

## SECTION 319 Grant Program Eligible Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) Practices



The Clean Water Act Section 319(h) provides funding for various types of activities that work to reduce nonpoint source water pollution. Section 319 grant projects in Indiana implementing best management practices (BMPs) are required by Indiana's Nonpoint Source Program to develop a cost-share program. The approved cost-share program allows Section 319 funds to be used to pay a portion of the cost of implementing BMPs that reduce sediment, nutrients, and other pollutants from nonpoint sources in the watershed. For information on cost-share program requirements, see Clean Water Act Section 319 Agricultural Guidance for Indiana or Clean Water Act Section 319 Urban Guidance for Indiana. These documents provide general program information, funding restrictions, definitions of basic terminology, and frequently asked questions related to the distribution and reimbursement of cost-share funds for BMPs.

The *Section 319 Grant Program Eligible NRCS FOTG Practices* spreadsheet is a list of NRCS practices that may be incorporated into a cost-share program and implemented with Section 319 funds. The *Key Requirements* are noted significant elements that must be followed in addition to the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard specifications when implementing the BMP, and are usually Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) requirements or Section 319 Program requirements. If the Key Requirements column is blank, only the NRCS Conservation Practice requirements for that practice apply. Implementation of a BMP not listed in this document must receive prior approval from IDEM.

IDEM advises coordinating with your IDEM Project Manager prior to allocating funds for any BMP to avoid delays, ensure the practice is approved, and receive technical guidance. IDEM reserves the right to reject any request for reimbursement for a cost-share activity that does not follow the grant agreement, the watershed management plan, the approved cost-share program, and/or IDEM or USEPA policy. All agricultural BMPs must be implemented in accordance with a Conservation Plan for the land. A signature is required in Section B of the 319-A Agriculture and 319-U Urban Cost-Share Forms for reimbursement to certify that the BMP is needed to improve or maintain water quality and will reduce off-site sedimentation or nutrient, pesticide or pathogen loads to receiving waters, and was implemented consistent with NRCS standards or other approved specifications.

### **Maintenance of BMPs**

BMPs are required to be maintained for a specified period of time listed on the 319A Form (with the exception of Cover Crop (Practice Code 340) which must be maintained for one season). Section 319 funds cannot be used for maintenance of practices. If a BMP that was paid for with 319 funds is damaged or destroyed by extreme natural events (i.e., flooding, drought, lightening, etc.) during the term of the grant agreement, it may be repaired or replaced with 319 funds.

### **Permits**

Some BMPs may require permits. While it is the responsibility of the property owner to apply for and obtain all required local, state, and federal permits, grantees are advised to seek guidance on the need for permits from IDEM staff before initiating any work on a given BMP. If a BMP cannot receive a permit, IDEM will not fund the BMP.