



Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District

ForeverGreen

Winter 2005

www.KaneDuPageSWCD.org

Vol. 13 No. 1

Private Well Water Testing Program

As Easy As.....

1 February 14 through 25, 2005
Purchase Water Test Kits
at SWCD Office or
Kane Co. Farm Bureau

2 Sunday, February 27, 2005
Collect Water Sample

3 Monday, February 28, 2005
Return Water Samples

**Results are mailed to you
in 4-6 weeks.**

All results are confidential!

Comedian Jay Hendren to entertain at Annual Meeting

Join Ohio farmer and
agriculture comedian
Jay Hendren on
Thursday, February
24th at 8 p.m. as he
entertains at the Kane-
DuPage Soil & Water
Conservation District's
Annual Meeting held
at Fishermen's Inn in
Elburn.



Jay started performing
stand-up comedy in
1996. He drew from

Continued on page 5, Annual Meeting

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Forever Green

A publication of the Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District

Providing assistance to enable people to achieve their natural resource goals using responsible and sustainable practices.

Directors

Kevin Bohlin, Chairman
Wayne Schneider, Vice-Chairman
William Pauling, Secretary/Treasurer
Mary Zaander, Director
Neal Anderson, Director

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Robert Arnet	Marianne Nelson
Robert Conro	Mary Ochsenschlager
James Doyle	Timothy Paulson
Ken Evans	Charles Swanson
Susan Harney	Robert Montgomery
Patrick Kelsey	Vernon Long
Bruce Maki	

Soil & Water District Staff

Jenna Diehl, Administrative Coordinator
Elizabeth Hagen- Moeller, Education Coordinator
Kelsey Knowles, Land Use Analyst
Jonathan Koepke, Resource Analyst
Susan Rankin, Secretary II
Dolores Salak, Secretary
Mark Willobee, District Manager/Resource Conservationist

NRCS Staff

Rand Briggs, GIS Specialist
Thomas Ryterske, District Conservationist
Kenneth Towles, Soil Conservationist

SWCD Board Meetings

Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District Board meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the District office. Meetings are open to the public. Please phone ahead to confirm the date and time.

The Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District offers all programs and services without regard to color, national origin, religion, sex age, marital status, or handicap.

Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District

2315 Dean St., Suite 100
St. Charles, Illinois 60175
630.584.7961 Ext. 3
FAX 630.584.9534

www.KaneDuPageSWCD.org

Elections Held for Soil & Water District Directors

Elections for two directors will take place by ballot vote on February 24, 2005. Votes can be cast at the Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) office at 2315 Dean Street, Suite 100, St. Charles from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and at Fishermen's Inn, Route 47 and Main Street, Elburn, from 6:00- 6:30 p.m.

What is a Director

A Director is one of five individuals who is willing to give their time to make a difference on issues relative to natural resources and agriculture in Kane and DuPage counties. Directors provide leadership, motivation, and guidance to the SWCD staff to carry out the SWCD's plan of work in one of the fastest urbanizing areas of the state.

Obligation of a Director

A director will serve a minimum of a two-year term on the SWCD board, attend monthly board meetings, participate and serve on "standing" committees, and "time and need" committees. Standing committees carry on throughout the year, where as "time and need" committees are formed on an as-needed basis. SWCD directors also review, monitor and supervise the finances, office, personnel and workload of the SWCD; represent the SWCD, as time allows, at local, regional, state and national conservation affiliated events and meetings; and participate, as time allows, in regional and state affiliated organizations.

To be Considered for Nomination.

To be eligible for a director position, you must be a land owner or occupier in Kane or DuPage counties, of legal voting age, and willing to serve a two-year term. Please contact the Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District at 630-584-7961, ext. 3. Nominations must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on February 9th to be considered for election.



KANE-DUPAGE SWCD COOPERATIVE PRIVATE WELL TESTING PROGRAM

SUMMARY OF TESTS AVAILABLE

Test Kit #1- NITRATE PACKAGE (\$40.00)

The analyses in the nitrate package includes the following:

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1. nitrate | 5. sulfate |
| 2. nitrite | 6. soluble phosphorus |
| 3. ammonia | 7. silica |
| 4. chloride | 8. specific conductivity |
| | 9. fluoride |
-

Additional Testing for Test Kit #1- PESTICIDE IMMUNOASSAY SCREENS - (\$65.00) These enzyme immunoassay test procedures provide a relatively low cost and highly sensitive technique to detect the presence of various groups of pesticides in water. The procedure **does not** indicate which specific pesticide(s) within a group is (are) present. In most private well samples, in most areas, pesticides are not present. This test will confirm the absence of pesticides, with the groups tested, at concentrations above the method detection limit. If the test should indicate the presence of pesticides within a group, a follow-up test to determine the specific compounds present may be warranted. The immunoassays may also indicate the presence of some of the breakdown products of pesticides within a particular group. A combination of the two pesticide immunoassay screens listed below are offered.

TRIAZINE SCREEN: This test will indicate the presence of common triazine herbicides, including atrazine (AAtrex), cyanazine (Bladex), and simazine (Princep). The detection limits, in parts per billion, for these three compounds are 0.05, 1.0 and 0.05, respectively. Atrazine is the herbicide most often found in private water supplies.

LASSO-DUAL-ACETOCHLOR SCREEN: This test will indicate the presence of alachlor (Lasso), metolachlor (Dual), or acetochlor (Harness).

Test Kit #2- VOLATILE ORGANIC CHEMICALS (\$70.00)- The analyses include a wide variety of chemicals (46) including fuels, industrial and household cleaning solvents, dry cleaning agents, paint thinners, paint strippers, dyes, perfumes, air deodorizers, moth balls, and industrial solvents used in the manufacture of pesticides, paints, coolants, and plastics.

Test Kit #3- METALS (\$85.00)- The analyses in the metals package include the following:

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. aluminum | 8. chromium | 16. potassium |
| 2. antimony | 9. cobalt | 17. selenium |
| 3. arsenic | 10. copper | 18. silicon |
| 4. barium | 11. iron | 19. silver |
| 5. beryllium | 12. lead | 20. sodium |
| 6. cadmium | 13. magnesium | 21. strontium |
| 7. calcium | 14. manganese | 22. vanadium |
| | 15. nickel | 23. zinc |

Student Poster Contest



The Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District will be sponsoring a Soil and Water Stewardship Poster Contest. The contest allows Middle and High School students an opportunity to share their thoughts about natural resource issues. The theme for this year's contest is "Celebrate Conservation." All Middle and High School students in Kane and DuPage Counties are eligible to participate in this program.

A gift certificate of \$100 will be awarded to the grand-prize winner and a \$50 gift certificate will be awarded to the first runner-up for conventional art in both middle and high school divisions. One \$50 gift certificate will be awarded to an overall digital art winner. Grand prize posters from each grade division in the conventional art category will then compete in the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual Poster Contest with the possibility of advancing to the National Conservation Poster Contest.

The Annual Soil and Water Stewardship Poster Contest takes its focus from the National Association of Conservation District's Stewardship Week Theme. This year, Stewardship Week runs from April 24th- May 1st. This year's theme, "Celebrate Conservation," shares the good reasons why we should pause, consider, and thank the many people who work every day to protect, manage, and improve our natural resources. We applaud the pioneers of conservation and encourage those who continue to explore its frontiers today.

In almost every way, our lives in the United States are richer and fuller than at any other time in

history. People live longer and enjoy better health. We can eat an incredible variety of fresh food any time of the year. Overall air and water quality continues to improve. Our forest resources grow abundant and healthy. People have the ability to produce, travel, learn, and play more than anyone would have thought possible a generation ago.

Many of these improvements in our lives come directly from good conservation practices. Along with our people, our nation's greatest treasures are our abundant and excellent soil and water resources. Good conservation helps make sure that we have the essentials of good food and clean water. With our basic needs fulfilled, we can spend our time making better lives for ourselves, our families, and others with whom we share the world.

We marvel at the almost incredible growth of knowledge about our world that allows us to conserve resources wisely. But we should still be humble at how much we have to learn. We still face many resource challenges, and the dynamic nature of our world guarantees that new problems will arise. This is why it is important to "Celebrate Conservation."

Posters must be mailed or delivered to the Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District office, 2315 Dean Street, Suite 100, St. Charles, IL 60175, no later than May 2nd. For contest guidelines and entry forms call Elizabeth Hagen-Moeller at the District Office at (630) 584-7961 ext. 3, or visit our website at www.kanedupageswcd.org.



Annual Meeting, Continued from Page 1

his experiences working on the family farm. Just a few years later, his agriculture based comedy helped him win the title "Funniest Person in Columbus."

Jay's humor is good clean fun. It is good-natured while having a common sense analysis. It can be enjoyed by all ages. You'll get a kick from his hilarious stories about growing up in a family of farmers in Johnstown, Ohio. He tends to discuss everyday farm topics with a bizarre twist.

Jay has performed in comedy clubs across the nation sharing the stage with such names as Christopher Titus, Larry the Cable Guy, and Jackie Mason. He has also appeared in such films as "Traffic", "A Better Way 2 Die", and "Good Night Cleveland".

A social hour will start at 6 p.m. followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m. At 8 p.m., Jay Hendren will give his presentation. Tickets for the dinner are \$20.00 each. Please call the District Office at 630-584-7961, ext. 3 if you would like to purchase tickets for the dinner. If you are interested in the presentation only, please call the District Office for details (space is limited).




"Together We Have Power,
Power to Make A Difference"

DUPAGE COUNTY FARM BUREAU
630-668-8161

Contact the DuPage County Farm Bureau today to see how our numerous Membership benefits can save you money, keep you healthy and entertain you and your family, while supporting the agricultural community in your area.

General Manager- Mike Ashby, CAE, FBCM
245 Gary Ave., Carol Stream, IL 60188

Kane County Farm Bureau

"Where Membership Means Value"

Offering a **tremendous Membership Benefits Package** including soil testing services for fields, gardens and lawns and water test programs for your own "peace of mind".

Call the Kane County Farm Bureau at **630-584-8660** to find out the many ways that we serve farmers and non-farmers in Kane County

Officers
Steve Pitstick, President
Alan Volpp, Vice President
Robert Gehrke, Secretary Treasurer

Manager, Steve Arnold

located on Randall Road in St. Charles

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What's Your Fish and Wildlife Habitat IQ?

Do you have a good basic understanding of what fish and wildlife need to survive? You probably do if you can answer the questions below correctly.

Choose one answer for each.

1. Everything you do on your land affects wildlife.
a. True
b. False

2. What are the basic needs of wildlife?
(choose the best answer)
a. Food, water, cover and space
b. Food, water, and shelter
c. Food, water, and a place to raise young
d. Food, water, and winter cover

3. Which habitat statement below is most nearly correct?
a. What is good for one species of wildlife is good for all others as well.
b. Individual species have specific habitat needs.
c. Habitat you create for one species will be wrong for all others.

4. A soft, gradual transition from crop field to other habitat is better for more species than an abrupt change.
a. True
b. False

5. Rotational grazing helps birds as well as cows.
a. True
b. False

6. The best conservation practices for fish and wildlife habitat include:
a. restored wetlands, streamside buffers and ponds
b. windbreaks, diverse grass plantings, and clean water
c. connecting corridors, and managed timber and grassland
d. All of the above



7. Which is not a good general rule for habitat plantings?
a. Prefer natives over exotics
b. Use a variety of plants
c. Create habitat away from water
d. Use plants that offer food and cover for wildlife

8. You may benefit grassland birds by discing old grass.
a. True
b. False

For more information on wildlife habitat, check the web at <http://www.whmi.nrcs.usda.gov/animals.html> or stop at the Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District office to see our new book "Creating Habitats and Homes for Illinois Wildlife" for sale (\$25.00).

