

VOL. 2 ISSUE 1 · APRIL 2023

CASS COUNTY CONSERVATION NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Cass County SWCD:



APRIL 18 : CASS SWCD MONTHLY
BUSINESS MEETING, 6:30 PM, SWCD
OFFICE

APRIL 22: EARTH DAY CELEBRATION
WITH LOGANSPORT PARKS AND
PARTNERS, 10 AM, SPENCER PARK IN
LOGANSPORT

2023 APRIL 29: WILDFLOWER WALK AT
FRANCE PARK, 10 AM, GEORGETOWN RD
SIDE....FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

MAY 16, 2023: CASS CO SWCD
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

MAY 2023: STAY TUNED FOR NEWS OF
OUR FREE WELL-TESTING INITIATIVE

MAY - JULY 2023: OUT OF THE OFFICE
QUITE A BIT FOR OUTREACH PROGRAMS

JULY 8, 2023: COME SEE US AT THE
CASS COUNTY 4-H FAIR

Save the Date:



Find us:

Cass Co SWCD
906 W Broadway,
Logansport IN 46947

574-737-4160 (office)

574-725-8587 (mobile)

Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/Cass
CountySWCD](https://www.facebook.com/CassCountySWCD)

Email (general information and to
be added to this newsletter
mailing list):

lwalthery@casscoswcd.org



Popular Posts & Links shared this Month from our Social Media [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CASSCOUNTYSWCD](https://www.facebook.com/casscountyswcd)

Hummingbird Migration Tracker

Indiana Wildlife Federation <https://www.facebook.com/indianawildlife>

With warmer temperatures and flowers in bloom Ruby-throated Hummingbirds aren't far behind! Now is the time to get your feeders cleaned and put out for early arrivals! Male hummingbirds arrived to their breeding grounds first in order to establish territories. In order to make your home more desirable get your feeders out today! Skip the dye and combine one-part granulated white sugar with 4-parts water. Make sure to keep your clean and refill your feeders regularly (every 3 days).

Ecological Weed Control Thoughts:

Some thoughts on understanding your ground and the "weeds" that want to thrive on it....with tips and information that can be applied to both large and small projects.

From this article: <https://tinyurl.com/2caw2tp4>

"Achieving a soil that is so perfectly balanced and biologically active as to not have any weed or grass pressure is difficult, but not impossible. Dr. Rahm taught that the primary condition that promotes broadleaf weeds is the ratio of available phosphorus to available potassium, as shown by a LaMotte soil test....."



Tree ID tips for better Morel Hunting:

Morels on your mind?????? Up your morel hunting game by understanding more about their needs and associations.... <https://tinyurl.com/22ag86zm>

From the article: "As a morel mushroom hunter, knowing how to identify a few certain tree types can greatly improve your harvest. Morels can grow almost anywhere it seems, but some areas offer better growing conditions due to the mushroom's interactions with certain tree roots. The mycelium of the fungi and roots of these trees exchange nutrients increasing the..."





Cass Co SWCD Out and About



Arrow Head RC& D Ed Committee host Envirothon competition at Camp Buffalo

March 2023

Lewis Cass FFA teams competed against other area schools and took the top two place!

Envirothon is an academic competition open to all high-school age students in Indiana. The day features hands-on lessons in ecology and stewardship and a testing challenge; winning teams progress to the State Level.

Historically, Cass Co SWCD has helped both with running the local competitive event as well as sponsoring county teams. Call Leah at the SWCD office to learn

more....registration for this event starts in January of 2024.



2023 ENVIROTHON NORTH CENTRAL COMPETION CAMP BUFFALO, INDIANA





Cass Co SWCD Out and About

Cass & Fulton Counties explore forming a CiSMA

Cass Co and Fulton Co SWCD's hosted two meetings for residents interested in native plant promotion, habitat preservation and eradication of invasive species. These are the first meetings of what we hope will be many. Jodie Overmyer of Marshall Co SWCD presented on common nursery plants and their native alternatives.



