

AGENDA
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

January 23, 2022

The Westin, Indianapolis

241 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204

MS Teams

- I. 3:00 pm.: Call to Order**
- II. Approve Minutes of October 2021**
- III. Clean Water Indiana**
 - a. Clean Water Indiana Grants- Tara Wesseler-Henry
- IV. State Soil Conservation Board Business**
 - a. Appointment of Officers and Committees- Amy Burris
 1. CWI Grants Committee
 2. Executive Committee
 3. CCSI Oversight Committee
 - b. Strategic Plan (set a date to review it)- Geneva Tyler
- V. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
 - a. SWCD Supervisor Appointments- Geneva Tyler
 - b. Annual Meeting Election Committee deadline – Tara Wesseler-Henry
 - c. Temporary appointments
 - i. Bartholomew Co SWCD- Tara Wesseler-Henry
 - ii. Jay Co SWCD - Tara Wesseler-Henry
 - iii. LaPorte Co SWCD - Geneva Tyler
 - iv. Monroe Co SWCD - Nathan Stoelting
 - v. Shelby Co SWCD - Tara Wesseler-Henry
 - vi. Tipton Co SWCD - Geneva Tyler
 - vii. Warren Co SWCD- Geneva Tyler
- VI. ICP Reports**
 - a. CREP and Water Quality- Julie Harrold
- VII. Public Comment**
- VIII. 2022 Meeting Dates**
 - March 15
 - May 17
 - July 19
 - September 20
 - October 25
- 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.



Clean Water Indiana Grants Report January 2022

2019 Grants

- Final Reports are due January 31st
- 3 are complete
- Extensions: Grant Co until December 31, 2022 and Kosciusko Co until October 31, 2022
- Lesson being learned from 2019 grants: Cost share grants should be treated as a 2.5 year grant. Many districts had cost share being spent up to the fall/winter 2021 and did not get producers to submit receipts in time.

2020 Grants

- 3rd year reports are due January 31st
- 5 are complete
- Extensions: Montgomery Co until December 31st, 2023

2021 Grants

- 2nd year reports are due January 31^s
- 1 is complete

2022 Grants

- Fully executed contract sent to the districts, except Adams, Tippecanoe, and Washington. Those are delayed in the signature process. Frequent communication with contract services concerning remaining contracts.
- The grants begin the day their contract was fully executed.
- A few districts have submitted their claims for 50% of the funds. When they received their fully executed contract It is communicated to them that they may ask for the 50% of funds.
- After much discussion and consideration Clay Co. had to decline their partial funded grant.
- First report due July 31st (August 1)

Grant Reviews

Selections are being made for the 2022 audits. These selections will be made per the CWI communication policy for both marginal and routine grants and based on their January 2022 reports. The DSSs and RSs conduct grant audits.

CWI Training Funds

CWI Training funds are now available for SWCD supervisors and staff for trainings that fall between March 16, 2021 and March 15, 2022. The funds will be available in the form of reimbursements and are reserved for training registration fee reimbursements only. The application can be found on Conservation Link, or requested through the cleanwaterindiana@isda.in.gov or your DSS. Applications should be submitted to cleanwaterindiana@isda.in.gov.

Annual Financial Report (AFR) (Not Gateway for SBOA)

- The AFR template was sent to all districts.
- These are due to their respective DSS by March 31st.
- The process will be the same as past year's.
- ISDA is currently assembling a steering committee, including SWCD staff representatives, to guide the migration of the AFR and training funds workflows into the existing grants management system (GMS). The development of the new workflow should be completed for the next AFR cycle in 2023.

Telling the CWI Story

- Press release for 2022 grants went out January 6th.
- Awardees for 2022 will be receiving a congratulations letter/certificate from the Lt. Governor
- Individual summaries have also been finalized and will be posted on the CWI website. The story map is embedded on our website (<https://www.in.gov/isda/2379.htm>) Completed grants will be updated after the January reporting deadline.
- The 2022 grant Informational One Pagers are complete.

Upcoming

Grants committee needs to meet with DSSs to:

- Review 2023 Guidance/Application
- Review 2021 Timeline
- Review Communication Policy
- Future scoring process

County	Supervisor Name	Qualifications	Conservation Interests
Adams	Josh Arnold	Degree at University of Northwest Ohio in Ag Business. Involved in Farm Bureau. Past Church Board Member. 10-year 4H Leader with	No-till. Grass Waterways. Filter strips.
Allen	Tom Miller	Current SWCD supervisor, Allen County Farm Bureau President	Cover Crop, Reduced Tillage, Conservation efforts
Benton	Mark Schulte	Mark was a past Lake County SWCD supervisor and served on the Purdue Extension board in Lake County as well.	Mark is very interested in all aspects of Conservation, including no-till or minimal till farming, cover crops, water ways and more.
Blackford	David Smith		
Boone	Ben Lawson	Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University 2009.	Lawsons have been involved with conservation practices for many years through the use of EQIP, CRP and best management practices. They utilize the use of cover crops as they understand the benefit from this conservation practice. Ben is a member of the Boone County Redevelopment Commission and St. Joseph Catholic Church. Ben has
Clay	Matt Mace	Matt's education includes attending Northview High School and attending Purdue University where he obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Farm Management. Matt possesses good leadership and communication skills. He understands conservation issues and is familiar with Clay County. Matt is an asset to the board in matters of finances and innovative ideas as well. Matt also annually assists in FFA and 4-H Programs. He aids in promoting Ag Day and Ag Week at the Clay County Fairgrounds helping many groups of 4th graders truly	2010 Indiana Certified Crop Advisor of the Year Award Brazilian Ag Trip to South America Chairman of the Board-CCSWCD (previous terms/years) Treasurer/Secretary of the Board-CCSWCD (previous and current)
Clinton	Matthew Kelley	Purdue University graduate; 4 terms as SWCD supervisor; Cornerstones of Leadership (1 or 2 sessions); previous IASWCD delegate to business meeting	100% no-till; fall cover crops planted on HEL land; integrated pest management; woodland acres managed for wildlife; established field borders, conservation cover and upland wildlife habitat areas for the benefit of wildlife.
Crawford	Garry Brown	Garry Brown has served on the SWCD Board of Supervisors since 2010. He lives on and operates a 140 acre beef cattle farm. He has installed several practices on his farm to ensure better soil and water quality.	He is concerned about the role of small farmers in today's society and how to implement best practices on farms.
Dearborn	Ken Gunkel	Previous board supervisor. Sat on other boards. Managed and ran a company.	Backyard conservation Urban ag Pollinator plot Rain garden
Decatur	Gordon Smiley	2013 River Friendly Farmer, 2014 Decatur County Conservation Farmer of the Year, member of Decatur County Pork Producers	100% no-till, waterways, filter strips
DeKalb	Steve Provines	SWCD Supervisor since 2000; has installed waterways, filterstrips, cover crops, WASCoBs on grain farm	organic farming, best management practices
Delaware	John Newby	Retired AT&T Director/Area Manager, Self-employed as a Training Consultant to AT&T, has re-forested approx 9 acres on his property. Has served on the SWCD board since 2010, has served as Treasurer since 2013.	forestry, invasives, water quality, soil health

Dubois	Glenn Goepfner	Resident of Dubois County; Owns or Leases 300 acres. Actively farms; many years of experience with agriculture Completing his second term as SWCD Supervisor; 6 years of experience; is an active participant at meetings and other events. Completing 4th year as vice chair of SWCD Graduate: Jasper High School, Lincoln Technical School, Indianapolis, Mechanics	Utilizes conservation practices on his farm: Grassed Waterways, Water and Sediment Control Basins Has served 2 terms as Dubois County SWCD Supervisor Assists with local, state soil judging competition Completes the harvest of the Dubois County SWCD crop acres, owned by Vincennes University, Jasper
Fayette	David Caldwell		Invasive species, cover crops, rain gardens
Floyd	Ronald Wathen	Ron has been a Floyd Co. supervisor for nearly 20 years. He is an active member who regularly offers his land to host workshops for the district. Ron has been the district delegate at the annual business meeting many times and proudly champions the district outside the office.	Invasive management and timber improvements
Franklin	Darren Bommer	Farmer using no till and cover crops	Cover Crops
Fulton	Michael Norman	Over the required voting age; maintains permanent residence within the district; qualified by training and experience to perform the duties of a SWCD supervisor; first appointed 2007.	Long time no-tiller. Uses innovative cropping systems including a twin row planter. Has served on the County Committee and SWCD Board of Supervisors for many years. River Friendly Farmer award recipient.
Gibson	Don Colvin	Board member for last 3 years. Farmer.	All
Grant	George Atkins	Current appointed Supervisor	Practices conservation efforts on family farm
Hamilton	Warren Sarber	Board member since 2009 Educator	Educating on agriculture and environmental issues
Hendricks	Ethan Truax	Ethan is a farmer in Hendricks Co which utilizes conservation practices on his farm. Ethan is active with youth and 4-H in the county. He has been a SWCD Supervisor in the past.	Ethan is active with youth and 4-H in the county.
Hendricks	Jeff Healy	Jeff is the current SWCD Chairman for Hendricks County	Jeff is active with conservation issues being involved with the SWCD. As a past employee of NRCS he was actively involved in conservation.
Henry	James B Wenning	High School Graduate, Associates Degree from Purdue University School of Ag	Past Farm Bureau President, Past South Henry School Board member, served 3 terms on the SWCD
Howard	Michelle Gilbert	Michelle has been an SWCD supervisor since 2006. She has worked for the district and NRCS on contract positions and is very knowledgeable on the conservation programs for both FSA and NRCS. Michelle has served on her church board and has been the Vice-Chairperson on the SWCD board. She has assisted the district with numerous events i.e. tree sale, education programs. She assist her husband with his business as an arborist and has been very helpful with tree and plant identification, especially invasive species. Michelle is a great asset to the SWCD board.	Her number one interest is conservation and how to use best management practices to assist landowners. She is also a wealth of knowledge on invasive species and native plants and identification. She is a Master Gardener and has a passion for this.
Huntington	Adam Couch	Adam has served as and elected supervisor since 2016. He also serves as Fire Chief for the Nt. Etna Volunteer Fire Department.	He has installed waterways and filter strips on his farms, does no-till farming and seeds cover crops on his farms.

