



Illinois Sustainable Ag Partnership Shared Resource List

The Illinois Sustainable Ag Partnership is providing resources to help conservation practitioners develop education and outreach programs focused on soil health systems, conservation drainage and sustainable ag practices. We have developed suggested topics and demonstrations along with a list of specialists and speakers available to participate in meetings, trainings or field days. Our goal is to help our collaborative partners blanket the countryside with consistent technical information on in-field and edge-of-field conservation drainage and sustainable ag practices.

Resources available

Conservation Drainage Specialists (see list below)

ACDT Presentation/Training topics include:

- 3 Fates of Nitrates
- Saturated Buffers
- Constructed Wetlands
- Bioreactors
- Complimentary Wildlife Habitat features

Cover Crop/Soil Health Specialists (see list below)

ASHT Presentation/Training topics include:

- Cover Crop ID and Proper Uses - Seeding methods and suitability of different species
- Herbicides and Cover Crops - Control and Burndown, Residual Concerns
- Cover Crop Trouble Shooting - pest and disease management; avoiding potential harvest issues
- Cover Crops and Grazing

Rainfall Simulator Equipment and Training

Soil Health Comparative Demonstrations (slake test, etc.)

Confidential Water Nitrate Testing

Potted Cover Crop Species Samples

Soil Pit Explanation Expertise

Cover Crop Factsheets

NRCS Edge of Field Practice handouts and cost information

Social Survey Design Template and Implementation Protocol

Precision Conservation Management Specialists (in some counties)

Goof Plot Establishment Template and Support (under development, will include signs)

5 year Cover Crop/Reduced Tillage Field Transition Program (under development)

Non-Operator Landowner Education Sessions

5 Star Farmer Recognition Program support

Field Day/Training support - Zea Mays will provide \$200 stipend to help cover food/supplies for the first 10 events scheduled if they include a curriculum that provides CCA CEU credits.

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General Program Specialists

Clay Bess, Precision Conservation Management Specialist

– PCM, Sustainability, Field to Market

cbess@precisionconservation.org , 309-445-0278

Jacob Walker, Precision Conservation Management Specialist

– PCM, Sustainability, Field to Market

jacob.walker@precisionconservation.org , 309-386-9234

David Fulton, Precision Conservation Management Specialist

– PCM, Sustainability, Field to Market

david.fulton@precisionconservation.org , 217-871-0435

Bruce Hendrikson, S.T.A.R. Program - <http://www.ccsxcd.com/S.T.A.R./>

BHenrikson@parkland.edu , 217-778-0272

Conservation Drainage Specialists with areas of expertise

Jill Kostel, Phd, Senior Environmental Engineer, The Wetlands Initiative

– Constructed wetlands & tile treatment practices

jkostel@wetlands-initiative.org, 312-922-0777 ext. 129

Jean Mcguire, Field Outreach Specialist (North-Central IL), The Wetlands Initiative

– Constructed wetlands

jmguire@wetlands-initiative.org, 515-520-30366

Ryan Arch, Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association

ryan@illica.net, 309-446-3700

Steve Baker, Ag Drainage Management Coalition and Springfield Plastics

sbaker@spipipe.com, 217-438-6167

Ruth Book, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

ruth.book@il.usda.gov, 217-353-6626

Richard Lyons, Illinois Association of Drainage Districts

rlyons@speednet.com, 217-825-6697

Laura Christianson, Ph.D., P.E.,

LEChris@illinois.edu, 217-244-6173

Soil Health Specialists with areas of expertise

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Jim Isermann, Cover Crop Specialist and Field Manager, Soil Health Partnership

– Cover Crops and Soil Health

jisermann53@gmail.com , 815-257-2276

Pete Fandel, Cover Crop Specialist and Professor of Agriculture, Illinois Central College

– Cover Crops and herbicide residuals, soil health, nutrient management

pete.fandel@icc.edu , 309-694-5410

Kris Reynolds, Cover Crop Specialist, American Farmland Trust

– Cover Crops and Soil Health

kreynolds@farmland.org , 217-556-1896

Dean Oswald, Cover Crop Specialist

– Cover Crops and grazing, soil health

oswalddean@gmail.com , 309-333-0815

John Pike, Cover Crop Specialist and IFCA Field Staff

– Cover Crops and weed and pest suppression

jpike1.ag@gmail.com , 618-727-1234

Will Glazik, BCS

– Soil fertility and Pest Management

w.glazik@soilbalance.com , 309-824-7467

Dick Lyons

– Cover Crops, soil health

rlyons@speednet.com , 217-825-6697

Ben Herrmann, Agronomist, Herrmann Integrated Agronomy

– Cover Crops, nutrient management

baherrmann5@gmail.com , 309-370-9432

Joe Curless, Curless Flying Service

– Cover Crops, aerial application

jcurless324@yahoo.com , 217-519-0885

Ryan Moore, Becks Hybrids

– Cover Crop, selection and seeding

rmoore@beckshybrids.com

Scott Wholtman, Cover Crop Lead, LaCrosse Seed

– Cover Crops

swholtman@laxseed.com , 217-994-3916

Scott Jones, Midwest Grass and Forage

- Regenerative Farming Practices and Soil Ecology

midwestgrass@macomb.com , 309-255-9503

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Barry Fisher, Soil Health Specialist, NRCS
– Soil Health
barry.fisher@in.usda.gov , 317-295-5850

Nathan Johanning, Educator, University of Illinois Extension
njohann@illinois.edu , 618-687-1727

Andy Larson, Educator, University of Illinois Extension
andylars@illinois.edu

Duane Friend, Educator, University of Illinois Extension
friend@illinois.edu , 217-243-7424

Illinois CCAs with 4R or Sustainability Certification -
<https://www.certifiedcropadviser.org/certifications/professional-search/>

Other Technical Experts

Water Monitoring and Testing

Dan Perkins, Lead Hydrologist, Waterborne – monitoring/modeling expertise
perkinsd@waterborne-env.com, 217-903-2936

Betsy Silzer, Sample Technician, Waterborne – nitrate water testing
silzerb@waterborne-env.com, 309-370-0461

Natalie Kerr, Sample Technician, Waterborne – nitrate water testing
kern@waterborne-env.com, 309-573-3295

Wildlife Habitat

Erin Holmes, Pheasants Forever
eholmes@pheasantsforever.org

Joe Pyszka, Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever
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