



Rock Island County Soil & Water Conservation District

www.rockislandswcd.org

Rock Island County SWCD Fall/Winter 2025 Newsletter

Conservation Success Stories

Pollinators, Wildlife, & Forestry In Action Farm Tour

On the beautiful Saturday morning of August 9th, the Rock Island County SWCD hosted a guided walking tour at the Tim Anderson farm near Coal Valley, IL. The program showcased real-world conservation practices that support both agriculture and the environment. Tour highlights included:

- Native prairie plantings that provide vital habitat for local pollinators.
- Wildlife habitat integrated into a working farm.
- A long-term forestry management plan, featuring both 5-year and 30-year tree growth examples.



Joey Deloian providing information regarding SWCD and NRCS programs.

A total of 35 participants joined the tour to learn more about how landowners and farmers can implement these practices with support from programs like EQIP, CRP, and PFC. These NRCS and SWCD programs offer cost-share opportunities that address critical resource concerns such as soil health, water quality, and habitat restoration.



Tim Anderson showing the prairie planting to attendees.

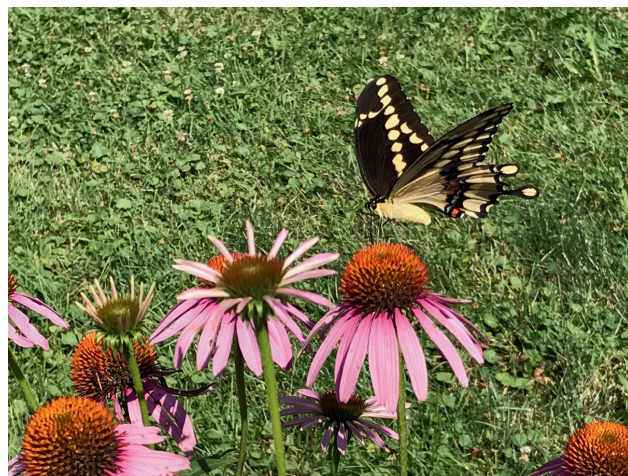


Group photo with walking tour attendees.

RISWCD Has a New Website!

Visit us at www.rockislandswcd.org to explore our updated features and resources!

- Home page
 - Printable mail-in order forms for fall fish and tree sales
 - Current and upcoming events and programs
- Shop page
 - Online fish, tree, and native plant products that can be purchased through the website
- Newsletters page
 - Past and current RISWCD newsletters
- Meetings page
 - Consent agenda packets for past/upcoming board meetings
 - Past approved RISWCD board meeting minutes
- About Us page
 - What RISWCD does
 - RISWCD board of directors
 - RISWCD conservation team
 - SWCD history and origins
 - Who we work with
- Contact page
 - RISWCD general contact information
 - Online form for general inquiries
 - Join our mailing list form



Giant Swallowtail Butterfly on a Purple Coneflower,
taken by Joe Gates

If you have any issues navigating the website or you see a problem, please feel free to email dgillespie@rockislandswcd.org or call (309) 764-1486.

Upcoming Events

The Rock Island County SWCD will have a booth at the Environmental Community Resource Fair at the YWCA in Rock Island on Thursday, October 2nd, 2025 from 4-7 pm. Information on urban conservation will be available for attendees. There is no cost to attend the event. Rich Stewart will be at the Rock Island County SWCD booth to answer questions.

We will also have a booth at the Hispanic Block Party on Thursday, September 25th from 4-7 pm at The Gathering Church in Moline. Information on local and urban conservation will be available to the public.

Make sure you stop by our booth and say hi!

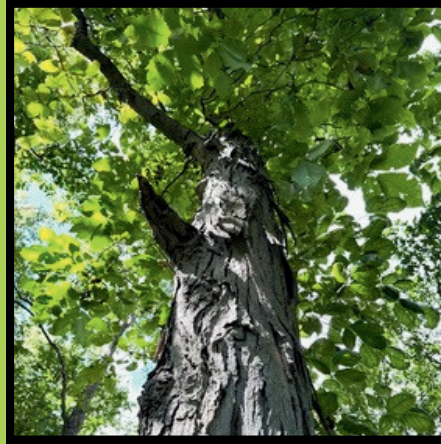
RISWCD 2025 Fall Sales



Grass Carp orders are due by September 17th and all other **fish** orders are due October 1st.

Pick Up Date: October 10th at 10:00 AM

Pick Up Location:
QCCA Expo Center parking lot, 2621 4th Ave. Rock Island, IL, 61201



Tree orders are due October 14th

Pick Up Date: October 23rd & 24th from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
(Thursday & Friday)

Pick Up Location:
QCCA Expo Center North Hall, 2621 4th Ave. Rock Island, IL, 61201



Native plant orders are due September 22nd

Pick Up Date:
September 25th & 26th from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
(Thursday & Friday)

Pick Up Location:
Milan USDA Service Center, 3020 1st Ave. E. Milan, IL 61264



Order Online at:

<https://www.rockislandswcd.org/category/all-products>



Seeding Drill Rental

Our 7.5 foot Great Plains No-Till Seeding Drill is available for rent. It can be used for grain, small seed or native grasses.

Rent out drill for \$125/day + \$15/acre.

Call (309) 764-1486 to check rental availability.

Pick-Up at SWCD office in Milan, IL.

Eco-Camp 2025

Last spring, Rock Island County SWCD partnered with Living Lands & Waters, Illinois Extension, the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District, and Trees Forever to bring back and organize Eco-Camp for Quad City area high school students.

This year, students from Rock Island High School, Davenport North High School, and Davenport West High School participated in the three-day program held at Illiniwek Forest Preserve, with a total of 100 students in attendance.



Students comparing the length of native prairie plant roots.

Throughout the camp, students explored the importance of soil health, as well as land management and species identification specific to prairies,

forests, and watersheds. At one station, students used string to compare the root lengths of native prairie plants to those of non-native species like Kentucky Bluegrass. In another, they observed a hands-on demonstration that

highlighted the difference in water runoff between bare fields and those planted with cover crops.

At the end of the camp, students gathered to reflect on what they had learned and discuss how they plan to apply that knowledge moving forward.

Programs like Eco-Camp help foster a meaningful connection between young people and the natural world, encouraging them to appreciate, respect, and protect the environment for future generations.



Students comparing the different horizons of soil from the prairie and forest at Illiniwek Forest Preserve.



Students learning about forestry management and tree IDs.



Students at the Scenic Overlook at Illiniwek Forest Preserve.

Signup period announced for County Cost – Share Program

There is still time to sign-up for the state cost-share funds for conservation practices at the Rock Island SWCD office in Milan. Funds are available to producers and landowners to address numerous resource concerns through a program called Partners for Conservation or P.F.C. Practices that landowners and farmers can apply for include:

- Grassed Waterways
- Denitrifying Bioreactors
- Water & Sediment Control Basins
- Saturated Buffers
- Grade Stabilization Structures
- Abandoned Well Sealing
- Cover Crops
- Rain gardens
- Pollinator Plantings



Cost-share is generally 75% with a few exceptions and limited to the average cost of any practice. For more information or to see if you qualify, contact our office at (309) 764-1486 x3.



QCSC

CELEBRATING

12
YEARS



SAVE THE DATE

02.19.26

BALLY'S QUAD CITIES CASINO & HOTEL

777 BALLY BLVD.

ROCK ISLAND, IL 61201

QUAD CITIES STORMWATER CONFERENCE

WALKING THE TALK:

Engineering, Construction, and Conservation



RISWCD 2025 Fall Fish Sale - Proceeds Support Conservation

Orders Due By: 10/1/25

Grass Carp Orders Due By: 9/17/25

Pick Up: 10/10/25 @ 10:00AM at QCCA Expo Center Parking Lot

Sale Questions: 309-764-1486 x3 *Stocking Questions: IDNR Fisheries Biologist Dave Wyffels

Make checks payable to: RISWCD, 3020 1st Ave E. Milan, IL 61264

Species	Size	Price	Qty.	Subtotal
Channel Catfish	6-8 in	\$70 Bag of 50		\$
Albino Catfish	4-6 in	\$7 each		\$
Hybrid Bluegill	1-2 in	\$98 Bag of 250		\$
	3-5 in	\$65 Bag of 50		\$
Largemouth Bass	3 in	\$84 Bag of 50		\$
	5-8 in	\$182 Bag of 50		\$
Bluegill	1-2 in	\$98 Bag of 250		\$
	3-5 in	\$65 Bag of 50		\$
Redear Sunfish	1-2 in	\$102 Bag of 250		\$
Fathead Minnows	Avg. 200 per lbs.	\$14.00 per lbs		\$
Triploid Grass Carp, Rec. 6/vegetated acre	10-14 in	\$16.00 each		\$
Black Crappie	2-4 in	\$130 Bag of 100		\$
HB Blue Dye	1 Quart	\$22		\$
HB Black Dye	1 Quart	\$22		\$
HB All Seasons Blend	1 lbs	\$11		\$
			Total:	\$

** Required for Triploid Grass Carp Orders

County	Township, Range, Section	Pond Size	Water Name	# of fish
Ex: Rock Island	T16N R2W S16	2ac	Pond	4

Remind me prior to pick up by:

Phone ☐ Email ☐ Both ☐

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Email:

You can also order online:
rockislandswcd.org/category/fish



Our new fish supplier offers Electrofishing surveys which includes a fish survey, vegetation/algae analysis, water quality analysis, depth analysis among other things. If interested, please contact our office for more details. Cost is \$975.

Getting Your Fish Home Safely - Save this Portion of Form

- All fish, except catfish, will be pre-bagged and sealed in oxygenated water.
- Bring containers such as 5 gallon buckets, coolers, or totes, to secure the bags while traveling.
- 6-8" catfish: Due to their spines, you must provide a container with pond water. Pond water should be collected on pick-up day to ensure sufficient oxygen.
- Bagged fish should be kept out of sunlight on your trip home.
- After pickup, go directly to your pond and put your fish in.

RISWCD 2025 Fall Native Tree Sale



Tree Sales must be placed
by: **October 14th**

Pick up Date: **October 23rd
& 24th (Thursday & Friday)**
from **9:00 am - 5:00 pm**

Pick up Location: **QCCA
Expo Center North Hall,
2621 4th Ave. Rock Island,
IL 61201**

**Make checks payable
to: RISWCD, 3020 1st
Ave E. Milan, IL 61264**

Order Online at:
[rockislandswcd.org/category](https://rockislandswcd.org/category/trees)
[/trees](https://rockislandswcd.org/category/trees)

Sale Questions: 309-764-1486
or email
dgillespie@rockislandswcd.org



Species	Size	Price	Qty.	Subtotal
American Elm	3 gal	\$28		\$
American Plum	3 gal	\$26		\$
Arrowwood Viburnum	3 gal	\$28		\$
Black Gum	1 gal	\$29		\$
Bur Oak	3 gal	\$27		\$
Eastern Black Walnut	3 gal	\$28		\$
Eastern Redbud	3 gal	\$28		\$
Mockernut Hickory	3 gal	\$28		\$
Northern Red Oak	3 gal	\$27		\$
Paw Paw	3 gal	\$29		\$
Shagbark Hickory	3 gal	\$28		\$
Smooth Rose	3 gal	\$25		\$
Sugar Maple	3 gal	\$27		\$
Swamp White Oak	3 gal	\$27		\$
Tulip Poplar	3 gal	\$29		\$
White Flowering Dogwood	3 gal	\$29		\$
Willow Oak	3 gal	\$27		\$
White Oak	3 gal	\$28		\$
<u>All Trees are Conservation Grade</u>			Total:	\$

Remind me prior to pick up by:

Phone ☐ Email ☐ Both ☐

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____



Precision Conservation Management

Increasing Farm Incomes & Environmental Outcomes

Making Conservation Easy

Precision Conservation Management (PCM) is a free farmer-first program that provides **one-on-one support** to qualifying farmers to help you understand the costs & benefits of conservation practices.

We seek to make conservation easy and effective, while reducing financial risk for farmers.

PCM Supply Chain Partnerships create a financial advantage for farmers who are using regenerative ag practices.



PEPSICO

Cover Crops	No-Till/Strip Till	MRTN/10% N Reduction
\$15/acre 1 st and 2 nd year	\$10/acre 1 st and 2 nd year	\$10/acre 1 st year
\$10/acre 3 rd year and beyond	\$5/acre 3 rd year and beyond	

Ready to start seeing ROI from farm conservation?

PCM Specialist Lou Liva is your regional expert in conservation best practices and farm incentive programs. Reach out to him to discuss your farm goals and which opportunities are the best fit for your operation!

There is no cost to join PCM. In fact, we offer a \$750 payment just for enrolling!



LOU LIVA

PCM Specialist

lliva@precisionconservation.org

309-391-2346

WWW.PRECISIONCONSERVATION.ORG