Jackson	Dana Johnson	Dana owns 40 acres in Jackson County and 238 acres in Jefferson County that has 170 tillable acres.	Dana has been involved in many field tile, waterway, and wetland projects, from the design to the installation phase.
Jennings	Dan Megel	Landowner, Former Insurance Adjuster	Programs promoting conservation practices.
Johnson	Kevin Thompson	Johnson County Landowner	Current SWCD Board Member, Premier Ag Board, JC Fair Board
Knox	Andy Like	Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Systems Management, Masters degree in Agronomy from Purdue University.	Andy is a strong supporter of soil conservation for our future generations
		(1) Is of voting age;	
		(2) Maintains a permanent residence within the district; and	
		(3) Has training and experience to perform the duties that this article imposes on supervisors. He has completed three terms on the board of supervisors, therefore bringing experience to this position.	His farm operation is in the southeastern part of the county, where he no-tills and uses cover crops on 100 percent of his acreage. He has previously been recognized as our River Friendly Farmer. He is also on the board of Tippecanoe Audubon and represents the SWCD on the Arrow Head County Resource Conservation and Development board.
Kosciusko	Stan Moore		
			Interested in advancing soil health in field crop production systems to bring about environmental benefits for society and economic benefits for growers. Cover crops, conservation tillage, and pollinator habitat are specific areas. Given his professional role in education, Chris is keenly interested in educating growers, on-farm advisers, students, and the public on the benefits of conservation practices now and in the future.
Lake	Chris Boomsma	B.A. in Plant Science for Dordt University, Ph.D. in Crop Physiology and Agronomy from Purdue University	
Lawrence	Curtis McBride	Currently SWCD supervisor. He also is a Farm Bureau Director. He has previously been awarded the Conservation Farmer Award.	all CWI practices, EQIP, 319, Pollinators, Cover Crops, no till, Stormwater management using green infrastructure solutions, sustainable site planning and conservation strategies using native vegetation.
Marion	Brian Neilson	Professional Engineer in Indiana whose specialties include sustainable design and infiltration and inflow analyses and resolution.	
Martin	Jonathan Richer	Current Board Member	Manure Management, Invasive Species, Forestry
Miami	Adam Overman	Conservation Farmer	cover crops 3rd generation conservation farmer
Monroe	Ryan Conway	Ryan has been a MCSWCD Supervisor for the past 3 years. He owns and operations a large composting farm. He is currently serving at the Board Chair. He is passionate about Soil & Water Conservation in Monroe County and Indiana. He has served on various Ag related board and commissions with both the city and the county.	Soil & Water Conservation through composting, Healthy Soils Education and Sustainable Farming.
Morgan	Debbie Carter	Family farm has been received several recognitions for efforts in soil and water conservation for many years. They practice no-till farming, cover crops, buffer stripping, grassed waterways, minimal tillage and rotational grazing.	Pollinators, invasive plant species, no till farming and cover crops.

Newton	Jeff West	Jeff resides in Beaver Township with his family. He graduated from Purdue with a BS in Ag Systems Management in 1997. Jeff is the Assistant Farm Manager at Cote Farms since 1996 and has been on the Newton SWCD Board since 2019. He has maintained the role of Treasurer since then and actively participates in all District events and activities. He is also a community advocate for cover crops, filter strips, and rotational grazing practices.	Jeff is a community advocate for cover crops, filter strips, and rotational grazing practices. They also practice several acres of no till on his farm.
Ohio	Mark Manifold	Engineer, Runs a 45 acre farm in Ohio County with Beef and Hay.	Interested in Ohio County, has son at Purdue, raises Beef and Hay, member of OCSWCD
Orange	Ken Cornwell	Farmer, Indiana University graduate, has served on SWCD board for past 9 years.	Ken utilizes no-till in his operation and has completed several EQIP contracts and many conservation practices.
Owen	Chris Gonso	Currently serves on the Owen County Soil & Water Conservation Board	Chris is very invested in forest management and conservation. He is a large proponent of conservation programs and managing with best management practices in mind. Chris is also a leader and teacher to landowners that are trying to become involved in managing their natural resources.
Parke	Bob Hale	BOB HALE was appointed to the SWCD Board in 2013. He is currently President of the Parke County Farm Bureau Board. Hale Farms has incorporated a number of conservation practices with the goal of improving production and conserving soil. They were awarded the 2003 Conservation Farmer of the year award.	No-Till, Cover Crops, CRP
Perry	Shauna Combs	Worked at Farm Service Agency for 7+ years	
Posey	Nick Volz	Currently an appointed supervisor. Has chosen to stay on the Board.	Rents out his ground, takes an interest in how it is farmed and protected
Pulaski	Steve Cotner	Has been on the board since 2013 and chairman for most of the time.	Concerned about water quality and has buffer strips on all of his ditches.
Scott	Jeff McNeely	Jeff was elected to the SWCD Board in 2014. Jeff is a lifelong resident of Scott County.	Jeff works with conservation practices including cover crops and no-till planting. As a result, Jeff has developed a desire to protect the natural resources and preserve conservation efforts in Scott County.
Spencer	Brian Rahman	Previous SWCD Supervisor. Business Owner	Helping Spencer County keep healthy soil and crop ground. Also loves involving smaller farmers into land management and thriving.
St_Joseph	Dave Vandewalle	some college	Associate Supervisor 2009-2015, Supervisor 2016-present
Starke	Lee Nagai	BSCE 1989 Valparaiso University	Vice President of Farm Bureau, Inc.

Steuben	Kayleen D. Hart	Kayleen is currently the Chair of the Steuben County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board. She received a Bachelor of Science from Manchester University in May 1992 with a major in Sociology and Criminal Justice and a minor in Journalism.	In 2003, Kayleen began working part-time at the Steuben SWCD. During the next 3 years, she assisted with office administration for the SWCD and NRCS. Kayleen was hired as a full-time employee when the Administrative Coordinator position opened in 2006. She worked for the Steuben SWCD until her resignation in July 2015, when she accepted a Program Technician position with FSA. Kayleen brought over \$1.2 million dollars into the SWCD through various federal and state grants.
Sullivan	Michael Bell	Graduate of Purdue University	Sullivan County SWCD Board Supervisor and Treasurer. Active participant in conservation practices including nutrient and pest management, cover cropping, no-till, reduced-till and currently enrolled in EQIP and CSP contracts.
Vigo	Phillip Carter	Been supervisor for several years on the SWCD Board	No till, cover crops, filter strips, rock chute, waterways, waste closure
Wabash	Robert Hettmansp	Current appointed Supervisor for the past 20 years. Apart of the IASWCD	No Till, Nutrient Management Plans, Cover Crops, Waterways, WASCOSBS, Controlled Drainage Systems, Filter Strips, Field Borders, Wet Land Creation
Warrick	Jeff Baker	Jeff is a current SWCD supervisor, with 8 years experience. Jeff has farmed with his brother in Warrick County most of his life. Jeff has an Master's degree in financial planning, and a degree in Agriculture from Purdue. Jeff is currently the vice president of Indiana State Soil Conservation Board.	Jeff's conservation interests include cover crops, building WASCOSBS, improving water drainage, and minimum/no-till
Washington	Aaron Walker	Aaron worked for many years on the family dairy farm. Aaron has been working for 8 years in a local ag retail outlet. In his role as spray operator and fertilizer spreader, he is knowledgeable about many aspects of day-to-day farming. In addition, he and his wife operate a sheep operation that uses a grazing system that uses annual and perennial forages. In addition, they also have a direct market for their meat lamb business.	Soil and Water Conservation Wildlife Conservation
Wayne	Michelle Walther	Farming background and several acres of conservation practices installed.	education of youth

Nomination, Election and Reporting Procedures for Electing Supervisor(s) at the Annual Meeting

(Ref: IC 14-32-4-7 and IC 14-32-4-8) IC 14-324-7

Appointment of an Election Committee

(a) The election held at the annual meeting of land occupiers shall be conducted by an election committee appointed under this section.

