

**AGENDA**  
**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, June 4, 9:30 AM**  
**Wabash County REMC Touchstone Energy Center**  
**350 Wedcor Ave.**  
**Wabash, IN 46992**

- I. 9:30 AM: Call to Order**
- II. Approve Minutes May 2013**
- III. Clean Water Indiana**
  - a. CREP Report-Logan Garner
  - b. Budget and Grants Update-Jennifer Pinkston
- IV. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
  - a. Temporary Supervisor Appointments
    - a. Newton County-Geneva Rawlins
- V. SSCB Reports**
  - a. SSCB Chairman's Report-Larry Clemens
    - a. Task Force Sub-Committee
- VI. ISDA Reports**
  - a. Technical Assistance Report-Julie Harrold
  - b. Accountability and Technology Report-Deb Fairhurst
  - c. Agricultural Affairs Report-Jordan Seger
  - d. District Support Update-Jim Lake
  - e. Water Quality Update-Logan Garner
- VII. Conservation Partner Reports**
  - a. IASWCD Report
  - b. IDEM Report
  - c. DNR Report
  - d. Purdue Report
  - e. FSA Report
  - f. NRCS Report
- VIII. Public Comment**
- IX. Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 10**
- X. Meeting Adjourn**
- XI. Lunch (\$10 box lunch available)**
- XII. Tour of Wabash County SWCD Farm**

**\*\*\*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.

# Clean Water Indiana

## Grants Report

May 31, 2013



### 2011 Clean Water Indiana 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.

**Project Title:** Reducing Nutrient Impacts in the Western Lake Erie Basin Through the On-Farm Network

**Participating Districts:** Allen, Adams, Dekalb, Noble, Steuben, Wells

**Funds Awarded:** \$20,000-Technical Assistance

**Status:** Projected completed 12/31/12. Final report submitted and reviewed.

**Project Title:** Tri-County Conservation Initiative

**Participating Districts:** Knox, Daviess, Pike

**Funds Awarded:** \$15,000-Technical Assistance

**Status:** Year 1 and Year 2 reports submitted and reviewed.

**Project Title:** On-Farm Soil Quality Assistance to Farmers

**Participating Districts:** Kosciusko, Fulton, Marshall

**Funds Awarded:** \$20,000-Technical Assistance

**Status:** Year 1 report submitted and reviewed. Year 2 report due 7/1.

**Project Title:** Reducing NPS pollution by assisting agricultural producers in performing research on their farm

**Participating Districts:** Tipton, Howard

**Funds Awarded:** \$20,000-Cost Share

**Status:** Year 1 report submitted and reviewed. Year 2 report due 7/1.

**Project Title:** Salamonie River Watershed Incentive Program

**Participating Districts:** Wells, Huntington, Jay, Blackford

**Funds Awarded:** \$9,000-Cost Share

**Status:** Year 1 report submitted and reviewed. Year 2 report due 7/1.

## 2012 Clean Water Indiana Watershed Grants

During state fiscal year 2012, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 21 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,078,000. The focus for this round of grant funding includes:

- Cost Share Incentives/On Farm Demonstrations
- Increase Direct Technical/Professional Assistance to Land users
- Adult Education

