



# Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District

# ForeverGreen

Summer 2008

[www.KaneDuPageSWCD.org](http://www.KaneDuPageSWCD.org)

Vol. 16 No.2

## Saying good-bye to SWCD Board Member

This year's Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District (KDSWCD) elections brought about changes to the board of directors. We sadly said good-bye to Neal Anderson, who has been on the Board of Directors since 1996. Neal helped facilitate topics at meetings and was very helpful to the District staff for questions and advice. He will be missed. Neal will continue to be involved with the KDSWCD as an Associate Director.

The KDSWCD welcomed our new board member, Maureen McAllister. Maureen is an active contributor to conservation groups and is a strong believer in the "Think Global, Act Local" philosophy. We feel privileged to have her as part of the board.



*Wayne Schneider, KDSWCD Chairman, recognizes Neal Anderson for his years of service to the board of directors*

## SWCD Annual Meeting Honors Educator

On February 21st, the Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District held an annual meeting at Fishermen's Inn in Elburn. Following the business meeting, awards were given to honor achievements in conservation.

Dan Mitchell was presented an award for Excellence in Conservation Education. Dan is the naturalist at the Bartlett Nature Center. He started working for the Bartlett Park District 10 years ago as the Supervisor of Grounds and Natural Areas. Dan established a nature program at the park district by offering about 4 programs per month out of the park district's maintenance center. By 2006, the nature center relocated to the current facility at James Pate Phillip State Park and now offers up to 70 programs a month.

Each year the SWCD gives awards to recognize individuals, agencies and organizations that go "above and beyond" to further natural resources and/or agriculture in Kane and DuPage counties. For more information visit [www.kanedupageswcd.org](http://www.kanedupageswcd.org).

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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

Wayne Schneider, Chairperson  
Gerard Fabrizius, Vice-Chairperson  
William Pauling, Secretary/Treasurer  
Mary Ochenschlager, Director  
Maureen, McAllister, Director

### Associate Directors

Ken Anderson	Vernon Long
Neal Anderson	James Michels
Robert Arnet	Robert Montgomery
Kevin Bohlin	Randy Newkirk
Robert Conro	Timothy Paulson
James Doyle	Mark Willobee
Susan Harney	Linda Yunker
Patrick Kelsey	Mary Zaander

Jonathan Koepke

### Soil & Water District Staff

Anastasia Brown, Resource Analyst  
Elizabeth Hagen-Moeller, Education Coordinator  
Kelsey Musich, Resource Conservationist  
Dolores Salak, Secretary  
Tracey Waite, Administrative Coordinator

### NRCS Staff

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

### SWCD Board Meetings

Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District  
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](http://www.KaneDuPageSWCD.org)

## Soil and Water District Election Results

A day long ballot election was held February 21, 2008  
to elect three individuals to serve as Directors for the  
Board of the Soil & Water Conservation District.

Wayne Schneider, a farmer and resident of Kane  
County was reelected to the board. Gerard Fabrizius,  
a centennial farmer and lifetime resident of western  
Kane County was also reelected to the board.  
Maureen McAllister, Kane County resident and owner  
of a management consulting business, was newly  
elected to the board. The directors were elected for a  
two year term.

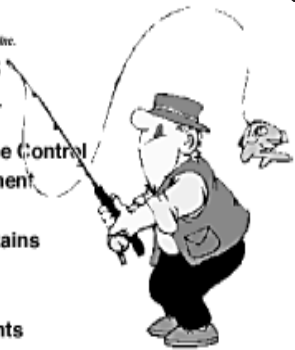
The five-member board of directors governs the work  
of the Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)  
and staff through an Annual Plan of Work. The  
SWCD works in partnership with the USDA Natural  
Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Two director positions will be voted on in the 2009  
elections. In order to qualify to serve as a director,  
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. Persons interested in commit-  
ting time to serve on the board of the Soil and Water  
District should contact the office at 630.584.7961 Ext.  
3. To learn more about the activities of the district  
check out our web page at  
[www.kanedupageswcd.org](http://www.kanedupageswcd.org).