Whether you are interested in developing fish and wildlife habitat on your property, or just want a greater understanding of the natural world around you, you'll find this book full of useful information.



Our 2005 Conservation Catalog, *Plants for Your Conservation Needs*, will be in the mail soon. Planting a variety of evergreen, deciduous, and herbaceous plant species can provide food, cover, and nesting habitat for wildlife.

Answers: 1.a; 2.a; 3.b; 4.a; 5.a; 6.d; 7.c; 8.a

Wildlife Ways

Did you know....

... Fish and wildlife diversity can increase by up to five-fold by planting trees, shrubs, and grasses along streams.





2005 SPRING FISH SALE

FISH FACTS



- The **Channel Catfish** is not only an outstanding food fish, but also is an excellent sport fish. It is very popular because of its very fast growth rate when fed a commercial fish food. It is compatible in lakes and ponds with all species and works especially well with Hybrid Sunfish and Largemouth Bass.
Growth Rates: Up to 1 pound per year if fed a commercial feed.

- The **Hybrid Sunfish** is produced by crossing a male Bluegill with a female Green Sunfish. This hybrid cross produces a 90% male, 10% female population. This makes the Hybrid Sunfish an excellent pond fish as it will not over populate. It also accepts artificial feed readily and grows to a much larger size than either parent, 1-2 pound fish are not uncommon.
Growth Rates: 1/4 - 1/2 pound per year if fed a commercial feed.

- The **Largemouth Bass** is one of the most popular sport fish in America. It is a predator and works well to help control stunted Bluegill and Crappie populations. By nature, this fish will not accept artificial feed, but our supplying fishery does raise Largemouth (5-8" only) that do accept the same feed that Channel Catfish and Hybrid Sunfish eat. This greatly increases their Growth Rates.
Growth Rates: 1/2 - 3/4 pound per year

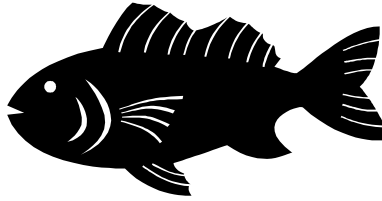
- **Fathead Minnows** should be stocked in new ponds. They should also be stocked prior to stocking Largemouth Bass so they have an opportunity to spawn and provide plenty of feed for the your Bass. Fathead Minnows should be stocked at 5 pounds per surface acre.

- **Bluegill** fit much of the description of the Hybrid Sunfish except they do not grow as quickly and tend to overpopulate much more rapidly than Hybrid Sunfish.

- The **Triploid Grass Carp** is a viable alternative to using chemicals for weed control. This fish will not reproduce and when the proper numbers are stocked, may eliminate the need for ever using chemicals or mechanical weed cutters. However, Grass Carp will only eat pond weeds. Stocking rates for each lake will be different, depending on the amount of weed present. These Carp eat most aggressively in the hot summer months, and good results are usually seen after a second season. Total eradication of plant cover in a pond is not a desired effect as it is good to have at least 40% vegetative plant cover.

NOTE FOR GRASS CARP ORDERS: It is very important to fill out the exact location of the pond on the order form under the County, Township, and Section and return the order form by March 18th, 2005, as the fishery must apply for permits from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

**Kane-DuPage
Soil & Water
Conservation
District**



**SPRING
FISH
SALE**

Fish Pick-up April 2, 2005

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 am.

at the

University of Illinois Extension Office Kane County (former KDSWCD Office),
535 S. Randall Road, St. Charles

Located on Randall Road, south of Route 64, north of Route 38, across from Kane County Circuit Clerk's
Office (formerly Montgomery Wards)

ORDER DEADLINE: Triploid Carp- March 18, 2005. Other fish orders- March 28, 2005.

