduce nutrient transport to water bodies, and special projects to address unique resources concerns to provide for piloting new practices not on the state-wide docket or target specific practices or initiatives that are local priorities



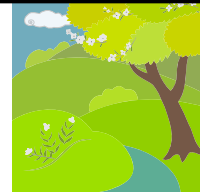
## Well Sealing Program

The Piatt County Soil & Water Conservation District is able to help cost share 60% up to \$400 on sealing wells. If you or someone you know needs help in sealing an old well please contact the Piatt County SWCD.



## Special Projects Program

A special projects program is designed much like a small grant. The goal of the program is to protect soil & water. The only limits to this program is that you must be able to show a benefit to soil & water. If you have an idea for a project call 1-217/762-2146 ext.3.



## Streambank Stabilization and Restoration Program

The primary goals of the SSRP are to develop vegetative, stone structure and other low-cost bio-engineering techniques for stabilizing streambanks and to encourage the adoption of low-cost streambank stabilization projects by making available financial incentives, technical assistance and educational information to land users with critically eroding streambanks.

[www.PiattCountySWCD.com](http://www.PiattCountySWCD.com)



# Rain Barrels

## Save The Rain For A Sunny Day!!

A rain barrel connected to your downspout is a great way to cut down on your water bill!

- \* Benefits of Diverting Water from the Downspout:
- \* Naturally softened water – great for delicate houseplants, window and auto cleaning
- \* Saves money by lowering your water bill
- \* Chlorine-free water helps maintain a healthy biotic community in the soil
- \* Lowers the percentage of roof top rainfall as a component of urban runoff
- \* Backup source of water during times of drought or between rain showers

The Rain Barrels have a bottom drain plug, screw on top with one inch holes, screen mesh to keep out debris and mosquitoes.



Rain Barrels Color	Size	Pricing	Quantity	Total
Blue	60 Gal	\$89.00		
Grey	60 Gal	\$89.00		

**Last day to order is June 12<sup>th</sup> 2009**

Pick up is on June 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> 2009

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Complete form and mail along with your check to: Piatt County SWCD  
 1201 A Bear Lane  
 Monticello, IL 61856

(Make check payable to: Piatt County SWCD)

Plastic rain barrels are made from re-cycled food grade barrels.

UV Polished!

## 2009 Stewardship Day

The 2009 Stewardship Day was held on April 24th at White Heath Elementary School. The idea of a Stewardship Day is to help reinforce to the third graders what they have been learning all year long about soils, plants, and water. This year they had wonderful speakers from Arborsmith, NRCS, Earth Partners, and Champaign County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Bruce Stickers the Resource Conservationist with Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District brought his Rain Simulator to show the kids what the difference is in run off from no-till fields and in urban settings. Another presenter was Greg Smith from Arborsmith, he showed the students how to use ropes to climb trees and other ways that Arborsmiths help to fight diseases. At the end of the day each student received a potted white pine tree to take home and plant.

Special thanks goes out to Piatt County Soil and Water Conservation District, Piatt County Farm Bureau, Earth Partners, NRCS, Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District, Arborsmith.



Bruce Stickers, speaking on the effects of rain. The glass jars in front show how much soil has washed off of the trays representing different field conditions



Greg Smith, demonstrated different ways that Arborsmith help keep trees healthy

## Items for Rent



### SCRAPER

Need to clean up your waterway or level out the spoils from the drainage ditch! Come on in to the office and rent the Buffalo Scraper. The Scraper rents for only \$125 for two working days or \$75 for one working day.



The Nut Collector is excellent for gathering nuts for future plantings or to just help clean up in your yard. The Fingers will collect Walnuts, Pecans, Acorns, Chestnuts, Hickory nuts and many others. The nuts will stay in the fingers until the nuts are pulled out by the basket. Then you can simply unload the baskets by pulling the rope handle. The Nut Collector takes very little effort to operate. Cost of renting: 1 Day \$5.00 3 Days \$10.00

## 2009 Envirothon

The 2009 Land Use Council 6 Envirothon was held on April 1st at East Bay Camp outside Hudson Illinois. The Envirothon is a natural resource education program sponsored by local Soil and Water Conservation Districts for High School students. The Envirothon emphasizes hands-on, team oriented problem-solving skills. The team is tested on their knowledge in the areas of Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, and Wildlife.

Five member teams, representing a High School are formed. Long before the competition starts teams begin by studying resource material to learn the fundamentals of each category. At the competition students visit in-the-field test stations where presentations are given by resource professionals. They are challenged to work as teams to answer written questions and conduct hands-on problem solving situations focusing on each of the four environmental areas. The program is competitive but learning is the bottom line!

At this years Land Use Council 6 Envirothon Piatt County had two High Schools which attended. In a very close competition, Cerro Gordo High School came in second and Monticello High School Team One came in First! They competed against five other High Schools from Mclean and Logan Counties. Congratulations to Cerro Gordo and Monticello High School on your Second and First place finishes.