(b) In October, the district chairman shall do the following: (1) Appoint an election committee made up of a supervisor as chairman and two (2) interested citizens.

(2) Submit the names of the committee members to the (State Soil Conservation) board by November 1.1 An Election Committee Appointment Form is provided by the ISDA-Division of Soil Conservation for use in submitting the names of the election committee members. (The Election Committee Appointment form is to be submitted through the Division's web based program SharePoint.) IC 14-32-4-8 (a) (Election Committee Duties)

The election committee appointed shall do the following:

(1) Select qualified individuals as prospective nominees to fill any vacancies that exist among the elected supervisors of the district.

(2) Contact and ascertain the willingness and ability of each individual to serve if elected.

(3) Submit the list of nominees with the qualifications for certification and printing of a sample ballot to the SSCB by December 1. A form for submitting the names and qualifications of nominees to the State Soil Conservation Board is provided by ISDA Division of Soil Conservation

Before submitting the nominees it is recommended that the local SWCD Board agree at a board meeting to submit the name(s).

(4) Place the names of the prospective nominees selected under subdivisions (1) and (2) in nomination at the Annual meeting and provide an opportunity for additional nominations to be made from the floor.

(5) After nominations are closed: (A) if only one (1) candidate is nominated, allow for the election of the sole candidate by the land occupiers by a show of hands; and (B) if more than one (1) candidate is nominated, distribute a ballot to each land occupier present at the meeting.

(6) If a ballot is distributed, collect and count the ballots after each land occupier present at the meeting has had an opportunity to vote.

(7) Report the results of the election to the chairman

More information:

If no election is held at the a annual meeting the process includes:

- (1.) District submit a nomination with qualifications for a temporary elected position to the ISDA-DSC Share point (Conservation Link).
- (2.) The DSC DSSs take the nomination to the next SSCB board meeting for approval of the temporary elected position.
- (3.) The temporary elected position nominee serves the position until the next district annual meeting. (a.) The district will have two elected positions to fill for that annual meeting.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Accomplishments in 2021

* All numbers in this report are according to the ISDA’s tracking sheet.

The CREP Annual Report can be found at <https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/conservation-reserve-enhancement-program/annual-reports/>

2021 COMPLETED AND ENROLLED PRACTICES

According to the state’s tracking system, **1,149.3 acres were enrolled**, which includes approximately 428.3 acres being re-enrolled from CRP to CREP and 224 acres from CREP to CREP. This is the second year that acres within the program were able to be re-enrolled back into CREP within the original three watersheds.

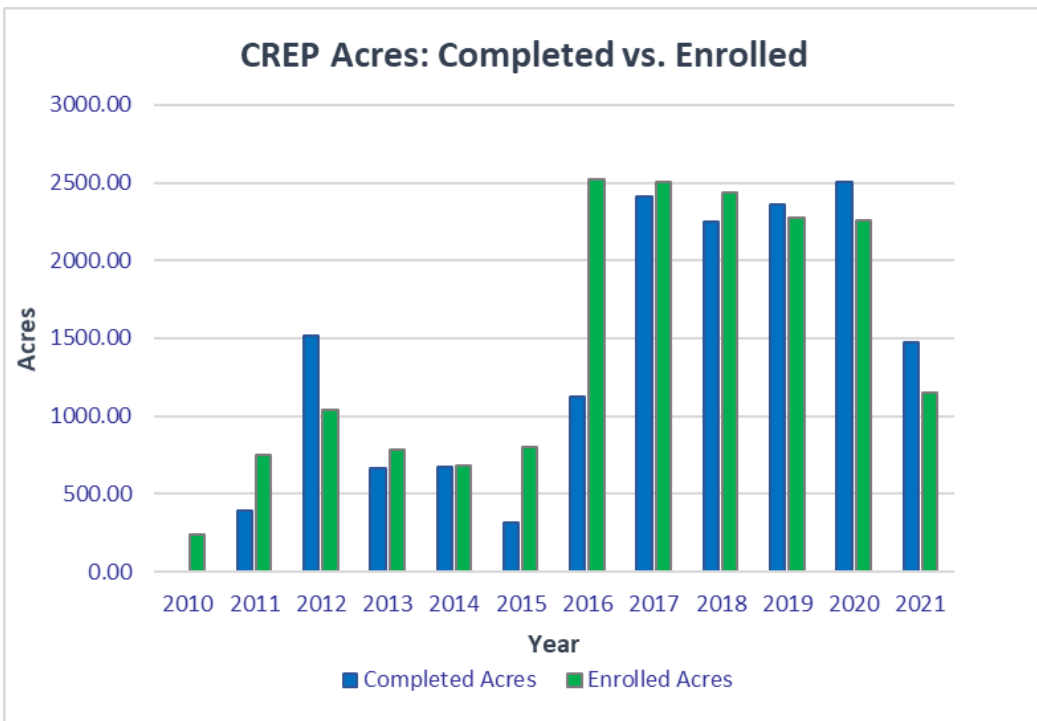
In addition, in 2021, there were **1,477.63 practice acres newly completed** on the ground or re-enrolled from CRP to CREP. These completed acres do not include the 224 acres that were re-enrolled from CREP to CREP so that these acres are not duplicated in the total acres within the program.

2021 Practices (in acres)							
	Native Grasses CP2	Filter Strip CP21	Riparian Buffer CP22	Bottomland Timber Establishment CP31	Wetlands CP23	Wetlands CP23A	Total
New Program Acres	3.90	536.99	37.93	372.22	321.52	205.07	1,477.63
CREP to CREP	0.00	153.26	0.00	9.40	0.00	61.40	224.06

* Completed practices are those projects where conservation practices have been installed on the ground or have been re-enrolled into the program.

** There were no CP4D (Wildlife Habitat) or CP3A (Hardwood Tree Planting) practices installed in 2021.

COMPARISON OF COMPLETED ACRES VS. ENROLLED ACRES FROM 2010-2021



SUMMARY OF STATE FUNDS FOR COMPLETED PRACTICES PAID IN 2021 (PRACTICES AND ADMIN FEES)

State Dollars for Practices Paid in 2021							
CP2	CP21	CP3A	CP22	CP31	CP23	CP23A	Practices Total
\$ 200.00	\$ 78,842.00	\$ 632.00	\$ 34,856.00	\$ 168,260.00	\$ 400,260.00	\$ 514,478.50	\$ 1,197,528.50
							\$ 119,752.85
*These dollars are direct payments made to participants for installation of practices							\$ 1,317,281.35

ESTIMATED NUTRIENT LOAD REDUCTIONS IN CREP WATERSHEDS

The annual goal to reduce sediment and nutrients from entering rivers and streams in the designated watersheds is 2,450 tons of sediment, 2,400 pounds of phosphorus, and 4,700 pounds of nitrogen.

Year	Sediment (Tons)	Phosphorus (lbs.)	Nitrogen (lbs.)
2021	7,647	8,397	15,990
Overall	78,978	90,851	178,701

*'Overall' refers to the total sediment and nutrient load reductions since the program's expansion in 2010 according to the Region 5 model calculations.

TOTAL BUFFER LENGTHS COMPLETED SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE PROGRAM

A goal of CREP is to protect a minimum of 3,000 linear miles of watercourses through the installation of conservation buffer practices. In 2021, there was an additional total of **394,102 feet** and **74.6 linear miles** of buffer lengths installed to protect waterbodies.

2005-2010	2010 - current	Total	CREP Goal	Percentage of Goal
2,627,367 feet	2,623,306 feet	5,250,673 feet		
		994.5 linear miles	3,000 linear miles	33.15%

This includes 481 miles of the Tippecanoe River and its tributaries being protected, and 140 miles of the Upper White River and its tributaries. To see a comparison of the rivers and tributaries that are being protected in all of the CREP watersheds, refer to the 2021 CREP Annual Report.

