

66th
**AISWCD Annual Meeting
&
Illinois Land and Water
Resources Conference**



2014	JULY 28 – 29, 2014
Agenda/Program	Northfield Inn
	Springfield, IL

A DAY AT A GLANCE: Monday, July 28, 2014

Conference Registration

6:30 am to 6:00 pm in the Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby

Live Auction Check In & Viewing

7:00 am to 9:00 am & 11:30 am to 1:30 pm in the Jade Room

Auxiliary Silent Auction

7:30 am to 2:00 pm in the Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby

Opening Ceremonies

8:00 am to 10:15 am in the Onyx, Opal & Ruby Rooms

Auxiliary Meeting/Program - Master Gardner

10:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Continental Breakfast Room: Northfield

Photos

10:15 am to 10:30 am in the Onyx Room

Director Training: Part 1

10:30 am to 12:00 pm in the Crystal Room

Excel Training

10:30 am to 12:00 pm in the Topaz Room

Indiana Conservation Cropping System Initiative

10:30 am to 12:00 pm in the Diamond & Emerald Rooms

Recognition Luncheon

12:15 pm to 1:45 pm in the Onyx, Opal & Ruby Rooms

Photos

1:45 pm to 2:00 pm in the Onyx Room

Children Activities: Seed Planting

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Peridot Room

Advanced QuickBooks Training

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Lake View Room: Ramada

Share Fair

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Topaz Room

No Till Cover Crops and Nutrient Management

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Diamond Room

Director Training: Part 2

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Crystal Room

District & LUC Roles and Responsibilities

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Emerald Room

Auxiliary Programs—Jewelry and Scarves Display

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Continental Breakfast Room: Northfield

Director Forum

4:15 pm to 5:15 pm in the Onyx Room

Employee Forum

4:15 pm to 5:15 pm in the Diamond Room

Farm Family Reception

5:45 pm to 6:30 pm in the Continental Breakfast Room: Northfield

Farm Family Banquet

Seating available at 6:15 pm.

6:30 pm to 9:00 pm in the Crystal, Diamond & Emerald Rooms

Auction Item Viewing

8:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Jade Room

Live Auction

9:00 pm to ??? In the Jade & Emerald Rooms

A DAY AT A GLANCE: Tuesday, July 29, 2014

Conference Registration

7:00 am to 11:00 am in Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby

Auxiliary Silent Auction (Continued From Monday)

9:15 am to 11:00 am in Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby
Items must be picked up by 11:00 am 7/29/14.

AIWCD Board Meeting

9:00 am to 11:30 am in the Crystal, Diamond & Emerald Rooms

Foundation Meeting

11:30 am to 12:00 pm in the Crystal, Diamond & Emerald Rooms

Soil Stewardship Luncheon

12:00 pm to 1:15 pm in the Ruby, Opal & Onyx Rooms

Education Training

1:30 pm to 2:30 pm in the Jade Room

WASCOBS Training

2:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Jade Room

NRCS Pilot Program

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Diamond Room

**NRCS Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative
& IDOA Farmland Protection Programs**

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Crystal Room

Lincoln Museum Tour

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm meet in the Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby
\$12 Fee (Need 15 Participants)

SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2014

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Continental Breakfast Room: Northfield Hotel

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2014

Welcome to the 66th Annual Meeting & Illinois Land
and Water Resources Conference!

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

6:30 am– 6:00 pm in the Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby

AISWCD Auction Item Check-In & Viewing

7:00 am to 9:00 am & 11:30 am to 1:30 pm in the Jade Room

Viewing will also be open during lunch in JADE Room. Starting at 8:00 P.M.
items can be viewed before the Auction in the JADE Room and Cash Bar will
also be open at this time.

