



# CONSERVATION CATCHALL

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## *AISWCD Staff:*

**Richard Nichols,**  
*Executive Director*

**Jim Nelson,**  
*Urban Stormwater Specialist*

**Sherry Finn,**  
*Administrative Assistant*

## MAY IS WETLANDS MONTH

### [Why Celebrate Wetlands?](#)

#### **Water Quality Protection & Improvement**

Wetlands are often referred to as the "kidneys" of the landscape for their ability to remove excess nutrients, toxic substances, and sediment from water that flows through them, helping to improve downstream water quality. Recently published studies on pollutant removal rates for natural and restored wetlands indicate that, depending on the type of wetland, the season, and other factors, wetlands can retain significant percentages of nitrates, ammonium, phosphorus, and sediment loads. Natural wetlands have also been effective in removing contaminants such as pesticides, landfill leachate, dissolved chlorinated compounds, and metals.

#### **Reducing Flood Risk**

Wetlands play an important role in reducing the frequency and intensity of floods by acting as natural buffers - slowing, absorbing, and storing significant amounts of floodwater. Since flooding is the most common natural hazard in the nation, wetlands play an integral role in managing this risk, particularly through planning approaches that consider the entire watershed. Wetlands can also significantly mitigate the impacts of storm surges and waves. The nation's vital Gulf coastal landscape and associated infrastructure experienced crippling damage as a result of wind, tidal surge, and flood related impacts during the 2005 hurricane season. Experts have concluded that the significant historic losses of wetlands in southern Louisiana contributed to the magnitude of hurricane impacts. These events illustrated the economic, cultural, and ecologic consequences of losing protective coastal wetlands, which provide significant and sustainable protection to life and property.

The presence of wetlands on the landscape can also mitigate flood damage inland. A study by the Wetlands Initiative concluded that restoring wetlands along the 100-year flood plain of the Upper Mississippi River could increase storage capacity to 39 million acre-feet of flood water--a similar volume to the Mississippi Flood of 1993 that caused \$16 billion in damages.

#### **Water Storage & Supply**

The ability of wetlands to store and filter water helps to protect and replenish surface and underground drinking water sources. Studies have concluded that the thousands of small wetlands that dot the U.S. Great Plains (called playa lakes) play a significant role in the recharge of the Ogallala aquifer - one of the Nation's largest aquifers and a principal source of groundwater used to irrigate agricultural land and provide drinking water in the Great Plains.



(Continued on Page 6)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - JAMES TODD

jtoddfarm@starband.net

President Todd is in the field and will not have a report this month.

Instead, in honor of National Wetland Month the following quiz is offered to see how well you know your wetland plants.

### ***WETLANDS ARE IDENTIFIED BY HYDROLOGY, SOILS, AND PLANTS. TEST HOW WELL YOU KNOW MIDWESTERN WETLAND PLANTS.***

1. Equisetum, a non-seed bearing wetland plant that is sometimes known as scouring rush, is better known as:  phragmites  reed canary grass  nut sedge  horsetail
2. This submergent wetland plant is insectivorous:
  - duckweed  pitcher plant  bladderwort  stinging nettle
3. This wetland plant was named for its odor, and can actually produce its own heat:
  - stinkweed  spice bush  sycamore  skunk cabbage
4. This wetland plant is in the same family as cotton and okra:
  - cottonwood  rose mallow  flax  marsh marigold
5. Which common wetland plant is not in the Aster family?
  - Joe-Pye-weed  ironweed  wingstem  great angelica
6. All of the following are characteristics of buttonbush except:
  - shrub-like form  golf ball shaped flowers  edible, mint flavored leaves
  - leaves opposite or whorled
7. Which of the following trees is not common in wetlands?
  - box elder  cottonwood  red maple  white pine
8. Which of the following wetland trees does not produce edible fruit?
  - hackberry  mulberry  pawpaw  black willow
9. Some wetland plants have gained well-earned notoriety. Which of the following is not considered noxious or invasive?
  - phragmites  bugleweed  cattail purple  loosestrife
10. Some wetland plants can harm humans. Which can not?
  - poison sumac  Venus flytrap  poison ivy  stinging nettle

From: <http://www.funtrivia.com/trivia-quiz/SciTech/Midwestern-Wetland-Plants-132888.html>

(Answers to the quiz are printed on page 8)



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTES - RICH NICHOLS

[rich.nichols@aiswcd.org](mailto:rich.nichols@aiswcd.org)