REFUND POLICY: In the event you are unable to pick up your order, please call to notify the District office by Friday, April 1st for a full refund. Orders not picked upon April 2nd will be refunded 75% of their purchase cost.

About Triploid Grass Carp

This fish is used for biological weed control and takes approximately two years to provide good control. Stocking rates are based on percentage of weed cover and size of pond. If your pond has weed cover of 20-40%, 5 Triploid Carp per lake acres should be stocked; 40-60% weed cover, 10 Triploid Carp per lake acres are recommended. Ponds must have an area that is 7-10' deep for the fish to overwinter. The Grass Carp is sterile and will not reproduce. **Pond location information (County, Township, Section) must be filled out on the order form** as the District must apply for a permit from IDNR.

When picking up fish: We ask everyone to bring some type of container to ensure better fish survival during transport. Bring a 5 gallon bucket for smaller fish. For the larger fish and catfish brings a clean trash can or large container with pond water in it. The fish will be put into oxygen filled bags with a small amount of water.

DNR can answer your questions:

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources District Fisheries Biologists will be happy to assist you in developing a stocking strategy, as well as addressing other pond management questions which you may have. For information contact: Vic Santucci at 815-675.2386, ext 3.

**Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District
2005 Spring Fish Sale Order Form**

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____
 CELL PHONE _____ CONTACT NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

Fill out this section **ONLY** if you are ordering Triploid Grass Carp. The information is needed for a DNR permit and your order cannot be processed without it.

COUNTY _____ TOWNSHIP _____ SECTION _____

Species	Size	Price	Quantity	Subtotal
Channel Catfish	4-6"	.50 each		
	6-8"	.65 each		
	8-10"	.80 each		
	1-2 lb. minimum order 250 lbs	2.00/lb.		
Largemouth Bass	2-3"	.70 each		
	5-8"	1.75 each		
Triploid Grass Carp	8-11"	8.00 each		
Hybrid Sunfish	1-2" * 250/bag	\$50.00/bag		
	3-5"	.60 each		
	5-7"	1.05 each		
Fathead Minnow	order in lbs	8.00/lb		
Straight Bluegill	1-2"* 250/bag	50.00/bag		
	3-5"	.65 each		
	TOTAL			

*1-2" Hybrid Sunfish and Straight Bluegill can only be ordered by the bag.

**Deadline: March 18 for Triploid Carp
March 28 for all other fish orders.**

Payment must be included with your order

Make check payable and send to:

Kane-DuPage SWCD
 2315 Dean St., Suite 100
 St. Charles, IL 60175

For more information call (630) 584-7961 Ext. 3

Scholarship Available

The Northeastern Illinois Council of Soil and Water Conservation Districts is offering a \$500 scholarship to students seeking a four year degree in a natural resource field.



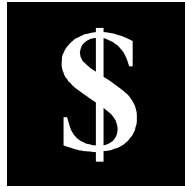
Students must be high school seniors or enrolled in a degree program, have a 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale) and permanently reside in one of the

following counties: Boone, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, Will and Winnebago.

Call the Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District to receive an application form at 630.584.7961 Ext. 3. or download a form from the internet at

www.KaneDuPageSWCD.org
(under *Education Programs*).

Deadline is April 1st.



Celebrate Arbor Day!

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) **will not** be offering the Trees for 3rd Graders Program this year due to budget cuts. However, the Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District (KDSWCD) is providing schools a way to celebrate Arbor Day. The KDSWCD is offering one green ash seedling per school in Kane and DuPage counties that may be used for an Arbor Day observance. The seedlings will be in one-gallon pots and will be approximately 3-4 feet tall.

Participation forms for the Arbor Day Observance Program will be sent to principals of public and private schools in early February seeking their willingness to participate in the program.

If you have any questions, please contact the district office at 630-584-7961, ext. 3. Please visit our website at www.kanedupageswcd.org for more information.



Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District

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