



# 2015 Clean Water Indiana Grant Program

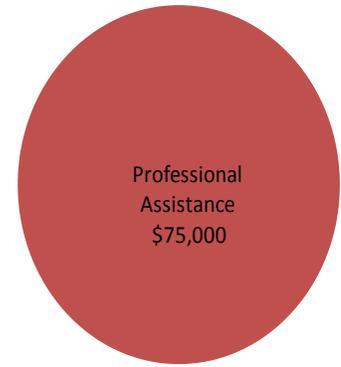
Indiana State Department of Agriculture  
One North Capitol Ave, Suite 600  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
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## Purpose: Promote and execute conservation programs

This professional agronomic technical assistance will work one on one with the producers in the five counties to successfully develop and adopt conservation plans focusing on cover crops, nutrient & management plans and other related BMP's to improve crop production while maintaining and/or increasing their soil health. This Agronomic Tech will also oversee the On-Farm Network within the five counties and encourage expansion of the program by promoting, enrolling and establishing smaller groups within certain natural resource concerns.

PARTNERS FOR THE PROJECT INCLUDE: NRCS, FSA, IDEM, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, AND CCSI



A dedicated Agronomic Technician will help promote conservation practices those who are not served by other programs.

LEAD DISTRICT: PIKE  
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: GIBSON, POSEY, VANDERBURGH, WARRICK  
PROJECT NAME: SOUTHWESTERN SWCD PROBLEM SOLVING INITIATIVE  
PROJECT DATES: 5/1/2015-4/30/2017  
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$75,000

The target audience for this Initiative will be producers who have historically shown a reluctance to enter into long-term contractual agreements with the NRCS, ISDA, FSA and IDEM due to the economy or those who feel skeptical applying at all. The Agronomic Technician will devote time to working with the producers who have enrolled in the current 319 & LARE grants.

The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The CWI Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the CWI Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2015, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 14 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,020,900. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).