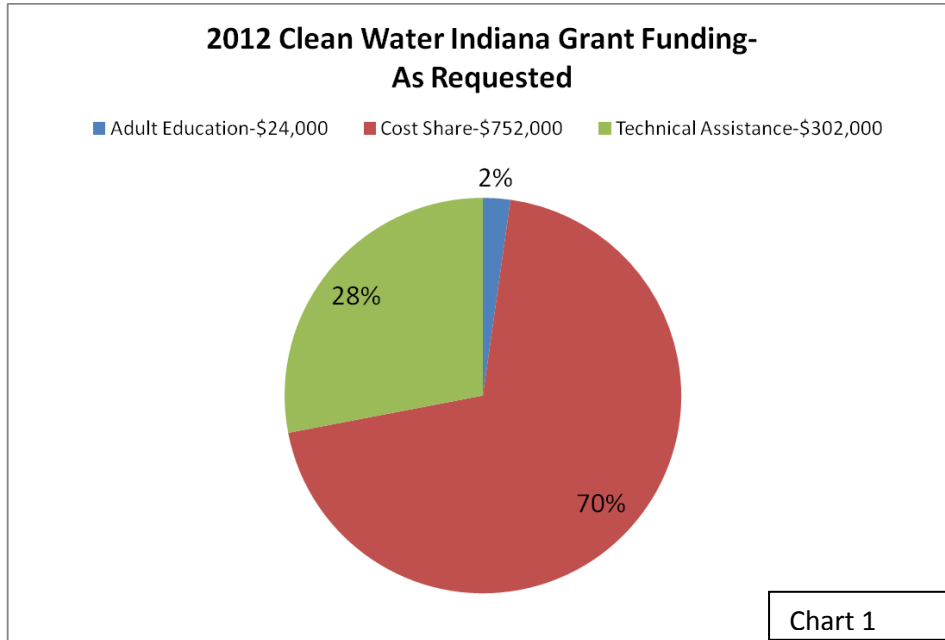


Chart 1 above illustrates the breakdown of funding requests.

Sixteen of the grants began on January 1, 2012; the remaining five began on May 1, 2012. All grantees are required to report on their progress annually.

Lead District	Other Participating Districts	Amount	Details	Status
Clay	Vigo	\$10,000	cover crops, field border and rain simulator	Year 1 report incomplete (Due June 1)
Crawford	Harrison Perry	\$40,000	pasture planting	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
DeKalb	Steuben	\$60,000	blind inlet with ARS/NRCS and cover crops	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Delaware	Madison, Randolph, Blackford	\$40,000	OFN/CREP	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Dubois	Crawford, Gibson, Orange, Pike, Spencer	\$60,000	Cover Crop/Vincennes University rain garden/barrel	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Fulton	White	\$40,000	CREP/Cover Crop-hiring contractor.	Year 1 report complete and reviewed

Hamilton	Marion, Hancock, Madison	\$60,000	urban coordinator staff	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Howard	Carroll, Clinton, Madison, Tippecanoe, Tipton	\$60,000	research project	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Jackson	Jefferson, Jennings, Scott	\$60,000	CREP cost share for people not eligible for FSA programs	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Jennings	Decatur, Bartholomew	\$60,000	CCSI, bundling incentive	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Johnson	Morgan	\$60,000	conservation BMPs	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Knox	Sullivan, Greene, Daviness, Gibson, Pike, Dubois, Warrick	\$60,000	OFN on released coal lands	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Miami	Wabash, Kosciusko	\$60,000	technical assistance	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Newton	Benton, White, Pulaski, Starke, Lake, Porter, Jasper	\$100,000	cover crop and data collection	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Pike	Gibson	\$33,000	bi-county technician	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Randolph	Delaware	\$15,000	CREP cost share for people not eligible for FSA programs	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Steuben	LaGrange,	\$60,000	BMPs for Amish and English underserved	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Vermillion	Fountain, Parke, Montgomery	\$60,000	local CCSI contractor	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Warrick	Gibson, Pike, Posey, Vanderburgh	\$20,000	cover crops on ag land and gardens	Project Completed
Washington	Lawrence, Martin, Orange	\$60,000	BMPs in Karst area	Year 1 report complete and reviewed
Whitley	Allen, Huntington, Wells	\$60,000	cost share and TA to a new audience	Year 1 report complete and reviewed

## 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

 No file attached

(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**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

Hank Coussens (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

Occupation or Type of Business

List Conservation and Other Leadership Experiences

Promote cover crops, filter strips, no till at the Dairy.

Do nutrient management planning.

Been an agronomist since 1997

**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.**

## ISDA-District Support Specialists Team Activity Report

### State Soil Conservation Board Meeting

June 4, 2013

#### Major Recent Activities:

- Several DSS have conducted additional one on one training for new staff and supervisors
- All the DSS are receiving inquiries and requests for direct assistance in conducting the cropland transect surveys across the state. Most counties will be doing them in early June to mid-June.
- Laura and I worked with IASWCD to finalize speakers, agenda, registration form information, etc for the SWCD Chair & Vice Chair Summer Summit Leadership Workshop scheduled for August 27, 2013. On-line registration should be available within the next few days.
- All the DSS's have attended at least one board meeting this last month some have attended several.
- Jennifer Pinkston and I organized several additional information documents for use by the new Task Force Sub-Committee to review in preparation for their first face to face meeting on June 10. We will be assisting the sub-committee on-site on June 10. Laura is serving as the ISDA-representative on this sub-committee.
- Several DSS's have assisted additional districts in updating their business plans since your last meeting date.
- Tara continues to provide staff support to the Water Quality Trading Project in southeast Indiana.
- Laura has been participating/supporting the Vincennes University Jasper Campus Land Stewardship Initiative.
- Nathan conducted several on-site district staff visits during the last month.
- Geneva has spent a good bit of time working with the Tippecanoe SWCD Supervisors on personnel related items.
- DSS's are participating on the regional work groups for the CCSI Regional Hubs focused on soil health education and demonstrations.
- In addition to these activities each of us has special assignments/projects/activities that we are engaged in beyond our on-going daily assistance to districts.



## SSCB 2013 June Meeting

### Accountability & Technology Report - Deb Fairhurst

- The Indiana Conservation Partnership Reports web application (<http://www.in.gov/isda/icpreports/>) has been revised to include the 2012 folders which allow SWCDs to submit their success stories and photos. Currently, DeeDee Sigler is promoting the site to Districts and encouraging them to load their 2012 success stories.
- Deb coordinated with Chris Morse, NRCS GIS Specialist, to obtain NRCS conservation practice points. Chris will provide a shapefile to Deb bi-annually so she can include NRCS's conservation workload in the CIT region maps she creates in July and December. The inclusion of NRCS's conservation workload, along with Division and SWCD workload, will allow Deb to feature a more complete picture of the conservation efforts taking place in each CIT Region. These maps are utilized by SWCDs to promote their conservation efforts to their County Commissioners, as well as by Division field staff at SWCD monthly meetings.
- Deb created an interactive map of Division field staff and embedded it within the Division website. You can view the map at <http://www.in.gov/isda/2367.htm>. The map allows website visitors to click on points representing field staff locations and view a pop-up window featuring the address and contact information for the individual. Deb plans to create more of interactive maps in the near future.
- Deb and Logan are coordinating to create an Indiana Nutrient Reduction Strategy web page which will feature the strategy along with links to pertinent information.

**Ag and Environmental Affairs – Jordan Seger**  
**State Soil Conservation Board meeting 6/4/13**

---

**On Farm Network**

- 2013 On Farm Network enrollment in progress. Field management information and field boundaries are being collected throughout the state in new and existing groups. Replicated Nitrogen strip trials are being laid out. Due to delayed planting OFN deadlines were pushed back approximately two weeks in most areas.
- Co presented on National NRCS Adaptive Nutrient Management webinar on May 23 and shared the IN OFN experience  
<http://www.conservationswebinars.net/webinars/adaptive-nutrient-management-nrcs-tech-note>
- Conducting discussions with the Iowa Soybean Association to explore IN OFN ownership of existing data processing software and IN OFN partnering with the ISA in development of new data processing software specific to Replicated Strip Trials
- Secure OFN data entry website has been wiped of old information and updated with new groups. Site permissions have been set up for all new group leaders and service providers

**Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI)**

- In collaboration with CCSI team, aiding hub teams and private farmers with Replicated Strip Trial set up and plot layout.
- Worked with Mike Dunn to secure 14k of ICMC funding to allow for multiple different, new types of soil health tests to be taken on all CCSI strip trial locations. Performing multiple types of tests will allow for comparison of three different very new soil biological activity tests. The original budget did not allow for multiple tests on all sites. The additional funding doesn't force us to pick and choose test sites and allows for a very large data set to be added to the project. These tests are new and not much is known about them. CCSI is the perfect platform to learn more about these tests. In return for the funds a CCSI representative will attend OFN winter meetings and share CCSI project results with OFN growers.
- Met with points of contact and delivered Soil Health Sampling supplies to eight northern IN trial sites

**Red Gold Environmental Stewardship Program**

- 21 Red Gold Environmental Stewardship Award applications have been received, up from last year's total of 13. Applications are being ranked with top 5 farms receiving site visits by Julie Harrold.

**SSCB 2013 March Meeting  
 Technical Assistance Report – Deb Fairhurst**

**Field Staff Activities**

***January 1, 2013 – May 22, 2013***

<b>Resource Specialist Activities</b>	<b>Total</b>
SWCD Board Meetings	130
ICP Meetings, Conference Calls, Webinars, etc.	150
Field Days	46
Training	171
Conservation Planning	276
Survey, Design and Inspections	507
Construction	77
Public Interaction	*6,429
CREP – Met with Landowners	39

\*As of February 1, Field Staff were instructed to begin tracking their public interaction at various events including meetings, forums, seminars, exhibits and on-farm presentations.

**DSC Conservation Workload**

***January 1, 2013 – May 30, 2013***

<b>Action</b>	<b>Currently Reported</b>
Practices Underway	655
Completed Practices	60
Practice Acres	1,994
Practice Feet	9,258
Field Acres	2,599
Nitrogen Reduction	*5,050 lbs.
Phosphorus Reduction	*2,294 lbs.
Sediment Reduction	*1,887 tons
Total Watersheds (HUC8) Impacted	27

\*Region 5 Model analyses have not been computed for 22 completed practices.

**Indiana State Conservationist's Report**  
**State Soil Conservation Board Meeting**  
**June 2013**

---

**NRCS BUDGET AND STAFFING UPDATES**

We have received word that we will receive additional money in both technical assistance and financial assistance with the majority in EQIP. We will be moving forward on the advertisements for the Manilla District Conservationist and the Greencastle and Albion Engineering Technician positions. Several other positions are already open and being worked on.

**CROSS TRAINING**

Historically, USDA employees have been familiar only with the programs in their area of specific responsibility and not with programs offered by other USDA agencies that could help customers further. Gaining cross-agency program knowledge will help Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Rural Development (RD) employees who interact with the public to share information about other USDA programs so that a customer's needs are met. A training curriculum of 17 different courses has been loaded into all NRCS technical staff's Ag Learn accounts. This curriculum includes information about programs available through Agriculture Management Service (AMS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Risk Management Agency (RMA), and Rural Development (RD). The curriculum deadline has been extended to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Partners are welcome to add these courses to their Ag Learn accounts. If you have questions or for a list of courses, contact Susan Meadows, IN Ag Learn Administrator at [susan.meadows@in.usda.gov](mailto:susan.meadows@in.usda.gov)

**2013 TILLAGE TRANSECT**

The tillage transects are continuing. A letter from the ICP Leaders was distributed on March 12<sup>th</sup> to all partnership employees outlining expectations and procedures describe the roles and expectations of each partner as part of this important endeavor.

**FARM BILL PROGRAM UPDATES:**

The enactment of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 included a one-year extension of conservation program authorities provided by the 2008 Farm Bill. This gives NRCS the authority to once again accept applications for most Farm Bill programs. Announcements of CSP and WRP funding were delayed in national headquarters due to a congressional inquiry. Announcements were sent to our ICP partners to encourage applications in the meantime.

