

# 2006 Outstanding Cooperator Award

---



*Al Guimond,*

Al Guimond was proudly named the Outstanding Cooperator of the year for Lucas Soil and Water Conservation District for 2006.

Mr. Guimond was employed by the Lucas SWCD for over 11 years and during that time was hard at work as Technician for the District and at the Quarry Pond Farm as it was called then. He saw the changes in ownership from the City to the County, and finally to the Metroparks of the Toledo Area. He was our anchor throughout the changes and worked consistently for the agricultural and educational benefits of the property.

Al created the Children's Garden and recruited the whole-hearted support of the board and staff. It has come to be a focus of the District's program in teaching children about where their food comes from in a hands-on environ-

ment. He is also great with a group of children and always enjoyed showing them how potatoes or peanuts grow and watching their excitement and enthusiasm when harvesting the produce from the garden (photo below). Al is still involved with the garden and is willing to help out when asked.

Al was also a master at the art of negotiating. He would investigate pollution complaints and help the neighbors resolve the pollution issues without bringing in additional authorities. He is great at encouraging cooperation. This would also be true of asking for donations at annual meeting time of the year. People were always willing to help out, probably because he was ready to help them whenever asked.

It is with great pride that we present the 2006 Cooperator of the Year Award to Al Guimond.

