



THE CURRENT



TO ARBOR DAY

Every tree planted is a yes. Yes to communities. Yes to cleaner air & water. Yes to a greener future.



Hello Tree Huggers,

Please accept that as a welcome to all who enjoy our great outdoors and conservation minded advocates and supporters of the 151 Years of Arbor Day! It's not just about trees, it's about a conservation ethic and movement to encourage us to treat our environment with respect and incorporate that when we can.

I think everyone can agree that we all don't need to hug trees to enjoy the scenic vista of a lone standing century's old mature oak, mature forest, backyard shade tree or even the regeneration of a new forest. We all rely on plants on this earth to provide us with everything we need to live and enjoy life. Here in Manitowoc County we have a great mix of natural resources and a beneficial and progressive agricultural community. We work with many of you in improving the land for agriculture and wildlife habitat. Good things are being done every day by our farmers and landowners to benefit the soil and water resources.

There is not much more I can share with you on Arbor Day or about trees that hasn't been said before or can be found with just the swipe of your finger on the new devices we use in our everyday lives. So...please take the time to visit the Arbor Day Foundation information when you have time, and if you want, give us a call to incorporate a tree or two if your vista could use some improvement.

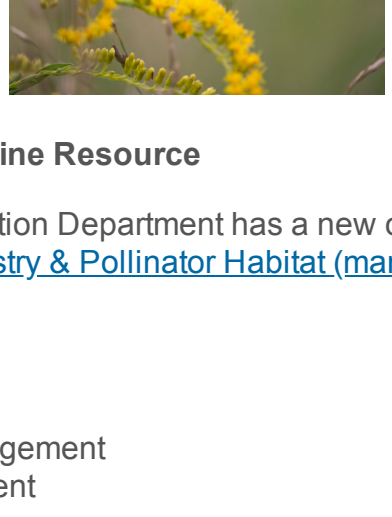
Sincerely,

Dave Wetenkamp

SWCD Receives \$50,000 DNR Surface Water River Implementation Grant

New water quality improvement efforts are taking place in the Pine Creek Watershed thanks to a \$50,000 DNR Surface Water River Implementation Grant awarded to the Manitowoc County SWCD. The project begins this spring 2023 and concludes by year-end 2025, with most grant funds already allocated to: 9 consecutive harvestable buffer acres along Pine Creek, a sediment basin and wetland project, and several waterway installations. These projects will reduce sediment and nutrient loss while creating shoreline and aquatic habitat. "A big-thanks goes to our Pine Creek Watershed Agricultural Landowners," says Tara Wachowski, Education and Grants Coordinator. "Their commitment and voluntary cooperation to install practices on their land, contribute time, and matching funds makes this project and water quality improvements, possible."

The Pine Creek Watershed is located in Northeast Wisconsin, just south of the city of Manitowoc. Pine and Calvin Creeks located in the watershed, transport water from approximately 21 square miles of land into Lake Michigan. The Surface Water Implementation Grant supports an existing Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved 9-Key Element implementation plan to reduce phosphorus and sediment loads in the watershed and meet Wisconsin's surface water quality standards. For more information about the Pine Creek Watershed and progress made, visit: [Watershed | Pine Creek Watershed | United States](#)



New Forestry and Pollinator Habitat Online Resource

Manitowoc County Soil & Water Conservation Department has a new online forestry and pollinator habitat online resource. Visit: [Manitowoc County - Forestry & Pollinator Habitat \(manitowoccountywi.gov\)](#)

For information about:

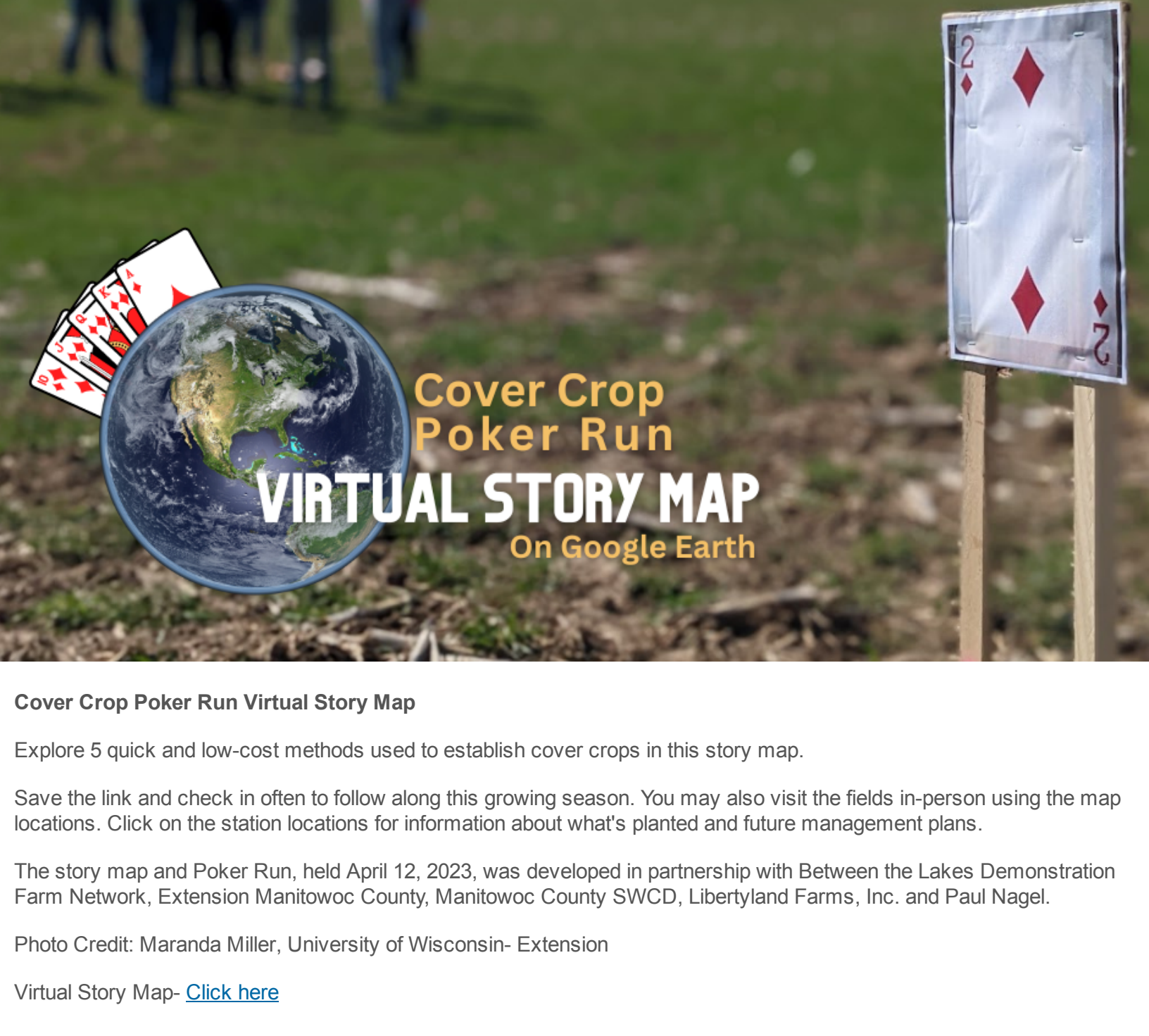
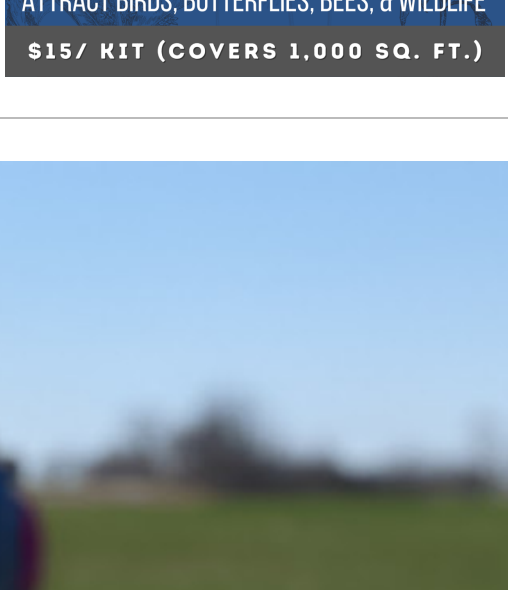
- Tree Planter Rentals
- Emerald Ash Borer and Ash Tree Management
- Lakeshore Invasive Species Management
- Pollinator Habitat Seed Kits
- Tree and Native Plant Nurseries

Pollinator Seed Kits Available Now!