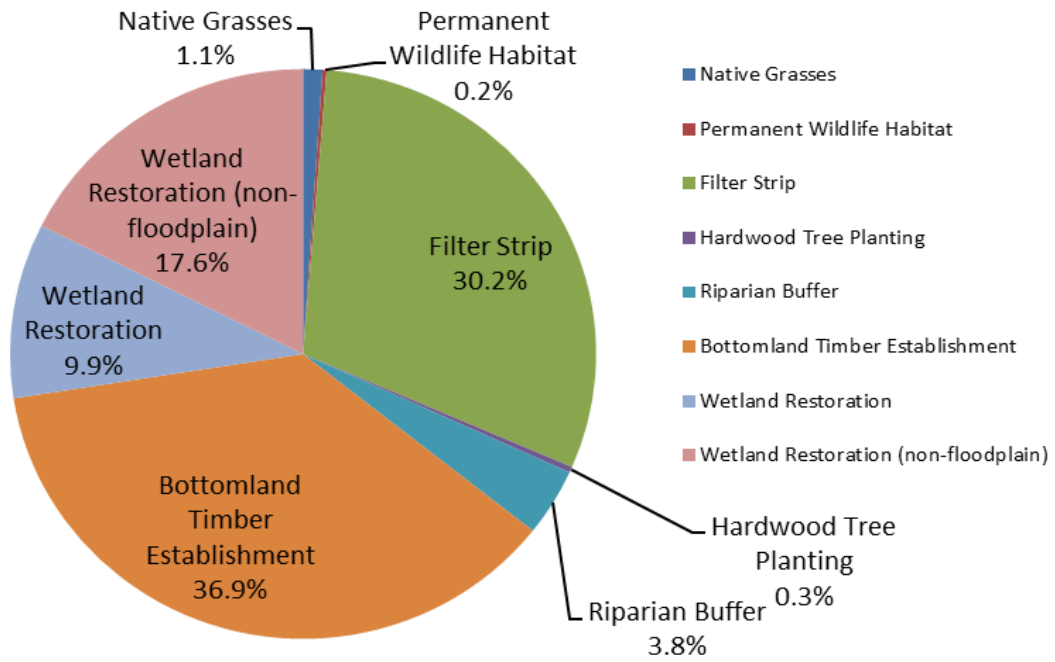
WETLAND RESTORATIONS

In 2021, **526.6 acres** of wetland restorations were completed or re-enrolled, and **213.0** new acres were enrolled. In total since the inception of the program in Indiana, CREP has restored or enhanced 5,749 acres of wetlands.

NUMBER OF TREES PLANTED IN FLOODPLAINS

Through the CP31 Bottomland Timber Establishment practice, trees are planted in floodplain areas to protect waterbodies. In 2021, **331.1 acres** of new trees have been planted through CP31, resulting in approximately **198,660 trees** being planted. Since the inception of the program in late 2005, 7,158.5 acres of new trees have been planted or re-enrolled into the program, resulting in the planting of approximately 4,295,100 trees.

PERCENTAGE OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES ENROLLED IN CREP





CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Indiana CREP Accomplishments

ENROLLED ACRES

As of December 2021*
THERE ARE 22,641 ACRES THAT HAVE BEEN ENROLLED, WHICH IS 86% OF THE ACREAGE ENROLLMENT GOAL.



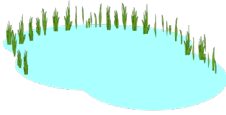
TOTAL ACRES COMPLETED

As of December 2021*
THERE ARE 21,507 ACRES THAT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED SINCE THE PROGRAM'S INCEPTION IN 2005.



WETLAND RESTORATIONS

5,749 ACRES OF WETLAND RESTORATIONS HAVE BEEN RESTORED IN THE STATE SINCE 2005.



LINEAR MILES OF WATERBODIES PROTECTED

994 LINEAR MILES OF WATERBODIES HAVE BEEN PROTECTED WITHIN THE CREP WATERSHEDS.



FLOODPLAIN TREE PLANTING

7,158 ACRES OF TREES HAVE BEEN PLANTED IN FLOODPLAIN AREAS, RESULTING IN APPROX. 4,295,100 TREES PLANTED THROUGHOUT THE STATE.



SEDIMENT AND NUTRIENT LOAD REDUCTIONS SINCE 2010

CREP PRACTICES HAVE REDUCED:
- SEDIMENT BY 78,978 TONS
- NITROGEN BY 178,701 LBS
- PHOSPHORUS BY 90,851 LBS FROM ENTERING WATERBODIES

BUFFER ACRES COMPLETED

7,701 ACRES OF FILTER STRIPS AND RIPARIAN BUFFERS HAVE BEEN PLANTED IN THE CREP WATERSHEDS SINCE 2005.



*Numbers are according to the ISDA's tracking system

The CREP program aims to improve water quality by creating buffers and wetlands that reduce agricultural runoff within the targeted CREP watersheds. Installing buffer practices, restoring wetlands, and planting trees in floodplain areas enhances habitat for wildlife, including State and Federally-listed threatened and endangered species. The CREP also reduces non-point source nutrient loads.

For more information on the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, visit <https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/conservation-reserve-enhancement-program>

Updated December 2021



SSCB Meeting - January 23, 2022 - CREP Summary

	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		Goal	Percentage of Goal
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres		
Total Reported Completed on SharePoint as of 1/19/2022	233.48	52.20	6,547.11	51.63	828.61	8,056.58	1998.42	3,783.13	21,551.16	26,250.00	82.10%
Total CREP Enrollment	240.07	52.20	6,854.14	74.14	863.14	8,344.99	2246.21	3,977.46	22,652.35	26,250.00	86.29%
Total Acres in Extension				1.00	53.70	428.50	121.70	6.00	610.90		
									Difference =	1,101.20	

	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Practice Total	SWCD Administrative Fee	Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A			
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Total CREP Dollars	\$ 23,158.00	\$ 5,220.00	\$ 661,622.00	\$ 21,530.00	\$ 340,753.00	\$ 3,326,681.00	\$ 1,797,787.50	\$ 2,915,756.50	\$ 9,092,508.00	\$ 767,788.30	\$ 9,860,296.30

Federal Match of \$4-\$13 is between \$ 36,370,032.00
\$ 118,202,604.00

	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
Total CREP to CREP Re-enrollment Reported on SharePoint as of 1/19/2022	0.00	0.00	358.09	1.58	2.90	34.56	0.00	211.02	608.15

Note: These acres are not re-counted in the total above, however they do receive incentive payments.

SSCB Meeting - January 23, 2022 - CREP Acres (broken down by watershed)

Post-Expansion Acres

CREP Watershed	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
Highland-Pigeon	0.00	0.00	11.98	0.00	3.10	134.60	0.00	0.00	149.68
Lower Wabash	0.00	0.00	21.51	0.00	0.00	644.70	0.00	0.00	666.21
Lower East Fork White	53.50	45.20	168.71	30.30	83.17	751.44	287.16	0.00	1419.48
Lower White	10.70	0.00	189.97	0.00	129.29	2,255.91	123.03	0.00	2,708.90
Middle Wabash-Busseron	2.00	0.00	9.02	0.00	17.40	1,550.69	753.58	91.60	2,424.29
Middle Wabash-Deer	6.60	0.00	108.63	0.00	0.00	73.10	37.17	59.42	284.92
Middle Wabash-Vermillion	4.50	0.00	165.34	6.97	61.80	754.39	505.89	177.70	1,676.59
Tippecanoe River	93.84	0.00	664.07	0.00	3.41	21.40	87.30	2,354.13	3,224.15
Upper East Fork White	0.00	0.00	419.65	0.00	38.40	201.92	0.00	0.00	659.97
Upper Wabash	23.15	7.00	1027.29	2.56	64.19	282.43	82.59	89.10	1578.31
Upper White	35.09	0.00	216.44	0.00	287.15	328.10	0.00	71.18	937.96
Reported Completed as of 1/19/2022	229.38	52.20	3,002.61	39.83	687.91	6,998.68	1876.72	2,843.13	15,730.46
Enrolled as of 1/19/2022	235.97	52.20	3,309.64	62.34	722.44	7,287.09	2,124.51	3,037.46	16,831.65

Pre-Expansion Acres

CREP Watershed	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
Highland-Pigeon	2.50	0.00	215.00	10.80	16.40	109.20	0.00	0.00	353.90
Tippecanoe River	0.00	0.00	2,916.80	0.00	7.80	20.40	121.70	924.00	3,990.70
Upper White	1.60	0.00	412.70	1.00	116.50	928.30	0.00	16.00	1476.10
Total Acres Prior to Expansion of CREP	4.10	0.00	3,544.50	11.80	140.70	1,057.90	121.70	940.00	5,820.70

Extension Acres	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	Total Extension Acres
Extension Acres -Tippecanoe			14.80	121.70		136.50
Extension Acres -Upper White		1.00	53.70	413.70	6.00	474.40
Total Extension Acres		1.00	53.70	428.50	121.70	610.90

