

**AGENDA**  
**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, July 17, 2012**  
**9:30 AM**  
**Southeast-Purdue Agricultural Center (SEPAC)**  
**4425 East 350 North**  
**Butler, IN 47223**

- I. 9:30 AM: Call to Order**
- II. Approve Minutes of May 2012**
- III. Clean Water Indiana**
  - a. Budget Update-Executive Committee & Jennifer Pinkston
  - b. 2013 Grants-Grants Committee & Jim Lake
  - c. Grants Update-Jennifer Pinkston
  - d. CREP Update-Jim Norris
- IV. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
  - a. Temporary Supervisor Appointments-Jennifer Pinkston
    - i. Vermillion County
- V. SSCB Board Reports and Discussion**
  - a. SSCB Chairman's Report – Larry Clemens
    - i. Task Force Update
- VI. ISDA Reports**
  - a. Technical Support Update – Deb Fairhurst
  - b. District Support Update – Jim Lake
  - c. Water Quality Update – Deb Fairhurst
  - d. Accountability and Technology Update – Deb Fairhurst
  - e. Agriculture Affairs Update – Jordan Seger
- VII. Conservation Partner Reports**
  - a. IASWCD President's Report
  - b. NRCS State Conservationist's Report
  - c. IDEA Report
  - d. FSA Report
  - e. Purdue Report
  - f. DNR Report
  - g. IDEM Report
- VIII. Public Comment**
- IX. Next Meeting: TBA**
- X. Adjourn**

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*\***

This agenda is in DRAFT FORM. Open Door Law does not prohibit the public agency from changing or adding to its agenda during the meeting.

	FY13 Proposed	FY12 As Approved	FY13 Proposed	FY12 As Approved	
	\$ 3,666,425.00	\$ 3,666,425.00			
CWI Dedicated Funds	\$ 3,116,461.25	\$ 3,108,348.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	CWI General Funds
			\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	3% reserve
Balance	\$ 3,116,461.25	\$ 3,108,348.00	\$ 485,000.00	\$ 485,000.00	Balance
5 DSS, 8 RS, 1 PM, 1 Admin	\$ 980,000.00	\$ 918,060.00			
2 WLEB RS	\$ 87,577.00				75% possible if grant not renewed
CREP Match	\$ 660,000.00	\$ 660,000.00			
CWI Statutory AFR	\$ 920,000.00	\$ 920,000.00			
CWI CCSI	\$ 89,000.00	\$ 89,000.00			
CWI SSCB	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00			
CWI Retiree - est 1415/person	\$ 21,225.00	\$ 21,225.00			
CWI SWCAP	\$ 61,870.00	\$ 61,870.00			
CWI DSS IT, Admin, travel	\$ 23,044.00	\$ 22,040.00			
CWI Training Grants	\$ 66,000.00				
CWI Grants	\$ 196,745.25	\$ 405,153.00	\$ 485,000.00	\$ 485,000.00	\$681,745 <u>total for grants</u>

# Impact of Clean Water Indiana

Established within the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) provides guidance and coordination to the state's 92 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) as they provide local leadership in the protection of Indiana's soil and water resources. Additionally, the SSCB administers the Clean Water Indiana Grants Program, a water quality related erosion and sediment reduction program. Through the Clean Water Indiana Grants program, the SSCB aids local SWCDs to develop and maintain projects and programs that achieve the following goals:

- Clean drinking water
- Clean rivers, lakes and streams
  - More productive soils
  - Enhanced quality of life



# Clean Water Indiana 2011 Grant Report

**INDIANA**  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE



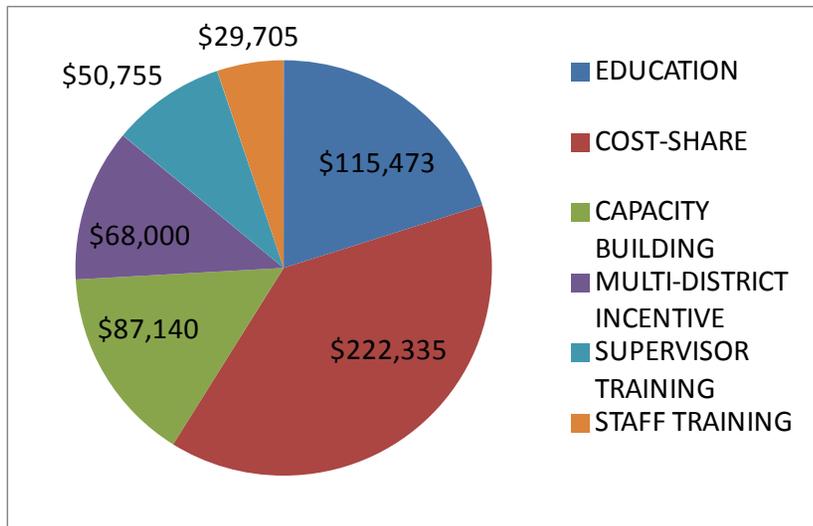
# Overview

In 2011, the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) designated \$644,000 for Soil and Water Conservation District grants. Each Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) was given the opportunity to apply for Clean Water Indiana funds up to \$7,000. The focus for this round of grant funding includes:

- Adult Education/Outreach
- Cost Share Incentives
- Multi-District Initiatives
- Capacity Building

Eighty-eight SWCDs submitted CWI grant applications totaling \$573,408 (Chart 1). The SSCB approved all grant applications and funded the total amount applied. All applicants had one year to complete their project which started January 1, 2011 and concluded by December 31, 2011<sup>1</sup>.

Chart 1



1. Twelve districts have extensions on the 2011 CWI grants. These grants will end between June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2012.

# Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative

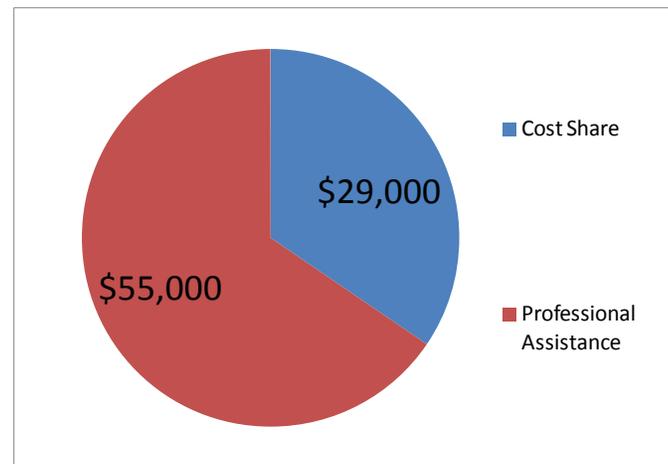
In 2010, 2011 and 2012, the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) allotted CWI funds for the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI), along with NRCS. The intent of CCSI is to promote a systematic approach to production agriculture focusing on continuous no-till/strip-till, cover crops, precision farming, nutrient and pest management, and conservation buffers resulting in improved soil quality, water quality, and profitability on Indiana cropland. Through this program, agronomy professionals provide very specific education and technical assistance to agricultural producers and our partners directed at production efficiency and nutrient/sediment runoff reduction. In 2011, 114 presentations were given to over 5,800 individuals and CCSI was present at events and/or provided technical assistance in over 56 counties. In 2012, 169 presentations were given to over 10,000 individuals and CCSI was present at events and/or provided technical assistance in over 69 counties.

