



# 68th AISWCD Annual Meeting & IL Land and Water Resources Conference

July 25 through 26, 2016

*Northfield Inn  
Springfield, IL*

## AGENDA/PROGRAM



association of illinois

**SOIL &  
WATER**

conservation districts



**Illinois**  
Department of  
**Agriculture**

### OFFICERS:

*Myron Kirby, President  
Tom Beyers, Vice President  
Van Bitner, Secretary  
Kenny Vosholler, Treasurer*

**IDOA Director: Raymond Poe**  
**IDOA Deputy Director: Warren Goetsch**

### IDOA Bureau of Land & Water Resources

*Acting Bureau Chief: Steve Chard  
Deanna Clark  
Carrie Tiskos*

### STAFF:

*Kelly Thompson, Executive Director  
Matt Hanauer, IUM/Watershed Coordinator  
Marquitta Thomas, Office Assistant  
Sheryl Phillips, Program Support Specialist*

### Office of Farmland Protection & Mined Land Reclamation

*Terry Savko  
John Lohse*

### Regional Representatives:

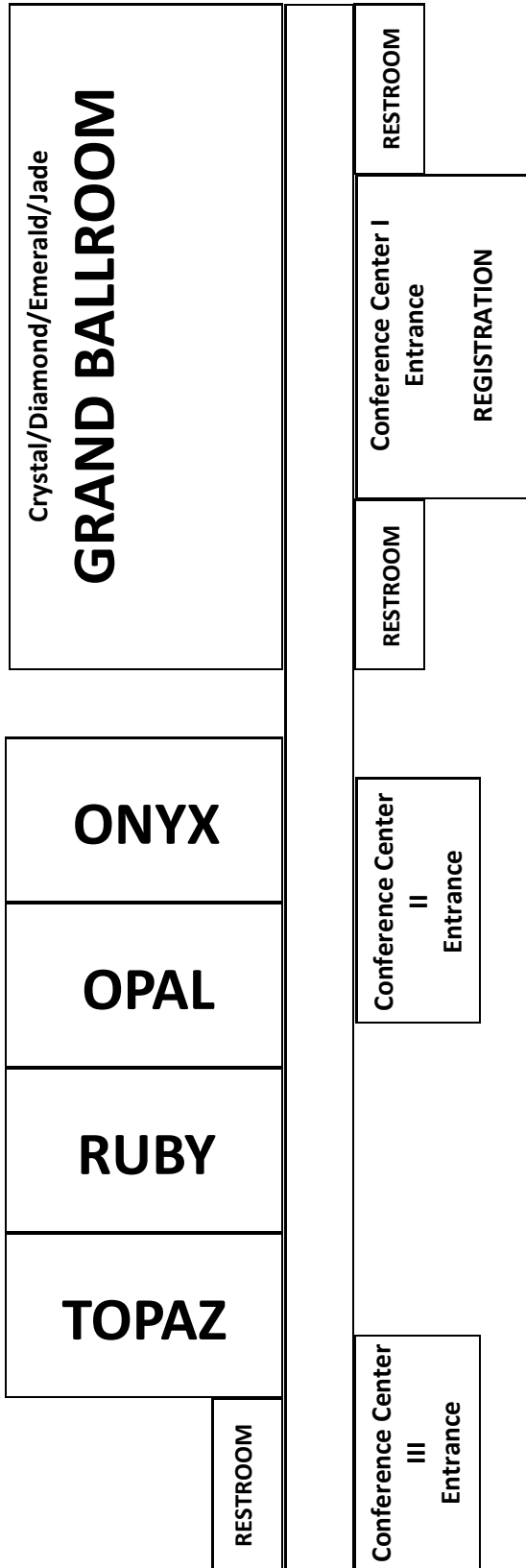
*Region 1 - Marty McManus  
Region 2 - Joe Bybee  
Region 3 - Vacant  
Region 4 - Elliot Lagacy  
Region 5 - Gary Albers*