Pollinator seeds kits are perfect for the beginner or experienced gardener. Whether you're looking to attract pollinators into your current landscape, plant a small meadow to cut down on mowing, or want to establish a pollinator corridor in your neighborhood; each Pollinator Seed Kit covers 1,000 square ft. and is ideal for full-sun locations.

Grow an approved NRCS 23-species mix that includes: Asters, Black-eyed Susan, Cone Flower, Milkweed, Wild Bergamont, Coreopsis, and many more. Cost is \$15 per kit and includes a planting & maintenance guide.

Local pick-up only while supplies last. Call ahead! 920-683-4183



Cover Crop Poker Run VIRTUAL STORY MAP On Google Earth

Cover Crop Poker Run Virtual Story Map

Explore 5 quick and low-cost methods used to establish cover crops in this story map.

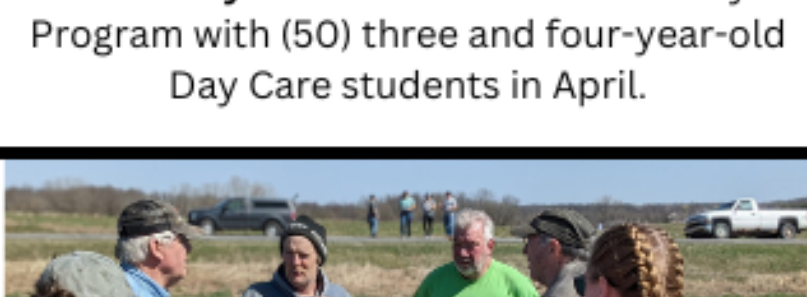
Save the link and check in often to follow along this growing season. You may also visit the fields in-person using the map locations. Click on the station locations for information about what's planted and future management plans.

The story map and Poker Run, held April 12, 2023, was developed in partnership with Between the Lakes Demonstration Farm Network, Extension Manitowoc County, Manitowoc County SWCD, Libertyland Farms, Inc. and Paul Nagel.

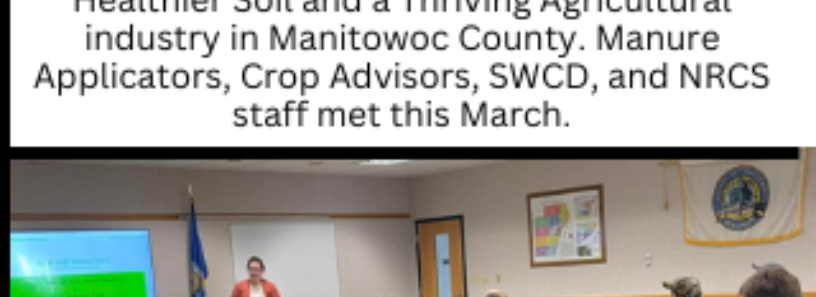
Photo Credit: Maranda Miller, University of Wisconsin- Extension

Virtual Story Map- [Click here](#)