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## 2008 Northeastern Illinois Envirothon



In 1998, the Kane-DuPage SWCD partnered with the Conservation Foundation to offer the first Envirothon in Kane and DuPage Counties. Since that time, the competition has grown to include teams from eight counties in North-

eastern Illinois. This year thirty six high school teams participated in the Northeastern Illinois Envirothon competition.

The competition was held over two days, April 3rd and 8th. The April 3rd competition, held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau Center for Agriculture included teams from DeKalb, McHenry, Boone and Winnebago counties. The April 8th event was held at the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's Mayslake Peabody Estate for DuPage, Kane, Lake and Will County teams.

Envirothon gives students the opportunity to learn more about natural resource issues in the areas of Wildlife, Aquatics, Soils, Forestry, and a new current topic each year. This year's current topic was Recreational Impacts on Natural Resources.

Students were given study materials for each of the topic areas prior to the competition. During the competition, students traveled to five stations representing each topic. At the wildlife, aquatics, soils and forestry stations, teams received a presentation from a resource professional. The teams then worked together to answer test and lab questions covering those areas. For the current topic station, the students gave an oral presentation on a scenario they had been given prior to the competition.



*Dundee Crown students deliver their oral presentation*



*Top scoring DuPage County team: Waubonsie Valley High School*

The Supporting Sponsor for this year's Northeastern Illinois Envirothon was Enbridge. In addition to the supporting sponsor, the Northeastern Illinois Envirothon was fortunate to have station sponsors. This year the Boone County Conservation District, sponsored the wildlife station, Hey and Associates sponsored the aquatics station, and OC Image Works sponsored the forestry station.

Envirothon depends on the dedication of volunteers. The volunteers serve as team guides, station monitors and photographers. Another key to the success of the Envirothon is the knowledge of the presenters. Presenters for the events were Cyndi Duda, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Aquatics; Peggy Doty, University of Illinois Extension, Wildlife; Dave Brandt, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soils; Tom Simpson, McHenry County Conservation District, Forestry; and the current topic judges Elizabeth Hagen-Moeller and Mary Ochenschlager, Kane-DuPage SWCD and Dave Guritz, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County.

The top scoring team for Kane County was Dundee Crown High School in Carpentersville. Waubonsie Valley High School in Aurora had the top score for DuPage County. The highest scoring team of the two events, that advanced to the State Envirothon May 7th and 8th, was Rolling Meadows High School from Cook County.

If you are a high school interested in competing next year call Elizabeth Hagen-Moeller at 630.584.7961 Ext. 3.



## 2008 FALL 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 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 your Bass. Fathead Minnows should be stocked at 5 pounds per surface acre.

➤ **Bluegill** are similar to the Hybrid Sunfish except they do not grow as quickly and tend to overpopulate much more rapidly than Hybrid Sunfish.

➤ **Hybrid Redear** is a cross between a male bluegill and a female redear. It DOES eat snails and clams and has a slightly higher reproductive rate than the 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 using chemicals or mechanical weed cutters. However, Grass Carp will only eat pond weeds. Stocking rates for each pond will be different, depending on the amount of weeds present. These Carp eat most aggressively in the hot summer months, and positive results are usually seen after a second season. Total eradication of plant cover in a pond is not a desired effect as it is beneficial 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 September 15th, 2008 as the fishery must apply for permits from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

## Poster Contest Winners

Once again this spring, the Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District held it's annual poster contest. All K-12 students in Kane and DuPage Counties were eligible to participate. Students could use any media to create original works of art to illustrate this year's theme, Water is Life.

Rachel Palmer from Woodridge won the grand-prize in the 7-9 grade division. Rachel received a \$75 gift card for her poster. In the 4-6 grade division Yvette Ramirez from Woodridge was the grand-prize winner and Madeline Clemens from Elgin was the first runner-up. Conor Williams from Villa Park was the grand prize winner in the K-3 grade division. Gift cards of \$50 were awarded to the grand-prize winners and \$25 gift certificates were awarded to the first runners-up in these grade divisions.




District (AISWCD) where they will be displayed at the Association's annual meeting held in Springfield this July.

The poster contest is an annual event for the Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District. Look for information about the 2009 Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Stewardship Poster Contest in March.