### EVENT PHOTOGRAPHERS:

**Cara Clark (NRCS), Lisa Leigh (Vermilion County SWCD), and Matthew Hanauer (AISWCD)**

*Attendees staying at the Northfield or Ramada can take advantage of the  
free continental breakfast in their breakfast lounges daily.*

# MAP & NOTES



## GRAND BALLROOM INFO:

*Exhibits  
Silent Auction Items/Event/Farm Family BINGO  
Coffee, Tea, and Morning Snacks  
Large Sessions  
Meals*

## **SURVEY INFORMATION**

*Surveys can be found at the REGISTRATION TABLE.  
Please fill one out at your convenience. These will help us  
make next year's conference even better!*

## **EXHIBIT HALL BINGO**

*Bingo Cards may be found at the REGISTRATION TABLE.  
When all spaces have been signed, please return to the  
designated drop box at the registration table. A winner  
will be selected before the Annual Meeting at 1:00 pm  
and a prize will be given.*

## **Pheasants & Quail Forever HOSPITALITY ROOM SCHEDULE**



**Sunday, July 24, 2016**  
*Peridot Room: 6:00 pm to ????*

**Monday, July 25, 2016**  
*Peridot Room: 7:30 am to ???*

**Tuesday, July 26, 2016**  
*Peridot Room: 7:30 am to 1:00 pm*

Monday 7:30 am until 6:00 pm and Tuesday 7:30 am until 1:00 pm come to the Hospitality Room to meet with Pheasants & Quail Forever. They are located on your Exhibit Hall Bingo card and they must sign it to be eligible to win.



**They will have snacks and drinks!**



# 68th AISWCD Annual Meeting & IL Land and Water Resources Conference "You, Me and Trees!" Sunday, July 24, 2016 - AGENDA

## Conference Registration

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Northfield Conference 1 Lobby

## AISWCD Live Auction and Silent Auction Item Check In

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Ruby Room

### Conservation Tour: Starhill Forest Arboretum

Cost = \$15.00

10:30 am to 4:45 pm

10:30 am

Meet at Northfield Inn Hotel Entrance and Carpool  
(If you are coming from West of Springfield, you may choose to meet the group at the Arboretum instead of meeting at the Northfield first.)

11:15 am

Arrive at the Starhill Forest Arboretum of Illinois College  
12000 Boy Scout Trail, Petersburg, Illinois 62675

11:15 am

Picnic Lunch on Blankets Provided By: Head West Sub Shop  
Turkey and Ham with Provolone on Sweet Bread  
With the Basics:  
Lettuce, Tomatoes, Onions, Mayo, Italian Dressing  
Brownies and Chips  
Tea and Water  
\*A Vegetarian Option is Available

11:45 am

Tour of Arboretum Begins

4:00 pm

Head back to Northfield Inn

4:45 pm

Arrive at Northfield Inn

The cost of this tour will help AISWCD offer a donation to the Starhill Forest Arboretum and will take care of your lunch. Since the Arboretum is so large, and to see it all could last days, a survey will be sent out closer to the tour asking attendees what they would like to see.

Please visit <http://www.starhillforest.com/> to see all that they have to offer.

Please pay this with your conference registration/meal.





# 68th AISWCD Annual Meeting & IL Land and Water Resources Conference “You, Me and Trees!” Monday, July 25, 2016 - AGENDA

## Conference Registration

7:30 am to 6:00 pm in the Northfield Conference 1 Lobby

## Exhibit Hall

7:30 am to 11:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom

## AISWCD Live Auction and Silent Auction Item Check In

7:30 am to 9:00 am in the Ruby Room

## AISWCD Silent Auction Bidding

11:00 am to 9:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom

## Auxiliary Silent Auction

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

## Opening Ceremony

8:30 am to 10:00 am in the Grand Ballroom

Group photos may be taken from 8:00 am to 8:30 am in the Grand Ballroom

Please coordinate with your group before arriving if you wish to take advantage of this opportunity.

## Auxiliary: Invasive Species Presentation

10:15 am to 11:15 am in the Continental Breakfast Room

## Auxiliary: Herb Presentation by Extension & Hand Soap Craft

1:15pm to 3:30 pm in the Continental Breakfast Room

**NRCS: Administrative Assistance and SWCD Roles: 10:15 am to 11:15 am in the Grand Ballroom**

**Traditional Director Training : 10:15 am to 3:30 pm in the Topaz Room (Lunch Break 11:15-1:15)**

## Recognition Luncheon

11:30 am to 1:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom

## Breakout Sessions: 1:15 pm to 2:15 pm

FSA, Disaster Programs and You  
Opal/Onyx Rooms

Seeds: Designing Better Mixes for the Birds and the Bees  
Ruby Room

## Breakout Sessions: 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Energy Industry Projects-IDOA's Evolving AIMAs  
Opal/ Onyx Rooms

Tree City USA – Building Sustainable Communities  
Ruby Room

## Director Forum

3:45 pm to 5:00 pm in the Opal/Onyx Rooms

## Auxiliary Farm Family Reception/Photos (by invitation only)

5:15 pm to 6:00 pm in the Continental Breakfast Room

## Farm Family Banquet

6:15pm to 8:30 pm in the Grand Ballroom (Seating available at 6:00 pm)

## Farm Family BINGO & Silent Auction

8:30 pm until 11:00 pm In the Grand Ballroom

Cash Bar will be available/ Portion of the bar sponsored by Pheasants & Quail Forever

AISWCD Silent Auction Winners will be announced.

All items must be paid for upon receipt. (Check or Cash accepted)



# 68th AISWCD Annual Meeting & IL Land and Water Resources Conference "You, Me and Trees!" Tuesday, July 26, 2016 - AGENDA

## Conference Registration

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

## Exhibit Hall

7:30 am to 1:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom

## Auxiliary Silent Auction

9:15 am to 11:00 am in the Northfield Conference 1 Lobby.

Items must be picked up by 11:00 am on July 26, 2016.

## Large Director Training/Key Issues

8:00 am to 11:15 am in the Grand Ballroom

## Employee ABC

9:00 am to 11:15 am in the Opal/Onyx/Ruby Rooms

## Auxiliary: Frame Painting Craft

10:15 am to 11:15 am in the Continental Breakfast Room

## Soil Stewardship Luncheon

11:30 am to 12:45 pm in the Grand Ballroom

Hosted by: AISWCD Auxiliary

Presiding: Marie Bunting, AISWCD Auxiliary President

Invocation: Marie Bunting, AISWCD Auxiliary President

## Exhibit Hall Bingo Winner Announcement

12:55 pm Opal/Onyx/Ruby Rooms

At this time the winner of the Exhibit Hall Bingo will be announced. All cards must be turned into the registration desk at this time. You must be present to win or assign someone to collect your prize.

**AISWCD will not ship this item.**

## Foundation/Board of Directors Annual Meeting

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Opal/Onyx/Ruby Rooms

Presiding: Myron Kirby, AISWCD President

Parliamentarian: Mr. Allen Ritter

All voting delegates must check in at the registration desk to pick up their packets.

Group photos may be taken from 12:30 pm to 12:45 pm or after the meeting in the Grand Ballroom

Please coordinate with your group before arriving if you wish to take advantage of this opportunity.

## Tuesday Outing: Illinois State Military Museum

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Admission: Free

Parking: Free

1301 North MacArthur Blvd  
Springfield, IL 62702

Attendees can meet at the registration table and car pool,  
but tour is on your own.