As I write this, water is pouring over a breached Missouri levee in an effort to try to lower the level of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to save Cairo and other towns along the Ohio in Southern Illinois. The river reached an all-time high at the gage at Cairo and was very close to overtopping the flood wall. And, according to a plan that has existed for many years, the Corps of Engineers blew a portion off the top of a levee system that was protecting more than 130,000 acres of Missouri farmland. The unprecedented storms in the Ohio valley and the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama over the past several weeks have taken a terrible toll in lives and property and threaten to take even more as flood levels rise on major rivers and their tributaries. I'm sure that many people along these flooded waterways are anxious to see what will be left when the waters finally subside. I have no doubt that they will find utter devastation in many areas including the farm land that is now being inundated to save the thousands of people who live within reach of the floods.

As it happened in 1993 when the Mississippi overtopped levees and flooded thousands of acres of Illinois farmland, NRCS and the SWCDs will be overwhelmed with requests for assistance to help repair and reclaim flood damaged property. Following immediately after Congress took action to make significant reductions in available funds for conservation programs, I can't help but wonder what Congress will do with NRCS's Emergency Conservation Program which was used extensively to reclaim damaged property after the '93 flood. It is my hope that Congress will see the wisdom of providing funds for the that program.

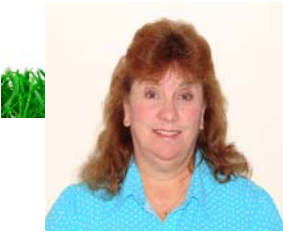
I also can't help but wonder if Congress will ever have enough wisdom to understand that conservation programs reduce flooding. I don't know if the current flood could have been mitigated with conservation practices to the extent that the Missouri levee would not have had to be breached. I imagine that much of the rain that fell in urban areas immediately ran off and contributed significantly to high water stages but what about the rain that fell on farm land? How much of that ran off immediately? If the farm land had terraces or was in no-till or if there were other practices that were designed to temporarily hold stormwater and allow it to soak in then that land contributed much less to the current problems. I believe the importance of conservation practices can never be underestimated; not only for reducing flooding but for retaining moisture for growing crops and for allowing rain water to recharge aquifers.

The big question is how do we convince Congress and the President that conservation is as important to the wellbeing of the country as say, our highway system? The Dust Bowl convinced the nation's leaders in the '30s that conservation was important. What do we need to do 80 years later to convince the current leadership that it is just as important now – maybe even more so? I don't have the answer to that question but I do think we need to take every opportunity to tell our leaders, state and national, that the nation's infrastructure is critical to our future and conservation is an integral part of that infrastructure.

With the climate seemingly entering a wetter period and with the heavy rain storms seemingly more frequent, we can't afford to cut back on our efforts to protect both rural and urban lands from storm water runoff. Conservation alone may not be able to stop catastrophic floods like the one currently occurring in Southern Illinois but it can certainly help reduce runoff and reducing runoff will have a positive influence on reducing localized flooding and may even help with future large floods like the one that occurred in 1993 and the one that is causing so much destruction right now.

If you believe as I do that conservation can help solve problems before they arise, tell your congressman or your state legislator. The importance they place on the issue will be directly proportionate to the number of people that contact them.

*Rich*



## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S UPDATE - *SHERRY FINN*

sherry.finn@aiswcd.org

### April Activities

#### CREP Coordinator Grant:

- Mailed Marketing information to Jan for Districts \$100 re-imbursements for April
- Completed FY 2011 Quarterly Report (Dec-Jan-Feb) and forwarded to Jan Carpenter at IEPA
- Organized and mailed March CREP Coordinator Invoice with each participating Districts' vouchers and receipts

#### June Quarterly Board Meeting:

- Working on agendas for FAC meetings, Executive meeting and Foundation & AISWCD Board Meetings
- Updated LUC Rep information and map
- Completed Executive Teleconference Call Meeting minutes for 4-26-11
- Working on QB packets and hand outs for Members
- Printed out March meeting minutes for Secretary's signature after Board votes to accept

#### IL Envirothon:

- Maintaining Team Registration Spreadsheet; registration fee payment; forwarding info to Grundy County & Terry Bogner
- Maintaining Sponsorship Spreadsheet; forwarding info to Grundy County & Terry Bogner
- Completed additional information requested for Cargill grant app; FY 2011 Budget