### Monticello High School



Front row L-R: Griffin Strode, Austin Allen, Jubal Underwood, Mike Oliger, Alec Huisinga.  
Back Row L-R: Alex Dozier, Travis May, Bryce Hoffman (Sponsor), Peter Thilmony, Tucker Muse.

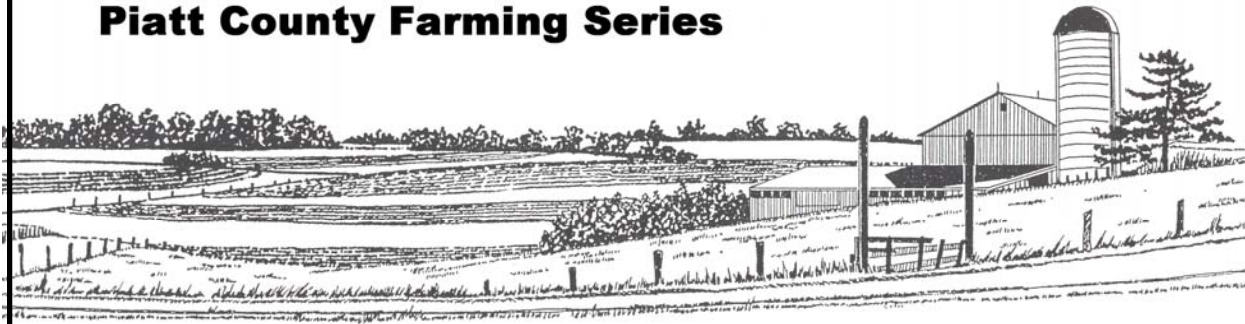
### Cerro Gordo

Front Row L-R: Elise Krause, Mike Duff, Britt Semenow.  
Back Row L-R: Cindy Marmor (Sponsor), Dexter Bunch, Austin Brandenburg, Tyler Phelps.



**Congratulations!**  
**Monticello High School**  
**finished 5th**  
**out of 16 teams**  
**at the**  
**State Envirothon!**

## Piatt County Farming Series



The Piatt County Farming Series in June will focus on Average Crop Revenue Election Program or other wise known as ACRE.

ACRE offers a revenue-based program for farmers hit by low farm returns. ACRE differs from Direct Circular Payments (DCP) by being based on a farms income, unlike DCP that is based on a crops average price.

Tim Berry the County Executive Director (CED) from the Monticello Farm Service Agency (FSA) office will be presenting the most current information on ACRE at two work shops this June.

**Wednesday, June 24th**  
**8:00 am**  
**Mansfield Community Building**



**Thursday, June 25th**  
**8:00 am**  
**La Place Community Building**

On Friday June 26th, Doug Yoder from Illinois Farm Bureau will be presenting information on ACRE. Mr. Yoder is the Senior Director of Marketing and Affiliate Management for Illinois Farm Bureau.

**Friday, June 26th**  
**8:00 am**  
**FS Building Meeting Room**

The Piatt County Farming Series is Sponsored by:  
**Piatt County Soil and Water Conservation District**  
**Piatt County Farm Bureau**



Please  
**RSVP to**  
**762-2128**

# Conservation Tillage Day

Piatt County Soil & Water Conservation District



# July 16th

# Come See the Difference in Conservation Tillage



Piatt County Soil & Water Conservation District

1201 A Bear Lane  
Monticello, Illinois 61856

Phone: 217-762-2146  
Fax: 217-762-8022  
web site: [www.PiattCountySWCD.com](http://www.PiattCountySWCD.com)

When: July 16th

Time: 8:00 AM

Location:  
Half mile North of I-72 exit 156  
West on 2500N for Mile and half

*Working together to conserve*



# Composters

## Ruggedly Built and Durable Composter

- \* 60 gallon food grade barrel
- \* Frame work 2 inch by 1/4 inch rolled steel
- \* Designed to be moved
- \* Barrels have UV treatment built in
- \* 2 more coats of UV treatment have been applied
- \* Screw on wide mouth lid
- \* Holes in top and bottom to allow water movement



Single Barrel



Double Barrel

Composter	Pricing	Quantity	Total
Single Barrel	\$230.00		
Double Barrel	\$360.00		

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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Complete form and mail along with your check to: Piatt County SWCD  
 1201 A Bear Lane  
 Monticello, IL 61856

(Make check payable to: Piatt County SWCD)



# Rain Barrel Diverter

You no longer have to worry about an overflowing rain barrel!

The Rain Reserve® diverter is a system that attaches to your downspout and will direct the rain water into your rain barrel. After the rain barrel is full, the diverter will **automatically re-direct the rain water back into the downspout**. Our diverter kit with Rain Reserve® has been designed to fit all of our rain barrels, but will also work with most any open top or closed top rain barrel, as long as the rain barrel has a male hose connection on or near the top of the barrel. The diverter can be installed above the rain barrel, if it is a closed top system, but must be installed even with the top of the rain barrel, if it is a model with holes in the top.



Rain Barrel	Pricing	Quantity	Total
Diverter	\$30.00		

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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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