<http://www.il.ngb.army.mil/Heritage/Museum.aspx>







# 68th AISWCD Annual Meeting & IL Land and Water Resources Conference “You, Me and Trees!” Monday, July 25, 2016 - Information

## Opening Ceremony

8:30 am to 10:00 am in the Grand Ballroom

**Presiding:** Van Bitner, AISWCD Secretary

- ◇ Color Guard
- ◇ Pledge of Allegiance
- ◇ Recognition of Past AISWCD Presidents
- ◇ Recognition of Newly Elected Directors

### Opening Remarks

AISWCD President: Myron Kirby

AISWCD Vice President: Tom Beyers

AISWCD Executive Director: Kelly Thompson

### **Legislator of the Year Award**

*Award Winner: IL Representative Jerry Costello*

*Sponsored by: AISWCD*

*Presented by: Myron Kirby, AISWCD President*

### **Friend of Conservation Award**

*Award Winner: NRCS State Conservationist Ivan Dozier*

*Sponsored by: AISWCD*

*Presented by: Myron Kirby, AISWCD President*

### **50 Year Recognition**

*Richard Bend (DeKalb) and Elroy Lauer (Lee)*

## District Spotlights

Henry, Macon, Madison, Marion, Montgomery, Wayne, and White

## Recognition Luncheon

11:30 am to 1:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom

**Presiding:** Jerry Snodgrass, Education Focus Area Committee Chairman

**Invocation:** Marie Bunting, AISWCD Auxiliary President

### George McKibben Memorial Scholarship

*Award Winner: Shaye Harre, Washington County*

*Sponsored by: AISWCD Foundation*

*Presented by: AISWCD President Myron Kirby*

### Outstanding Forestry Contribution Award

*Award Winner: Ed and Elizabeth Anderson*

*Sponsored by: IFA and AISWCD*

*Presented by: IFA Treasurer, Dave Gillespie*

### Teacher of the Year Award

*Award Winners:*

K-8: Susie Willard, Vermilion County

9-12: Sally O'Leary, Jackson County

*Sponsored by: IL Audubon Society & AISWCD*

*Presented by: Education Chairman, Jerry Snodgrass*

### ISWCDEA Scholarship

*Award Winner: TBD*

*Sponsored by: ISWCDEA*

*Presented by: Thad Eshleman and Spring Duffey*

### **Recognition of IL Envirothon Winners**

*Award Winner: Richland High School LUC 11*

### Auxiliary Poster Contest

*Award Winners:*

K-1: Mattie Burnett, Livingston County

2-3: Micah Schrader, Stephenson County

4-6: Lilly Baker, Union County

7-9: Sydney Bryant, White County

10-12: James Lanman & Linsey Lederman, Kane/DuPage County

*Sponsored by: AISWCD Auxiliary*

*Presented by: Marie Bunting, Auxiliary President*

### Auxiliary Photo Contest

Youth - Close Up Conservation: Quinnie Calvert, DeWitt

Youth - Conservation in Action: Quinnie Calvert, DeWitt

Youth - Ag/Conservation Across America: Tessa Lebre, DeWitt

Adult - Conservation Practices: Samantha Carr, Sangamon

Adult - Close Up Conservation: Sandra Cooper, Coles

Adult - Conservation in Action: Sandra Cooper, Coles

Adult - Ag/Conservation Across America: Samantha Carr, Sangamon

*Sponsored by: AISWCD Auxiliary*

*Presented by: Marie Bunting, Auxiliary President*

### **Recognition of Past Presidents & Newly Elected Directors**

#### **Presentation of Director Service Awards**

*Presented by: AISWCD President, Myron Kirby and Steve Chard, IDOA*

**Award Winners**



# 68th AISWCD Annual Meeting & IL Land and Water Resources Conference "You, Me and Trees!" Monday, July 25, 2016 - Information

## Farm Family Banquet

6:15pm to 8:30 pm in the Grand Ballroom (Seating available at 6:00 pm)

**Presiding:** Van Bitner, AISWCD Secretary & Tom Beyers, AISWCD Vice President

**Invocation:** Chuck Hanley, Livingston County SWCD

**Banquet Emceed by:** Brownfield Ag News, Cyndi Young

- ◇ 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

Council	Family	District
LUC 1	The Nelson Family Farm	Carroll
LUC 11	Halter-Rich Farms	Crawford

**Announcement of the 2016 AISWCD Farm Family Award Winner**

**Presented by:** AISWCD President Myron Kirby and IDOA

## Thank you to our Farm Family Banquet Sponsors!

**meijer**

**BROWNFIELD**  
AG NEWS FOR AMERICA

**Prairie**  
FARMER.

After the Farm Family Banquet,  
please join us for some fun  
during Farm Family BINGO!





# 68th AISWCD Annual Meeting & IL Land and Water Resources Conference

*"You, Me and Trees!"*

## Monday, July 25, 2016 - Information

### **NRCS: Administrative Assistance and SWCD Roles**

#### ***Session Information:***

Presenters will review the Contribution Agreement between NRCS and AISWCD, including specifics on work products and using Conservation Client Gateway.

#### ***Presenter Information:***

Angela Biggs, Assistant State Conservationist for Management and Strategy  
Glen Franke, Resource Conservationist

### **Traditional Director Training**

#### ***Session Information:***

This training is for any Director that has not already participated in the training suggested by NACD. All Directors on all SWCD Boards should have this training. If a Director has already attended this then they are not required to take it each year.

#### ***Presenter Information:***

Jerry Snodgrass, Henry County SWCD  
Lee Bunting, Livingston County SWCD  
Terry Bogner, Marshall/Putnam County SWCD

### **FSA: Disaster Programs and You**

#### ***Session Information:***

The purpose of the session is to provide an overview of FSA's disaster assistance programs. With the high number of severe weather events impacting Illinois, it's helpful that producers be knowledgeable on the possible assistance offered by these programs.

#### ***Presenter Information:***

Rick Graden—USDA Farm Service Agency  
Rick Graden is the Executive Officer of the USA Farm Service Agency State Office in Springfield. He has extensive knowledge of FSA programs.

### **Seeds: Designing Better Mixes For The Birds & The Bees**

#### ***Session Information::***

This session will discuss the Prairie Grass Seed Sales Program and the benefits to the Districts.

#### ***Presenter Information:***

Jerry Johnson, is a charter member of QUGA including serving 30 plus years with Quail Unlimited, now serving QUGA as the Regional Director. He works with landowners and governmental agencies promoting programs and has field experience establishing habitat. His interest in wildlife management began early in Southern Illinois. He is an avid quail hunter. Jerry has assisted local landowners in creating wildlife habitat, seeding over 1000 acres and fundraising for wildlife interest. In addition, Jerry is the Owner of Johnson's Lumber and Hardware Store in Atlanta, Illinois for over 30 years. If you would like to learn more or be a part of QUGA, contact Jerry at [bobwhite@psi.net](mailto:bobwhite@psi.net) or 812/536- 2272.





# 68th AISWCD Annual Meeting & IL Land and Water Resources Conference

*"You, Me and Trees!"*

## Monday, July 25, 2016 - Information

### **Energy Industry Projects-IDOA's Evolving AIMAs**

#### ***Session Information:***

Explain purpose of Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreements (AIMAs) executed by the IDOA to mitigate negative impacts to productive ag land resulting from the construction of pipelines, electric lines and, most recently, wind farms.

#### ***Presenter Information:***

Terry Savko is a Land and Water Resource Specialist with the Illinois Department of Agriculture. As part of the Bureau of Land and Water Resources, she works to ensure compliance of state and federally funded projects as mandated by the state's Farmland Preservation Act. The IDOA attempts to protect and maintain Illinois' most precious natural resource, its prime soils that are among the most productive in the world. The primary goal is to address a project's adverse impacts to and minimize the amount of agricultural land that is converted to non-agricultural uses. The Illinois Farmland Preservation Act requires state agencies to minimize negative agricultural impacts from construction projects to the greatest extent possible.

Over the past 10 years, considerable efforts have been expended to address and mitigate negative impacts from pipeline and electric line construction projects across productive agricultural land throughout Illinois. Affected farmland is to be restored to its pre-construction soil productivity levels. Under a new wind farm law that became effective in July 2015, the IDOA also works to develop an Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreements (AIMAs) on commercial wind farm projects similar to the other utility projects.