**Conservation Security Program**

A news release has been sent out announcing the deadline for CSP applications for the FY-13 funding. The deadline is **June 14th**.

**Wetland Reserve Program and Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program**

An announcement has gone out for WRP applications. Review of applications will begin on **June 7<sup>th</sup>** and will continue until funds are depleted. NRCS has received \$4,717,500 for WRP and \$108 million for the WREP.

As a reminder, the WREP is a partnership project with The Nature Conservancy designed to protect lands along the Wabash River, targeting Warren, Fountain, Vermillion, Parke, Vigo, Sullivan, Knox, Gibson and Posey Counties in the Southwest, and Whitley, Allen, Huntington, Wells, Adams and Jay counties in the Northeast.

**Edge of Field Monitoring Project**

Indiana is excited to be a part of this project to monitor water quality on agricultural fields in selected 12 digit watersheds in the north and southeastern part of the state. Monitoring projects will include a variety of

conservation practices, such as no-till, cover crops, nutrient management, etc. The data from the monitoring will show the impacts of voluntary conservation practices on water quality. The results will also be used to help farmers adapt their management to increase water quality benefits that work with agriculture production goals.

A website has been set up for the Edge of Field Project (under Programs) that includes a fact sheet and detailed watershed maps of the 12 digit watersheds. Applications are due **June 14<sup>th</sup>**.

#### CRP

Producers can now submit CRP General Signup and Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (including CREP, SAFE, HELI, etc.) offers – joint FSA/NRCS guidance has been issued to all offices. FSA has sent out a news release announcing sign up deadlines. The General CRP Signup continues through **June 14**. Sign-up for continuous CRP began on May 13 and will continue through **Sept. 30, 2013**.

#### INDIANA STATE FAIR

NRCS is announcing two opportunities for employees and volunteers to work at exhibits at the Fair which runs from August 2-18. NRCS will have a presence in the DuPont Food Pavilion building and at the Pathway to Water Quality (PWQ).

Again this year, we will feature USDA's *Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food* in the DuPont Food Pavilion. Farm Service Agency and Rural Development staff will join us to host a combined USDA and Indiana Family of Farmers exhibit for one day, August 15th.

At the Pathway to Water Quality, we work with the entire ICP staff in six areas throughout the fair. PWQ is a key accomplishment and benefit to the Indiana Conservation Partnership and all employees are encouraged to support this activity. 2013 Pathway's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and a special project to restore the pond near the entrance of the exhibit is underway.

We are also featuring soil health demonstrations in Pathway on key days and any partnership staff, SWCD supervisor or Earth Team Volunteer may sign up to do these as long as they are trained.

We are asking that NRCS employee consider carpooling with co-workers in the office or in neighboring counties. **Sign up begins on-line June 5<sup>th</sup>** at [http://www.iaswcd.org/district\\_tools/pwq/volunteers.html](http://www.iaswcd.org/district_tools/pwq/volunteers.html).

#### AGRONOMY CRIB NOTES

Crib Notes is a new publication from the Technology staff that began in April. This is a recurring series, developed and distributed as needed based on timely technical topics related to conservation cropping systems and other topics. These are being distributed to all NRCS employees and are posted on the NRCS website under Technical Resources > Agronomy. These are suitable for distribution to ICP partnership staff and farmers.

#### SOILS 101 VIDEOS

Soils 101 is a compilation of fifteen videos featuring South Carolina NRCS Soil Scientists. The videos include topics such as, Soil Physical Properties, Soil Biology, Soils for Conservationists, Soil Survey, and Soils for Homeowners. The videos were designed to help educate newer NRCS employees or give a refresher to seasoned NRCS employees. The videos would also be beneficial to ICP partners and anyone with an interest in soils. <http://vimeo.com/channels/soils101/videos>.