*The grand-prize poster in the 4-6 grade division by fifth grader Yvette Ramirez*

The grand prize posters in each division were sent to the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation

 <p style="text-align: center;">"Together We Have Power, Power to Make A Difference"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>DUPAGE COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> 630-668-8161 Contact the DuPage County Farm Bureau today to see how being a Farm Bureau member can save you money, keep you healthy and entertain you and your family, while supporting the agriculture industry in our area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>General Manager- Mike Ashby, CAE, FBCM</b> 245 Gary Ave., Carol Stream, IL 60188</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Kane County Farm Bureau</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>"Where Membership Means Value"</b> Offering a tremendous <b>Membership Benefits Package</b> including soil testing services for fields, gardens and lawns and water test programs for your own "peace of mind".</p> <p>Call the Kane County Farm Bureau at <b>630-584-8660</b> to find out the many ways that we serve farmers and non-farmers in Kane County</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Officers</b> Bob Gehrke, President Mike Kenyon, Vice President Joe White, Secretary Treasurer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Manager, Steve Arnold</p> <p style="text-align: center;">located on Randall Road in St. Charles</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>alphagraphics®</b> DESIGN ■ COPY ■ PRINT ► COMMUNICATE</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>2740 E. Main Street St. Charles</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>DESIGN • COPY • PRINT</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Call Alphagraphics 630-513-7711 FAX: 630-513-7761</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">YOUR AD HERE!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Call 630.584.7961 for information on advertising in the Forever Green</p>	<p>Owner <b>Tom Berning</b></p>  <p>Phone 630-330-9970 BerningEarthworks@comcast.net 2528 S. Colby Dr. McHenry, IL 60050</p> <p>•Grading •Excavation •Site leveling •Demolition •Environmental Erosion control •Custom Farming •Retention Walls &amp; Ponds•Commercial Seeding &amp; Mowing•Land Development/Improvement</p>	 <p>Site Development Excavating &amp; Drainage Sewer &amp; Water Road Building</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BISH EXCAVATING CO.</b> 15029 U.S. Hwy 30, P.O. Box 1191 Hinckley, IL 60520</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>815-286-3811 • 630-585-5000</b> Fax 815-286-3216</p>

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## New Faces at SWCD



*New Staff: Candice Anderson and Tom Mattingly*

There have been a few staff changes at the SWCD. In June, Resource Analyst **Soren Hall**, left the district to take a position with the Army Corp of Engineers as a Regulatory Specialist. Soren had worked for the district since 2006.

As a result of Soren's departure, the district has partnered with the McHenry County Soil and Water Conservation District to utilize **Tom Mattingly**. Tom has worked for the McHenry County SWCD as an Urban Erosion Control Specialist since 2006.

Tom was born and raised in Woodstock and has lived and worked in McHenry County all of his life. He has worked in many aspects of the construction industry. Inspired by our unique and vulnerable natural areas,

Tom pursued a Certification in Erosion and Sediment Control. He enjoys any and all things outdoors along with his wife Kelly.

**Candice Anderson** joined the SWCD team in April as a GIS Intern. She will primarily be responsible for completing LUO reports and assisting the Resource Analysts with their duties. She is currently in her last year at Northern Illinois University in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in Geography with specialization in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Environmental Studies. The internship will help fulfill her credits for her Certificate in GIS.

Candice and her fiance' Adam, enjoy activities outside, seeing movies, traveling, boating, planning their wedding and hanging around on the Andersen farm. Candice is excited about the opportunities offered to her at the district, learning more about GIS, having adventures in the field, and playing in the dirt!

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## Green Driving Habits

Want to be green and save green at the same time? Here are some tips that can help you save money as well as the environment.

### Avoid High Speeds

Doubling a vehicle's speed, quadruples the air resistance it encounters. You can assume that each 5 m.p.h. you drive over 60 m.p.h. is like paying an additional \$0.30 per gallon for gas. In addition, the Department of Transportation says that if highway speeds were observed by all drivers nationally the pollutants from about 4 million gallons of gasoline per day could be kept out of the air.

