Lower Salamonie River Watershed

- Part of a larger Salamonie River Watershed, which covers just over 352,900 acres
  - Covers 6 IN counties: Huntington, Wabash, Wells, Blackford, Grant, and Jay.
  - Originates near IN-OH border in Jay County and flows NW for 60 miles before discharging into the Wabash River
- Lower portion of the Salamonie River is impounded and forms Salamonie Lake
- Lower Salamonie River Watershed (LSR) is approximately half of the Salamonie River watershed - 196,426 acres, including the lake
- Spans across five counties: Huntington, Wabash, Wells, Blackford and Grant

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Salamonie River Watershed Partners
Blackford County SWCD
Taylor University-Dept. of Earth and Environmental Science
Grant County SWCD
Purdue Cooperative Extension
Service-Master Gardeners
Wabash County SWCD
Huntington County Health Dept.
Wells County SWCD
Huntington County Commissioners
Indiana Dept. Natural Resources
Huntington County Drainage Board
The Nature Conservancy

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LOWER SALAMONIE RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Indiana Department of Environmental Management
319 Non-Point Source Management Grant

2013-2016
What Is a Watershed?

"A unit area of land that receives, modifies, stores, and distributes precipitation"

"serve as logical landscape units for environmental management"

"that area of land, a bounded hydrologic system, within which all living things are inextricably linked by their common water course and where, as humans settled, simple logic demanded that they become part of a community."

SIMPLY PUT: A watershed is an area of land that drains water to a common point.

Depending on the scale of the discussion, this could be a cluster of counties whose water all drains to the same location on a river, or it could include many states whose water all drains to the Mississippi River.

Reasons for a WMP

- In the past few years the Salamonie River has shown increased levels of nutrients and sediment.
- Sections of the river and some of its tributaries are listed on the IDEM 303(d) list for impairments that include E.coli, impaired biotic communities and nutrients.
- Document the local water quality conditions
- Create a record of the goals and concerns that people have for the watershed
- Provide a way to track progress with measurable results

Purpose of WMP

- To improve the quality of water in the Salamonie River, Salamonie Reservoir and its tributaries.
- To develop a water monitoring program to identify its chemical, biological, and physical conditions.
- To identify critical areas.
- Implement best management practices
- Develop a cost share program

Water Quality Monitoring Program

What: Chemical, biological and physical monitoring

When: Monthly from May-October and at least two times Nov-March

Where: 13 sites throughout the watershed

To be measured: Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Temperature, pH, Nitrate and Nitrite, Total Phosphorus, Flow, Turbidity, and E.coli

- DO, BOD, Temp – YSI ProODO meter
- Nitrate, Nitrite, Total Phosphorus, pH – YSI pHotoFlex meter
- Turbidity – Turbidity Tube
- E.coli - Coliscan Easygel
- Flow – Calculation
- Macroinvertebrates - Citizen Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI)
- Habitat – Citizen Habitat Environmental Index (CQHEI)

If you are over 18 years old and would like to volunteer to help for any sampling events, please contact the Huntington County SWCD Office.