CREP to CREP reenrollment

CREP Watershed	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	Total
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Highland Pigeon	0.0	0.0	25.53	1.58	2.90	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.01
Tippecanoe	0.0	0.0	292.65	0.00	0.00	14.1	0.0	193.82	500.53
Upper White	0.0	0.0	39.91	0.00	0.00	20.5	0.0	17.2	77.61
CREP to CREP Re-enrollment Reported on SharePoint as of 1/19/2022	0.0	0.0	358.09	1.58	2.90	34.56	0.0	211.02	608.15

SSCB Meeting - January 23, 2022 - CREP Dollars (broken down by watershed)

Post-Expansion Dollars

CREP Watershed	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Practice Total	SWCD Administrative Fees	Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A			
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Highland-Pigeon	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,881.00	\$ 632.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 53,840.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,753.00	\$ 5,975.30	\$ 65,728.30
Lower Wabash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,188.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 257,880.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 259,068.00	\$ 25,906.80	\$ 284,974.80
Lower East Fork White	\$ 5,350.00	\$ 4,520.00	\$ 16,871.00	\$ 12,120.00	\$ 33,268.00	\$ 300,576.00	\$ 272,802.00	\$ -	\$ 645,507.00	\$ 64,550.70	\$ 710,057.70
Lower White	\$ 1,070.00	\$ -	\$ 8,275.00	\$ -	\$ 47,996.00	\$ 899,804.00	\$ 98,107.00	\$ -	\$ 1,055,252.00	\$ 105,525.20	\$ 1,160,777.20
Middle Wabash-Busseron	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 642.00	\$ -	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 620,276.00	\$ 691,701.00	\$ 87,020.00	\$ 1,405,239.00	\$ 140,523.90	\$ 1,545,762.90
Middle Wabash-Deer	\$ 660.00	\$ -	\$ 10,863.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,240.00	\$ 21,781.50	\$ 18,073.00	\$ 80,617.50	\$ 8,061.75	\$ 88,679.25
Middle Wabash-Vermillion	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ 10,074.00	\$ 2,788.00	\$ 24,720.00	\$ 298,516.00	\$ 480,595.50	\$ 163,315.00	\$ 980,458.50	\$ 98,045.85	\$ 1,078,504.35
Tippecanoe River	\$ 9,384.00	\$ -	\$ 94,226.00	\$ -	\$ 1,364.00	\$ 14,184.00	\$ 75,235.00	\$ 2,135,548.00	\$ 2,329,941.00	\$ 232,994.10	\$ 2,562,935.10
Upper East Fork White	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,965.00	\$ -	\$ 15,360.00	\$ 80,768.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 138,093.00	\$ 13,809.30	\$ 151,902.30
Upper Wabash	\$ 2,125.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 96,167.00	\$ 1,024.00	\$ 25,676.00	\$ 112,972.00	\$ 78,460.50	\$ 59,799.50	\$ 376,924.00	\$ 37,692.40	\$ 414,616.40
Upper White	\$ 3,509.00	\$ -	\$ 24,020.00	\$ -	\$ 114,860.00	\$ 128,340.00	\$ -	\$ 74,501.00	\$ 345,230.00	\$ 34,523.00	\$ 379,753.00
Upper White Extensions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 1,980.00
Reported Paid as of 1/19/2022	\$ 22,748.00	\$ 5,220.00	\$ 307,172.00	\$ 16,564.00	\$ 272,844.00	\$ 2,796,396.00	\$ 1,718,682.50	\$ 2,538,256.50	\$ 7,677,883.00	\$ 767,788.30	\$ 8,445,671.30

Pre-Expansion Dollars

CREP Watershed	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Practice Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Highland-Pigeon	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 4,316.00	\$ 6,564.00	\$ 43,680.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76,310.00
Tippecanoe River	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 291,680.00	\$ -	\$ 3,120.00	\$ 8,160.00	\$ 48,680.00	\$ 369,600.00	\$ 721,240.00
Tippecanoe River Extensions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 30,425.00	\$ -	\$ 34,125.00
Upper White	\$ 160.00	\$ -	\$ 41,270.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 46,600.00	\$ 371,320.00	\$ -	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 466,150.00
Upper White Extensions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 11,625.00	\$ 103,425.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 116,800.00
Total Acres Prior to Expansion of CREP	\$ 410.00	\$ -	\$ 354,450.00	\$ 4,966.00	\$ 67,909.00	\$ 530,285.00	\$ 79,105.00	\$ 377,500.00	\$ 1,414,625.00

CREP to CREP reenrollment

CREP Watershed	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Practice Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	Total
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Highland Pigeon	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,683.00	\$ 632.00	\$ 1,160.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,475.00
Tippecanoe	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,145.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,624.00	\$ -	\$ 77,528.00	\$ 111,297.00
Upper White	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,966.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,200.00	\$ -	\$ 6,880.00	\$ 19,046.00
CREP to CREP reenrollment reported paid as of 1/19/2022	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,794.00	\$ 632.00	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 13,824.00	\$ -	\$ 84,408.00	\$ 133,818.00

Note: These incentive dollars are figured in the total above. This table shows only the breakdown of what is paid for reenrolled CREP to CREP acres.



State Soil Conservation Board

January 23, 2022

ISDA – CREP & Water Quality Initiatives, Julie Harrold



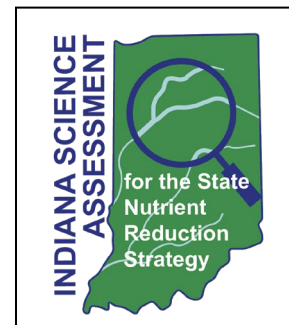
Program Updates

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

- A summary of the 2021 CREP Accomplishments is attached to this report including completed acres and enrolled acres, state dollars spent in 2021, estimated NLRs in CREP watersheds, conservation buffer lengths, wetland restorations completed, and number of trees planted in the floodplain.
- In 2021, the state paid out \$1,197,528.50 in direct payments to participants for installation of practices, and \$119,752.85 in administrative fees to the CREP partnering SWCDs.
- Attached to this report is the usual report showing the current status of acres and dollars in CREP, including total completed acres and total enrolled acres since the beginning of the program, and total dollars paid out through the CREP program.
- According to the states tracking system, we are currently at approximately 22,652 acres of enrollment, which is 86% of the enrollment goal.
- To date, the state has paid out more than \$9.8 million. For every state dollar that is spent, the federal match is approximately \$4-\$13 for every state dollar, which is currently between \$36 million and \$118 million of federal dollars depending on the practice.
- The 2021 CREP Annual Report can be found on the CREP website on the ISDA, Division of Soil Conservation website at <https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/conservation-reserve-enhancement-program/annual-reports/>.

IN State Nutrient Reduction Strategy (SNRS)

- The current strategy document can be found at <https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/indiana-state-nutrient-reduction-strategy/>.
- Comments on the SNRS can be sent to ISDANutrientReduction@isda.in.gov.
- Indiana Science Assessment – Final draft of report for Component 1 showing results of water quality trends in Indiana is almost completed.
- Indiana Science Assessment – Component 2: A logo was developed to enhance communication and to help centralize all of the documents and reports that are a part of the Assessment.
- The Science Committee continues to meet regularly and have been very Active, resulting in key decisions and consensus achieved on strategies. We have had seven meetings held with consistent participation of at least 10 people.
- The Year 1 progress report for Component 2 can be found on the website at <https://www.in.gov/isda/files/Indiana-Science-Assessment-Year-1-Progress-Report.pdf>
- A document was developed providing definitions for the initial 10 conservation practices and criteria assessed for the Science Assessment. Find it here, https://www.in.gov/isda/files/BMP-Practice-definitions-for-Science-Assessment_Version-1-Final.pdf. Definitions of other conservation practices will be available in future editions of this guide as practices are added to the Indiana Science Assessment process.



Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force (HTF)

- The HTF has a quarterly newsletter now and if interested in looking at the latest newsletter or receiving future ones, visit <https://www.epa.gov/ms-htf/hypoxia-task-force-newsletter-january-2022>.

