



Conservation Connection



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Megan Andrews
Soil Conservationist

Spring Fish Sale

Orders Due:
Tuesday, April 1, 2024

Fish Pick-up:
Wednesday, April 16, 2024
11:00 am
Kendall SWCD office



Spring Tree Sale

Orders Due:
Thursday, April 17, 2024

Tree Pick-up:
Thursday, April 24, 2024
12 noon-4pm
Kendall SWCD office

Order forms are printable at
www.kendallswcd.org



SWCD Updates & Resources

Looking to Volunteer Locally?

We are looking for Associate Directors!

Responsibilities:

- provide support to both directors & staff with implementation of conservation practices.
- attend our 10 board meetings a year
- attend any sub-committee meetings
- participate in district special events

If you would like to contribute to the conservation of soil & water, are of legal voting age and own or occupy land in Kendall County email us at kendallcountyswcd@gmail.com or call the office at (630) 553-5821 x3 for more information & to volunteer!



Annual Spring Pond Seminar

Our annual Spring Pond Seminar will be in-person on **Wednesday, March 5th, 2025**. The evening will begin at **6:00pm** at the *Kendall-Grundy Farm Bureau* located at 4000 N Division Street (Route 47), Morris, IL 60450, north of the interchange with Interstate 80.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Biologist, Seth Love, will provide information on pond maintenance/care, fish stocking rates, pond shocking, chemicals, feed and related questions.

The workshop is free, but we kindly request you RSVP by contacting the Kendall County SWCD office at (630) 553-5821 x3

or email kendallcountyswcd@gmail.com

to reserve your spot. A light dinner will be provided.

We hope you can join us!



SWCD Updates & Resources

Partners for Conservation Program

Funding is currently available through the Partners for Conservation (PFC) Program. The program is intended to help landowners and operators implement projects that conserve soil and protect water quality but may need some technical and/or financial assistance to get started. We'd love to assist you with your conservation project!

Be sure to take advantage of available funds while they last. Program sign up is open **February 1st - March 29th**. Cost-share rates are 75% of the estimated project cost (based off our current cost list for Kendall County). Questions? Contact Alyse at (630)553-5821 x3 or email alyse.olson@il.nacdnet.net.

Eligible practices include...

Streambank Stabilization

Construct vegetative, stone structure, or other bio-engineering techniques for stabilizing eroding streambanks

Erosion & Sediment Control Projects

- Filter Strips
- No-till / Strip-till
- Grassed waterways
- Terraces
- Cover crops
- Water & sediment control basins
- Grade stabilization structures

Water Well Decommissioning

Properly seal unused water wells to protect groundwater from contamination

And More...

- Pollinator habitat
- Rain gardens
- Windbreaks
- Saturated buffers
- Bioreactors
- Pasture & hayland planting



2025 Tree Planting Initiative

This spring, the Kendall County SWCD, Kendall County 4-H, and Oswegoland Park District are teaming up for the third year in a row to plant 25 oak trees on public land in Kendall County as part of a state-wide tree planting initiative.

All volunteers are welcome to join!

The initiative is being funded by the Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the 4-H Foundation, and the Illinois Forestry Development Council. This project will educate volunteers on the value of native oak forests to Illinois natural history, tree planting techniques, and oak tree identification. Planting date & more details to come!



Kendall County Ag In the Classroom

2025 Annual Agriculture Career Exploration Contest

We have our annual Agriculture Career Exploration Contest for Kendall County students in 6th-12th grades (ages 12-18). Students who apply have a chance to win cash prizes. Check out the link below for the application and information details.

Contest applications are due **March 28th**.

<https://forms.gle/deB8Cdcym7ZDK8Zm7>

Please reach out to Ariel with any questions - kendallaitc@gmail.com



Agriculture Career Field Trip Series

Registration form due May 23rd.

The Agriculture Career Field Trip Series
June 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th
9:30am-3:00pm each day.