### Drive Smoothly

Driving smoothly saves gas and lowers emissions. If you gain speed slowly, you will save as much as two miles per gallon. "Jackrabbit starts" use up to 50% more gas than easy starts. Using cruise control on the highway helps you maintain a constant speed and, in most cases, will save gas.

### Idling Engines Waste Gas

Idling gets 0 miles per gallon. Cars with larger engines typically waste more gas at idle than do cars with smaller engines. Don't start your car until you're ready to move. Stop the engine if you are going to be idling for an extended period such as in a long line at a drive-in window (better yet, park and go inside to order!)

### Avoid Drag

Driving with the windows open creates more drag. Roof-mounted racks increase drag by up to 40% and even more when loaded. Also keep in mind that the heavier the load you keep in your trunk, the greater the drag. Every extra 100 pounds could reduce your M.P.G. by up to 2%.

### Turn Air Into Oil

You can turn air into oil by keeping your tires properly inflated. According to the Department of Energy, Americans could save 100,000 barrels of oil a day by properly inflating their tires.



# Kane County Recycles



## USED OIL COLLECTION

**Saturday August 23- 8:00 am-12:00 noon**

Kane County Highway Garage, Burlington & Empire Roads ( west of St. Charles)

- Used Motor Oil will be accepted at no charge.
- No quantity too large or too small.
- Drained oil filters also accepted.

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)

**Naperville Fire Station #4**

Route 59 and Brookdale Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-88)

HOURS: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

*every Saturday and Sunday (except holidays)*

## ELECTRONICS AND BOOK RECYCLING DAYS

**Regular Drop-Off Location at: Kane County Circuit Clerk Building (former Montgomery Wards) 540 S. Randall Road, St. Charles**

**These Fridays AND Saturdays from 8:00 am-12:00 noon:**

July 11-12th	October 10-11th	January 9-10th, 2009	April 10-11th, 2009
August 8-9th	November 7-8th	February 13-14th, 2009	May 8-9th, 2009
September 12-13th	December 12-13th	March 13-14th, 2009	

**Computers and Peripherals: (25 piece limit)**

- Personal computers •Monitors •Mouse • Cables •Tape, Disk, and CD Drives •Printers •Keyboards

**Entertainment Equipment:**

- Televisions •VCRs •Camcorders •Stereo equipment (no speakers) •Cameras •Game Players
- Joysticks

**Other Electronic Equipment:**

- Telephones •Answering Machines •Typewriters •Fax •Calculators •Adding Machines •Copiers
- Postage Meters •Cell Phones •Pagers •Microwave Ovens

**Electronic Media:**

- Floppy Disks •Compact Disks (and cases) •Video Cassettes (no audio cassettes)
- Please remove all paper and recycle it with your mixed paper at home

**DO NOT BRING**

- Manuals and packing material •air conditioners, microwaves, or other appliances •Household Hazardous Wastes

**Books-both hardbound and paperback**

*Open only to all residents of Kane County and the cities of Aurora and Elgin. All collections are free of charge.*

**MORE INFORMATION FOR KANE COUNTY CALL: 630.208.3841**

**DuPage County** recycling information is available at [www.co.dupage.il.us/edp](http://www.co.dupage.il.us/edp)  
(Economic Development & Planning) or call 630.407.6700

## Arbor Day Grant



The Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District is once again soliciting applications from schools in Kane and Dupage County of up to \$500.00 for a reimbursable Arbor Day Mini-Grant to be used for celebrations and/or the purchase of native trees, plants or related materials for schools.

Examples of possible projects include but are not limited to: a student planned Arbor Day event, the creation of a unit on trees or plants, or a schoolyard habitat that utilizes native trees and plants

Completed applications along with a project proposal (maximum of 2 pages long), a budget and timeline are due by October 8th, 2008.

Project Coordinators will be notified of acceptance by mid-November. If you would like more information, contact the office at 630.584.7961 Ext. 3. or visit the KDSWCD website at [www.kanedupageswcd.org](http://www.kanedupageswcd.org).

# Wanted!

**Have a well you need to seal?  
Would you like to have it sealed at no cost to you?**

**Kane-DuPage SWCD is looking for a well in Kane County for a well sealing demonstration.**

**Call 630.584.7961 for details.**



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

2315 Dean Street, Suite 100  
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