

# Conservation Conversation

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## **Tree Sale**

By Karen Sanders

The district is currently holding it's annual tree sale. Each year we order a variety of trees and take orders on those trees until they are gone. So, don't wait too long to order so that you get what you want. Orders are taken on a first come first serve basis. This year we are offering:



April, we will call you when they arrive and you can pay for them when they are picked up. If you are interested in ordering trees you can either call the office at 618-283-1095 ext.3 and

- **White Pine: 25 for \$15** - These are fast growing, good survival rate and are great for use as a windbreak.
- **Norway Spruce: 25 for \$15** - These also grow fast, for spruces, have a good survival rate and are great for a second row of wind break.
- **Blue Spruce: 10 for \$10** - This tree is very pretty but slow growing. Some (not all) have the blue tint.
- **Northern Red Oak: \$2 each** - This is a slow growing tree, but one of the most popular shade trees due to the strong colors and dense foliage.
- **Red Osier Dogwood: \$2 each** - The Red Osier Dogwood is a shrub that grows quickly and gets about 10 ft tall and 7 to 8 feet wide. They have small white flowers that are followed by small white fruit and in the fall the branches turn purple. They tolerate almost all soil types and are a very good cover for birds and small wildlife.

talk to Karen or Tony, or you can mail in the attached form or visit our website at [fayettecountyswcd.com](http://fayettecountyswcd.com) and submit the tree sale form.

## Fayette County SWCD Annual Tree Sale

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Day-time Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_ Bundles (25) White Pine, \$15
- \_\_ Bundles (25) Norway Spruce, \$15
- \_\_ Bundles (10) Blue Spruce, \$10
- \_\_ Northern Red Oak, \$2 each
- \_\_ Red Osier Dogwood, \$2 each

Mail form to: Fayette County SWCD  
301 South Third Street  
Vandalia, IL 62471  
618-283-1095 ext. 3

\*For Conservation purpose

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS:**

Tree Sale	1
Lots of Conservation on Land	1
Sponsors	2
Annual Meeting Just around the corner	3
What a Wonderful World	3
Nelsie's News	3
Lots of Conservation on Land - Continued	4
Funds from County Board for Well Sealing	4
Calendar	4



## **Lots of Conservation on the Land**

By Tony Pals

Between \$20,000 of Conservation Practice Program (CPP) bond money, \$5,000 of CPP watershed money, \$15,000 of CPP regular funds, three large Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) jobs, two Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) wetlands, and six Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) waterways, Scott and I kept pretty busy this year.

And we're not complaining; we're happy about it. For one thing, it kept us out of trouble. But, mostly, it's great that we have lots of people in Fayette County interested in conservation, and, with CPP, it's nice to again have the funds to install more conservation practices. Just with our CPP funds this year we installed over ten acres of waterway, put in four struc-

*(Continued on page 4)*

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**Nelsie's News**

*By Nelson Torbeck*

By golly, its fall already! The weather has been very nice so far. The farmers couldn't have asked for better weather for harvest and wheat sowing. They weren't out of the fields but for a few days. Our corn was out of the field in September. That's almost unheard of, and the yield was extra good, for the dry weather we had. We had one good rain that made the corn. The beans could have been better, although twenty years ago, we would have called them a good crop. What about the crop prices? I've never gotten as much as they are now. I remember some twelve dollar beans, but, of course, I had sold mine before they got that high. I needed the money then. Now that I can wait awhile, it's harder than before. When to sell? Maybe the price will go up, and maybe the price will go down. What to do? The price goes up and down a bunch in a day. That's so the money boys can buy low and sell high. I say, if you don't own the crop, you can't sell the crop. Course what do I know. Well, lets get to the varmint report; I did dispose of a skunk last month. But, there's still one around here, let me tell you, that's one smart varmint. I can trap those rascals but I have trouble with our cats. I caught a cat last night. It rained last night so he was one wet cat this morning; good. I'll go out after dark and try to surprise the black and white. I'll be ready to shoot, turn on the pole light, and go out. So far no luck! When the moon is out I'll look around. So, far, no luck! I'll get him one of these times. The only time we see it is when we drive up the lane at night. Now,



I know what you're thinking; we've tried that too. By the time I get read to shoot, he's gone. Oh well, it'll go to sleep for the winter pretty soon. I hope it's not a she and has little ones this spring. Had that once. One evening Janice saw a little one walking around, so I hurried around and got the gun (I was young enough to hurry then). I got that one. Bout that time I saw another one. Janice yelled, "There's more over here." I mean to tell you folks, it sounded like World War II for a while! So much for that. Haven't talked about the grandsons. They are working or going to school. Tim did go to Las Vegas again to the PBR rodeo. He went with a bunch from across the Kaskaskia River and up the hill. Guess they had a good time; haven't talked to Tim since then. Jordy is playing basketball. They're not winning many games, but he's getting a lot of playing time. They don't have many kids in his school. Two seventh graders, the rest are fifth and sixth graders. The sixth graders have to play junior varsity and varsity. There's a lot of difference in height between sixth and eighth graders. We're going to craft shows now; doing pretty good. I'll have toys to make this winter again. It gives me something to do. I go in the shop, and Janice makes rugs. Let's see, guess I'll wish you folks a Happy Holidays. We won't have another newsletter till next year. Now for the old saying, "Whatever we write in the hearts of our children is not erased by time." Here's a question, "What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men."

**Annual Meeting Just Around the Corner**

*By Tony Pals*

It's time to start thinking about the Annual Meeting. It's scheduled for Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at the American Legion in Vandalia. Registration begins at 6:00 PM with the meal at 6:30. Tickets are \$10.00. The caterer this year will be Miller's Market of Ramsey. Tentatively, we have scheduled a weather person from KMOV, Channel 4 in St. Louis as the principal speaker for the evening. Of course, we will also have a short business meeting, including the election of directors, presentation of awards, and lots of door prizes. Come by the office to get your tickets or contact us on line at [www.fayettecountyswcd.com](http://www.fayettecountyswcd.com). See you there.

**What A Wonderful World**

*By George Weiss/ Bob Thiele*

I see trees of green, red roses too  
 I see them bloom for me and you  
 And I think to myself, what a wonderful world

I see skies of blue and clouds of white  
 The bright blessed day, the dark sacred night  
 And I think to myself, what a wonderful world

The colours of the rainbow, so pretty in the sky  
 Are also on the faces of people going by  
 I see friends shakin' hands, sayin' "How do you do?"  
 They're really saying "I Love you"

I hear babies cryin', I watch them grow  
 They'll learn much more than I'll ever know  
 And I think to myself, what a wonderful world  
 Yes, I think to myself, what a wonderful world

**2008 Annual Meeting**

**Fayette County Soil & Water Conservation District**

**63rd Annual Meeting**

**Thursday, February 21, 2008**

**6:00 p.m. Registration                      \$10.00 donation per person**

**Held at the American Legion Hall, Vandalia**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form to: Fayette County SWCD

301 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street

Vandalia, IL 62471

618-283-1095 ext. 3

*Merry Christmas, from the Board and Staff*

Conservation Conversation  
FAYETTE COUNTY SWCD  
301 South Third Street  
Vandalia, IL 62471  
618-283-1095, Ext. 3  
Fax: 618-283-4962

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## Label Box

### Conservation Calendar

#### December 2007

20 - Board Meeting (Note Changed Date)  
24 - Christmas Eve  
25 - Christmas  
31 - New Year's Eve

#### January 2008

1 - New Year's Day  
21 - Martin Luther King Birthday, Observed (Office Closed)  
24 - Board Meeting

#### **Funds from County Board for Well Sealing**

*By Tony Pals*

The Fayette County Board has given the district \$2,000 to use for cost-share for sealing abandoned water wells. Abandoned wells not only are dangerous to humans, livestock, and wildlife, they are also an avenue for contaminants to pollute the groundwater. There are probably thousands of abandoned wells in the county. This will be a great opportunity to get a portion of them sealed. If you have such a well to seal, come by our office to sign up. The district will pay 60% of the cost, not to exceed a cost-share payment of \$400.00. We will take sign up until March 1<sup>st</sup>. This would be a good chance to rid yourself of a safety hazard and help protect our groundwater at the same time



#### **Lots of Conservation on the Land**

*By Tony Pals*

*(Continued from page 1)*

tures, 300 feet of diversion, two acres of critical area, 22 acres of hayland seeding, and 162 acres of nutrient management. Two of the three EQIP jobs we did this year were originally signed up under CPP. But, since they involved higher costs, and they could get a little bit better funding through EQIP, we directed them to that program. Mary Ann is explaining the EQIP program in another part of this newsletter. We also encourage folks that sign up waterways that would qualify for CRP to go that route. So, if you have some conservation work to do, come by the office and sign up for CPP. We will match your project with the program that works to your advantage. We are taking sign up until March, and it sounds like we will have even more CPP money this fiscal year.

The Fayette County Soil & Water Conservation District does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, age, marital status, veteran status, or disability. This policy covers all programs, services, and procedures of the district, including employment.