

CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM REPORT

January 7, 2010

Watersheds	Contracts	Acres	Acres/Contract	Average Dollars/Acre	Obligated State Funds	Estimated Federal Leverage
Tippecanoe River	490	3870.5	7.9	\$194.94	\$754,534.00	\$11,286,378.00
Upper White River	239	1601.2	6.7	\$401.37	\$642,680.00	\$4,669,099.20
Pigeon/Highland Rivers	122	433.96	3.6	\$213.69	\$92,734.00	\$1,265,427.36
TOTAL	851	5905.66	6.9	\$252.29	\$1,489,948.00	\$17,220,904.56

Total State funds paid = \$860,996.00

December 8, 2009

Watersheds	Contracts	Acres	Acres/Contract	Average Dollars/Acre	Obligated State Funds	Estimated Federal Leverage
Tippecanoe River	489	3849.6	7.9	\$195.46	\$752,454.00	\$11,225,433.60
Upper White River	234	1550.7	6.6	\$402.18	\$623,660.00	\$4,521,841.20
Pigeon/Highland Rivers	122	433.96	3.6	\$213.69	\$92,734.00	\$1,265,427.36
TOTAL	845	5834.26	6.9	\$251.76	\$1,468,848.00	\$17,012,702.16

Total State funds paid = \$843,976.00



Clean Water Indiana Report
January 2010

- 2006 CWI

	Awarded	Paid to Districts	Balance	Comments
Clean Water Indiana (CWI)	\$609,257.00	\$528,877.00	\$75,975.00	Recommitted \$4,4405.00. 5 Districts still have a balance.
District Training (DT)	\$69,000.00	\$52,688.41	\$16,311.59	Swept balance to start 2008 CWI funds. Most went to flood relief.
Annual Financial Report (AFR)		\$907,400.00		

- 2007 CWI

	Awarded	Paid to Districts	Balance	Comments
CWI	\$533,662.50	\$497,985.00	\$29,693.06	Recommitted \$5,984.08. 6 Districts still have a balance.
DT		\$96,670.73		Swept balance to start 2008 CWI funds. Most went to flood relief.
AFR	\$920,000.00	\$920,000.00	\$0.00	Completed contract process

- 2008 CWI

	Awarded	Paid to Districts	Balance	Comments
Conservation Marketing Incentive Grant (CMIG)	\$164,000.00	\$162,700.00	\$1,300.00	6 reallocated to flood relief. 7 Districts still have a balance.
Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Grant (SNRG)	\$210,500.00	\$207,350.00	\$3,150.00	7 Districts still have a balance and 5 have been extended.
DT	\$135,000.00	\$116,413.01	\$18,586.99	48 Districts received maximum of \$1500. 30 Districts received some part of \$1500. 11 Districts did not submit repayment. 2 Districts did not request DT.
AFR	\$920,000.00	\$920,000.00	\$0.00	Completed contract process

- 2009 CWI

	Awarded	Paid to Districts	Balance	Comments
SNRG	\$284,877.00	\$275,515.00	\$9,372.00	11 Districts have completed contract process
AFR	\$920,000.00	\$920,000.00	\$0.00	Completed contract process
May-June DT				6 Districts have submitted reimbursement for a total of \$1,879.04

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 receives a recommendation under subdivision(1), the board shall act upon the recommendation; and*
 - (3) the board shall notify the supervisors 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 statute refers to the State Soil Conservation Board)

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

Name: Katie Little maintains a permanent residence within the district and is qualified by training and experience to perform the duties that are imposed on supervisors by law.

ADDRESS 420 S Poplar Street Lot 5

CITY: Rising Sun STATE: IN ZIP: 47040

This temporary appointment is necessary because of:

- Resignation (enclose) of _____ or
 Death of Gene Weaver

**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)

Wade Turner, Chairman

Date Signed (M/d/yyyy): 12/8/2009

**Submit to:
Your District Support Specialist
Via e-mail.**

**Please visit the following website to
access contact information for your
DSS:**

<http://www.in.gov/isda/2352.htm>

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: Katie Little PHONE: (812) 290-6540