### **Tree City USA—Building Sustainable Communities**

#### ***Session Information:***

Illinois and the nation is celebrating 40 successful years of participation in Tree City USA. This national program is administered by IDNR Urban and Community Forestry Program as one of the many tools for helping communities establish and maintain a sustainable living safe community forest with multiple benefits for Illinois citizens. Learn about this program and the other municipal forestry management tools at this session.

#### ***Presenter Information:***

Reinee Hildebrandt, State Urban Forester, IL Dept. of Natural Resources

Dr. Hildebrandt has served as the State Program Administrator for the Urban and Community Forestry Program since 1991. During that time she has helped Illinois be a leader in the number of Tree City USA participants; Growth Award participants and Tree Campus USA participants. She serves on several state and national committees focused on providing standards and services in the Urban and Community Forestry Profession.

### **Silent Auction and Farm Family BINGO**

Around the Grand Ballroom you will find SILENT auction items of all sorts. Bidding on these items takes place all day, so check in often to see if you have been out bid. Immediately following the Farm Family Banquet we will have some fun with games of Farm Family BINGO. Prizes will be on display in the Grand Ballroom all day.



# 68th AISWCD Annual Meeting & IL Land and Water Resources Conference “You, Me and Trees!” Tuesday, July 26, 2016 - Information

## Large Director Training/Key Issue

### **Session Information:**

This session will be formed in three main parts. The first will consist of hitting key topics from the traditional Director training. Many Directors have not attended traditional Director training in a number of years and this section will help Directors brush up on the key topics. The second area this session will focus on is any Key Topics that need to be discussed that SWCDs are facing. This section will be decided on closer to Summer Conference so that the information is most relevant. The final section of this session will be an information/question/answer time with IDOA's legal council. This is a time for District Directors and Employees to ask those important legal questions concerning SWCDs that have been on their minds.

### **Presenter Information:**

Kelly Thompson, AISWCD Executive Director  
Jerry Snodgrass, Henry County SWCD  
Joe Rothermel, Champaign County SWCD  
Steve Stierwalt, Champaign County SWCD  
Attorney from Giffin, Winning, Cohen, and Bodewes, P.C.  
Craig Sondgeroth, IDOA General Counsel

## Employee ABC

### **Session Information:**

Mike Chandler, with IDNR, will discuss how CREP Easements are to be handled if a District no longer has staff to perform the monitoring reports and (if CREP comes back) new enrollments.

### **Presenter Information:**

Mike Chandler, a past Director on the Menard County SWCD board has been the CREP Program Manager since May 2013. Mike Graduated from SIU-Carbondale in 1988 with a B.S. in Zoology, emphasis on Wildlife Ecology. While at SIU, Mike worked at the SIU Cooperative Wildlife Research Lab assisting with studies on energy availability for wintering Canada geese on Southern Illinois refuges and nesting parameters for Canada geese in the Hudson Bay Lowlands. Mike has been with IDNR for 23 years, first serving as the assistant manager/acting manager at the Helfrich Propagation Center (IDNR pheasant hatchery) in Lincoln before becoming a Private Lands Biologist/District Wildlife Biologist in Havana where he had worked for 19 years assisting private landowners with various USDA Farm Bill Programs.

# THANK YOU TO OUR TREE DONATORS!



***AISWCD Ladies Auxiliary***  
***Beyers Excavating LLC***





**68th AISWCD Annual Meeting &  
IL Land and Water Resources Conference**  
*"You, Me and Trees!"*  
**Tuesday, July 26, 2016 - Information**

## NOTES

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### CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU!



**Friend of Conservation: Ivan Dozier**  
*NRCS State Conservationist*



**Legislator of the Year: Jerry Costello**  
*IL State Representative*

# Thank You To Our Sponsors!



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AG NEWS FOR AMERICA



## Exhibitors (Topaz Room) :



**AgrAbility Unlimited**



**The National Great Rivers**  
**Research & Education Center**

**ILLINOIS**  
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