Cass & Fult on Co. CISMA Call-out
 March 18, 2023 with guest speaker: Jodie Overmyer



Meanwhile, we sure had a good time partnering with Logansport Parks for the first Park in a Box for 2023! Families bundled up and met us for crafts and activities provided by Kara with Logansport Parks and a guided nature scavenger hunt and walk in the woods hosted by Cass Co SWCD. A special thanks to our volunteers, Sadie, Libby and Ryan who lent their time and expertise! And a very special thanks to the parents and family members who took the time to bring their children and participate with them as part of the event. Park in Box programs are truly hands-on and celebrate learning by making fun connections. Looking good, Cass County!



2023
PARK IN A BOX
 SCAVENGER HUNT & NATURE WALK
 EARLY SPRING
 DYKEMAN PARK,
 INDIANA



Nature and Mindfulness
FUN!



WATER
FG-304

Other SWCD News

Earth Day

April 22, 2023 at Spencer Park
in Logansport, IN; 10 am

Join us for a morning of games, activities and a celebration of Planet Earth! This is a FREE family event.

Contact Leah at 574-737-4160
lwalthery@casscoswod.org

Contact Kara at 547-753-6969
RecDirectore@cityoflogansport.org




Earth Day 2023:

Mark your calendars! Cass Co SWCD is once again partnering with Logansport Parks & Recreation to host another FREE Earth Day event for Cass County Families. Join us and a whole host of friends for games, activities, pictures with Mother Earth, crafts., music, GOATS (yes, goats)....

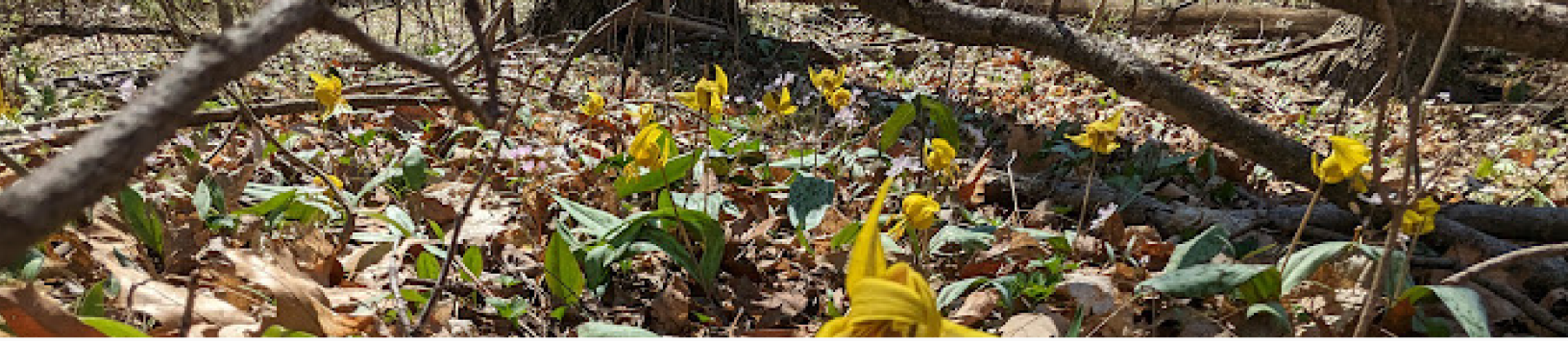
Cass Co SWCD will be running a SCAVENGER HUNT and The first 200 participants will receive a pine tree seedling from the Cass Co SWCD!

Arrow Head RC& D Cass Co. Grant Recipients:

Also in the news: Cass County had two recipients of Arrow Head RC&D grants this Spring. The bottom picture shows the lovely ladies of Heart and Soil Farm who will use the grant money to help make their educational camp handicap accessible. The top picture is Cass Co SWCD employee Leah Walthery receiving a check to help launch a well-testing initiative for Cass County residents in conjunction with the Cass Co Dept of Health and Indiana Dept of Health. We hope to have a test distribution in June with a collection day at the county fair.



Watch for more info in May about FREE well testing!



Other SWCD News

Second Annual

Wildflowers On the Wabash

Saturday - April 29, 2023 - 10 am

Join us for a 30 minute guided walk all about our native Spring wildflowers; stay for longer hike. Take a closer look at the world with a mindfulness-themed scavenger hunt! Enjoy meeting other enthusiastic people who love being outdoors in nature.

This is a **free family event** held in partnership between Cass Co SWCD and France Park. Contact the Cass Co SWCD at 574-737-4160 or email lwalthery@casscoswcd.org for more info.



Meet at France Park on Georgetown Rd across from the overlook/boat launch; parking will be available. Good walking shoes & a full water bottle recommended.



Rain date to be announced at <https://www.facebook.com/CassCountySWCD> if needed.

Keep up the good work, Gary Davidson:

The folks with the Panhandle Pathway wanted to make sure we included this bit here about Gary Davidson, volunteer extraordinaire, recognized as YMCA's volunteer of the year! Cass Co SWCD appreciates your dedication to this freely accessible greenway in Cass County.



Other Miscellaneous Goings-on:

- In the months of April, May and June, Leah with Cass Co SWCD will:
- Assist Miami Co SWCD with a nature educational outreach at Lost Sister Trail for Miami County schools,
- Conduct a landfill inspection here in Cass County
- Assist with a tillage transect of the entire county (windshield review of crop trends)
- Conclude an intensive training for watershed leadership with partners from all over the state!
- Coordinate renting of our SWCD warm season drill
- Conduct Watershed outreach at Caston Elementary with Fulton Co SWCD
- Begin launching a well-testing initiative
- Coordinate and develop outreach for our county fair booth (with guests)
- If you need to get ahold of Leah, she will be out of the office quite a bit (it's that time of year).....email to lwalthery@casscoswcd.org or call the mobile: 574-737-4160, or rock it old school and leave a message on the office landline, 574-737-4160 and we'll get back to you!

Cass County Soil and Water is serving you, Cass County.

Our mission: The Cass County Soil and Water Conservation District is committed to promote and encourage soil and water conservation, habitat and wildlife stewardship, and the wise use of natural resources.

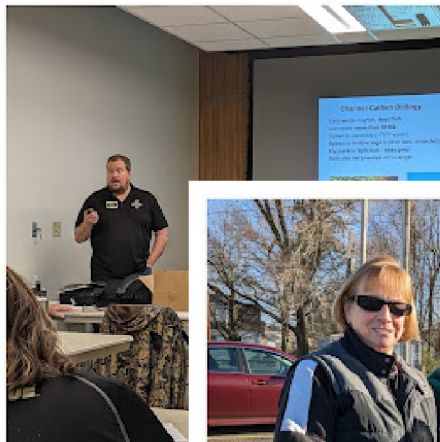
We were founded in 1946.



Other SWCD News



Pond Workshop in April was both educational and very interesting!
 Cass Co SWCD paired with Cass Co Purdue Extension to bring in pond management experts to Cass County on April 5. Two training were offered: an afternoon session for area professionals and an evening session for Cass County residents. A special thanks to Krista Pullen with Purdue Extension for being such an excellent partner. And another special thanks to Dave Osborne and Jonathan Farris for making the trip up to present!



A very successful tree sale for 2023 (that's a wrap)!

Thanks to all the volunteers, SWCD Board and local community support for our 2023 Tree Sale!

- 14 native tree and shrub species
- almost 800 sold
- 60 customers
- Call the office or send an email to Leah at lwalthery@casscoswcd.org to be added to the mailing list for next year's tree sale and to make requests!

Watch for the 2024 Tree Sale announcement in November, 2023.



Other SWCD News

ARROWHEAD COUNTRY RC & D TIPPECANOE RIVER RAFTING EXPEDITION & ACADEMIC COMPETITION

September 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 2023
Pre-register to guarantee your class a spot by June 2, 2023

For more info contact
lwalthery@casscoswcd.org
574-737-4165



SAVE THE DATE



Cass County SWCD
906 W Broadway
Logansport, IN 46947

Please pre-register estimated number of students by **June 02, 2023**, final registration closes **Aug. 18, 2023**

Limited to 100 students/day
1st come 1st serve registration

RSVP your class at
<https://forms.gle/yE2bfv3ML6GzUrh38>

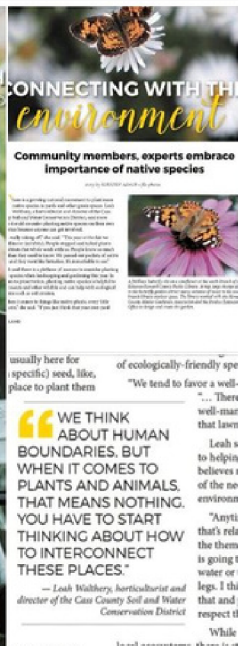
Cost is \$10 per person, including adults



Please reach out to Leah at Cass County SWCD for more information
(574)-737-4165
lwalthery@casscoswcd.org

Pre-registration is now open for the annual educational Arrow Head RC&D rafting event on the Tippecanoe River: teams can be made of high school students from diverse types of groups such as church, junior leaders, school classes, homeschool classes or clubs. See this link to videos to learn more: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUUFtBM501sLN6-B18MroSE1xTtcDfJkM>

Also note, Cass Co SWCD typically sponsors local teams!



Cass Co SWCD in the news: all about native plants.....

[https://heartlandkokomo-cnhi.newsmemory.com/March's Heartland Magazine has a wealth of gardening articles, including a detailed conversation with Leah from Cass Co SWCD about native plants and understanding the challenges presented by invasive plants. Check it out! There is also an excellent article about Logansport's very own Aly Irvine and her Plant Therapy shop. We sure do appreciate the continued support of local reporting. Thank you to Kirsten Adair for the wonderful write-up.](https://heartlandkokomo-cnhi.newsmemory.com/March's%20Heartland%20Magazine%20has%20a%20wealth%20of%20gardening%20articles,%20including%20a%20detailed%20conversation%20with%20Leah%20from%20Cass%20Co%20SWCD%20about%20native%20plants%20and%20understanding%20the%20challenges%20presented%20by%20invasive%20plants.%20Check%20it%20out!%20There%20is%20also%20an%20excellent%20article%20about%20Logansport's%20very%20own%20Aly%20Irvine%20and%20her%20Plant%20Therapy%20shop.%20We%20sure%20do%20appreciate%20the%20continued%20support%20of%20local%20reporting.%20Thank%20you%20to%20Kirsten%20Adair%20for%20the%20wonderful%20write-up.)

2023 SWCD BOARD MEMBERS:

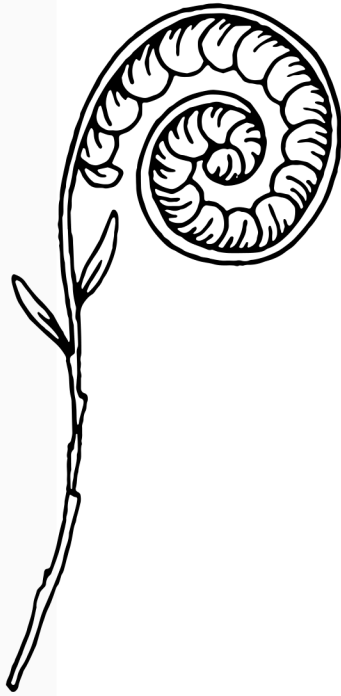
CAMERON MILLS, CHAIR; ADAM PEPPERS, VICE CHAIR; KORY WILSON, TREASURER; JESSICA KRANZ; GRETCHEN CRUM (WELCOME TO THE CONSERVATION CHAOS, GRETCHEN!)

THE CASS CO SWCD MEETINGS ARE ON THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH (USUALLY AT 6:30 PM/ MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.



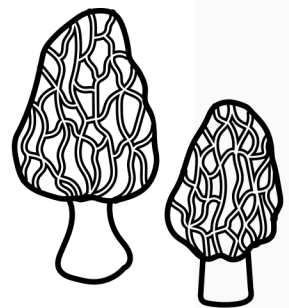
(ANSWERS ON BACK)

Spring in the Indiana Woods



S Z H I Q T G F F X M D V Y K K P X B G C A R K C
 T G R N K G N F M S P R I N G B E A U T I E S N T
 G F T X Z M S N A I L L M E B V B K P A W F K O
 M H R R F R O A N T S M H Y T N U B P U I U C H K
 U T N G B E E K V Q F P H E N G F B I G S S X G P
 R O N G P K I J F I T B C N J S Q L A H B C Z M S
 M N E F A W R W V Z V H X O X E E A T A J L N X A
 O D T R P U C K B U S H H O N E Y S U C K L E Y P
 R S T B I F X V I R G I N I A B L U E B E L L S G
 E E L N R M M O S S W G U J D B W B F K S L F Q X
 L O E N P B G R B D L K A D F K L Z J Y O Q W S T
 M A S M Y T F W Q K W K H N V Q M A P L E L E A F
 U K N T U R K E Y T A I L F U N G U S Z V M L I S
 S C C K M Y N A S G X S J W P C J R E C T U N S U
 H A G R E E N F E R N E P N U H O T S M Q D G V M
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 O I Y V S S B U D V X I N J Z S R A X V H L R A R
 M N E I P W U R Z W I L D G E R A N I U M Z I G D
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 L F L E R S E N A T I V E B E E C L Q A E C B B S
 K C Y T C Z Y E C P Q D U B K M Q N Y X A W J Q T
 W X F S D Q E K J M Y X H N Y P O S N C S U X G M
 V G Y V P N W G G A R L I C M U S T A R D V A S L

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------|
| fritillary butterfly | virginia bluebells | turkeytail fungus | snail |
| bush honeysuckle | spring beauties | garlic mustard | ants |
| wild geranium | morel mushroom | green fern | sap |
| native bee | bird nest | violets | mud |
| maple leaf | moss | oak catkins | |
| buckeye | nettle | | |



Spring in the Indiana Woods

S Z H I Q T G F F X M D V Y K K P X B G C A R K C
T G R N K G N F M S P R I N G B E A U T I E S N T
G F T X Z M S N A I L L L M E B V B K P A W F K O
M H R R F R O A N T S M H Y T N U B P U I U C H K
U T N G B E E K V Q F P H E N G F B I G S S X G P
R O N G P K I J F I T B C N J S Q L A H B C Z M S
M N E F A W R W Y Z V H X O X E E A T A J L N X A
O D T R P U C K B U S H H O N E Y S U C K L E Y P
R S T B I F X V I R G I N I A B L U E B E L L S G
E F L N R M M O S S W G U J D B W B F K S L F Q X
L O E N P B G R B D L K A D F K L Z J Y O O W S T
M A S M Y T F W Q K W K H N V Q M A P I F I F A F
U K N T U R K E Y T A I L F U N G U S Z V M L I S
S C K M Y N A S G X S J W P C J R E C T U N S U
H A G R E E N F E R N E P N U H O T S M Q D G V M
R T X I E L Z D K C P E H D L E E P I J A I C H B
O K D S Y F R I T I L L A R Y B U T T E R F L Y I
O I Y V S S B U D V X I N J Z S R A X V H L R A R
M N E I P W U R Z W I L D G E R A N I U M Z I G D
D S X O M P C V W U L G W P L F K Y D T O S I C N
D T N L E A K W P S V O P H O K W I C S F E O S E
L F L E R S E N A T I V E B E E C L Q A E C B B S
K C Y T C Z Y E C P Q D U B K M Q N Y X A W J Q T
W X F S D Q E K I M Y X H N Y P O S N C S U X G M
V G Y V P N W G G A R L I C M U S T A R D V A S L

fritillary butterfly	virginia bluebells	turkeytail fungus	snail
bush honeysuckle	spring beauties	garlic mustard	ants
wild geranium	morel mushroom	green fern	sap
native bee	bird nest	violets	mud
maple leaf	moss	oak catkins	