AISWCD Auxiliary Silent Auction

7:30 am—2:00 pm in the Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby

Opening Ceremonies

8:00 am—10:15 am in the Opal/Onyx/Ruby Rooms

Presiding: AISWCD Secretary Van Bitner

Color Guard

Pledge of Allegiance

Legislator of the Year Award

Award Winner: US Congressman Rodney Davis

Sponsored by: AISWCD

Presented by: Lonnie Wilson, AISWCD President

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2014 CONTINUED

Opening Ceremonies (Continued)

Opening Remarks:

- AISWCD President Lonnie Wilson
- AISWCD Vice President Tom Beyers
- AISWCD Auxiliary President Marie Bunting
- AISWCD Forestry Committee Chair David McCormick
- Illinois Soil & Water Conservation District Employees Association
Co-Chairs Sondra Baker & Kara Downin
- Illinois Department of Agriculture Director Bob Flider
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Natural Resources Conservation Service State Conservationist
- National Association of Conservation Districts North Central Region
- Illinois Forestry Association
- Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association, Inc
- Farm Service Agency
- Illinois Farm Bureau

Recognition of Director Service Awards—Stand Only

Recognition of Past AISWCD Presidents—Stand Only

Recognition of Newly Elected Directors—Stand Only

Auxiliary Meeting/Program - Master Gardner

10:00 am—12:00 pm in the Continental Breakfast Room: Northfield

Presentation will include gardening, herb planting, and craft.

Presenter: Jennifer Fishburn

Photos

10:15 am—10:30 am in the Onyx Room

Director Training: Part 1

10:30 am—12:00 pm in the Crystal Room

An overview of SWCD duties & responsibilities for new Directors.

Presenters: Jerry Snodgrass, Lee Bunting, & Terry Bogner

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2014 CONTINUED

Excel Training

10:30 am—12:00 pm in the Topaz Room

You will learn benefits of working with Excel, how to create and format an Excel Worksheet, how to navigate the Microsoft Excel environment, customize the QuickAccess Toolbar and Ribbon, create a basic worksheet by entering text, values, and formulas, and create formulas.

Presenter: Darci Harrison

Indiana Conservation Cropping System Initiative

10:30 am—12:00 pm in the Diamond/Emerald Rooms

Learn about Indiana's CCSI, a public partnership with a goal of increasing the adoption of a suite of conservation cropping practices and to work in concert to improve and advance technologies associated with precision agriculture and conservation cropping systems. The focus of this partnership initiative is on improving our soils and protecting our waters while maintaining profitability for agriculture. This session will cover the basics of soil health, application of replicated strip trials, soil health measurements, power of partnerships, and soil health strategies.

Presenters: Lisa Holscher, Jordan Seger, Don Donovan & Jennifer Boyle Warner

Recognition Luncheon

12:15 pm—1:45 pm in the Onyx/Opal/Ruby Rooms

Presiding: Jerry Snodgrass, Education Focus Area Committee Chairman

Invocation: Marie Bunting, AISWCD Auxiliary President

Awards

George McKibben Memorial Scholarship

Award Winner: Matthew "Tyler" Pokojski, Marion Co.

Sponsored by: AISWCD Foundation

Presented by: AISWCD President Lonnie Wilson

Outstanding Forestry Contribution Award

Award Winner: Matt Peterson, Schuyler Co.

Sponsored by: IFA

Presented by: Dave Gillespie, IFA Secretary

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2014 CONTINUED

Illinois Envirothon Winner

Award Winner: Midland High School, Marshall/Putnam Co.

Sponsored by: AISWCD, SWCDs, and many others

*Presented by: Jerry Snodgrass, Education Focus Area Chairman,
Terry Bogner, Envirothon Committee Chairman, and Sondra Baker &
Shelley Finfrock, DeWitt County SWCD, Envirothon Coordinators*

Auxiliary Poster Contest Winners

Award Winners:

K-1: Micah Schrader, Stephenson Co.

2-3: Delaney-Jo Fortney, Stephenson Co.

4-6: Alina Boice, Mason Co.

7-9: Olivia Weber, Livingston Co.

10-12: Nick Strauch, DeKalb Co.

Sponsored by: AISWCD Auxiliary

Presented by: Marie Bunting, Auxiliary President

Auxiliary Photo Contest Winners

Youth Award Winners:

Close Up Conservation: Molly Jacobs, Whiteside Co.

Adult Award Winners:

Conservation Practices Dean Johnson, DeKalb Co.