## Clean Water Indiana 2011 Watershed Grants

For 2011, the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) also awarded \$84,000 for competitive watershed-based grants. Projects are to fund one or more of the categories listed below:

- Cost Share/Incentives/Demonstrations
- Increase Direct Professional Assistance to Land Users

Eighteen applications were received for the 2011 CWI grant totaling over \$500,000. The SSCB approved five grant applications and awarded a total of \$84,000.



Districts report on their grant progress on an annual basis, with the first report due in July, 2012.

## Blackford County SWCD

Blackford County SWCD put on a Tri-County Soil Fertility Field Day in June 2011. The field day featured a soil pit, eight cover crop demo plots, a tour of Davis-Purdue farm's corn into cover crop plots, and a no-till planter set-up. Speakers were Hans Kok (CSSI), Greg Haley (NRCS), and Greg Downing (CISCO Seeds). There were approximately 70 people in attendance and the event covered by Hoosier Ag Today. The Blackford County SWCD advertised for participation in a cover crop planting incentive program. The district funded the planting of 237 acres on highly traveled roads in different parts of the county. Signage was put at each plot to advertise the project and Hoosier Ag Today played radio spots during twice daily farm reports for one week. The Clean Water Indiana dollars used to promote this field day impacted many decision-makers and will be turned into Best Management Practices (BMPs) to keep sediment and nutrients in the soil.

## Newton County SWCD

Newton County had approximately 3,000 acres in cover crops that were put in this fall. In November 2011, Newton County SWCD held soil pit field days in Newton and Jasper Counties. The district dug out three pits. One at Larry Strole's, one at Ollie Dorn and one at Brian Johnson. The district also used a rain simulator to show the effects of having cover crops on your land versus bare soil when it rains. It was a huge success! Newton County SWCD is going to follow up with soil pits again in 2012 to show the rooting depths of cover crops the spring. Newton County SWCD also ordered two signs to be used in the fields in the future to draw attention to the cover crops.

## Jefferson County SWCD

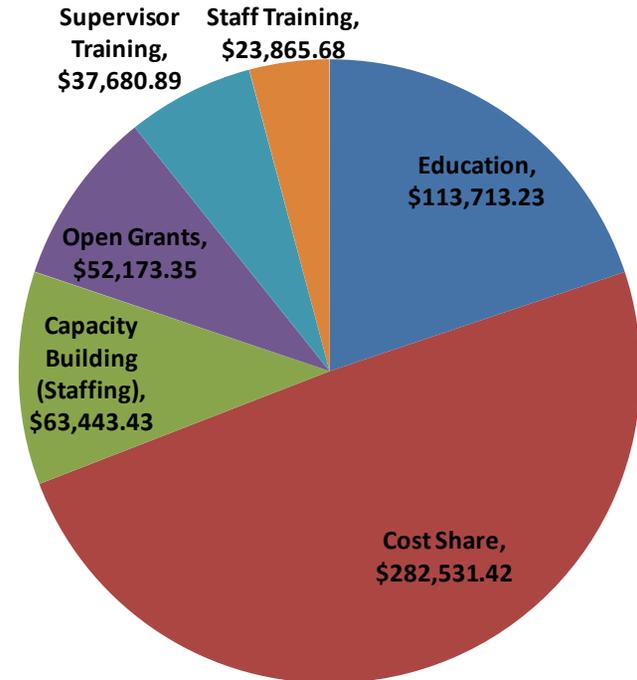
In December 2011, the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District hosted a forest management field day. The field day was held at the National Guard Armory in Madison, IN. There were many speakers that gave information packed presentations for the attendees. Phil Marshall, Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Entomology & Plant Pathology, spoke about spoke about invasive insects, such as the Emerald Ash Borer and their effects on landowners' trees and forests. Duane McCoy from IDNR Division of Forestry gave a great presentation of the Best Management Practices in forests. Tom Rathert and Brad Meagher (private consulting foresters) Tim Schwipps (NRCS) Susan Knowles (U.S. Fish and Wildlife) also informed the attendees of cost-share programs available to landowners through each of their different organizations, as well as, how to go about receiving funding.

## Clinton, Benton, Warren, & Montgomery County SWCDs

The Tippecanoe, Benton, Warren, Montgomery & Clinton SWCD's partnered to host a no-till breakfast meeting to encourage communication and candid discussion on the benefits and challenges of no-till farming. Hans Kok and Dan Towery facilitated discussion. A panel of experienced no-till farmers answered questions from those attending. The Clinton and Tipton County SWCD's partnered to host a Septic Maintenance Workshop held in March 2011 at the Kempton Town Hall. The area targeted falls within the Wildcat Creek Watershed with known E. coli impairments. Purdue Cooperative Extension, Board of Health, and contractors led the discussion. The Clinton, Howard, Tipton and Madison county SWCDs partnered to host a Soil Quality Field Day at the farm of Warren Baird. CCSI staff, NRCS staff and local producers Rodney Rulon and Cameron Mills provided the program.

# Final Reports

Final reports for 2011 grants were due on March 1, 2012. As of June 2012, 76 reports were submitted and reviewed.



SWCDs reported spending \$521,234.70. The remainder (labeled "Open Grants") is comprised of the balance of the 12 grants with extensions and \$2,253 which was not spent and reverted back to the State.

In conjunction with Clean Water Indiana funds, districts also utilized \$264,832 in district funds, \$212,816 in district in-kind, \$105,100 in partner funds, and \$148,938 in partner in-kind.

In an effort to allow districts to fully utilize their grant funds SWCDs were able to modify their grant spending from their original request, as long as the spending stayed within the scope of the grant. This flexibility allowed most SWCDs to fully utilize their grant funds.

Staffing \$63,443.43

## Staffing

The 2011 Clean Water Indiana grants assisted in funding 23 employees. CWI funds provided support for the following positions:

- 11 Technicians
- 3 Education/Outreach professionals
- 5 Project Managers
- 4 SWCD Managers/Administrative staff

- 11 positions served at least two districts
- 7 Full time positions
- 16 Part time positions
- 8 new staff
- 9 positions saw increased hours

*“Jerry (Smith) was already working as a contract employee through another grant to educate the public in the Pigeon Creek Watershed on Water Quality and Septic System Education. There were requests for these presentations and materials outside the watershed. We used the CWI money to hire Jerry to give presentations to groups in other watersheds within our county.”*

*-Steuben County SWCD*

## Supervisor and Staff Training

Clean Water Indiana funds provided training reimbursement for 233 staff members and 289 supervisors. Districts could receive up to \$1,000 in training reimbursement, with at least 50 percent spent on Supervisor training.



IASWCD Annual Conference Attendance:

- 136 Supervisors
- 81 Staff

Leadership Institute Attendance:

- 26 Supervisors
- 11 Staff

*This grant has allowed the Porter SWCD to build on its relationships with fellow government agencies and individual landowners.*

*-Porter County SWCD*

## Vigo, Clay and Sullivan County SWCDs

Through Clean Water Indiana grant funds, Clay, Sullivan, and Vigo SWCD along with the West Central Indiana Watershed Alliance, Ceres Crop Solutions, and EdAir coordinated aerial seeding of approximately 3500 acres, leveraging Busseron 319 funds for about 2000 of those acres. They had three airplanes in the air at one time, and seeded about 2500 acres in a single morning. As a follow up to the aerial seeding, the SWCDs, Greene Co SWCD, WCIWA, Purdue Extension, and Ceres hosted a workshop in December, focusing on spring management programs.