DATE OF BIRTH (M/d/yyyy): 11/25/1978

ADDRESS: 420 S Poplar Street Lot 5

CITY: Rising Sun STATE: IN ZIP: 47040

EDUCATION: High School, Building Trades, with some College

OCCUPATION OR TYPE OF BUSINESS: Carpenter

LIST CONSERVATION AND OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES: Associate Supervisor for more than 4 years

Please check one of the following:

NEW APPOINTMENT

REAPPOINTMENT

I currently hold a public service position/office Yes No (If yes) I have been informed about "Dual Office Holding" and have reviewed a copy of the Attorney General's Dual Office Holding Guide Yes 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 (M/d/yyyy) : 12/8/2009

Signature of appointee: Katie Little

State Soil Conservation Board Business Plan

2010-2015

The mission of the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) is to provide information, advice and consultation to soil and water conservation district supervisors to assist them in carrying out their powers and programs. The SSCB will also provide policy and funding direction to the Indiana Department of Agriculture-Division of Soil Conservation (ISDA-DSC) on the administration of the Clean Water Indiana Program (CWI), to help address statewide natural resource concerns.

The SSCB has identified the following as statewide priority natural resource concerns to be addressed over the next five years:

- **Soil Quality Degradation** which includes the loss of top soil due to erosion, the depletion of organic matter, as well as soil compaction and other soil biology impacts that degrade soil quality.
- **Water Quality Impairments** including sediment, nutrients, pesticides, *E-coli* and other non-point sources of water pollution found in our streams, rivers and lakes.
- **Other soil and water related natural resources concerns** including forest lands, wildlife habitat areas, pasture and forage lands and air quality.

There are geographical areas within all watersheds of Indiana that have critical natural resource concerns related to soil and water conservation. The SSCB will work with the ISDA-DSC, districts and all partners to address these. The SSCB will give special attention and assistance to initiatives in the following priority watersheds:

- **Tippecanoe, Upper White and Pigeon Highland** - The SSCB will continue to support the existing Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) in these watersheds.
- **Wabash River Watershed** - In a special effort to help address the national concern about nutrient loadings which are causing the hypoxia problems in the Gulf of Mexico, the SSCB will assist in the start-up and implementation of an expansion of CREP into the Wabash River Watershed. We will also assist USDA with the new Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI) which includes a portion of the Wabash River Basin in Indiana.
- **Western Lake Erie Basin** - We will continue to assist the Western Lake Erie Basin Partnership and our conservation partners in efforts to reduce sediment entering Maumee Bay. Sediment in the bay must be removed at a high cost every year to keep the Port of Toledo open to shipping (including grains). We will also support efforts to reduce blue-green algal blooms in the bay. Several districts and partners will be utilizing special funding available under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) to implement projects that will reduce sediment and nutrient runoff from entering the bay from Indiana.

- **Other Watersheds** - We will continue to monitor other watersheds across the State of Indiana for future inclusion into SSCB priority watersheds.

In a strategic effort to address the top three resource concerns identified above both directly and through local soil and water conservation districts, the SSCB has developed the following goals and strategies. These goals and strategies are consistent with the board's general authority and duties outlined in the District Law as well as its specific authority to provide direction to the department on the administration of the Clean Water Indiana Program:

- **By 2011 work with IN Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and other water quality monitoring agencies and organizations, as well as the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to share baseline data of current pollution load conditions.**
 - Share data with Districts to help them identify priority areas.
 - Help to gage the environmental impact of soil and water conservation efforts.
- **By 2012 have a tracking tool/model in place for measuring load reductions as practices and technologies are applied on the land.**
 - Work with the ISDA-DSC to establish mechanism for tracking load reductions.
 - Strongly encourage the ISDA-DSC to have all their technical staff using the reduction tracking tool.
 - Require districts to use the same tracking tool for reporting practices applied with CWI grant funding assistance.
 - Encourage districts and other partners to use the reduction measuring tool for practices and technologies applied with assistance from other programs.
- **By 2012 provide districts with a standardized reporting procedure for reporting income and expenses, accomplishments, federal, state and local dollars leveraged as well as state and district program needs for the coming year.**
- **By 2012 the State Soil Conservation Board and ISDA-DSC staff will work with the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (IASWCD) and other Indiana Conservation Partnership (ICP) partners in developing a reporting format.**
 - SSCB will annually provide a consolidated report to the general assembly including program and funding needs.
- **By 2013 there will be a measurable increase in the number of district supervisors actively engaged in district program planning and development, community outreach, local, state and federal conservation policy and legislative affairs.**
 - Continue to support the Leadership Institute four Corners of Leadership Workshops series.