Close Up Conservation: Amy Lovekamp, Menard Co.

Conservation in Action: Dean Johnson, DeKalb Co.

Ag/Conservation Across America: Brian Elliott

Sponsored by: AISWCD Auxiliary

Presented by: Marie Bunting, Auxiliary President

Teacher of the Year Award

Award Winners:

K-8: Michael Hershisier, McHenry/Lake Co.

9-12: Julie DeSutter, Mason Co.

Sponsored by: IL Audubon Society & AISWCD

Presented by: Jo Fessett

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2014 CONTINUED

(Recognition Luncheon Awards Continued)

ISWCDEA Scholarship

Award Winner: To Be Announced

Sponsored by: ISWCDEA

Presented by: Sondra Baker and Kara Downin

Presentation of Director Service Awards

*Presented by: AISWCD President Lonnie Wilson and
IDOA Director Bob Flider*

Recognition of Past Presidents

Recognition of Newly Elected Directors

Photos

1:45 pm—2:00 pm in the Onyx Room

Children Activities

2:00 pm—3:00 pm in the Peridot Room: 2nd floor of Northfield Hotel

Seed Planting for all ages.

Presenters: Gina Bean & AISWCD Auxiliary

Advanced QuickBooks Training

2:00 pm—3:00 pm in the Lake View Room: Ramada Inn

Best Management Practices for QuickBooks and District Financials:
The concept of BMPs is familiar for conservation, now let's apply it to district financials! Good accounting principles are important—they protect the board, the employees, and provide accountability to the taxpayer, but the time this takes can add up. A summary of the links to web-sites will be provided along with videos. No computer is needed.

Presenter: Sally Ferguson, Rock Island AC

Share Fair

2:00 pm—4:00 pm in the Topaz Room

Partners and AISWCD Board Members will be available to discuss programs.

Presenters: AISWCD Partners and AISWCD Board

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2014 CONTINUED

No Till Cover Crops and Nutrient Management

2:00 pm—4:00pm in the Diamond Room

Program will include three SWCD Directors from northern, central, and southern Illinois, sharing their experiences with conservation cropping system practices. Presentations will be followed by break out discussion focusing on SWCD opportunities to promote and develop local programming emphasizing cover crops, conservation tillage and nutrient management.

Presenters: J. Richard "Dick" Lyons, Cade Bushnell, and Jerry Seidel

Director Training: Part 2

2:00 pm—4:00 pm in the Crystal Room

Continuation of the overview of SWCD duties and responsibilities for Directors.

Presenters: Jerry Snodgrass, Lee Bunting, & Terry Bogner

District & LUC Roles and Responsibilities

2:00 pm—4:00 pm in the Emerald Room

Part 1

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm: LUC Chairmen discussing roles and responsibilities for LUCs and Districts.

Presenters: TBD

Part 2

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm: Hiring/Firing practices, coaching & counseling employees, & harassment issues along with records retention, OSHA & FMLA.

Presenter: Jim Laubach, Attorney

Auxiliary Program - Jewelry and Scarves Display

2:00 pm—4:00 pm in the Continental Breakfast Room: Northfield

Presenter: Veronica Seevers

Director Forum

4:15 pm—5:15 pm in the Onyx Room

Presenters: AISWCD Officers

Employee Forum

4:15 pm—5:15 pm in the Diamond Room

Presenters: Sondra Baker & Kara Downin, ISWCDEA Co-Chairs

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2014 CONTINUED

Farm Family Reception

5:45 pm—6:30 pm in the Continental Breakfast Room: Northfield

*Presiding: Van Bitner, AISWCD Secretary
Sponsored by AISWCD and AISWCD Auxiliary
Hosted by AISWCD Auxiliary*

Farm Family Banquet

6:30 am—9:00 pm in the Crystal/Diamond/Emerald Rooms

*Presiding: Van Bitner, Planning Focus Area Committee Chair &
Tom Beyers, Legislative Focus Area Committee Chair
Invocation: TBD
Banquet Emceed by Brownfield Network*

Friend of Conservation Award:

Award Winner: Meijer
Represented by Kim Sapetti and Laurie Hubbard
*Sponsored by: AISWCD
Presented by: Lonnie Wilson, AISWCD President*

Recognition of Past Presidents & AISWCD Board Members

Recognition of Director Service Awards

Recognition of Newly Appointed Directors

Conservation Farm Family Award:

*Sponsored by: Meijer, Brownfield Network,
Prairie Farmer, and AISWCD
Master of Ceremony: Cyndi Young, Brownfield Ag News*

<u>Council</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>District</u>
LUC 2	DeCrane Family	Henry
LUC 3	McGreal Family	Livingston
LUC 9	Doll Family	Bond
LUC 16	Lange Family	Will-South Cook

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2014 CONTINUED

Announcement of Governor's Conservation Farm

Family Award Winner

Presented by: AISWCD President Lonnie Wilson &

IDOA Acting Bureau Chief Steve Chard

Auction Viewing

8:00 pm—9:00 pm in the Emerald/Jade Rooms

Auction items displayed.

Live Auction

9:00 pm—? In the Emerald/Jade Rooms

Auctioneers— Logan Schmid & Shay Starkey

HOSPITALITY ROOMS

***** Please clean up any mess that you make.**

Peridot Room (Second floor of the Northfield Hotel)

Bring your own alcohol and snacks.

Sunday, July 27, 2014

6:00 pm until ???

Monday, July 28, 2014

6:00 am until 1:00 pm & 4:00 pm until ???

Tuesday, July 29, 2014

6:00 am until 5:00 pm

Continental Breakfast Room: Northfield

Bring your own alcohol and snacks.

Sunday, July 27, 2014

8:30 pm until ???

Tuesday, July 29, 2014

1:30 pm until 5:00 pm

Jade Room

Cash Bar

Monday, July 28, 2014

Beginning of Auction until 2:00 am.

TUESDAY, JULY 29, 2014

Conference Registration

7:00 am—11:00 am in the Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby

Auxiliary Silent Auction

9:15 am—11:00 am in the Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby

Silent auction items MUST be picked up by 11:00 am.

AISWCD Board Meeting

9:00 am—11:30 am in the Crystal/Diamond/Emerald Rooms

Presiding: Lonnie Wilson, AISWCD President

Parliamentarian: Mr. Howard Heavner

Foundation Meeting

11:30 am—12:00 pm in the Crystal/Diamond/Emerald Rooms

Soil Stewardship Luncheon

12:00 pm—1:15 pm in the Ruby/Opal/Onyx/ Rooms

Hosted by AISWCD Auxiliary

Presiding: Marie Bunting, AISWCD Auxiliary President

Entertainment: Polly Launay

Education Training

1:30 pm—2:30 pm in the Jade Room

Hands on education programs such as Earth Day, Stewardship Day, etc.

Presenter: Debbie Ruff, Livingston County SWCD

WASCOBS Training

2:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Jade Room

Water & Sediment Control Basin—basic description and where and why needed.

Presenter: Lori Younker, NRCS Agricultural Engineer

TUESDAY, JULY 29, 2014 CONTINUED

NRCS Pilot Program

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Diamond Room

Geared towards employees to investigate and ask questions about the program from a stand point of submitting reports and fees.

Presenters: TBD

NRCS Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative & IDOA Farmland Protection Programs

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Crystal Room

NRCS initiated the Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative (CDSI) to implement a better way to delivery conservation assistance to our customers. Ultimately, this new system will deliver benefits to farmers, conservation partners, and taxpayers. Some of the benefits NRCS hopes to achieve include:

1. Reducing the average # of trips that clients have to make to the office.
2. Enable NRCS & clients to finalize conservation planning and decision making.
3. Accelerate the timeline between applying for a program and signing contract.
4. Accelerate the time between applying a practice and receiving payment.
5. Offering clients 24/7/365 service for many tasks.

Presenter: Ron Collman and Ron Ziehm, NRCS

This session will also include an hour presentation on the IDOA Farmland Protection Program. Information and experience on Ag Areas and Ag Impact Mitigation Agreements for pipelines, transmissions lines and wind farms. Discussion on LESA Systems, FPA's and project reviews on State and Federally funded projects with Ag impacts.