- I serve as co-chair of the Research Needs Workgroup for the HTF. The workgroup has been working with NOAA Librarians and EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD) to conduct a literature search of the top priority research needs of the HTF states that were identified by the workgroup. List of identified research needs can be found here, <https://www.epa.gov/ms-htf/research-needs-committee-letter-and-priorities>. Several of the literature searches have been completed and the EPA ORD office has created a database where research articles and studies can be viewed by a limited number of state representatives. This has been a great way for EPA to support the states on the Hypoxia Task Force.
- Federal H.R. 3684, also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act calls for \$60,000,000 to remain available until expended for actions under the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan. This means that \$12,000,000 will be made available to the twelve states who serve on the Gulf of Mexico HTF for federal fiscal years 2022 to 2026. Funds shall be provided annually in equal amounts for each state, \$1 million each year for 5 years. ISDA is working to put together a strategic plan for these dollars which will be provided to the USEPA. As we work to assemble, we are seeking input from ICP partners, as well as other partner organizations such as NGOs, Universities, commodity groups, and other partner organizations. Please use this link to provide input, <https://arcg.is/ODSCOD>.
- The HTF Fall meeting was held on December 13th and 14th. The Virtual 2021 Public Meeting was held on December 14th, and to view materials from that public meeting, go to <https://water-meetings.tetrattech.com/Hypoxia/StaticPublic/materialstf.htm>.



State Soil Conservation Board
January 23, 2022
District Support Specialist (DSS) Report: 10/12/21 to 1/3/22



New District Support Specialist

Welcome to Sandra Hoffarth, the new District Support Specialist! Sandra starts January 24 and will cover 18 counties in northern IN. Thanks to all ISDA who've been covering these counties in an acting role until the position was filled.

Statewide or Regional Trainings for SWCD Supervisors and Staff

- **Statewide Trainings Completed:** Electronic Records training webinar in conjunction with IASWCD, SWCD Finance Basics for Supervisors webinar, QuickBooks (in-person or virtual) in conjunction with IDEA, and SWCD Finance Overview for Staff webinar
- **Regional Trainings Completed:** Laura hosted an Annual Meeting and Election Season virtual training
- **Ongoing:** New Supervisor Training is available in-person, virtually, or via a pre-recorded video. Please contact your ISDA District Support Specialist for more information.

Supervisor Training Survey

ISDA and IASWCD are evaluating training content and delivery methods for SWCD Supervisors to provide a better experience. The responses to this survey will help to inform future training opportunities for districts. Please be on the look out for multiple ways to provide feedback, including at the IASWCD Annual Conference and at this link:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/3a4830190c06439ba2d75dc9647bfca7>

SWCD Upcoming Deadlines:

- January 31: CWI Grant Updates in Grants Management System due
- March 15: CWI Supervisor and Staff Training Reimbursements applications due
- March 31: SWCD Excel Spreadsheet Annual Financial Reports due to ISDA
- Certification of Election of Supervisors: due within Conservation Link within 7 days of annual meeting

Clean Water Indiana: DSSs worked with the SSCB Grants Committee and others during the 2022 competitive grant scoring process and are assisting current grant recipients as well.

DSS Activities Statewide For This Reporting Period	Total
Input, Assistance & Attendance At SWCD Board Meetings	24
Visits With SWCD Supervisors/Staff For Training, Assistance, Guidance, CWI, etc.	53
Assistance With SWCD Strategic Planning	5
New Staff or New Supervisor Training	8

Highlights

Staffing Change

Purdue Extension is investing heavily in their soil health program. The program will be led by three individuals: one heavy in data management, one who will serve as a liaison with Indiana Corn Marketing Council / Indiana Soybean Alliance (ICMC/ISA) with a heavy focus upon on-farm research, and the third member will be the CCSI Conservation Agronomist. The CCSI Conservation Agronomist will continue to lead the CCSI-SARE Soil Health Training Program and serve as a content expert for Indiana partners. Joe Rorick has moved from the CCSI Conservation Agronomist position to the ICMC/ISA liaison. The CCSI Agronomist position will be posted and refilled as soon as possible.

The Root Project – Full Scale Banner Production

A series of 4 full-scale banners have been designed and will be ready for use in booths and displays. See sample image (attached).

Staff Field Trip – David Brandt Farm

All CCSI staff traveled to Carroll, OH for an on-farm visit with David Brandt, where they had the opportunity to learn from one of the “godfathers of soil health” on his farm. Dave took us on a tour of his seed cleaning and cover crop mixing facilities, followed by time digging in his cover crop fields (even after a 2-1/2” rain), tours of a local school FFA project, and Ohio State University water quality/infiltration projects. The trip was capped with time in his farm office going over crop nutrient density results, corn trial results, and field by field net income.

G1. Farmer Engagement and Involvement

• Innovative and Visionary Farmers

Quarterly Target: 1 ride-a-long, shop visit, or other (Each - A, NPM, SPM)

Listening sessions with Innovative and Visionary Farmers. Use to help identify needed field day and training topics.

- October 27-28 – Farm visit with David Brandt (D, A, NPM, SPM)
- November 4 – Roger Wenning and Barry Fisher (SPM, NPM, A)
- November 10, 24 – Mike Brocksmith (D)
- November 10 – Barry Fisher (A)
- November 15-16 – Dinner and dinner with Wayne Fredericks (SPM)
- November 16 – Event carpool with Mark Anson & Pat Bittner (D)
- November 17 – Rick Clark (A)
- December 7 – Mark Anson, Matt Crowe (D)
- December 13 – Andrew Bernzott (D)
- December 13 – Mike Shuter (D)
- December 23 – Jamie Scott (D)
- December 23 – Ray McCormick (D)

- **Conservative and Pragmatic Farmers**

Meetings and other opportunities for listening sessions to gain perspective on adoption issues/concerns of soil health practices. Use to help develop outreach topics and tactics.

Quarterly Targets: 1 ride-a-long, shop visit, or other (Each - A, NPM, SPM)

- October 26 – Soil Health Leadership Lab (D)

- **Farmer Influencers**

Quarterly Targets: 1 LLP per region adding an influencer to their outreach planning team or board. (Each - NPM, SPM)

Continued work with W4tL, IANA, and other influencer groups.

- November 1 – John Jamerson (D)

- **Presentations**

Quarterly Targets: Average of 3 soil health presentations or demonstrations. (A)

- November 19 – Daviess-Knox-Martin-Pike PARP-a-Palooza (A)
- November 30 – Purdue ANR Extension Cover Crop Session (A)
- Provided Side-by-Side slides to Dr. Shannon Cappellazzi for ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meeting presentation (D)
- December 7 – Soil Health Demonstrations – Sullivan/Knox Soil Health Meeting (Rorick)

G2. Local Level Partnership Support

1. Facilitate and Support Local Level Partnership's Outreach and Education

Quarterly Target: CCSI as a group materially participate in / support average of 15 LLP Outreach Efforts groups (CCSI Team Goal)

Workshops Completed

- November 6 – Regenerative Ag Forum, featuring US Sen. Braun, Roger Wenning, and Barry Fisher, Haubstadt, approx. 80 attendees.
- November 13 – Lost River/Orange County SWCD Drone Seeded Cover Crop Pasture Walk, 11 attendees.
- November 16- Perry/Spencer SWCD Soil Health Workshop, Tell City, 30 attendeesDecember 7 - Sullivan / Knox Soil Health Meeting, 60 attendees
- December 10 – Clinton County SWCD Soil Health Showcase, 75 attendees
- January 11 – Agrivoltaic Webinar, 100+ attendees

Workshops in Progress:

- Winter 2022 – DeKalb County SWCD Workshop
- February 4-5 – Northern Grazing Conference – NW Area Soil Health Team booth
- February 8, 2022 – Regional Soil Health Workshop (Washington Co) featuring Carter Morgan.
- February 19 – Indiana Black Loam Conference / Legacy Taste of the Garden, Evansville
- February 26 - Indiana Black Loam Conference / Legacy Taste of the Garden, Ft. Wayne
- March 1, 2022 – Lost River Watershed / Orange County SWCD Workshop – follow up from Drone-seeded cover crop plots.
- March 12 - Indiana Black Loam Conference / Legacy Taste of the Garden, Gary
- March 19 – Indiana Black Loam Conference / Legacy Taste of the Garden, Bloomington
- March 23 – Howard/Tipton County SWCD Workshop

- March – Miami County Winter PARP meeting
- 1st Qtr 2022 – Indian-Kentuck Watershed event, likely virtual
- 1st Qtr 2022 – Clay County SWCD event
- August 11, 2022 – “Fab 5” Soil Health Event, SW Indiana
- August 23, 2022 – Ward Labs/Green Cover Seed at Rulon’s
- 2021 – 23 – Kankakee Basin and WLEB series of events to support existing RCPP (WLEB) and proposed RCPP (Kankakee) (NPM)

2. Consistent Soil Health Messaging

Annual Target: Outlined in fall with training team.

Foundational Soil Health Trainings / Awareness, Knowledge and Understanding of Soil Health

Completed Trainings

- November 4-5 – TNC Advanced Soil Health Training
- December 3 - Training Advisory Committee Meeting to review 2022 CCSI-SARE Soil Health Curriculum.

