

For immediate release

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011

*Conservation Planning with a twist of tax savings.*

Landowners with more than 5 acres of unimproved land such as woodlands, prairie, wetlands or other undeveloped land (excluding farmland) can take advantage of property tax savings by simply developing and implementing a conservation plan designed to protect natural resources. The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) provides this tax saving incentive for landowners who are willing to commit to maintaining and managing their unimproved land.

Landowners who wish to receive the special valuation are required to prepare and implement a conservation plan. The McHenry County Soil and Water Conservation District can assist landowners in writing a plan that will contain all the necessary components for approval by the IDNR. The approved plan then qualifies landowners for the special valuation and the adjustment in the valuation will be made.

The McHenry County Soil and Water Conservation District has assisted landowners with conservation planning for the past 65 years. If interested in learning more about this program call our office at 815-338-0099 or visit our website at [www.mchenryswcd.org](http://www.mchenryswcd.org)

\* \* \*