Presenter: Terry Savko, IDOA

Lincoln Museum Tour

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Transportation will leave promptly at 1:30 pm from the Northfield Conference Center 1 Lobby.

******NOTE: Continental Breakfast is served every morning in the Northfield Inn and Ramada Hotels' Breakfast rooms from 6:00 a.m. till 9:00 a.m.**

****NOTE: Meeting times and location are subject to change.**

LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

U.S. Congressman Rodney Davis

On January 3, 2013, Rodney was sworn-in as the congressman for the 13th District of Illinois, a 14-county district covering both urban and rural areas of Central and Southwestern Illinois. As a Member of the 113th Congress, Rodney serves on the House Committees on Agriculture and Transportation & Infrastructure.

Since the age of seven, Rodney has lived in Taylorville, where he attended public school. He continued his education in central Illinois and graduated with honors from Millikin University in Decatur.



For 16 years, Rodney served as Projects Director for Congressman John Shimkus. In that position, Rodney became intimately familiar with the role that the federal government plays in our communities, where it can help, and where it can hurt. He was instrumental in helping Illinois citizens and communities cut through government red tape and worked daily to provide support and relief to a wide array of important local projects.

Rodney resides in Taylorville with his wife, Shannon, and their three children, Toryn, Clark and Griffin.

The Davis family attends St. Mary's Church, where Rodney once served on the Finance Committee and as Volunteer Athletic Director. His other civic activities have included serving as fundraising drive chairman for the Christian County United Way, co-chairing a multimillion dollar YMCA capital fund drive, and serving on Christian County Senior Center Board of Directors. In his free time, Rodney coaches Taylorville Junior Football and his sons' Little League team.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Jerry Snodgrass

Henry County SWCD Chairman

Jerry has served on the Henry County SWCD board for 23 years and as chairman of the district board for sixteen years. During that time frame, Jerry has been involved in numerous leadership roles at both the state and national levels including AISWCD board member, Area Vice-President, Secretary, and Vice-President. At the national level he has served as the NACD Executive Board member representing the North Central Region, Chairman of the Agriculture Lands Committee, Chairman of the Natural Resource Policy Committee, Chairman of the Herbicide Resentence Taskforce and Chairman of the Audit Committee.

Jerry has also been very active at the local level as a member of the Henry County Farm Bureau and he recently retired as Lieutenant of the Geneseo Volunteer Fire Department after 30 years of service.

Darci Harrison

I graduated from Nokomis High School, I went to SIUE and received my Bachelor's Degree in Business Management in 2002. I then took a job at Family Eye Care, followed by Vandalia Correctional Center. In 2008 I took a job at Nokomis High School as a business/technology education teacher on a vocational certification. In 2010 I went back to to EIU to get my teachers certification. In 2013 I went back to Greenville College to get my middle school endorsement.

I grew up on a farm north of Nokomis. After college I married and moved back to Fillmore IL. My husband is a farmer and road commissioner and we have 2 children, a boy Dolan who is 7 and a daughter Peyton who is 5. In my spare time I do photography. I've also taught community education computer classes for Nokomis and have taught photo editing classes at LLCC.

Sally Ferguson, Rock Island AC

Sally Ferguson has worked as Administrative Coordinator for Rock Island County SWCD since 2012. Prior to that, she worked as a Program Technician for Farm Service Agency. Sally studied Geography, Economics, and Secondary Education at the University of Iowa. Her geography studies prompted an interest in conservation, particularly agricultural conservation. She and her husband, Cole, have 2 raised vegetable garden beds and a strawberry patch. Sally took a high school course in Accounting; the practice books were meticulously recorded on paper. Thankfully, the manual method also etched the basic principles of accounting into memory. As she learned QuickBooks she saw how the debits, credits, journal and ledger entries applied in the software. She also draws on other AC's and the internet to expand her working knowledge of QuickBooks.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Jordan Seger

Jordan Seger is the Director of the Division of Soil Conservation within the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) and oversees field technicians who work directly with private landowners to plan, survey, design, and construct conservation best management practices which provide both economic and environmental benefits. ISDA staff also collaborate directly with the Indiana agricultural industry to seek out opportunities to incorporate the adoption of innovative conservation methods into regular agricultural practice with the goal of building soil health, environmental benefits, and production efficiencies. Seger grew up in and became heavily involved with the poultry industry, has worked for the National Park Service in Maine and Alaska where he conducted air and water quality monitoring, fish and wildlife permitting, and salmon fisheries research. Prior to his current position Seger worked in northwest Indiana as an ISDA field technician.