- Work with the Leadership Institute Program Committee and the ICP Leadership Development Workgroup to identify additional training needs and assist with implementing additional training based on needs identified and prioritized.
 - Continue to work with the ICP Leaders to develop and implement the draft 5 Star Program proposed by the ICP Leadership Workgroup.
 - Develop a score card for recognizing districts that increase their local program capacity, accomplishments and accountability, and in turn incrementally increase their state match over and above the \$10,000 currently provided for operations based on their scorecard results.
- **By 2014 there will be a measurable increase in the number of districts employing district staff with skills in program development and revenue enhancement (ie; grant writing and project management), adult education, technical assistance, marketing and public relations**
 - Provide special training targeted to the training needs of district program managers.
 - Work with the ICP to continue to develop and implement the technical training program initiated by ISDA-DSC with assistance from Ray Ledgerwood in 2009. This training program will be based on the plan laid out in the timeline developed in our ICP planning meeting and subsequently developed "white paper" developed by a sub-committee for this initiative.
 - Pursue opportunities for joint training with partners as well as opportunities to utilize trainers from other partners and states.
 - Investigate and evaluate training programs already in place in other states that could be modified for use in Indiana.
 - Provide CWI incentive grants to districts for the purpose of developing or adding staff capacity for program development, revenue enhancement, etc. if funds are available.
 - Offer specific CWI incentive grants to limited resource districts willing to share program development and/or technical staff if funds are available.
- **By 2015 there will be a measurable increase in the number of joint sediment and nutrient reduction projects among districts.**
 - Offer specific CWI grants for joint district projects targeted at sediment and nutrient reduction if funds are available.
 - Work with ISDA-DSC, IASWCD, and local districts to Increase in the number of cooperative conservation projects with non-governmental organization and private industry.
 - Continue to support the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI).
 - Explore opportunities to work with Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs) and private sector to help promote agronomic conservation practices and technologies.
 - Provide opportunities for division employees to increase their proficiency and assistance in promoting agronomic conservation practices and technologies.
- **By 2015 SWCD's with limited resources are actively pursuing the benefits of and opportunities to consolidate.**

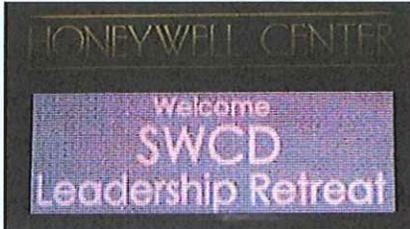
- Provide education to districts regarding benefits and opportunities of merging.
- Provide special CWI incentive grants to limited resource districts that are willing to merge to increase program capacity and effectiveness. Consider offering an incentive of two times the current state match for each of the merged districts for first year and then 1 ½ times the combined matching grant each year thereafter if funds are available.
- **By 2015 annually increase federal leveraged funds by an average of 5% per year for conservation implementation in the state**
 - Continue to commit state matching dollars for CREP from CWI funds.
 - Continue to work with the partners to leverage federal funding from all federal sources.
 - Work with our partners to develop a strategic plan to expand CREP to other areas of the state.
 - Work with the ICP and other traditional and non-traditional partners to enroll 26,250 acres into CREP.
- **Key actions for 2010 to make progress in implementing each the goals.**
 - Continue to solidify partnership.
 - Make a concerted effort to help IDEM and DNR become fully vested partners in the ICP.
 - Met with top leadership of ISDA and other state government officials as appropriate to discuss district needs and Clean water Indiana funding.
 - Support the division in filling critical vacant positions that impact district assistance.
 - Initiate discussions with IDEM and ISDH about septic issues.
 - Continue to help resolve the role of districts in the implementation of Rule 5.
 - Continue to improve communication with districts by occasionally holding board meeting out in the regions areas of the state and by the use of the ISDA-DSC websites, partner newsletters, webinars, etc.
 - Pursue opportunities to meet with other state and local government organizations and agencies and others dealing with soil and water issues.
- **Desired Outcomes for the State Soil Conservation Board Business Plan**
 - Clean drinking water
 - Clean rivers, lakes and streams
 - More productive soils
 - Enhanced quality of life
 - Increased cooperation with partnership
 - Improved soil and water quality
 - Districts have increased capacity to deliver conservation programs locally
 - Stronger state economy
 - Expanded partnerships and conservation partners