*Through a multi-county cooperation, approximately 3500 acres were able to be aerial seeded by EdAir.*

*Photo courtesy of West Central Indiana Watershed Alliance*

## Warrick County SWCD



*Participants attend a workshop to help them with a no-till planter set-up in a multi-county area.*

*Photo courtesy of Warrick County SWCD*

In 2011, cover crops were successful for Warrick SWCD in partnership with the Vanderburgh, Posey, Gibson, and Pike SWCDs. Some were seeded by plane and some conventionally but the weather was good last fall so the cover crops looked really good. Approximately 3100 acres were seeded within the five counties using Clean Water Indiana cost-share funds. These Districts conducted a no-till planter set-up workshop last

summer for farmers with older equipment to help prepare them for fall seeding. In March 2012, the partnering SWCDs sponsored a breakfast for our farmers. This project served as both a follow-up to last year’s CWI program and a kickoff for the 2012 grant cycle.

# Fulton County SWCD



Participants in the Healthy Soils field day event receive information on soil health.

Photo courtesy of Fulton County SWCD

Fulton and Marshall County SWCDs held a multi-county Healthy Soils field day event in September 2011 and provided practical information on soil health and field demonstrations. Sixty-five people attended, and many participants remained after the workshop to ask questions of the experts and to discuss their particular concerns about soil health and cover crops. The winter follow-up meeting was held in March 2012 with thirty-six people in attendance. Again, good questions were asked of the speakers, and the producers who attended seem more inclined to use cover crops. Both meetings concentrated on soil health, with emphasis on how to build soil tilth, reduce nutrient inputs, increase productivity, increase profitability, use cover crops, and practice crop rotation.

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# Vermillion County SWCD

Vermillion County SWCD, working with their counterparts in Parke and Fountain counties, hired Larry Timm as a Conservation Cropping Expert to supply one-on-one support, advice and encouragement for anyone considering initiating or expanding their use of conservation cropping methods. Larry's time and expenses are paid with grant funds allowing the SWCDs to offer this service free-of-charge to county producers. Larry spent the year meeting with individuals and small and large groups. Vermillion County SWCD also utilized the some of their Clean Water Indiana funds to offer producers cost share funds to plant cover crops in the fall. CWI funded cover crops were installed successfully by seven producers protecting over 630 acres of prime farmland.



Larry Timm helped individual, small and large groups with expanding their use of conservation cropping methods. Photo courtesy of Vermillion County SWCD



# Education and Outreach

The 2011 Clean Water Indiana grants helped fund 143 events across the state with nearly 12,000 people in attendance. The grants also helped fund outreach and promotional items including:

- Over 195,000 printed materials
- 416 Radio Ads
- 32 Websites
- 5 Billboards
- 15 e-blasts
- 23 Fair exhibits
- 50 Newsletters
- 34 Newspaper Ads

*"At least three producers attending our field day expressed to me (Debra Carpenter) a desire to plant cover crops this fall and asked for assistance in planning. The CWI dollars used to promote and put on this field day impacted many decision-makers and will be turned into BMP's to keep sediment and nutrients in the soil where they belong."*

-Delaware County SWCD

# Cost Share

The 2011 Clean Water Indiana grants helped fund over 340 cost share programs around the state. These programs impacted over 190,000 acres. Cost share programs included:

- Cover Crops
- Tree Plantings
- Tile Drainage Systems
- Pasture Plantings
- Private Well Water Supply Testing
- Nitrification Inhibitor
- Hillside Erosion Control
- Grid Sampling
- Abandoned Well Closures
- Bank Stabilization
- Buffer Strips



*"Without this cost share program many Crawford County Farmers would be unable to help with soil fertility, sediment reduction and nutrient management principles."*

-Crawford County SWCD

# Clean Water Indiana Funds in Action

## Brown County SWCD



Damage from old logging trails in Brown County that covered over 700 feet. (Above) After the use of CWI funds Brown County repaired the entire trail. (Right) Photos courtesy of Brown County SWCD

Brown County SWCD utilized their Clean Water Indiana Grant to reappear an old logging trail. The old logging trail covered over 700 feet along properties belonging to three landowners. The ruts, up to five feet wide and deep, caused gullies and erosion issues that needed to be permanently repaired along the entire logging trail. The CWI funds allowed the district to repair the trail.

## Dekalb County SWCD



Participants from the Agronomy field day at the Andersons Ag Center learn about Nitrogen management in corn. The day brought together many partners from around the area. Photo courtesy of Kent Sweitzer

The Andersons Ag Center, in cooperation with the Dekalb and Steuben County SWCDs and Purdue Extension hosted an agronomy field day. The theme of the event was Stewardship: “Balancing the business of feeding the world & preserving it for our future”. Additional contributions were made by Cisco, NRCS and other sponsors. Topics under the tents included Nitrogen Management in Corn, Soybean High Management, and Blind Inlets & Cover Crops.

## Porter County SWCD



Porter County SWCD helped the local Drainage Board with seed on recently cleared land to help reduce erosion and sedimentation.

Photo courtesy of Porter County SWCD

adjointing landowners. “The Drainage Board was grateful to have the seed especially for smaller areas where it wouldn’t pay to bid out the project. If the seed was not made available these places most likely would not have been seeded.” said Russ Pumroy, Porter County Drainage Board member. “As a landowner you really appreciate that the seeding took place in a timely fashion,” said Jim Lambert, Porter County SWCD Chairman and farmer. Once made aware of how the seed would be utilized, the seed dealer sold the seed to the District at cost.

The Porter County Soil & Water Conservation District dedicated roughly \$1,000 of its 2011 Clean Water Indiana funds to purchase seed, which was utilized by the Porter County Drainage Board to reseed recently cleaned and repaired ditches throughout the county. By seeding as part of the cleaning and repair process, the potential for erosion and sedimentation was greatly reduced and water quality improved. This

expenditure also helped to strengthen the relationship between the County

Drainage Board, the District and the

## Steuben County SWCD

Through the Clean Water Indiana grant, Steuben County SWCD was able to assist producers in the planting of 150 acres of cover crops in the Pigeon and Fish Creek Watersheds, keeping sediment and nutrients from getting into nearby streams. This grant also enabled the district to partner with other conservation districts, Purdue Extension, and other non-traditional partners, such as The Nature Conservancy, The St. Joe River Watershed Initiative, and The Andersons to put on several local field days to educate producers on the benefits of best



Steuben County SWCD used CWI funds for cost share for cover crops.

Photo courtesy of Steuben County SWCD

management practices (BMPs). The district sponsored the Conservation Farming Expo in Montpelier, Ohio, as well as the Agronomy Field Day in Waterloo, Indiana. The Steuben County SWCD was also involved with several other educational events, such as our Annual Meeting, the Steuben County Lakes Council’s Fall Forum, and a Cover Crop Field Day, which not only promoted the grant, but also BMPs producers could use to reduce the sediments and nutrients leaving their farms. The district was also able to expand the work of their part-time Water Quality Education Coordinator, who is funded through an IDEM-319 grant, to work in the Pigeon Creek Watershed. He was able to provide septic system and water quality education to different watersheds in the county.