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture is supporting growth in Indiana agriculture by serving as an advocate and partner as the local, state, federal and global levels; benefiting economic viability in the food, feed, fuel and fiber sectors; driving the advancement of agronomic technologies and promoting sound stewardship of the Indiana landscape.

Don Donovan, USDA-NRCS, District Conservationist

Parke and Vermillion County Indiana

Don has been an employee of SCS/NRCS for 31 years, the last 27 as District Conservationist in Parke and Vermillion County Indiana. Don is married to Sharon and the father of three adult children. Don enjoys woodworking, collecting Yearbook of Agriculture books, antiquing, going to flea markets, and reading about the Civil War.

Don is a member of the Indiana NRCS Soil Health Team and serves as Soil Health Team Leader for the Southwest Area Soil Health Team. Members of the Indiana SH Team attend various conferences and training such as the National Notill Conference and have visited on the farms of National Soil Health Leaders including Gabe Brown and Dave Brandt to see up close how they have improved the Soil Health of their farm.

Members of the Indiana Soil Health Team work with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, NRCS employees, and other members of the Indiana Conservation Partnership to promote Soil Health through the use of Conservation Cropping systems including Never Till no-till systems, cover crops, nutrient management and conservation buffers. They are available to speak at field days, notill and cover crop conferences, and to work one on one with farmers and other employees.

Gina Bean

AISWCD Office Assistant

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Jennifer Boyle Warner

Jennifer Boyle Warner has served as the Executive Director for the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (IASWCD) for the past eight years. The IASWCD is the member (non-profit) organization for the 92 local soil and water conservation districts in Indiana. The IASWCD works on legislative issues, communication, training, and capacity building on behalf of the local soil and water conservation districts. Before joining IASWCD, Jennifer worked in Washington DC as a lobbyist and back in Indiana for a local soil and water conservation district and for a state agency as a watershed specialist. Outside of conservation work, Jennifer volunteers for the Indiana Canine Assistant Network, helping train service dogs for people with disabilities. She lives in a rural setting outside of Indianapolis with her husband, two dogs, large garden, and a few chickens!

Richard Lyons

Dick Lyons is a cash grain farmer of 42 years in the panhandle of Montgomery County, IL. His family owned farm is now in its 4th generation going back to an 1865 Irish immigrant. Continuous no-till has been practiced since 1988 and consists of two rotations, corn-soybeans and corn, soybean and wheat/double crop soybeans. Individual field topography and potential soil erosion determines the crop rotation to be used. Each field is nutrient managed each year based on the previous year's crop removal. All streams and drainage ditches are protected by NRCS CRP filter strips. All fields are tile drained with approximately 60% drained by clay tile installed by his great-grandfather with the remaining 40% consisting of plastic tile installed within the last 10 years. Cover crops have been grown for one year on the farm

Dick's educational background consists of a BS in Agriculture Education from Illinois State University with a MA in Education from the University of Illinois-CU. Additional courses in agronomy have been taken for graduate credit from the U of I. His professional career consists of 5 years H.S. agriculture education, 30 years teaching at Lincoln Land Community College in agriculture and 2 years of teaching animal science at Illinois State University. Professional training for 8 years followed Lincoln Land CC and included sales, leadership and agronomy skills training to agriculture companies' employees.

Outside of the classroom and farm, Dick has been involved in watershed resource management with Lake Springfield in Springfield, IL, the proposed Hunter Lake of Springfield and Lake Lou Yaeger of Litchfield which is his own farm's watershed. Presently he is working with Lincoln Land CC faculty to develop a training program to certify Certified Crop Advisors as Technical Service Providers to write nutrient management plans. In addition, Dick is an associate director of Montgomery Co. SWCD.