Trainings in Progress:

- April 5, 12 (optional), 19, 26 – Core Cover Crops and Soil Health Systems
- Soil Health Nexus website development and review (TBD)
- TNC/NRCS/CCSI Soil Health Lab Manual (TBD)
- Purdue Extension Soil Health Signature Program Development
- Small Diversified Farm Extension Soil Health Pilot Program (TBD)

3. Professional Development Opportunities

Annual Target: Outlined in fall with training team.

Advanced Soil Health Trainings / Applied Soil Health Knowledge and Skills

Completed Trainings:

- Advanced CCSI-SARE Trainings cancelled for 2021 due to meeting size / location restrictions.
- November 30 – Purdue ANR Extension retreat session
- December 16 – Hoosier Chapter SWCS Winter Meeting: The Culture of Conservation Adoption, 110 attendees

Trainings in Progress

- 2022 SARE PDP – Cover Crop in Vegetable Production – PAC Demonstrations
- Date TBD - 2022: Pilot Social Science Training
- Date(s) TBD - 2022: CCSI-SARE Livestock Integration Trainings
- Small Diversified Farm Extension Soil Health Pilot Program
- Purdue Extension Soil Health Signature Program

4. Messaging to/from Local Level Partnerships

Monthly Targets: 2-3 LLP visits. 1 Teleconference / Region (Each - NPM, SPM)

- October 26 – NW NRCS Area Meeting (NPM)
- November 2 – NE Soil Health Team Meeting (NPM)
- November 4 – RCPP Update meeting (D, NPM)
- November 8 – Delaware County District Show Case Award presentation/videography00
- November 19 – IASWCD Board of Directors (D)

- November 23 - Northwest Area NRCS Meeting (NPM)
- November 29 – Southeast Regional Teleconference (all)
- November 29 – Southwest Regional Teleconference (all)
- December 1 – Northeast Regional Teleconference (all)
- December 1 – Northwest Regional Teleconference (all)
- December CCSI Regional Teleconferences cancelled for holidays.
- December 7 – IASWCD Urban Soil Health Team Meeting (D, NPM, SPM)
- December 9 - NW NRCS Area Meeting (NPM)
- December 9 – Browns Wonder Sugar Creek Steering Committee Meeting (NPM)
- December 14 – Legacy Taste of the Garden / Urban Soil Health Programs (D, NPM)
- December 20 – “Meet-n-Greet” Jacob Tosch (new employee) and Michelle Benson, Porter Co SWCD

G3. General CCSI Outreach / Communication

1. Marketing

Quarterly Targets: 3-4 “formal” CCSI Updates (CCSI Team Goal)

Annual Target: 1-2 New External Partners

Ensure LLPs understand CCSI resources available to them; Ensure external partners are aware of CCSI strengths, tools, and opportunities.

- November 1 – Events Newsletter; 768 delivered, 408 opened, 50 follow through
- November 15 – Events Newsletter; 761 delivered, 350 opened, 54 follow through
- November 29 – Giving Tuesday Campaign; 668 delivered, 266 opened, 8 follow through
- November 29 – Giving Tuesday Campaign #2; 742 delivered, 433 opened, 70 follow through
- December 1 – Events Newsletter; 705 delivered, 395 opened, 96 follow through
- December 15 – Events Newsletter; 737 delivered, 458 opened, 108 follow through

2. Soil Health Messaging

Quarterly Targets: 3 Podcasts; 3-6 Blog Posts; 6 Newsletters;

Use social networks and other media tools to deliver soil health messaging and information.

Completed Materials:

- Podcasts
 - Cover Crops in the River Bottoms?! Ray McCormick and Lisa Holscher
 - Learning from Your Peers: Andrew Bernzott and Mike Shuter
- Blog Posts
 - Cover Crops in the River Bottoms
 - Thankful
 - Op-Ed: Boost Your Soil’s Productivity by Jerry Raynor
 - In Loving Memory of Travis Wenning
- Social Media
 - Twitter
 - October – 75 Tweets, 59.7K impressions*, 24 mentions, 2,637 profile visits, 53 new followers.
*Includes one specific tweet of pics and cropping program sourced from a SW farmer with over 15K impressions

- November - 109 Tweets, 37.2K impressions, 16 mentions, 2,444 profile visits, 15 new followers.
 - December - 65 Tweets, 61.5K impressions, 21 mentions, 2,637 profile visits, 29 new followers.
 - Facebook:
 - October – 1651 reach, 2612 impressions, 221 engaged users
 - November - 3574 reach, 5766 impressions, 232 engaged users
 - December - 20,491 reach, 24,271 impressions, 639 engaged users
- Website
 - Website 777 Users / 980 sessions
 - November 440 Users / 597 sessions
 - December 1500 Users / 1800 sessions

Materials in Progress:

- Soil Compaction Video with Purdue Extension
- Adaptation of graphics to yard signs for download
- Adaptation of The Root Project to PowerPoint slides for download
- Urban Soil Health Program – Small Scale Nutrient Management
- Soil Health Nexus – Soil Health Matrix

G4. Research

Quarterly Targets: None

CCSI no longer leads research projects; CCSI provides connectivity between researchers and cooperators; potential research needs.

- Support - Indiana University SARE - Participatory Farmer Monitoring on Nitrate Loss (Yoder)
- Support – Purdue University SARE - Precision Winter Hardy Cover Cropping for Improving Farm Profitability and Environmental Stewardship (Armstrong)
- Support – No-till Pumpkin and Sweet Corn in Cover Crops (Maynard)
- Support – 2021-22 Purdue Agricultural Centers Demo and Research Plots
- Grassland Oregon and Purdue Agronomy research coordination

OTHER

- Introductions and conversations with new employees: Megan Sweeney, Montgomery County SWCD; Mary Hoehan, Pulaski County SWCD; Jacob Tosch, Porter County SWCD (NPM)
- **Staff Field Trip – David Brandt Farm**
 All CCSI staff traveled to Carroll, OH for an on-farm visit with David Brandt, where they had the opportunity to learn from one of the “godfathers of soil health” on his farm. Dave took us on a tour of his seed cleaning and cover crop mixing facilities, followed by time digging in his cover crop fields (even after a 2-1/2” rain), tours of a local school FFA project, and Ohio State University water quality/infiltration projects. The trip was capped with time in his farm office going over crop nutrient density results, corn trial results, and field by field net income

Staff

- Lisa Holscher, Director lisa.holscher@in.nacdnet.net
- Sheila Schroeder, Northern Program Manager sheila.schroeder@in.nacdnet.net
- Jessica Hoehn, Southern Program Manager jessica.hoehn@in.nacdnet.net
- Purdue Extension is investing heavily in their soil health program. The program will be led by three individuals: one heavy in data management, one who will serve as a liaison with Indiana Corn Marketing Council / Indiana Soybean Alliance (ICMC/ISA) with a heavy focus upon on-farm research, and the third member will be the CCSI Conservation Agronomist. The CCSI Conservation Agronomist will continue to lead the CCSI-SARE Soil Health Training Program and serve as a content expert for Indiana partners. Joe Rorick has moved from the CCSI Conservation Agronomist position to the ICMC/ISA liaison. The CCSI Agronomist position will be posted and refilled as soon as possible.

Soil Health Events

- Since its official inception in January 2010, CCSI has participated in over 700 events, reaching over approximately 42,300 attendees.
- In 2021, CCSI materially participated in 73 events, reaching approximately 4650 individuals, including a series of webinars and virtual farm visits. Videos of the 2021 virtual events have been viewed over 1200 times.
- 2022 Webinars and Virtual Farm Visits are being organized. The first webinar was held on January 11 and the recording is available for viewing on the CCSI website www.ccsin.org.
- Registration for upcoming events may be found at www.ccsin.org/registration-other-events

Trainings

Due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, the full scope of CCSI-SARE Soil Health Trainings was again reduced.

- Core Cover Crops and Soil Health Systems Training was held as a series of 3 virtual events. Total attendance was up again – 77 total attendees. These will continue to be held as virtual events in the future.
- Soil Health and Sustainability for Midwestern Field Staff (3-Day Soil Health Training) was held in in-person. Attendance was limited to 25 participants to maintain social distancing.
- Advanced Trainings and In-field Diagnostics Trainings were cancelled.
- Other Trainings:
 - TNC Advanced Soil Health Training for Ag Professionals – CCSI provided virtual support through the winter of 2021 and logistical support for in-person events that were held in August and November. Attendance ranged from 15-20 individuals.
 - Hoosier Chapter Winter Meeting – The Social Science of Conservation. CCSI provided support to host the meeting virtually. Opened to the general public, 110 individuals attended live from across the US, Canada, and Brazil.

Podcasts, Website, Social Media and Other Outreach

- In the fourth season of CCSI-Hoosier Ag Today Soil Health Podcasts, nine were produced. Since their launch, over 10,000 downloads have been made of the episodes.
- The CCSI website www.ccsin.org continues to be updated. Approximately 7000 unique users have used the site, including over 1300 visits to “The Root Project”.
- The Root Project <https://www.ccsin.org/root-project> launched in the fall of 2020, downloads continue to grow. The Root Project was also featured in the Sept/Oct 2021 edition of the John Deere Furrow magazine, which has a circulation of approximately 500,000 in North America alone. A pilot project creating full-scale banners of select cover crop roots has been launched.
- Twitter posts continue to reach wide audiences, garnering just under 450,000 impressions in 2021.
- Facebook continues to reach audience in 2021 with engaged users totally 6,300, a total daily reach just under 152,000, and garnering 185,000 total impressions.

Webinars and Virtual Farm Visits

With a quick pivot to virtual formats during 2020, CCSI purchased subscriptions to enable continued delivery of soil health outreach and education. In addition, several “virtual field day kits” were purchased for shipping to presenters, enabling live remote visits. Calendar 2021 topics included Soil Health Economics, High-residue Planter Set-up, Planter Modifications for High-residue Systems, and “Bio Strip-tilling”. Over 650 individuals attended the events “live” and recorded videos were viewed over 2400 times.

“Mini-Grants”

Due to a substantial decrease in travel and event expense as a result of COVID restrictions, a request for proposals was put out in April 2020. Local level partners were encouraged to submit proposals for projects that targeted outreach and education for soil health on Indiana cropland – with an emphasis on reaching those new(er) to soil health practices. Reviewed on a rolling basis, 19 projects totalling just over \$40,000 were approved. Projects ranged from \$500 to purchase and distribute Cover Crop Field Guides at grain elevators and seed dealers to \$7800 to support multi-use portions of a soil health trailer. Most projects were under \$1000. The mini-grant project also provided opportunities to better connect local partners with others working on similar projects – allowing leveraging of resources and serving as a concept incubator. Based on the success of the project, Indiana TNC is seeking funds to replicate the “mini-grant” process with CCSI.

Purdue Agricultural Center Partnerships

CCSI reached out to the Purdue Agricultural Centers (PACs) to explore the possibility of supporting soil health demonstration projects and strengthening the partnership with the PACs. Provided with spreadsheets of all demonstration and research projects the PAC superintendents considered to be related to soil health, CCSI was connect researchers with cover crop breeders interested in their projects. CCSI was also able to provide connectivity with seed suppliers and equipment dealers to secure deeper discounts on purchases. Looking to cropping year 2022, CCSI seed suppliers have already expressed interest in furthering partnerships with the PACs.

Indiana NRCS State Conservationist Report

January 2022 State Soil Conservation Board Meeting

FARM BILL

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE)

After the first of the year, Indiana NRCS will announce a second Wetland Reserve Easement funding cutoff date of February 28. Applications must be submitted to the applicant's local district conservationist to be considered for FY2022 funding. A news release will be forthcoming.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Application Deadline

Indiana is accepting applications for enrollment in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), the nation's largest conservation program. While applications are accepted year-round, interested producers should submit applications to their local NRCS office by January 28 to be considered for this funding period.

CSP Renewal 2022

Indiana NRCS completed the 2022 CSP Renewal signup renewing 103 previous contracts for an additional five years. Indiana utilized \$3.97 million for the 2022 CSP Renewal signup on over 34,000 acres.

Farmers that chose to not seek renewal or those that could not meet the stewardship threshold for renewal were subject to a two-year period of waiting before they could apply for a new CSP contract. However, on Dec. 27, NRCS Chief Terry Cosby issued a national waiver of this provision which effectively allows any farmer that did not renew their 2017 CSP contract to be considered in the 2022 CSP Classic signup which has an application due date of January 28. Farmers that did not apply for renewal but wish to be considered for fiscal year 2022 CSP Classic must submit an application (NRCS-CPA-1200) to their local USDA service center. Farmers that were determined ineligible for renewal do not need to resubmit another application but must inform their local USDA service center if they wish to be considered in the 2022 signup.

Indiana had around 150 farmers that chose to not apply for renewal, applied but later cancelled the application or were found as not meeting stewardship eligibility. While basic Farm Bill program eligibility must be met, farmers that fall into this category may consider applying for CSP Classic by the January 28 due date.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

The call for proposals for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) is open through April 13, 2022. Projects can request between \$250,000 and \$10 million, and partners should bring contributions at least equal to the request for NRCS funds. Priority activities include climate-smart agriculture, urban agriculture and racial justice and equity. Proposals are competitively selected based on impact, partner contributions, innovation and capacity for successful project management.

There are two types of funding opportunities under RCPP: RCPP Classic and RCPP Alternative Funding Arrangements (AFA). RCPP Classic projects are implemented using NRCS contracts and

easements with producers, landowners and communities, in collaboration with project partners. Through RCPP AFA, partners have more flexibility in working directly with agricultural producers to support the development of new conservation structures and approaches that would not otherwise be available under RCPP Classic. Project types that may be suited to AFA, as highlighted by the 2018 Farm Bill include:

- Projects that use innovative approaches to leverage the federal investment in conservation.
- Projects that deploy a pay-for-performance conservation approach.
- Projects that seek large-scale infrastructure investment that generate conservation benefits for agricultural producers and nonindustrial private forest owners.

For a copy of the Classic or AFA solicitation please contact Jill Reinhart, ASTC Partnerships at jill.reinhart@usda.gov.

NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY DATA COLLECTION

The National Resources Inventory (NRI) is a statistical survey of land use and natural resource conditions and trends on U.S. non-Federal lands. Indiana's NRI data collection will begin in early October and run through the end of January 2022. The NRCS soils staff at the state office will collect the data. Field office staff and FSA may be contacted to provide producer-specific information, such as, tillage practices, conservation plans, cropping history, etc. If you have any comments or questions, please contact John Allen, Assistant State Soil Scientist at john.allen@usda.gov.

Purdue University
Submitted 1/19/21

- The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture selected the Purdue Project titled “#Diverse Corn Belt: Resilient Intensification through Diversity in Midwestern Agriculture” “to work with farmers to evaluate alternative cropping systems that can be used in the Midwest” states Dr. Linda Prokopy. Select members of the ICP are on the project advisory committee.
- Dr. Henry Quesada has accepted the position of Asst Extension Director and Program Leader for Agriculture and Natural Resources. He comes to Purdue from Virginia Tech where he built a nationally recognized Extension program in forestry and forest products after received his Ph.D from Purdue’s Forestry and Natural Resources Dept. Dr. Quesada will lead Extension’s ANR Program and have a faculty appointment in the Dept of Forestry and Natural Resources. His official start date is February 14, 2022.
- The Science Assessment for the Indiana Nutrient Reduction Strategy is a statewide effort to quantify water quality benefits of conservation practices. Purdue is leading Component 2 in collaboration with a Core Team from six organizations, and a Science Committee of researchers from five academic institutions in Indiana and two federal science agencies who conduct research related to nutrients and water quality in Indiana.
- Joe Rorick, Soil Health Specialist, has an enhanced outreach for greater soil sustainability efforts thanks to a partnership with Purdue University, the Indiana Soybean Alliance and the Indiana Corn Marketing Council
- Purdue Urban Agriculture Programming Efforts are tied closely to other ICP initiatives to promote soil health and conservation with urban farmers
- A committee of Purdue Extension Researchers and Educators are developing plans for enhanced on-farm research throughout the state of Indiana
- The Urban Agriculture Certificate is a program where students receive in-depth instruction for urban crop production from farm design through harvest techniques. It is 100% online which provides students the flexibility to earn their certificate from anywhere, anytime.

- The 2022 Indiana Small Farm Conference and trade show will return in person at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds March 3 & 4 in Danville Indiana. The conference features keynote, breakout tracks and networking opportunities. Breakout tracks include Soil Health, Regenerative Ag, Urban Ag, Pollination and others.
- Purdue Extension Specialists worked with the ICP Training Committee to provide high priority trainings to ICP staff
- The Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy will hold its 17th class from January to May 2022. This year's class will have a hybrid structure with both virtual and in person sessions. The Academy has trained over 425 watershed leaders since its inception in 2006, expanding Indiana's capacity for successful watershed management. Graduates are engaged throughout Indiana and beyond in improving environmental stewardship and water quality (<http://www.purdue.edu/watersheds>).
- Purdue Agricultural Centers are conducting research on many aspects of cover crops, nutrient management and cropping systems to address the needs of Indiana agriculture
- Purdue Extension specialists and Educators developed resources and provided outreach to address challenges producers faced in the 2021 cropping season.

Walt Sell
 Assistant Program Leader, ANR
 Purdue Extension
 2857 W. St. Rd. 2, Suite A
 La Porte IN 46350
wsell@purdue.edu
 mobile: 574-201-8065
 office: 219-324-9407



Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution