

Fact Sheet

Education and Outreach Programs

In addition to newsletters, newspaper articles, radio announcements and flyers, the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) carries out a comprehensive educational program, including:

Essay Contest. The purpose of this contest is to give students an understanding of the importance of resource conservation and preservation. The contest is open to all Scott County students as follows:

- Elementary Division (grades 5 and 6)
- Junior Division (grades 7 through 9)
- Senior Division (grades 10 through 12)

Local essay themes are announced annually. Essay lengths vary according to the divisions. Prizes are awarded to the top winners in each division.

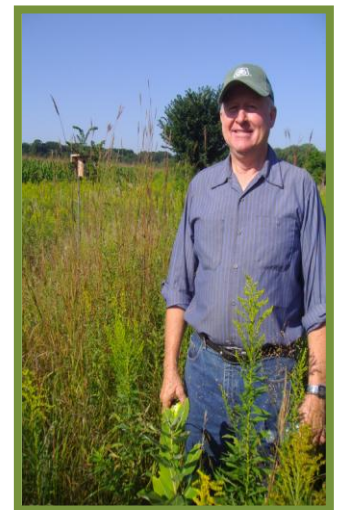


Poster Contest. This contest is only for fifth- and sixth-grade students in Scott County. Posters related to a predetermined theme are required. Information is sent to all fifth- and sixth-grade classrooms in the county. Upon request, the Scott SWCD will make a presentation to these schools on the theme and offer ideas for posters. Prizes are awarded to the top winners.

Envirothon. This competition is for high school students in Scott County, challenging their natural-resource expertise and problem-solving skills. Teams of 4-5 students work collaboratively to answer 20 questions at five learning stations. Students must be in grades 9 through 12. Each five-member team must also give an oral presentation. Winning teams advance to state competition.

Soil Stewardship Week. The Soil and Water Stewardship Observance is celebrated in Scott County to help remind people of their individual responsibility to care for soil and water resources. Information is sent to all clergy and church leaders in Scott County. The observance is celebrated between the last Sunday in April and the first Sunday in May.

Conservation Cooperator. Every year, the Scott SWCD Board of Supervisors identifies a number of candidates who have done an outstanding job in conservation treatments on their land or within their community. The SWCD board evaluates and selects the candidate who best represents a cooperative effort with district programs. This candidate is an honored guest of Scott SWCD at the state convention. The state winner is selected from 91 local SWCD winners.



Macroinvertebrate Program. The Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Program is the study of organisms that live all or part of their life cycle on the river bottom. These organisms are important indicators of the biological health of our rivers and streams. The Scott SWCD program integrates high school science teachers and students with professional water-quality experts to monitor various streams and report their findings. Compiled data is used to monitor the long-term conditions of Scott County streams.

For more information, contact:

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