Leadership Institute Report

January 11, 2010

Presented to the State Soil Conservation Board

Five Workshops Held Statewide in 2009



In 2009, five Leadership Institute workshops were held statewide. This included one Leadership in Change (Indianapolis), two Communication (Monticello & Columbus), one Board Development (Nashville), and one Impacting Community (Wabash) workshops in the Cornerstones of Leadership series. (Due to lack of participation, one Communication and one Board Development workshop were cancelled.) Overall attendance for these workshops was 142. A summary of these workshops follows.

Leadership in Change (Indianapolis), two Communication (Monticello & Columbus), one Board Development (Nashville), and one Impacting Community (Wabash) workshops in the Cornerstones of Leadership series. (Due to lack of participation, one Communication and one Board Development workshop were cancelled.) Overall attendance for these workshops was 142. A summary of these workshops follows.

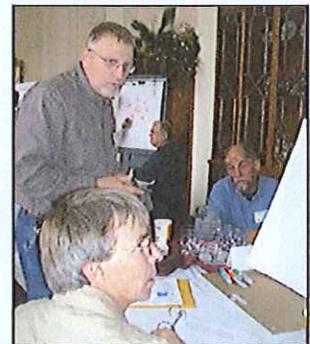
- Leadership in Change: 13 SWCD Supervisors, seven SWCD staff, and one Partner in attendance.
- Communication: 26 Supervisors, seven staff, and three Partners in attendance.
- Board Development: 23 Supervisors and Associate Supervisors, seven staff, three Partners, and two SWCD spouses were in attendance.
- Impacting Community: 29 Supervisors and Associate Supervisors, 13 staff, eight Partners, and one spouse were in attendance.

Evaluations from the workshops continue to show positive remarks from participants. 99% of respondents said the workshop was worth their time. When asked to rank the workshop on a scale of 1 meaning terrible to 10 meaning terrific, the Leadership in Change workshop and Columbus Communication workshop scores averaged nine, and the Monticello Communication, Board Development, and Impacting Community workshop scores averaged eight.

Special thanks to Purdue Extension's role as an active contributor and Partner for co-developing this program and providing the knowledge base for it, and to all the local individuals who've helped make these workshops a success.

"These workshops are training for supervisors which will result in more effective boards. It also allows for interaction with other Supervisors in other counties. I learned helpful ideas from other county's staff and supervisors." - Jan Ivkovich, St. Joseph Co SWCD Supervisor, Board Development participant

"Stimulating classes where you refresh your skills and learn new ones. Also the opportunity to learn more from your peers." - Impacting Community participant testimonial

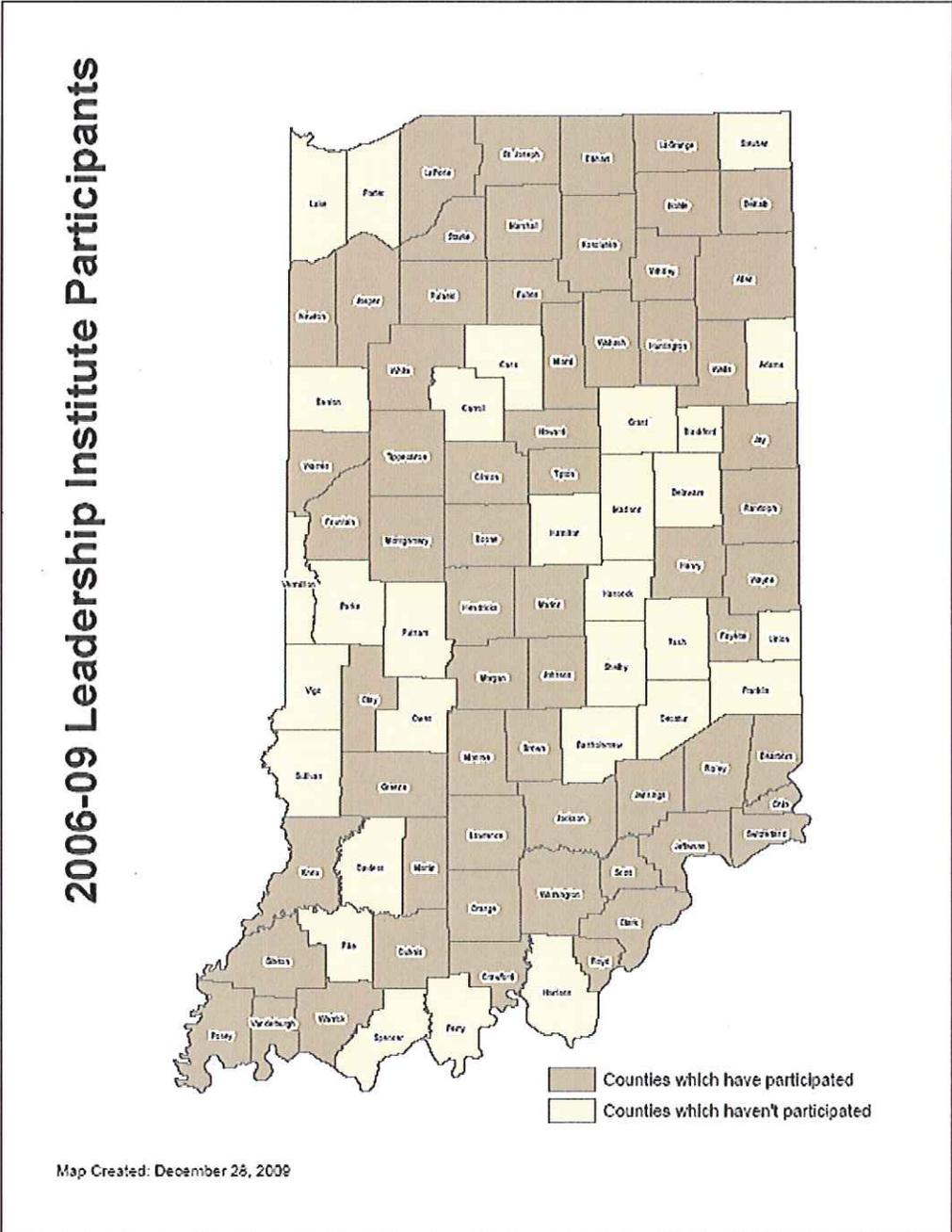


"The Leadership in Communication workshop is an excellent way to sharpen your skills to help you as a supervisor and life in general. Janet Ayres is an excellent presenter. I recommend it to everyone." –Brad Dawson, Dearborn Co SWCD Supervisor

"The role play scenarios are good to prepare you for responses and plans when this occasion actually exists. Thanks." – Ed Paxson, Jay Co SWCD Supervisor, Communication participant

62 SWCDs Have Participated in the Institute Since Inception

In September 2006, a pilot workshop cementing the Leadership Institute workshop series took place. Since then, 12 workshops have been held. 62 counties have sent SWCD Supervisors, Associate Supervisors, Staff, and spouses to these workshops. IASWCD, ISDA, NRCS, and the SSCB have also sent personnel. SWCDs that have attended at least one workshop are depicted in this map.





