



# Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District

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## Spring Edition Newsletter April 2018

### Tripton Park

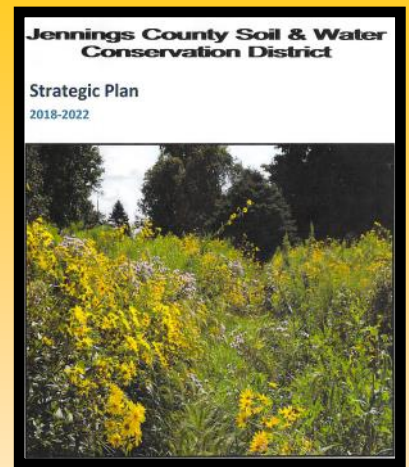
Last year the pond was installed. Currently, the Tripton Park Planning Committee is working with an engineering group called Hitchcock Design Group working designing the Phase 1 amenities. Those include walking/biking trails, an amphitheater, shelter houses, external bathrooms, children's playground, grassed mall area with electrical outlets and an exercise equipment area.

Just recently, some members of the pollinator committee and the North Vernon Fire Department burned most of the pollinator habitat area which will encourage more flowers this year. Which means more bees, butterflies, and a wide variety of birds to enjoy as people walk through the area.





The SWCD is getting close to finishing up their **2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan**. The next step is to gather information and data about the Natural Resource Objectives and determine a priority and timeline. Some of the objectives included: completion of the successful pollinator project, invasive species within our woodlands, and increasing soil health systems. It's a process, not just a document.



### Soil Sampling for yards popular

This year we have had 12 people submitting soil samples for their yards getting ready for spring. Last year, we had several that tested their soil for gardens and wildlife food plots. A soil test is usually good for 3 to 4 years. The SWCD will send them off to a lab in Northern Indiana for the analysis. The cost per soil sample is \$12.

The **67<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** was enjoyable and informative.

102 people attended the Dinner Meeting filled with lots of humor and information. Awards were given out to Kameron Gartlich, as the 2017 Conservationist of Year and Cecilia Ellis, as the 2017 Friend of Conservation.

A quick 2017 District review was given along with all the projects completed within the SHARE SOME SPACE pollinator project which continues to build in Jennings County and other surrounding counties.

The evening introduced three speakers, Lieutenant Colonel Mabis gave an update about MUTC, Chad Springer, gave updates about Crosley Fish and Wildlife Area and Bob Ertel, about the new Tripton Park.

Jerry St. John was re-elected for a three year term. Along with Jerry, the other board members are Chairman Brad Ponsler, Vice-chairman Dan Megel, Tom Schneider, Matt Branham, and associated members, Bob Steiner, Rob McGriff and Don Biehle.



## FSA News – from the desk of Lacie Deputy

You may not believe it by the snow that showed its face on Monday, but planting season is upon us. Keep in mind, producers affected by prevented planting or failed acreage need to notify the county FSA office as soon as possible.

Jennings County has updated the 2018 ARC/PLC contracts. Have you been in yet to sign? Yearly signatures are required to be considered enrolled and eligible for payments that may be issued due to potential low county yields or National Market Prices. Deadline to sign is August 1, 2018.

Producers that have acreage in CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) that are scheduled to perform Mid Contract Management are reminded that we are currently in nesting season. It is not permissible to conduct any treatment to CRP acreage during this time. If you have issues with noxious weeds or other invasive species you must first request authorization from the FSA County Committee to spot treat during nesting season.

Stay informed of upcoming deadlines or events by signing up to receive texts from the Jennings County FSA Office. So simple and helps keep you up to date.

Just text **INJennings** to FSA-NOW (372-669).

## NRCS – from the desk of Jenny Vogel

Let's Knock Out Invasives Ladies!

Women who are interested in identifying and controlling invasive species on their land will want to attend the next Ladies Night! The event will be held Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Jennings County Community Foundation building (behind Walgreens). The evening will start at 6 pm with a pitch in meal and networking. The meat and drinks will be provided. Our discussion will include what they are and why we should be concerned about invasive species, identification and control timing and methods for invasive species. We will conclude the meeting by 8 pm. RSVP's for the event can be made by calling the office at 812-346-3411 ext. 3 or emailing Jenny Vogel at [jenny.vogel@in.usda.gov](mailto:jenny.vogel@in.usda.gov) Mark your calendars now and bring a friend!

## Thanks to our Newsletter Sponsor



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Would you like to have your business card featured here? Contact the SWCD office for more info.

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**Jennings County SWCD**  
**2600 N. State Hwy 7**  
**North Vernon, IN 47265**

**YOUR JENNINGS COUNTY  
CONSERVATION TEAM**

**SWCD Staff**

*Andy Ertel, Executive Director*  
*Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant*

**SWCD Supervisors**

*Brad Ponsler, Chairman*  
*Dan Megel, Vice-Chairman*  
*Jerry St. John*  
*Matt Branham*  
*Tom Schneider*

**Associate Supervisor**

*Don Biehle*  
*Rob McGriff*  
*Bob Steiner*  
**NRCS STAFF**  
*Jenny Vogel, District Conservationist*

**Calendar of Events**

**May 3, 2018 Plant Sale Pickup 4-7pm @  
Muscatatuck Co Par**  
**May 22, 2018 Board Meeting 6:30 pm @  
USDA Service Center**  
**June 26, 2018 Board Meeting 6:30 pm @  
USDA Service Center**  
**July 24, 2018 Board Meeting 6:30pm @  
USDA Service Center**

**The SWCD Office will be CLOSED for  
the following dates: May 8 & 28, July 4**  
Check out our website for added events  
[www.jenningswcd.org](http://www.jenningswcd.org)

*Jennings County Soil and Water  
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