## Miami County SWCD

Miami County SWCD used 2011 Clean Water Indiana funds to acquire retired NRCS technician/engineer, Roger Roeske for part-time employment. Roger's expertise in creating conservation designs benefits a strong partnership between the Miami County SWCD and the many different divisions of NRCS. One project Roger worked on is a 6.8 acre grass waterway and a concrete toewall structure constructed this past summer on rented ground that required a lot of coordination between the renter, the landowner, Miami Co. SWCD, NRCS, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Wabash County Surveyor's office, Miami County's Farm Service Agency, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The project, which physically lies in Wabash County, is within the flowage easement of the Army Corps of Engineers' Mississinewa Reservoir, and has a Wabash County-maintained tile. Almost 600 acres of cropland drains through this grass waterway and concrete toewall structure.



*The toewall structure above was partially funded by CWI grant and required a collaborative effort from landowner, renters and government entities, photo courtesy of Miami County SWCD*

## Monroe County SWCD

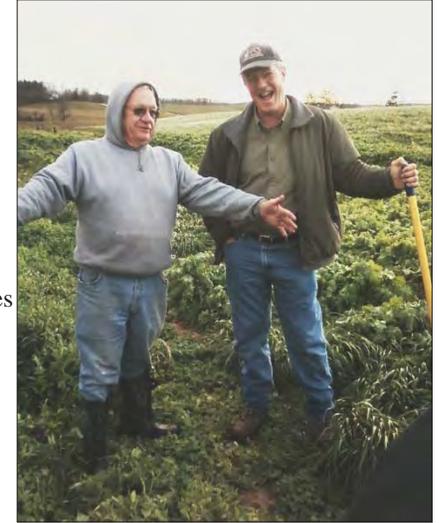


*Monroe County SWCD staff deciding where to place the Heavy Use Area pads. Photo courtesy of Monroe County SWCD*

All of the Clean Water Indiana funding that Monroe County SWCD received went to offset the cost of the installation of Heavy Use Area Pads. Our SWCD neighbors to the south in Lawrence County have been encouraging the installation of this HUAP for a long time. They are now finally catching on here in Monroe Co and we wanted to do whatever we could to assist landholders to use them.

## Dubois County SWCD

Dubois County SWCD used Clean Water Indiana grant funds for a soil health workshop and a cover crop cost share program. The cost share program assisted farmers in planting nearly 1400 acres of cover crops. The district also no-tilled a test plot of seed donated by Cisco and held a cover crop field day in November. About 20 local farmers came to the field day. The test plot had about 10 different species and mixes of cover crops for the participants to examine. Field day leaders dug up selected plants to demonstrate the root structure and the value of cover crops to the soil. From these efforts, the Dubois County SWCD actually had one long-time conventional farmer "see the light" so to speak and plant cover crops for the first time this fall!



*Barry Fisher and Dave Ring, landowner who hosted the field day, show participants the cover crops at the Dubois County SWCD field day. Photo courtesy of Dubois County SWCD*

## Gibson, Pike, Vanderburgh, Posey and Warrick County SWCDs



*Landusers from Gibson, Pike, Vanderburgh, Posey and Warrick counties attended a workshop to hear about management techniques from specialized speakers. (Above) SWCD staff worked in a coordinated effort to host a five county event. (Right) Photos courtesy of Gibson County SWCD*

Over 60 landusers from Gibson, Pike, Vanderburgh, Posey and Warrick counties attended a workshop in August 2011. Districts brought in speakers to talk about cover crop integration, setting up planters for no-till, precision farming, and farm bill information.



## Huntington County SWCD

Huntington County SWCD used Clean Water Indiana funds to conduct two field days. They also exhibited a cover crop display at their county fair. Guests were able to view soil pits showing the root systems of the cover crop seeded the previous fall. Guest speakers provided information about different varieties of cover crops and the benefits of cover crops to soil. Through the CWI grant the SWCD also offered a one-time incentive to seed cover crops. This was well received and many landowners signed up for programs to incorporate cover crops in their farm plans.



*Huntington County SWCD created a cover crop display to use at various events, including the county fair and field days. Photo courtesy of Huntington County SWCD*

## Jasper County SWCD

Utilizing Clean Water Indiana grant funds, Jasper County SWCD provided cost share to 680 acres, 2000+ acres with farmer match, as well as technical support on all acres. The grant also helped fund six different cover crop mixes and five fall soil pit digs.

*Jasper County SWCD used funds for soil pit digs in the Fall. (Below) They also used funds to illustrate root structure and depth. (Right) Photos courtesy of Jasper County SWCD*



## Lawrence County SWCD

Lawrence County SWCD hosted a cover crop barn meeting in December 2011. The purpose of the barn meeting was to educate the public about the incredible benefits that cover crops have on soil health and erosion control. The SWCD planted a demo plot with 11 different varieties of cover crop mixes planted to show farmers the different root structures, and soil benefits between different varieties of plant species. The barn meeting began at the demo plot and Downing discussed the benefits with each different plant species. Immediately after the demo plot discussion the 39 attendees traveled to SWCD Supervisor Mike Spreen's farm near Williams, Indiana, where we continued our discussion about cover crop advantages. The SWCD gave those who attended a free book on cover crops. Cost share dollars were given to all attendees who planted cover crops in the fall of 2011.



*Lawrence County SWCD planted a cover crop demo plot with 11 different varieties. Photo courtesy of Lawrence County SWCD*

## Madison County SWCD



*Field day participants from Madison and Hancock counties toured a hog farm to learn more about modern Confined Feeding Operations. Photo courtesy of Madison County SWCD*

Madison County SWCD hosted a Confined Feeding Operation (CFO) Field Day with Hancock County at a Hog Farm on the Madison/Hancock county line. The purpose for the event was to educate the public on CFO's. The district also worked with Tipton and its surrounding counties on a Soil Quality Field Day that was held on August 17, 2011.



**2013 Clean Water Indiana Watershed Grant Program**  
Indiana State Department of Agriculture  
State Soil Conservation Board

**Executive Summary:** The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Grant Program (IC 14-32-8-5) utilizes the Clean Water Indiana Fund to support Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in efforts to **reduce sediment and nutrients** from nonpoint sources to help improve water quality. The State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) is accepting competitive proposals for multi-district, multi-year watershed projects. Project proposals can be for up to three years in length and up to \$75,000. Grant funding can be used to help support one or more of the funding categories listed below:

- Cost Share Incentives/On Farm Demonstrations
- Increase Direct Technical/Professional Assistance to Land users
- Adult Education (see additional info on page 4)

**General Grant Guidance:**

- Two or more districts must be actively involved in the watershed based project/initiative proposed. A lead district must be selected to serve as the grantee to receive and administer the grant. However, grant funds can be shared between the districts through cooperative agreements developed locally.
- The grant proposal must document how the grant funds will address at least two of the State priorities in the State Soil Conservation Board's (SSCB's) Business Plan adopted in 2010 and identified as follows:
  - **Soil Quality Degradation** which includes the loss of top soil due to erosion, the depletion of organic matter, as well as soil compaction and other soil biology impacts that degrade soil quality.
  - **Water Quality Impairments** including sediment, nutrients, and/or pesticides.
- Proposals that support current state and/or national initiatives are strongly encouraged. Examples of state and national priority initiatives include: projects/programs to reduce sediment and nutrient loading into the Gulf of Mexico (MRBI) and the Great Lakes (WLEB and GLRI). Current examples of initiatives partially assisted with Clean Water Indiana funding include the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI). Proposals for On Farm Network® activities will not be funded due to current availability of funding through other sources. However, funding for projects that will be used in conjunction with OFN will be considered. Example: Cost share for cover crops on acres currently enrolled in OFN are eligible.
- Proposals that outline how the CWI funds will leverage additional funding from other sources as well as engage other partners are strongly encouraged. CWI project proposals that will be in tandem with ongoing projects are encouraged. Example: CWI funds might be used to add technical assistance to help implement sediment and nutrient reduction practices cost-shared through a LARE or 319 project.

