

Conservation News

Coles County Soil and Water Conservation District
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Conservation News
Volume 47 Issue 3

May/June 2007

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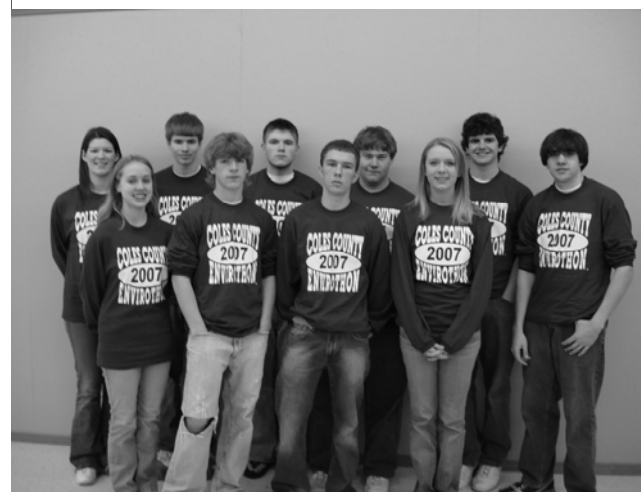
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May/June 2007



Charleston High School Envirothon Team Members

James Melton, John McNally, Nick Pitts, Bryce Ammon,
Adam Held, Andy Brachear, Jared Switzer, Karen Arm-
strong, Annie Hargis, Andy Armstrong
Coaches: Ron and Jan Easter



Oakland High School Envirothon Team Members

Lauren Rowley, Robert Schrock, Ben McBurney, Jimmy
Clifton, Ross Rhoades, Daniel Hale, Darren Warren, Katie
Guthridge, David Holzricher, Jessie Baker
Coaches: Greta Henry and Jeff Coon

Envirothon 2007

On a cold, wet, windy April 11th, twenty-three high school Envirothon teams representing six counties met at Rockome Gardens near Arcola for the annual Land Use Council 7 Envirothon competition. Coles County had four of the twenty-three teams with two from Charleston and two from Oakland.

This year, as last, the teams from Coles County were outstanding! The highest placing team from Coles County, one of the Charleston teams, had the second highest score of the day and was just 14 points (out of a possible 500) behind the first place team from Paris. One of the Oakland teams tied for 3rd highest score, the second team from Charleston had the 4th highest and the second Oakland team tied for 9th highest score.

In the individual categories, teams from Coles County placed first in four out of the five categories.

Our thanks to all of these students who studied so hard and did so well representing Coles County. Our thanks also to the coaches who helped them in their efforts. We are so proud of you.

Special thanks to Embarras Valley Quail Unlimited for their donation of \$250 which was used to purchase the Coles County Envirothon t-shirts.

The Coles County Soil and Water Conservation District offers all programs and services without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.

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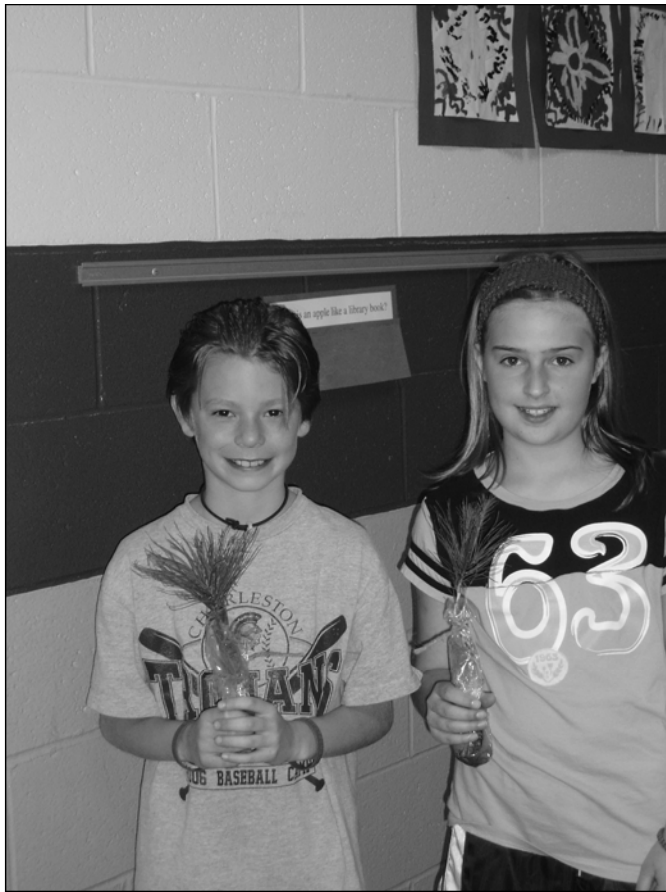
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Kenton Macy, Biologist



Arbor Day

This year, to help students celebrate Arbor Day, we wrapped and distributed 500 white pine seedlings to 3rd grade students in Coles County along with planting information and educational information about the value of forests.

In the photo, Grayson Gough and Faith Ogden from Ashmore Elementary School are showing off their seedlings.

Educational Opportunities

Looking for summer activities for the kids? U of I Extension Master Gardeners have teamed up with Lake Land Summer College for Kids to offer three Junior Master Gardener classes.

June 14: *What's in Your Garden?* Explore our foods, how they grow, what they taste like and ways to fix them. Learn about annual vegetables and perennials like fruits and nuts. Sampling allowed! 4-H Extension Center on fairgrounds. Fee - \$7.50

June 19: *Insect Exploration* - If all the insects on earth were piled together, they would weigh more than all the people. Insects play an important role in garden life. Learn about insect camouflage techniques, design your own insect and maybe even taste one. Lake Land Fieldhouse. Fee - \$6

June 21: *Hand in Hand With Nature* - Do you know the connection between dead leaves, rattlesnakes, worms, mice and hawks? Experience the balance and interactions in nature. Learn about recycling and how to protect the environment. 4-H Extension Center on fairgrounds. Fee - \$6.

All classes are geared for 8-11-year-olds and will meet from 9 a.m. until noon. Registration can be completed on-line at www.lakelandcollege.edu/summerkidscollege or by calling 234-5390. Class size is limited, so don't wait. Register soon.

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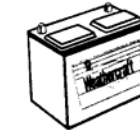
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