This program is for 9-12th grade students in Kendall County. Over 4 days, high school students will visit local farms and agriculture industries packed with career experts discussing their careers and what they enjoy about their jobs. Career topics include: plant science, animal science, agriculture technology, agriculture mechanics, agriculture business, environmental services, food sciences, and natural resources.



Kendall County Ag In the Classroom

2024-2025 Programs

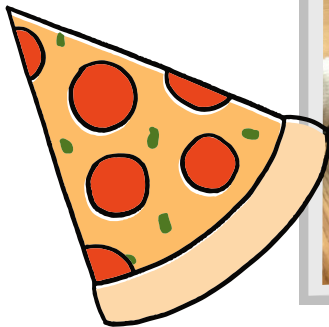
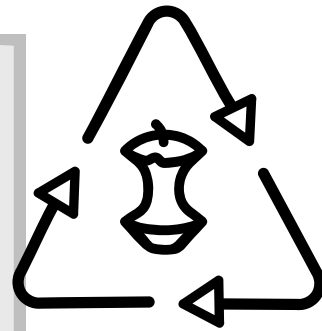
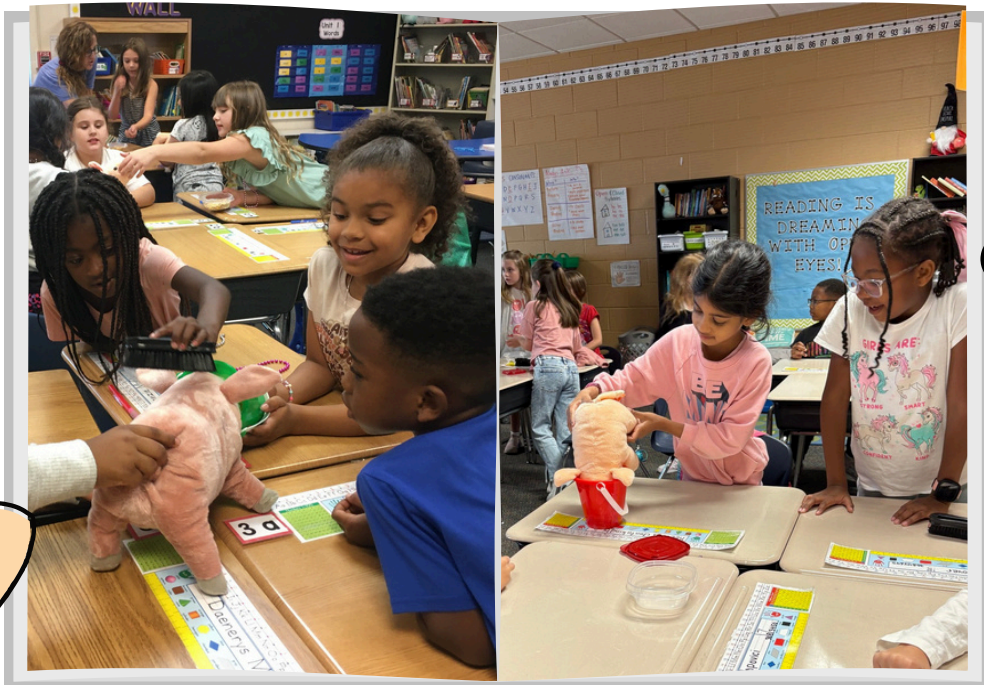


Last year we have grown the Kendall Ag in the Classroom program to reach 7,454 students, averaging 1,000 students a month in K-12th grades. Students ended the school year learning about pollinators and got to make their own “Throw and Grow” seed ball planting multi colored zinnia seeds.

This school year we have 3 unique presentations on pork, pizza, and compost. All programs are free of cost thanks to our donors and partners.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help present these programs in classrooms.

Volunteers can commit to as little as 2 hours/month to help spread education on conservation and agriculture. Please reach out to the Education Coordinator, if you are interested at kendallaitc@gmail.com.



Thank you to these organizations for supporting the Ag in the Classroom program:

Kendall County Board, Kendall County Farm Bureau Foundation, Kendall County Young Leaders, and Kendall County Beef Producers.