- Proposals relating to water usage/conservation (irrigation management) will only be considered if water quality project and conservation practices offered in it will also reduce sediment and nutrient reduction.
- Research projects, including water quality monitoring, are not eligible under the 2013 CWI grant program.
- Projects relating to urban practices are encouraged; however, no funding will be awarded for cost share on rain barrels. Cost-sharing is also not allowed on specific practices that an entity or individual is required to install to comply with a state or local rule or ordinance. For example, CWI funds cannot be used to meet MS4 requirements unless the proposed use of funds goes “above and beyond” the requirements outlined in the MS4 permit’s Storm Water Quality Management Plan.

Applicants should consider the ratio of BMP cost to load reduction and make judicious use of their limited grant funding.

**Application Process:** Application forms are available from your District Support Specialist. Applications are in a fillable PDF format which can be saved to your computer and electronically submitted to your District Support Specialist as an email attachment.

**Application Deadline:** The application must be submitted by September 28, 2012. By electronically submitting the application, the lead SWCD certifies each partnering district has agreed to the terms outlined in the application.

**Eligible Applicants:** The multi-district, watershed based applications may be submitted by any SWCD in the State of Indiana. However, only one application is permitted per project and must be submitted by the designated lead SWCD. All participating districts must be geographically contiguous as to provide the greatest impact to the watershed. **All participating SWCDs must be current on reporting.** Please note: Future Clean Water Indiana funding to expand or extend projects/initiatives awarded under this grant cycle will not be available to awarded watershed projects until the final year of the grant and only if progress has been documented on grant report form and the need for additional funds is justified at that time. While districts may participate in more than one CWI Watershed grant, districts may only administer one grant at a time. However, exceptions for unusual circumstances and exceptionally strong proposals may be considered.

**Project Description:** The size and number of the targeted watershed(s) shall be determined at the local level. The selected watershed(s) shall encompass lands located within at least two districts. The proposal must identify the current non-point source water quality concerns in the selected watershed(s). If the watershed(s) selected is/are included in an existing Watershed Management Plan or one currently under development, please include the name of the plan and identify who developed it or is developing it.

**Partnerships:** SWCDs **must** partner with at least one other district and are encouraged to partner with other organizations. Each application must state clearly what each partner (particularly partner district(s)) will be contributing to the proposed project in the grant application (i.e. outreach, professional assistance, estimated funds, etc.).

**Funds Available:** Each applicant will be given the opportunity to apply for funding under one or all of the grant funding categories. Please see the **Grant Funding Categories with Descriptions** on the next page for additional information. Please note this grant opportunity will be competitive. The SSCB is looking for proposals up to \$75,000 over three years, however additional funding considerations will be made for exceptionally strong proposals. The SSCB will utilize a score sheet criteria to aid in ranking the proposals.

**Match Requirement:** A 50 percent cash and/or in-kind match is required. Match contributions can be federal, state and/or local sources including such things as landowner costs, staff time, supervisor time, equipment use, purchase, rental, etc. The match is applicable only if directly related to the purpose of the proposed project.

**Project Dates:** All 2013 Clean Water Indiana Grant Watershed projects shall take no longer than three full years to complete. Projects may start on January 1, 2013 and must be finished by December 31, 2015.

**Funding Restrictions:** Proposals must fall within the funding context allowed under the Clean Water Indiana Law (IC 14-32-8). The law prohibits funds to be used for food, food related paper products, office equipment or district self-promotional materials (examples include mugs, t-shirts, pens, etc). **NOTE: Districts with past due reports on CWI Grants will not be eligible to apply for additional CWI Grants until past due grant reports are submitted.**

**Leveraging Funds:** SWCD's are encouraged to partner with traditional and non-traditional organizations/agencies at the local, state and federal level to leverage additional dollars for their project/initiative. However, the SSCB will show preference to projects which do not add to the percent cost share/incentive rate offered through another program.

**Process of Payments:** Once the proposal is approved by the SSCB, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) will issue a contract to the designated lead SWCD. SWCDs should return their signed contract to ISDA within 14 days of receipt in order to receive their funds. Funds must be utilized in a timely manner. Districts will receive 75 percent of their grant funding up front and the remaining 25 percent at the end of the project, upon receipt of the final report.

**Reporting Requirements:** Annual reports through SharePoint will be required for the duration of the grant project and a final report will be due at the end of the grant period. This report must summarize the outcomes and achievements of the project. Tracking of conservation practice implementation must be reported through SharePoint's conservation practices tracking system

**Grant Funding Categories with Descriptions:**

**Cost-Share/Incentives/Demonstrations:** Practices and measures must be focused on the reduction of sediment and nutrients for the proposed watershed(s). Districts are encouraged to provide matching dollars and to leverage additional dollars from other sources. Conservation practices and structural measures shall follow NRCS Field Office Technical Guide where applicable. New technologies not currently in the technical guide may be implemented if reviewed and concurred in by a technical representative of the Conservation Implementation Teams (CIT) or their designee. Districts also have the ability to assist in the purchase/lease or off-set of rental costs for equipment to encourage new technology adoption. Districts may also want to offer financial assistance for demonstration projects or farm comparison plots to demonstrate and evaluate options for reducing erosion and /or nutrient inputs or adoption of new equipment technologies. The SSCB will show preference to projects that are not fundable by other programs, or which do not add to the percent cost share/incentive rate offered through another program.

**Direct Agronomic, Technical and Conservation Program Participation Assistance:** Funding under this category is for the purpose of increasing the amount of direct agronomic, technical and conservation program planning/participation assistance to land users in the target watershed(s) that are willing to adopt best management practices and technologies for sediment and nutrient reduction. The BMP should address the goal(s) of the watershed management plan and be appropriate for the NPS pollution in the critical area where the project site lies. For example, even within a critical area, it would not be wise to place a BMP where runoff already infiltrates and has little chance of reaching a Water of the State. Furthermore, CWI grant funds shall not fund BMPs that are "bandages", or spot fixes of much

larger issues. For example, stabilizing streambanks without first addressing the source of the extra flow and sediment causing the bank instability is not a high value project or a funding priority. Examples of how funding in this category might be used include:

- **Contracted Services** – Funding under this category may be used for contracts or fee based agreements with individuals, firms, organizations or project partners who can provide additional on-site agronomic and/or other technical assistance to land users to help them plan and implement best management practices and technologies that will reduce erosion and sedimentation and/or improve nutrient management. This may include helping land users understand what conservation program assistance is available to address these resource concerns and helping them apply for conservation program assistance.
- **Matching Funds for Additional Professional Assistance** –Funding in this category may also be used as match to help partnering districts acquire additional personnel to provide the types of professional assistance described above on a watershed wide basis. Examples include but are not limited to: Watershed Technician, Watershed Agronomist, Conservation Program Specialist (agriculture or urban), and Conservation Cropping Systems Specialists.

**Adult Education**—Districts may apply for up to \$1,500 per year to support Adult Education activities, events/ workshops, etc that help with implementation of the watershed based multi-district project/initiative proposed. However, grants will not be awarded for Adult Education only.