#### 2011 Annual Meeting:

- Completed April Taskforce meeting agenda
- Reviewing menus and room assignments for contract
- Working on draft meeting agenda
- Updated Director Training modules along with Cindy Moon and Jerry Snodgrass
- Sent reminder to Mike Hoffman about furnishing names for the Legislator of the Year Award
- Asked Rich to send reminder to Jim Sacia to confirm as Auctioneer.
- Received confirmation from Dave Russell from Brownfield Network to be Farm Family MC; Dave also confirmed they would be providing radios for Farm Families
- Rich received confirmation from Prairie Farmer about sponsorship of Family Sign for Farm Family to be presented at II State Fair
- Compiled Annual Meeting Reservation Spreadsheet; Auction item donation(s) spreadsheet; Director Service Award spreadsheet; Voting Delegate Spreadsheet; Fun Night Spreadsheet.
- Maintaining Awards Databases
- Working on Registration, Auction Item, Director Service, Voting Delegate, and Fun Night Registration forms
- E-mailed il.all the website link to Hilton Hotel for Room Reservations

#### OTHER DUTIES:

- Phone calls, mail and e-mail correspondence
- Compiled expense reports for Credit Cards
- Timesheets
- Maintain Patio Paver and Rain Barrel Database
- Maintain SWCD Dues Paid (FY '10 & FY '11) Databases
- Mailed Thank You Notes to Paid Districts
- Maintain Sponsorship Database (FY '11) & Brochure Printing Fee Database; Mailed Thank you letters to 2011 sponsors
- Sent AISWCD/SWCD Sponsors monthly CC and Legislative Newsletter
- E-mailed Monthly Financials to Officers

- Updated Records Retention, Mgmt. & Destruction Folder
- Maintain a Database for computer items ordered w/ HP
- Forward to Rich the monthly SWCD/LUC agenda and meeting minutes that are e-mailed to me; file these after seen by Rich
- Proofread Conservation Catchall and Legislative Newsletter and mailed to Legislators without e-mail
- Completed Monthly Office Supply Inventory and placed order
- Sent bank balance status to Sangamon County Earth Stewardship Committee Chairman, Kristi Richards; sent invoices to Partners for Sponsorship money; maintain sponsorship database, bank balance, and budget
- Sent e-mail to Districts notifying of partial 3rd Quarter payment of operation funds; e-mailed dues invoice for Partial 3rd Quarter.
- Sent delinquent notice to District Directors for FY 2011 first half of dues; sent same notice to AISWCD Officers and Area VPs per Board request
- Served as a presenter for McLean County Conservation Day
- Served as a presenter for Adams/Brown Conservation Day

#### FY 2010 Audit:

- Compiled list of documentation requested from auditors prior to start of audit
- Worked 3 days with audit firm in office; worked 3 days over the phone; and working via e-mail for grant documentation

#### Accounting/Office Admin:

- Completed Payroll and Payroll Taxes for April
- Reconciled all bank accounts
- Completed bookwork for All AISWCD & Insurance Accts
- Prepared Deposits for SWCD Dues and Receivables
- Completed Checks for Payables; Completed Deposits for Receivables; Completed Monthly Financials
- Filed all Completed Payables & Receivables Documentation
- Faxed Copy Count to CDS Technology
- Wrote checks for SWCD various insurance premiums; had Rich sign; mailed; e-mailed copies to Debbie Holsapple
- Completed Semi-Monthly IL Lobbyist Expenditure Data for II Secretary of State
- Completed Deposit for CREP Coordinator February voucher; wrote checks, had Rich sign, and mailed to participating Districts for reimbursement

#### LOOKING AHEAD:

- Completion of Audit
- Annual Meeting Taskforce Duties
- Tracking of FY 2011 Funding
- Illinois Envirothon-May 12-13, 2011 at Allerton Park, Monticello, IL
- June QB Meeting-June 13-14, 2011 at Northfield Inn
- 63rd Annual Meeting-July 25-27, 2011 at Hilton Hotel

**REMEMBER: Learning how to live is much more important than learning how to make a living! .....Warren Buffet**

**TO ACT: Become more aware of the blessings that surround you!!!**

*Sherry*

## ISWCDEA CORNER - MEGAN POSTEN, ISWCDEA REGION FIVE REPRESENTATIVE

website: <http://www.il.ncdea.org>



At our last ISWCDEA meeting held February 10, 2011, we discussed the ISWCDEA 2011 Annual Plan of Work. The updated version of the document will soon be viewable on the ISWCDEA's website: <http://iswcdea.org>. The ISWCDEA's Mission Statement can be found on the first page of the APO.

To refresh your memories, the ISWCDEA's Mission Statement is as follows: "We, the ISWCDEA, are committed to providing quality information, communication, education, training, and representation to all District personnel. We, as a team, will further promote legislative contact and continue cooperation with our partners."

These objectives listed in the Mission Statement are important now more than ever considering the effects of the fiscal meltdown the State of Illinois is facing. The ISWCDEA will continue to strive towards accomplishing these goals, but we need the help of all Illinois SWCD employees. Participate!

Remember to send any issues and concerns that you may have on to your ISWCDEA representatives. If you have ideas for trainings that you would like to see, send those on as well. Perhaps most importantly, consider filling one of the three vacant ISWCDEA Representative positions in Regions 3, 4, and 5. With your participation, the ISWCDEA will be better equipped to accomplish the objectives of our Mission Statement.

## MAY IS WETLANDS MONTH

(Continued from Page 1)

### **Bioproductivity & Habitat**

As nurseries of nature, wetlands are among the most biologically productive natural ecosystems in the world, comparable to rain forests and coral reefs in their productivity and in the diversity of species they support. Mixtures of vegetation and shallow water zones provide diverse habitats for a variety of species - plants, insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds, fish, shellfish, and mammals. Many species rely on these critical habitats for survival as sources of food, shelter, and breeding grounds. For example, frogs, toads, and salamanders depend on small, isolated wetlands during their development. It is estimated that one-half of all North American bird species nest or feed in wetlands, and despite the fact that wetlands comprise only 5% of the land surface in the conterminous United States; they are home to an estimated 31% of plant species.

### **Economic Viability**

Commercially, wetlands provide an essential link in the lifecycle of 75% of the fish and shellfish harvested in the United States and up to 90% of the recreational catch. Many industries, in addition to the fishing industry, derive benefits or produce products that are dependent on wetlands. For example, coastal wetland and barrier systems can provide buffers that protect commercial and industrial infrastructure, including ports, and oil and gas structures. Commercial products harvested in wetlands include rice, cranberries, peat, hay, medicines, timber, and fur.

### **Recreational & Cultural Opportunities**

Finally, wetlands provide infinite opportunities for recreation and cultural pursuits. They are inviting places for popular activities such as hiking, fishing, bird watching, photography, and hunting. In 2001, more than 82 million Americans took part in these types of recreational activities, spending approximately \$108 billion.

Source, USEPA ([http://www.epa.gov/owow\\_keep/wetlands/awm/index.html#why](http://www.epa.gov/owow_keep/wetlands/awm/index.html#why))

# *SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2011 IS NATIONAL WALK IN THE WOODS DAY™*

The American Forestry Foundation (AFF) has proclaimed Saturday, May 21 as National Walk in the Woods Day™ as an event to celebrate the year-long 2011 International Year of Forests.

Designated by the United Nations General Assembly, 2011 International Year of Forests is designed to raise awareness of sustainable forest management and forest conservation.

AFF is playing a lead role in developing and facilitating a variety of U.S. celebrations throughout the year.

**How can you celebrate National Walk in the Woods Day™ ?**



**Discover a forest!** No matter where you live, you don't have to go far. Whether it's a city or state park, a private woodland, or a national park, take a walk in the woods – or better yet – take a child by the hand and explore together the wonders waiting for you in America's forests. For some [fun and informal educational activities](#), check out Project Learning Tree's "Connecting Kids to Nature" activity series.

**If you are a family forest landowner**, we invite you to help others learn about the importance of forests for people by participating in, or leading, a National Walk in the Woods Day™ activity. Here are some ideas.

- Invite your family, neighbors, elected officials, or other members of your community to join you for a walk on your Tree Farm.
- Take your children, grandchildren, or neighbors' children out exploring on your Tree Farm. Use [Project Learning Tree's "Connecting Kids to Nature" activities](#).
- Invite a local youth or after-school club to visit your Tree Farm.
- Visit [www.treefarmssystem.org/walkinthewoods](http://www.treefarmssystem.org/walkinthewoods) for some resources and a tool kit to help plan your "walk in the woods."
- **Help a school** improve its grounds by planting trees with students and their teacher.
- Go camping, or just step outside and **enjoy trees and all that they give us!**

Whatever outdoor activity you plan for Saturday, May 21, National Walk in the Woods Day™, [let the American Forestry Foundation know about it](#) so we can show just how many Americans care about their woods!