Lee Bunting

Livingston County SWCD Chairman

Terry Bogner

Marshall-Putnam SWCD Chairman

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Cade Bushnell

Cade Bushnell has been farming near Stillman Valley, IL since 1982. His family began no-tilling in 1985 and have been “never – tilling” since 1991. Cade began experimenting with cover crops in 2006 and has adopted them wide spread into his farming system since 2011. The Bushnell Family was awarded the Illinois Conservation Farm Family of the Year in 2004. Cade graduated from Iowa State University with a B.S. in Horticulture, and currently serves on the ogle County SWCD board.

Jerry Seidel

Jerry Seidel farms 1,200 acres in Jefferson County and has been in a continuous no-till system for the past 18 years. He has been experimenting with cover crops for 7 years. Soils farmed include mainly flat prairie, Hoyleton, Cisne and more rolling Bluford. Jerry’s conservation influences have come from Mike Plumer and the work at Ewing Field, as well as years spent on the Jefferson Co SWCD board.

Sondra Baker, ISWCDEA Co-Chair

Sondra has been the Administrative Coordinator at DeWitt County SWCD for the past six years. Recently she helped DeWitt County, as the new Envirothon Coordinators, put on an amazing event in Monticello, IL. She is currently the AC Co-Chair of the IL SWCD Employee’s Association.

Kara Downin, ISWCDEA Co-Chair

Kara has served as the Resources Conservationist for the Knox County SWCD for the past eight years. She has a BA in Economics and Environmental Studies and a MS in sediment Control and is currently the RC Co-Chair of the IL SWCD Employee’s Association.

Lisa Holscher

Lisa Holscher is the Soil Health Program Manager for the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and coordinates the expansion of the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI) to develop Regional Training Hubs. As a collaborative effort, this project brings together teams of individuals representing farmers, private and industry consultants, researchers, and the Indiana Conservation Partnership work towards developing region-specific training plans, coordinating soil health investigations, and fostering stronger partnerships across agency and geographic boundaries.

In other words, Lisa herds cats.

Prior to her current position, Holscher worked as coordinator of a Clean Water Act Section 319 grant project in an area heavily affected by surface mining operations. She also taught precision agriculture courses at Vincennes University and for John Deere.

And she still gets phone calls or drive-bys of farmers needing help with setting up monitors.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Debbie Ruff, Livingston County SWCD

Debbie Ruff has served as the Education/Ag Literacy Coordinator for Livingston County's Soil and Water Conservation District and Farm Bureau for the past 23 years. She provides programs and materials for Pre-K – adult, as well as facilitates educator workshops. Debbie developed a mobile classroom, named EARTH EXPRESS, to visit all the county's 3rd and 4th grades. This "textbook on wheels" provides environmental and agricultural lessons through the use of narratives, graphics and hands-on activities. She provides "walk n talks" for local nature centers and serves on several state planning and curriculum writing committees. Debbie is also an Illinois Master Naturalist.

Lori Younker, NRCS Agricultural Engineer

Lori Younker is a Area Engineer for Natural Resources Conservation Service. She obtained a BS in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Illinois. Lori has worked for NRCS for 18 years

Ron Collman, NRCS

Ron Collman attended the University of Illinois in Champaign where he received a degree in Agronomy and Soil Science. He then began mapping soils in southeast Missouri with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources from 1990-1992. He began working for USDA's Soil Conservation Service in 1993 conducting soil survey updates for the MLRA offices in Springfield and later in Charleston, IL. In 2007 Ron was selected as the Assistant State Soil Scientist and he served in that role until he was appointed as Illinois NRCS' State Soil Scientist in 2013.

Ron Ziehm, NRCS

Ron Ziehm grew up on a dairy farm in Michigan. He received a BS from Michigan State in Animal Sciences and a Masters from Texas A&M in Watershed Management. He spent the next two years working with livestock as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador. Back in the states, Ron began working with USDA's Soil Conservation Service in 1992 as a Soil Conservationist in Virginia. He then served as a District Conservationist in Colorado and Missouri for many years before he was hired as Illinois NRCS' Assistant State Conservationist for southern Illinois in 2011.