**Questions?** Please contact your District Support Specialist. See DSS Map and contact information under documents on SWCD SharePoint Site.



## **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**

### **July 2012 Report**

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a federal-state natural resources conservation program that addresses agricultural-related environmental concerns at the state and national level. CREP participants receive financial incentives to voluntarily enroll in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in contracts of 14 to 15 years. Participants remove cropland from agricultural production and convert the land to native grasses, trees and other vegetation.

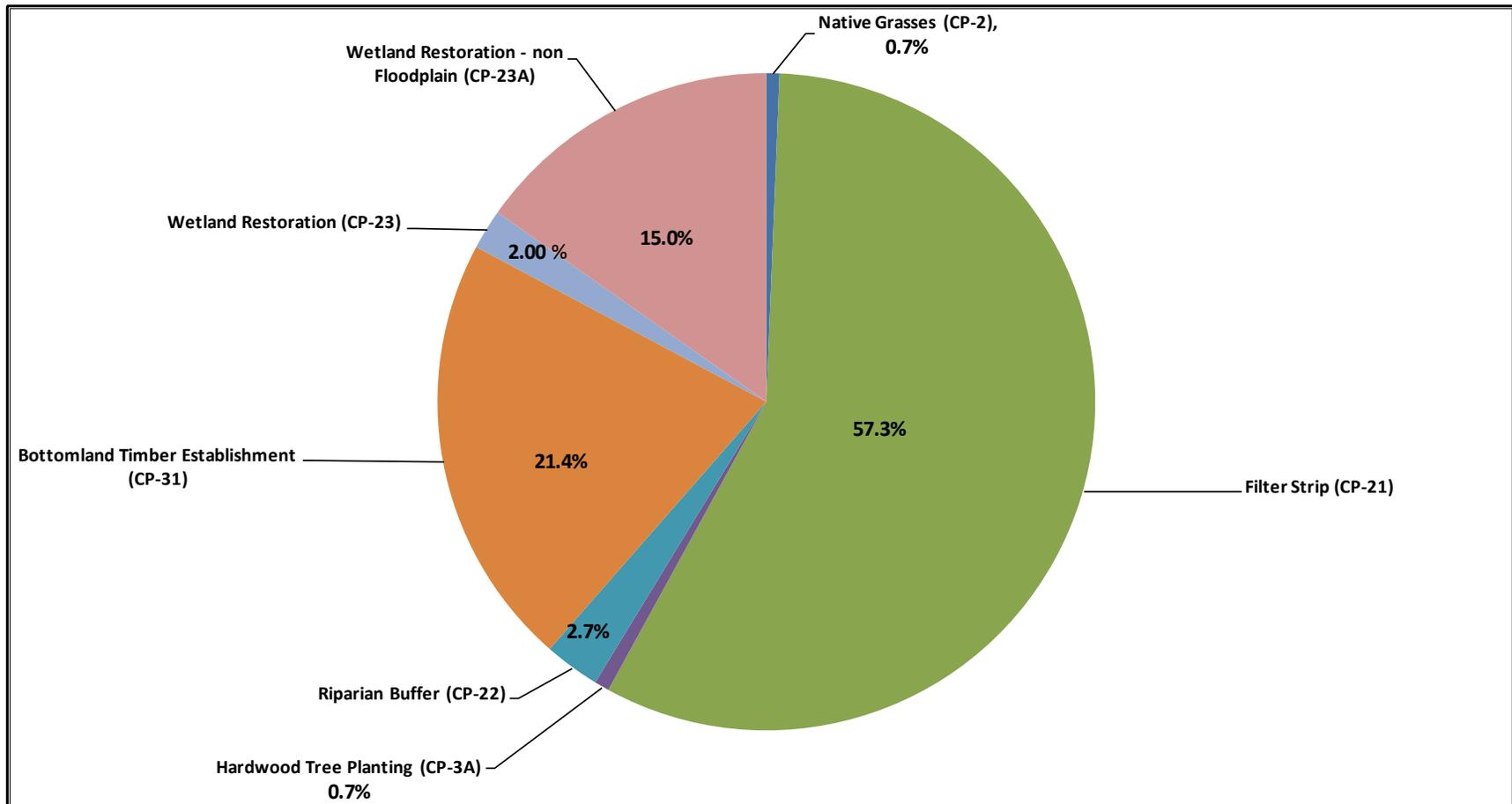
The Indiana CREP is a partnership of the Indiana State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB), Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). The program currently targets the enrollment of 26,250 acres of land in 11 watersheds where sediments, nutrients, pesticides and herbicides run off from agricultural land.

The program will improve water quality by creating buffers and wetlands that will reduce agricultural runoff into the targeted watersheds. Installing buffer practices and wetlands will enhance habitat for wildlife, including State and Federally-listed threatened and endangered species. The program will also reduce nonpoint source nutrient losses.

**Table 1. COMPLETED CONTRACTS BY WATERSHED AS OF JULY 2012**

Watershed	SWCD CREP Administrators	Completed Contracts	Completed State Funds (Paid to Landowner)	SWCD Administrative Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non floodplain)	Total
					CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	
					Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Upper White River Watershed	Hamilton Co.	246	\$665,550.00	\$7,061.50	7.6	0.0	433.5	1.0	149.5	1,003.9	0.0	20.4	1,615.9
Tippecanoe River Watershed	Fulton Co.	521	\$759,895.00	\$2,026.00	30.4	0.0	2,916.8	0.0	7.8	20.4	121.7	924.0	4,021.1
Highland-Pigeon Watershed	Gibson Co.	108	\$105,897.00	\$180.00	2.5	0.0	214.8	10.8	16.0	113.8	0.0	0.0	357.9
Lower East Fork	Orange Co.	5	\$35,210.00	\$3,521.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.7	26.1	0.0	0.0	44.8
Lower Wabash	Gibson Co.	1	\$2,504.00	\$250.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0	0.0	6.3
Lower White	Daviess Co.	3	\$8,600.00	\$860.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.5	0.0	0.0	21.5
Middle Wabash Busseron	Sullivan Co.	9	\$96,200.00	\$9,620.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	240.5	0.0	0.0	240.5
Middle Wabash Deer	Howard Co.	3	\$33,760.00	\$3,376.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	84.4	0.0	0.0	84.4
Middle Wabash Vermillion	Parke Co.	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Upper East Fork White	Decatur Co.	5	\$25,080.00	\$2,508.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.4	0.0	29.3	0.0	0.0	62.7
Upper Wabash	Huntington Co.	4	\$19,560.00	\$1,956.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	48.9	0.0	0.0	48.9
<b>Current Reporting Period (ending on July 11, 2012)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>\$1,752,256.00</b>	<b>\$60,429.50</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3,565.1</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>192.0</b>	<b>1,595.1</b>	<b>121.7</b>	<b>944.4</b>	<b>6,504.0</b>
<b>Previous Reporting Period (April 2012)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>\$1,629,366.00</b>	<b>\$48,140.50</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3,555.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>169.6</b>	<b>1,324.4</b>	<b>121.7</b>	<b>944.4</b>	<b>6,200.0</b>
<b>Change Since April 2012</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>\$122,890.00</b>	<b>\$12,289.00</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>270.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>304.0</b>