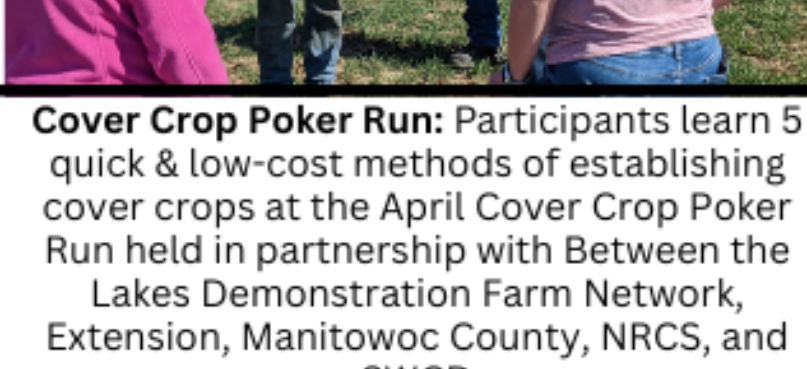
OUTREACH UPDATE



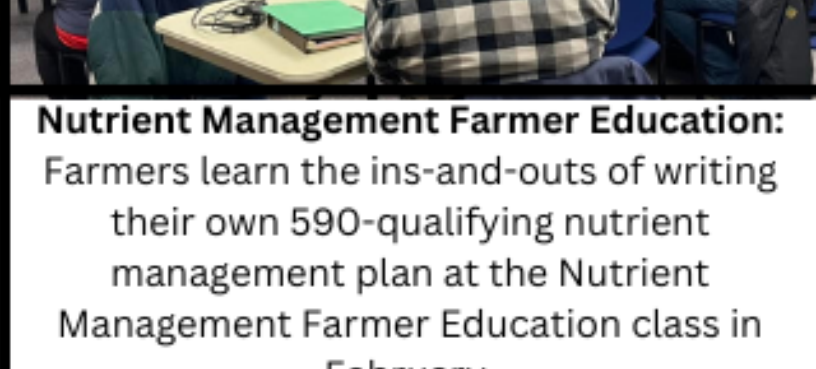
Earth Day: SWCD hosted an Earth Day Program with (50) three and four-year-old Day Care students in April.



Keeping Communication Open = Cleaner Water, Healthier Soil and a Thriving Agricultural Industry in Manitowoc County. Manure Applicators, Crop Advisors, SWCD, and NRCS staff met this March.



Cover Crop Poker Run: Participants learn 5 quick & low-cost methods of establishing cover crops at the April Cover Crop Poker Run held in partnership with Between the Lakes Demonstration Farm Network, Extension, Manitowoc County, NRCS, and SWCD

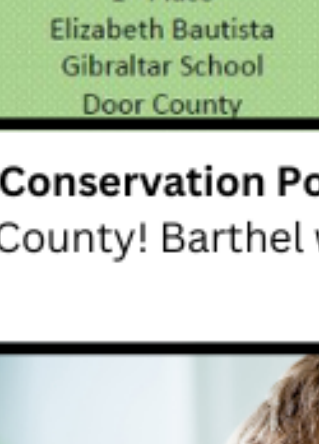


Nutrient Management Farmer Education: Farmers learn the ins-and-outs of writing their own 590-qualifying nutrient management plan at the Nutrient Management Farmer Education class in February.

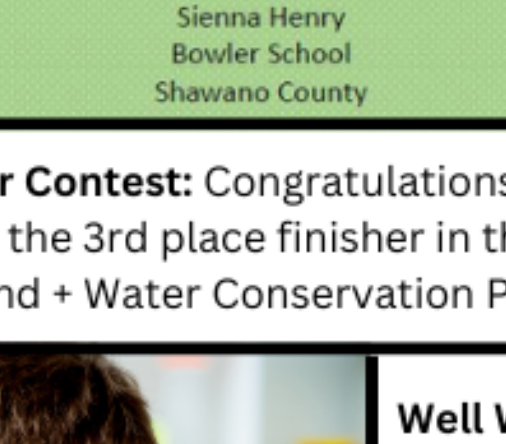
2022 Lake Michigan Area Land+Water Conservation Poster Contest

This year's Theme: **One Water**

Division 4: Grades 7-9



1st Place
Elizabeth Bautista
Gibraltar School
Door County



2nd Place
Sienna Henry
Bowler School
Shawano County



3rd Place
Adriel Barthel
Bethany Lutheran School
Manitowoc County

Conservation Poster Contest: Congratulations to Adriel Barthel of Manitowoc County! Barthel was the 3rd place finisher in the Grade 7-9 Lake Michigan Area Land + Water Conservation Poster Contest.



Well Water Screening: SWCD screened 155 well water samples for Nitrate in March during Groundwater Awareness Week. Another community nitrate screening is planned for August at the Manitowoc County Fair. Results of these screenings will be released in Fall.

Agricultural Landowners within 150 ft. of a stream or other body of water!

EARN ADDITIONAL REVENUE ON LESS PRODUCTIVE LAND

ADD FORAGE

REDUCE SOIL & NUTRIENT LOSS

GROW HABITAT

STAY TUNED

Harvestable Buffer and CREP Lunch & Learn with FREE Pizza lunch this June!

Call 920-683-4183 with questions



Wisconsin Celebrates **POLLINATOR WEEK** June 19-25, 2023



Learn about what *you* can do
to help Wisconsin pollinators
and their habitats.

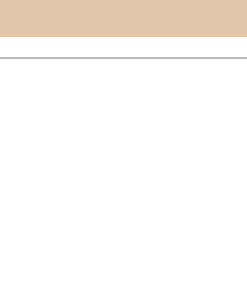
Free online programs
iNaturalist BioBlitz
Art contest
Resource library
And more!



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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
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An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



2023 CONSERVATION PRACTICE FUNDING

Open for Sign Up!

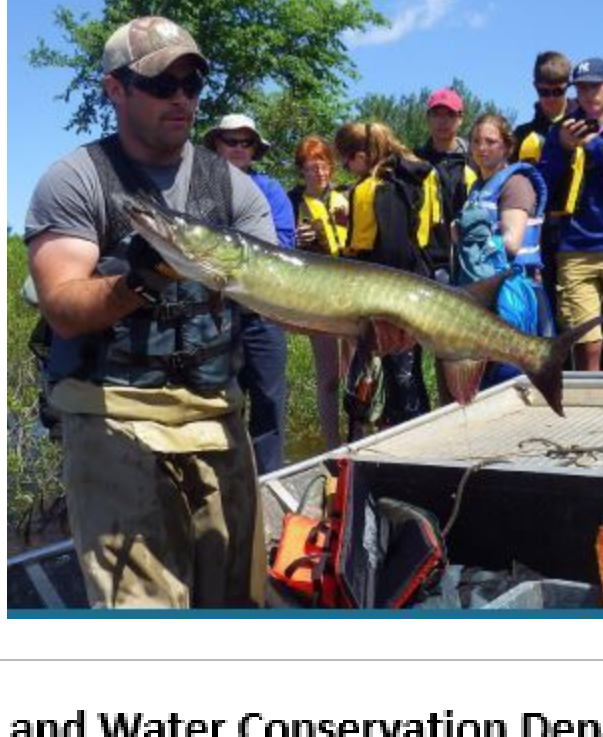
Sign up Now for 2023 Resource Conservation Programs

Manitowoc County Soil and Water Conservation Department's natural resources conservation programs help producers and landowners reduce erosion, build soil health, improve water quality, and increase wildlife habitat. Program sign up for the 2023 season is now open. If you have a resource concern, contact the Soil and Water Department for technical and financial assistance. 920-683-4183.

Register Now for Middle and High School Conservation Camps

Do you have a conservation-minded student in your life? WI Land+Water Middle School and High School Conservation Camp registration is open! Campers will learn from various professionals about wildlife, habitat, water quality, fisheries, forestry, careers in resource conservation, and have lots of FUN exploring the outdoors. Click the link for more information and to register.

<https://wisconsinlandwater.org/our-work/youth-education/conservation-camp>

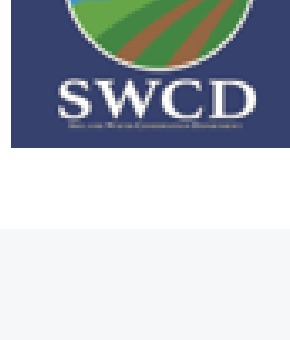


Manitowoc County Soil and Water Conservation Department

4319 Expo Drive, P.O. Box 935

Manitowoc, WI 54221-0935

P: 920.683.4183



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