Terry Savko, IDOA

Terry Savko works in the Office of Farmland Protection with the Illinois Department of Agriculture in Springfield. She has worked in her position for over 30 years. She was previously employed by the Jackson County SWCD. She is a graduate from SIU – Carbondale.

NOTES

66TH AISWCD ANNUAL MEETING & ILLINOIS LAND AND WATER RESOURCES CONFERENCE



SURVEY

Please rate the following by placing an "x" under your selection.		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
1	Conference Registration					
2	Sunday Fun Night					
3	Opening Ceremonies					
4	Recognition Luncheon					
5	Employee's Forum					
6	Director's Forum					
7	Farm Family Banquet					
8	Live Auction					
9	Soil Stewardship Luncheon					
10	Overall Opinion of Sessions					
11	Annual Meeting					
HOTEL	- Meeting Rooms & Facility					
	- Food Quality & Service					
	- Hotel Accommodations					
13	Overall Rating of 2014 66 th Annual Meeting/Summer Conference					

(Survey continued on page 22)

SURVEY (CONTINUED)

14. Please list any comments/suggestions on sessions:

15. Please list any comments/suggestions on meals:

16. What changes would you like to see?

17. Overall Comments/Suggestions:

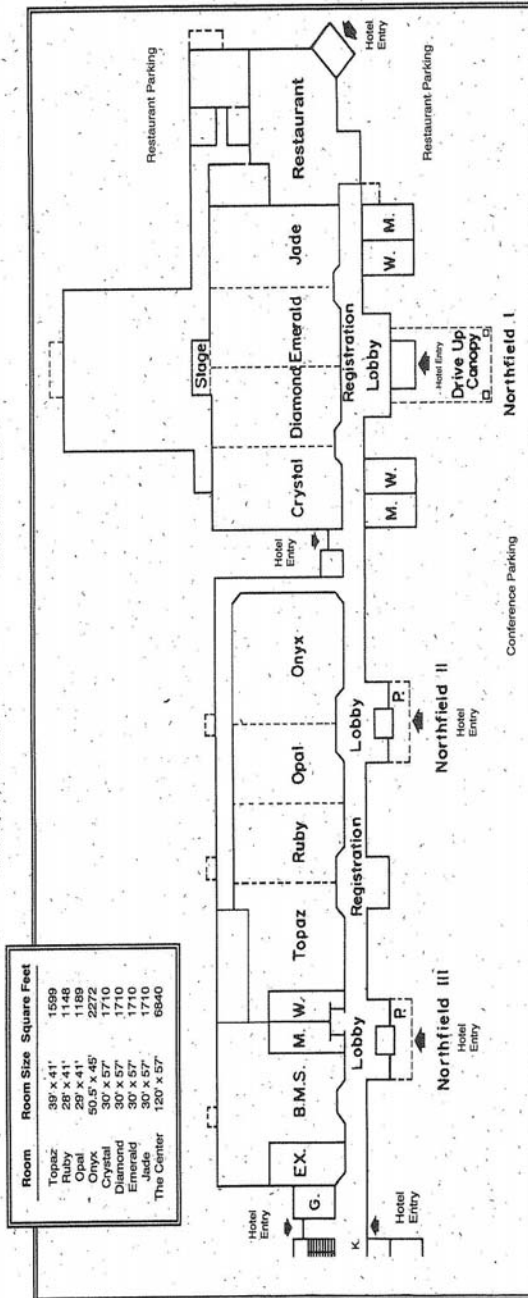
Please detach this survey and place in the Survey Drop Box
located at the Registration desk.

The AISWCD Board of Directors and staff thank you for
taking the time to complete the survey.

NORTHFIELD CONFERENCE CENTER MAP

Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center

3280 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702
Phone (217) 523-7900 Fax (217) 523-7273



4285 N. Walnut Street Rd.
Springfield, IL 62707
Phone: (217) 744-3414



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