**Figure 1. TYPE AND PERCENTAGE OF ALL INSTALLED CREP CONSERVATION PRACTICES AS OF JULY 2012**



**TABLE 2: ENROLLED (NOT COMPLETED) PRACTICES AS OF JULY 2012**

<b>Watershed</b>	<b>SWCD CREP Administrators</b>	<b>Native Grasses</b>	<b>Permanent Wildlife Habitat</b>	<b>Filter Strip</b>	<b>Hardwood Tree Planting</b>	<b>Riparian Buffer</b>	<b>Bottomland Timber Establishment</b>	<b>Wetland Restoration</b>	<b>Wetland Restoration (non floodplain)</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>CP-2</b>	<b>CP-4D</b>	<b>CP-21</b>	<b>CP-3A</b>	<b>CP-22</b>	<b>CP-31</b>	<b>CP-23</b>	<b>CP-23A</b>	
		Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
<b>Upper White River Watershed</b>	Hamilton Co.	1.0		0.6		115.9	56.1			173.6
<b>Tippecanoe River Watershed</b>	Fulton Co.	74.8		24.3					1.0	100.1
<b>Highland-Pigeon Watershed</b>	Gibson Co.	1.7				2.5	77.5			81.7
<b>Middle-Wabash-Busseron</b>	Sullivan Co.	52.4				2.0	274.3			328.7
<b>Middle Wabash Vermillion</b>	Parke Co,						3.1			3.1
<b>Lower East Fork White</b>	Orange Co.	24.3				4.0	264.7			293.0
<b>Lower Wabash</b>	Gibson Co.						332.5			332.5
<b>Lower White</b>	Daviess Co.	18.7					154.6			173.3
<b>Middle Wabash Deer</b>	Howard Co.	6.6				3.0	54.2			63.8
<b>Middle Wabash Vermillion</b>	Parke Co,						51.0			51.0
<b>Upper East Fork White</b>	Decatur Co.	5.0								5.0
<b>Upper Wabash</b>	Huntington Co.	3.7	7.0				22.2			32.9
<b>Total:</b>		188.2	7.0	24.9	0.0	127.4	1,290.2	0.0	1.0	<b>1,638.7</b>

## RECOMMENDATION FOR VACANT APPOINTMENT POSITION

**APPOINTED SUPERVISOR, VACANCY: IC 14-32-13**

**Sec. 13 (a) If a vacancy in the position of appointed supervisor occurs during a district's operating year:**

**(1) the district supervisors shall, within thirty (30) days after the vacancy occurs, recommend to the board in writing one (1) or more individuals qualified to fill the position,**

**(2) at the first board meeting held after the board received a recommendation under subdivision (1), the board shall act upon the recommendation, and**

**(3) the board shall notify the supervisor of the appointment made by the board.**

**(b) The individual appointed to fill a vacant appointed supervisor position under subsection (a) shall serve the unexpired term of the individual's predecessor.**

**("Board" as used in the state statue refers to the State Soil Conservation Board)**

Instructions for submitting this form:

**STOP! If you haven't read the SWCD SharePoint Tutorial on how to submit forms, please do so before proceeding.**

**If you opened another District's Recommendation for Vacant Positions form by mistake, click on the Close button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. Then read the SWCD SharePoint Tutorial on how to submit new forms and update/save previously submitted forms.**

If you are submitting the **Recommendation for Vacant Appointment** form for the first time, click on the **Save As** button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. **Uncheck Overwrite Existing File**. Enter the **name of your county followed by the date** in the File Name box. For example Allen County would Enter **Allen03.12.12**. Click **Save**. Click **Close**.

If you previously submitted the **Recommendation for Vacant Appointment** form and re-opened the form to make some changes or additions, click on the **Save** button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. Click **Close**.

**NEVER open another SWCD's form and modify it.**

The Supervisors of the  County Soil and Water Conservation District certify that:

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

This temporary appointment is necessary because of:

Resignation of

Mayes resignation.pdf  
552.59 KB

(If supervisor has resigned, you **MUST** attach copy of resignation letter. See SharePoint Tutorial for instructions on attaching a file.)

Death of

**We have advised him/her of the duties and responsibilities of the office of Supervisor. We have advised him/her about "Dual Office Holding" and provided a copy of the Attorney General's Dual Office Holding Guide.**

**DISTRICT SUPERVISORS SIGNATURES**

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Date</b>
<input type="text" value="Leslie Zimmerman"/> (typed)	

**QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

**IC 14-32-4-1**

***(c) To hold the position of appointed supervisor, and individual:***

- (1) must be of voting age***
- (2) must maintain the individual's permanent residence within the district, and***
- (3) must be qualified by training and experience to perform the duties that this article imposes on supervisors.***

Name

Phone Number

Date of Birth

Address

City

State  Zip Code

Education

BS from Purdue University (Landscape Horticulture)  
 Regional Airline Academy - Commercial Pilot Program Graduate

Occupation or Type of Business

Farmer

List Conservation and Other Leadership Experiences

Secretary - Dana United Methodist Church Ad Council

**Please check one of the following:**

- New Appointment**  
 **Reappointment**

**I currently hold a public service position/office**

- Yes**

**If yes, I have been informed about the "Dual Office Holding" and have reviewed a copy of the Attorney General's Dual Office Holding Guide**

- Yes**  
 **No**

- No**

By signing this document, if appointed as a supervisor by the State Soil Conservation Board, you agree to attend supervisors' monthly meetings regularly and carry out your responsibilities as a supervisor to the best of your ability.

Date

Signature of Appointee

Please keep a copy of this on file at the SWCD office and notify your District Support Specialist.

**STOP! If you haven't read the SWCD SharePoint Tutorial on how to submit forms, please do so before proceeding.**

**If you opened another District's Recommendation for Vacant Positions form by mistake, click on the Close button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. Then read the SWCD SharePoint Tutorial on how to submit new forms and update/save previously submitted forms.**

If you are submitting the **Recommendation for Vacant Positions** form for the first time, click on the **Save As** button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. **Uncheck Overwrite Existing File**. Enter the **name of your county followed by the date** in the File Name box. For example Allen County would Enter **Allen03.12.12**. Click **Save**. Click **Close**.

If you previously submitted the **Recommendation for Vacant Positions** form and re-opened the form to make some changes or additions, click on the **Save** button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. Click **Close**.

**NEVER open another SWCD's form and modify it.**



May 17, 2012

Les Zimmerman  
Chairman Vermillion Co SWCD

Les and fellow board members,

I am hereby resigning my position as appointed supervisor of the Vermillion County SWCD board effective May 18, 2012. I have put many hours of thought into this decision. There are two reasons for my resignation. My current employment is demanding more hours of my time. My farm operation needs more of my time for management and operation. I feel that due to these circumstances I can not be as active and effective as necessary for supervisor. I would like to continue as an associate supervisor and follow board activities. I might consider hosting a field day in the future.

My family and I have served for over 40 years in different positions with the Vermillion County SWCD. It has been a pleasure to serve and learn with all of the wonderful people we have worked with.

I wish the district continued success in the future.

Thank you,



Albert Mayes

**NRCS State Conservationist Report**  
**State Soil Conservation Board Meeting - July 2012**

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**Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Outlook**

NRCS is keeping a close eye on both the President's proposed FY13 budget, and the potential sequestration of discretionary budget authority. The President's budget for 2013 would result in a six percent overall decrease in NRCS conservation programs from FY12 levels. The failure of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction (referred to as the Super-Committee) triggered an automatic spending reduction process known as sequestration to take effect on Jan. 2, 2013. Automatic, across-the-board spending cuts will be triggered if the committee cannot agree on a deficit reduction plan and Congress does not approve legislation by Dec. 23. Automatic across-the-board cuts in the range of 7.8 percent to 8.4 percent are anticipated to be applied to most programs.