## Natural Area Guardians - *Tim Keller*

*Tim Keller, Whiteside Co. SWCD Director*

# POORLY THOUGHT-OUT SOLUTION

A writer in a recent letter to the editor in our local newspaper proposed that the answer to raise desperately needed taxes for the state and stop hunger would be to allow farmers to plant our roads' right-of-ways. He felt that if the state were to allow the practice of using this "resource," it would provide more jobs, directly and indirectly, and result in extra money. "That means more money would be spent at local restaurants and businesses."

I hate to think of the consequences if this man's ideas were implemented. We are already farming fence to fence, leaving little or no habitat for quail and pheasants. Songbird populations have already met severe declines. The plowing up of our roadsides would result in even greater erosion. No soil equals no food at all. Countries like China have already demonstrated the devastation this practice causes. They farm every available foot of ground. As a result, the Yellow River is actually yellow.

Besides the issue of safety when all the large tractors, tillage and harvesting equipment would be right next to vehicles using the road, there is the matter of who gets the money for the crops grown on public property.

Roadside right-of-ways need to be enhanced, not pushed to the brink. A healthy habitat includes benefits for humans as well as the other creatures that share this earth. Responsible stewards of the soil respect the importance of using the land that feeds the world wisely, not just for the purpose of making "extra money."



## FORMS FOR THE 2011 AISWCD ANNUAL MEETING AND THE BLWR SUMMER CONFERENCE ARE AVAILABLE ON THE AISWCD'S WEBSITE

Awards forms for the 2011 Annual Meeting and Summer Conference are now on the AISWCDs web site at <http://aiswcd.org/Programs/awards.htm>.

Click on the name of the award you are seeking. All forms are fillable .PDF format and can be completed on line but then must be either saved on your computer or printed and mailed, faxed or e-mailed to the AISWCD.

Hotel Registration is available on the [AISWCD's web page](#) or by clicking on [Hilton Hotel](#).

The Annual Meeting Registration form will be available on the AISWCD's web page by the end of May. There has been a delay in completing the registration form due to negotiations with meal prices and menus.

We hope to see you there July 25th - 27th, 2011



## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS 2011

International Year of Forests 2011 is dedicated to raising awareness about the challenges facing the world's forests today, promoting dialogue about forests and people, and much needed forest conservation. The global campaign aims to motivate people to help sustain and manage forests for the future.

Visit [www.celebrateforests.com](http://www.celebrateforests.com), an interactive website designed to house all U.S.-based information, including a master events calendar, event host toolkit, and news on the campaign.

### About the Threat to America's Forest Heritage

The American Forestry Foundation (AFF) released a new report assessing the growing threats to America's forests heritage. [Stem the Loss](#) looks at the multiple factors that have aligned to form a perfect storm threatening America's forest heritage, including:

- an aging population of forest owners and an unprecedented transfer of forest land
- development pressures
- catastrophic fires, pests and pathogens
- warmer temperatures
- weak markets for wood products

To stem the loss of America's forest legacy, the report recommends focusing on forest health, forest programs in the Farm Bill and tax policies that promote keeping forests as forests. Fifty-six percent of forest land in America is privately owned, and 62 percent of that is owned by family forest owners.

Source <http://www.affoundation.org/>

### Answers to Wetland Plants Quiz on Page 2

- **Equisetum, a non-seed bearing wetland plant that is sometimes known as scouring rush, is better known as: Horsetail.** Equisetum is called scouring rush because pioneers sometimes used bundles of the stems to wash dishes.
- **This submergent wetland plant is insectivorous: Bladderwort.** Pitcher plant is insectivorous, but is not submergent. Stinging nettle does not use its sting to capture insects.
- **This wetland plant was named for its odor, and can actually produce its own heat: Skunk cabbage.** The skunk cabbage is often the first flower of spring. The warm, hood-like spathe is a refuge for early insects.
- **This wetland plant is in the same family as cotton and okra: Rose mallow.** Rose mallow is in the genus Hibiscus.
- **Which common wetland plant is not in the Aster family? Great angelica.** Great angelica is the Apiacea (carrot) family.
- **All of the following are characteristics of buttonbush except: Edible, mint flavored leaves.** The leaves are actually poisonous for most animals.
- **Which of the following trees is not common in wetlands? White pine.** White pine is most common in dry uplands.
- **Which of the following wetland trees does not produce edible fruit? Black willow.** Hackberry trees have small fruits with little meat, but have a high sugar content. Papaws produce pear-sized fruit.
- **Some wetland plants have gained well-earned notoriety. Which of the following is not considered noxious or invasive? Bugleweed.** Phragmites, cattail, and purple loosestrife can form large monocultures, excluding all else.



