



District Showcase Award Application

Indiana's District Showcase Award is designed to highlight the success of four local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in the Hoosier state. The award focus allows Districts the opportunity to share new project ideas or better ways to design and implement existing conservation projects, etc. The award is sponsored by the Indiana Conservation Partnership (ICP) which includes:

- Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- Indiana State Department of Agriculture Division of Soil Conservation
- Purdue Cooperative Extension Service
- State Soil Conservation Board
- USDA Farm Service Agency
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Up to four SWCDs will be honored as recipients of the District Showcase Award at the 2015 Conservation Awards luncheon with a PowerPoint video and award presentation. The event is part of the 72nd Annual Conference for Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The awards luncheon will be held on Monday, January 12, 2015 at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown.

The winning SWCDs/projects also will be "showcased" during the 2015 Annual Conference on Monday, January 12, 2015. The Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (IASWCD) will provide an 8-foot table for the winning Districts to display photos and materials depicting the winning projects during the trade show on January 12 and 13.

Rules for the 2014 District Showcase Award applications

- All SWCDs are invited to submit an application using the fillable PDF form. Only electronic submissions will be accepted. If you have any questions or need assistance with the form, contact the IASWCD office at 317.692.7325 or via email at info@iaswcd.org.
- Multiple SWCDs may submit **a single joint application** for a specific project or program. However, only one application per SWCD is allowed. The application is due to the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' office on or before **5 p.m. EDT, July 11, 2014**.
- Up to four SWCD applications will be selected as the state winners. The IASWCD will award one free registration per winning application to the 2015 Annual Conference. In the case of a joint application, the free registration will be split among the winning Districts.
- Winners will have the opportunity to showcase their work during a visit by the ICP leaders, receive special recognition at the Annual Conference, showcase their winning project at the Annual Conference, and be highlighted in partnership newsletters, Web sites and statewide news releases.
- Winning selections will be made by in August, and visits will begin as soon as they can be arranged with the winning Districts and Indiana Conservation Partnership leaders.
- Applications must be submitted to info@iaswcd.org by **5 p.m. EDT, July 11, 2014**.

District Showcase Application for 2014

SWCD:

Contact Name:

SWCD Street Address:

City:

Zip:

Email:

Phone:

Typed signature (*signifies acceptance of this application and approval of it being submitted to the IASWCD for consideration*):

Title:

Date:

Narrative – In 1,000 words or less

Describe why your SWCD should be showcased for a specific project(s), program(s) or activity(s) in soil and water conservation. Note: Points will be awarded based on how well the description includes these nine points. These nine points must be addressed in the essay.

1. Specific customer/s targeted (urban, rural, agriculture, general public, etc.).
2. Conservation practices highlighted.
3. Outreach/communication to the targeted customers.
4. How the work fits into the SWCDs business plan.
5. Partnership/s involvement (describe traditional and non-traditional).
6. Funding mechanisms (if appropriate).
7. Environmental/conservation benefits of the work (quantified if possible).
8. Any measurable results of the work.
9. How the project has strengthened the SWCD.

Narrative – In 1,000 words or less Describe why your SWCD should be showcased for a specific project(s), program(s) or activity (ies) in soil and water conservation. Points will be awarded based on how well the description includes the nine points outlined on previous page: