AISWCD Executive Director's Bi-Monthly Report

Monday, December 1st, 2014

Greetings all!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and enjoyed the company of family and friends over the past few days.

Many tasks have been accomplished and new ones added to the list since my last report. Below is an overview of the past two weeks.

AISWCD OFFICE UPDATE

Gina and I are getting ready for the December Quarterly Board meeting that will be taking place December 8 & 9 at the Northfield Inn and Suites in Springfield. If you are planning to attend the Board meeting and Christmas party and haven't RSVP'd please do so this week.

Gina and I will be taking a QuickBooks class on December 4 & 5 to gain a better understanding of the program.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

This week Myron and I will be visiting the State House with Mike Hoffmann to introduce ourselves to several key legislators. My next report will have a full update on this endeavor.

STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The State Technical Committee met on Wednesday, November 19th in Champaign-Urbana at the NRCS State office. Much was discussed at this meeting. The Agency is currently under a continuing resolution for its budget. This resolution will end on December 11th. NRCS is currently undergoing an Administrative Transformation of which includes a compliance team and newly reorganized administrative structure soon to roll out in January 2015. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

NUTRIENT LOSS REDUCTION STRATEGY

As many of you may know the NLRS document is out for public review. Illinois EPA has placed the document on their website for a two month period starting November 24 – January 24, 2015. The link is provided on AISWCD's website as well as Facebook and below. SWCD Staff, please spread the word to your district board members, especially those without email.

ISWCDEA WINTER TRAINING

Winter training is this week, Dec. 2-3, 2014. AISWCD staff and CREP Specialists will be in attendance along with President, Myron Kirby. We are looking forward to attending. Thank you again for the invitation to participate in Winter Training!

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ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE DAY

Gina and I participated in the IALD meeting on Monday, November 24th at the Department of Ag in Springfield. In the past, AISWCD supplied tree saplings for the FFA gift baskets. We will do so again this year and I will be assisting with group legislative assignments along with Karen Fraase. The date this year will depend on the legislative calendar, which is soon to be posted.

As always, if you have any questions or comments at all, don't hesitate to call the office! Remember, AISWCD works for Districts...without SWCDs, the Association would not exist!