Upcoming Events & Workshops!

Soil Health Week 2025

Join us March 6th to celebrate Soil Health Week at one of our events! You can learn more and register with this link:
<https://ilstewards.org/soil-health-week/>

Soil Health Week 2025

March 3rd - 9th

Celebrating our most precious resource



Upcoming Workshops!

Integrating Cover Crops into Your Crop Rotation



Join us for a free workshop covering:

- Cover crop selection
- Planting & termination methods
- Managing risks & challenges
- Local farmers sharing their knowledge on cover crop adoption

FREE LOCAL MEAT BUNDLE RAFFLE!



06 March 2025

5.00 PM - 6.30 PM

Yorkville Public Library

902 Game Farm Road, Yorkville, IL 60560

PARTNERING WITH:
IL STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE
FOR SOIL HEALTH WEEK!

Light food & refreshments provided!

Please register by **February 27th**



REGISTER HERE

The Solution is in the Land: The Need for Regenerative Agriculture



Join us for a free workshop covering:

- Whole-system farm planning
- Restorative agricultural practices that promote economic, social, and environmental stability
- Case studies illustrating how to leverage funding from state, federal, and private sector programs

FREE LOCAL MEAT BUNDLE RAFFLE!



March, 20 2025

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SOLUTIONS IN THE LAND

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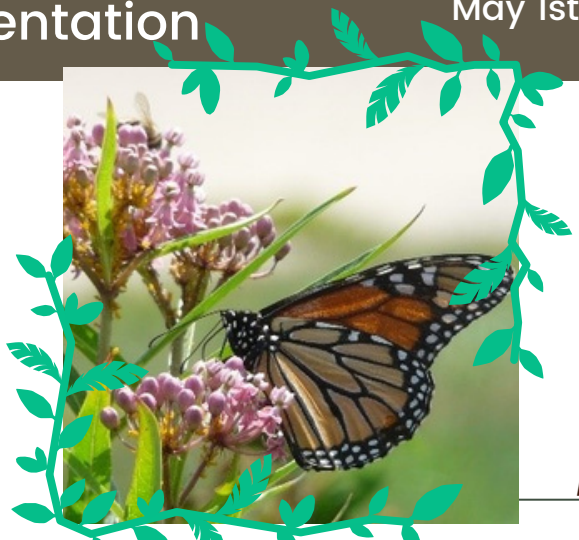


REGISTER HERE

Save the Date! – Rain Garden Presentation

May 1st, 2025

Join us for an informative Rain Garden Presentation on Thursday, May 1st from 6-7pm at Yorkville Congregational UCC (409 Center Parkway, Yorkville, IL). Learn about the benefits of rain gardens, explore photos of local examples, and discover when and where they are most effective. We'll cover design tips, planting advice, maintenance strategies, and available funding options to help get you started. Don't miss out on this opportunity to create beautiful, eco-friendly spaces in your community!



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Thank you to the 2025 Conservation Connection Sponsors!

Please note that the KCSWCD does not recommend or endorse any persons, organizations, products or services listed. We present them as sponsors to our newsletter. Please visit their websites using the links located here: https://kendallswcd.org/kswcd/?page_id=444

Spring Cover Crop Seeds Now Available!

PEA & OAT SEED MIX - \$5/pound.

Planting this mix is a great way to make a natural pathway in your garden. It provides a protective barrier for the soil, slows down erosion, holds nutrients & suppresses weeds.

To purchase your seeds - stop by the office, visit our website, or email us at

kendallcountyswcd@gmail.com

Cash or check accepted.

Seeding rate: 2 lbs / 1,000 square foot

Spring planting dates: April, weather dependent.

All seeds sold first come first serve while supplies last.

We're going paperless!

Beginning this Fall 2025, Newsletters will be sent out via email and available on our website & Facebook page! Help us reduce our carbon footprint and stay in the loop with the conservation of Kendall County!



**Kendall County Soil & Water
Conservation District**

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Yorkville, IL 60560

www.kendallswcd.org

Phone (630) 553-5821 x3

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