**Farm Bill Outlook**

The Senate Ag Committee has passed a 2012 Farm Bill, and the full Senate is now taking the bill under consideration. The House Ag Committee is also working on a 2012 Farm Bill proposal. All indications are looking good for a 2012 Farm Bill, as many programs lose their funding if a bill isn't passed this year. This would happen because these programs' mandatory spending expires this year, the last year of the 2008 Farm Bill. These programs, which include initiatives for beginning farmers, minority farmers, organic agriculture, farmers markets, renewable energy, wetland restoration, and others, need to be renewed in the 2012 Farm Bill.

**USDA Office Closures**

On January 9, 2012 Secretary Vilsack announced the potential closing of 259 USDA Offices around the country. Eleven offices were listed for closure in Indiana, only one of which affected NRCS. Public meetings were held in each of the affected counties, and the Secretary had 90 days after the meetings to finalize the decisions. USDA has received approval to move forward with the office closures. The only affected NRCS office is the Soil Survey project office located in Plymouth. The Soil Survey Project office is co-located with the NRCS field office, which will remain open. FSA will move forward in closing FSA space in Lake, Morgan and St. Joseph Counties.

**Indiana State Fair, Pathway to Water Quality**

Pathway to Water Quality is the face of the Indiana Conservation Partnership at the Indiana State Fair, and it takes the entire Partnership to make it a success. Please support and encourage partnership staff to help staff the exhibit during the fair, August 3-19. The sign-up is available online at [http://iaswcd.org/pwq/PWQ\\_2012\\_list.php](http://iaswcd.org/pwq/PWQ_2012_list.php).

**2012 QuickBooks**

NRCS recently received information from NRCS National Headquarters that the use of QuickBooks on NRCS computers increases NRCS's Personally Identifiable Information (PII) exposure/risk, because the use of QuickBooks puts PII information of non-NRCS employees on the NRCS computers. The data that QuickBooks stores on NRCS computers is not covered under the NRCS System of Records Notice and therefore does not make NRCS compliant with the Privacy Act of 1974. If NRCS is not compliant with the Privacy Act, NRCS is liable to civil and criminal penalties at the agency and individual level.

A letter was forwarded to all SWCDs about this issue and the possible alternatives, including using a non-NRCS computer or using other online tools similar to QuickBooks. Indiana NRCS is trying to clarify if this decision applies to all versions of QuickBooks, and if it is effective immediately. Indiana NRCS will communicate additional information through IASWCD to the SWCDs when it is available.

### **Soil Health Update**

Indiana NRCS and the Indiana Conservation Partnership are still hard at work promoting Soil Health. The latest NRCS publications and information can be found on the Indiana NRCS Soil Health website, at <http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/>. The Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI) website can be found through a link on the NRCS Soil Health web page, or at <http://www.in.gov/isda/ccsi/>, which contains a calendar listing Soil Health events and workshops.

### **IASWCD Awards Nominations**

All five of the annual IASWCD award applications for the 2012 year are now available. The five awards are: District Showcase, River Friendly Farmer, Friend of Conservation, Conservation Farmer of the Year, and the Supervisor of the Year. For assistance with filling out and/or submitting the form, contact IASWCD at 317-692-7325 or [elizabeth-rice@iaswcd.org](mailto:elizabeth-rice@iaswcd.org). Deadlines for the awards are:

**June 27:** River Friendly Farmer Award Nominations

**July 3:** District Showcase Award Applications

**Sept. 28:** Conservation Farmer of the Year Award

**Sept. 28:** Friend of Conservation Award

**Sept. 28:** Supervisor of the Year Award

### **AgriVision Award**

The Office of Lt. Governor Becky Skillman is currently accepting nominations for the annual AgriVision Award. Now in its sixth year, the award is given to a Hoosier who has demonstrated exemplary leadership to maximize the potential of Indiana agriculture. It will be presented by the Lt. Governor at the Indiana State Fair on Farmer's Day, August 15, 2012. **The AgriVision application is due July 1, 2012.** For more information and application, please visit:

[www.in.gov/lg/files/AgriVision\\_Award.pdf?WT.cg\\_n=ISDA\\_billboards&WT.cg\\_42711\\_05\\_AgriVision](http://www.in.gov/lg/files/AgriVision_Award.pdf?WT.cg_n=ISDA_billboards&WT.cg_42711_05_AgriVision)

### **2012 NACD/Auxiliary Photo Contest**

NACD and the NACD Auxiliary are holding the annual Photo Contest, open to amateur photographers who are residents of the United States or its territories. Conservation district staff, supervisors and USDA employees are eligible to participate. The categories are: "Conservation Practices," "Close Up Conservation," "Conservation in Action," and "Agriculture and Conservation Across America." Example photos and entry forms are available on the NACD [Photo Contest page](http://www.nacdnet.org/education/contests/photo/) at <http://www.nacdnet.org/education/contests/photo/>. **Entries are due December 1.** National winners will be featured at the NACD Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX in January 2013. The NACD Auxiliary provides a cash prize of \$50 for each First Place winner. If you have questions, please contact Susan Schultz at [susan-schultz@nacdn.net](mailto:susan-schultz@nacdn.net).



**Indiana Association of  
Soil and Water  
Conservation Districts**

Protecting and enhancing Indiana's soil  
and water resources for all Hoosiers



**IASWCD**

225 S. East Street  
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Indianapolis, IN 46202

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Fax: 317.423.0756  
Web: [www.iaswcd.org](http://www.iaswcd.org)

**PRESIDENT:**  
Ray McCormick  
Knox County

**VICE PRESIDENT:**  
Jeff Meinders  
Ripley County

**TREASURER:**  
Jamie Scott  
Kosciusko County

**SECRETARY:**  
Paul Cummings  
Owen County

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**  
Jennifer Boyle Warner  
[Jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org](mailto:Jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org)

**To:** State Soil Conservation Board  
**From:** Ray McCormick, President, IASWCD  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 17, 2012

**Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI)**

- IASWCD has been awarded a grant through the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation to fund the base CCSI project. This grant will match the CWI funds for the project.
- Expecting to hear by end of July regarding the application for a USDA-NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant for a major expansion of the program.
- A soil health demonstration will be given to the Rural Caucus on August 16 at the State Fair.
- Pathway to Water Quality exhibit will showcase cover crops and soil health as new additions this year.

**Sustainable Natural Resources Task Force**

- Ray McCormick continues to represent soil and water conservation districts on this task force.
- A full, completed report will be done by January 2013.

**Other**

- River Friendly Farmer event takes place on August 15 at 1 pm at the State Fair; all SSCB members are invited to join us when we will acknowledge 55 River Friendly Farmers!
- Jeff Meinders and Jennifer Boyle Warner served on the SSCB Conservation Beyond 2016 Task Force and look forward to presenting recommendations and further discussion with all Districts.
- Ray McCormick is attending the July NACD Legislative Conference.
- Janice Bullman conducted a Development workshop for District employees on July 12.
- Volunteers are still needed for Pathway to Water Quality shifts!!

**THE IASWCD MISSION** is to represent SWCDs as one voice and assist the leadership of local Districts through coordination and education for the wise use and management of our natural resources.