## ILLINOIS CHAPTER-IAAP - JANE BRANGENBERG, PRESIDENT

website: <http://iaap-swcd.tripod.com>

I Hope everyone enjoyed Administrative Professionals Day! During the meeting the SWCD chapter held its annual raffle to celebrate Administrative Professionals Day. The chapter enters all of the AC's in the state into the drawing. Winner of the IPAD was Missy Hobson in Pike County and the Kindle was by Teresa Guymon in Hancock County. Both winners are Farm Service Agency employees. Thank you to all that purchased tickets.

Officers for the 2011-2012 were elected, they are as follows; President Jane Brangenberg, Vice President Debbie Holsapple, Secretary Melissa Cauble and Treasurer Susan Scott.

*Kindle Winner*



*Teresa Guymon*

*IPAD Winner*



*Missy Hobson presented to her by member Teija Smithers*

## ILLINOIS GAMING BILL MAY FUND SWCDs

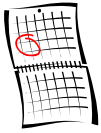
*By: Richard Nichols*

The Illinois House of Representatives, Down State Caucus has drafted legislation that will eventually become an Illinois Gaming Bill. If passed, the bill is expected to generate more than \$160 million of which \$30 million will be used specifically for Soil and Water Conservation Districts, County Fairs, CREP Forestry Assistance, Parks and Conservation Fund for operations and grants, Historic Sites, Cooperative Extension to match 100% of local funds and C-FAR. Soil and water conservation will receive \$10 million of the \$30 million. The remainder of the revenue generated by the expansion of gaming opportunities will be used to help pay State obligations.

As several people have pointed out, the current revenue stream from gaming (Lottery) is intended to fund education but does not. The lottery was never intend to fully fund the state's education obligation but to supplement what the state was already providing without the need for increasing taxes.

Since its inception the lottery has provided only a small percentage of the total school funding. For example, in FY09 funding for elementary and secondary education statewide totaled **\$24.59 billion**. Of that **\$14.5 billion** was from local funding (property taxes), **\$7.25 billion** came from other state funding, **\$3.8 billion** was from federal sources and **\$625 million**, about 2.5 %, was provided from the sale of Lottery tickets.

Though the remaining portion of the Spring Session is short, this proposed bill has a long way to go. Downstate vs. upstate interests need to be worked out and many legislators still need to be convinced that this vehicle is the only way that SWCDs will be able to survive. No one is willing to talk about fees or taxes and any bill that suggests implementing or raising either is dead on arrival in both chambers. If we remain on General Revenue as our source of funding, it will be more and more difficult to leverage sufficient funding for the SWCDs to survive. You are urged to contact your legislators and request their support for the (at this time) proposed gaming bill.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- All 2011 Award Nominations - June 1st, Last date to be received at AISWCD Office. (The deadline has been extended from May 16th.)
- Armed Forces Day - May 21st (3rd Saturday)
- Memorial Day - May 30 - Holiday, Office Closed 
- Resolutions for Consideration at 2011 Annual Meeting - June 1, 2011 to Legislative Chair
- Fathers Day - June 19, 2011
- AISWCD Annual Meeting and Summer Conference - July 25 - 27, 2011, Springfield Hilton Hotel
  - Conference Registration Deadline - July 8, 2011
  - [Hotel Reservation](#) Deadline July 3, 2011

### 2011 QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING DATES

- June 2011 Quarterly Board Meeting - June 13th/14th, Northfield Inn - Springfield, IL
- September 2011 Quarterly Board Meeting - Only if needed
- December 2011 Quarterly Board Meeting - December 12th/13th, Northfield Inn - Springfield, IL



## 2011 ENVIROTHON DATES May 12 & 13

*5th Category Topic: Salt & Freshwater Estuaries*

CANON ENVIROTHON  
July 24th - 29th  
Mount Allison University  
Sackville, New Brunswick

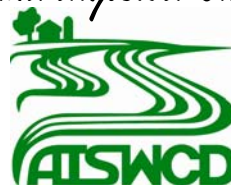
## Envirothon Update:

**Huge Success!! Congratulations to Taylorville High!**

June's issue of the Conservation Catchall will list the winners of the 2011 Envirothon.

AISWCD Mission: *To represent and empower Illinois' SWCDs*

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