28 Participants Complete the Cornerstones of Leadership Series

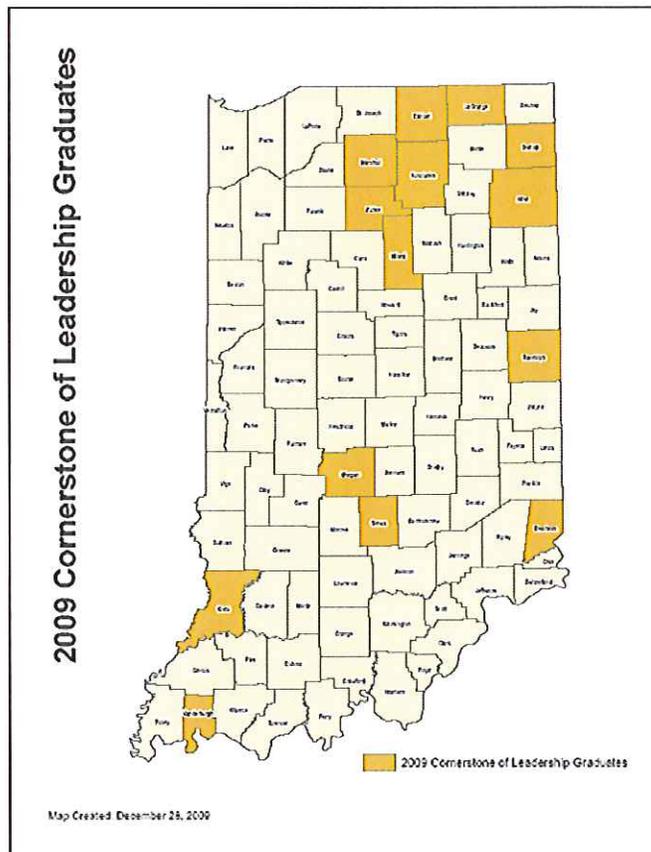
After the December 2009 Impacting Community workshop, 28 individuals have completed the four workshops of the Cornerstones of Leadership program. They will be recognized at the 2010 IASWCD Annual Conference Awards Banquet. This group includes:

- SWCD Supervisors: Bonnie Closey (Brown Co), Brad Dawson (Dearborn Co), Steve Provines & Judy Strock (DeKalb Co), Brian Campbell (Elkhart Co), Michael Norman (Fulton Co), Peter Cook, Mike Holcomb & R.D. Wolheter (LaGrange Co), Jerry Miller (Miami Co), Emma Alkire, Lou Feagans & Warren Waymire (Morgan Co), Sam Farrington (Randolph Co), and Davie Sue Wallace-Litov (Vanderburgh Co)
- SWCD Associate Supervisor: Ray Chattin (Knox Co)
- SWCD Staff: Greg Lake (Allen Co), Al-

- Partners: Jennifer Boyle-Warner (IASWCD), Laura Fribley, Jim Lake & Nathan Stoelting (ISDA), and Dr. Janet Ayres (Instructor, Purdue University)
- SWCD Spouse: John

Bittner (Vanderburgh Co) 96% of respondents stated their overall reaction to the program was “very favorable” or “favorable”, and 100% said the program met their expectations. Overall, respondents ranked the series a nine out of 10! Congratulations to these individuals, and we thank you for your leadership and dedication to your community!

“[I learned the] importance of building relationships, listening to others, and working through solutions collaboratively.”
—Cornerstone of Leadership series finisher



"This workshop is an excellent avenue for honing your communication skills. It is definitely worth the time it takes to attend."

–Larry Strole,
Newton Co SWCD
Supervisor,
Communication
participant



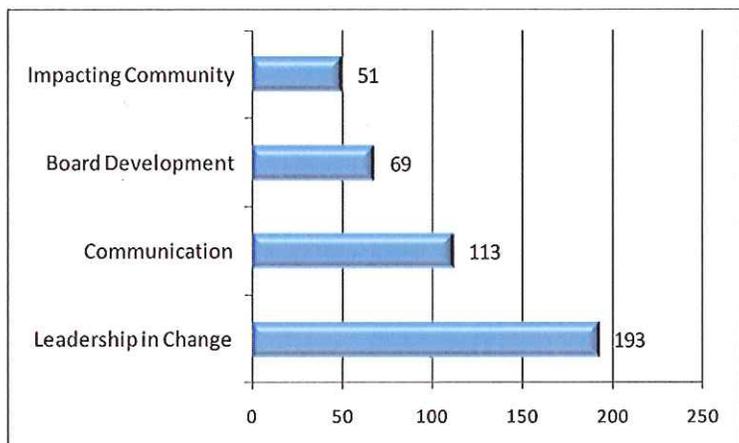
Feedback from 2009 Workshop Evaluations: Common Themes

These were common facets participants “liked the most” about the 2009 workshops: networking between SWCDs, interaction with others, group discussion, learning or improving skills and strategies, ways to move the SWCD ahead, exchanging ideas, ways to get more involved in the community, a motivational atmosphere, and Janet Ayres

These were common facets participants “liked the least” about the 2009 workshops: giving up a Saturday to attend, not enough time to cover issues, travel distance, time commitment required, more time needed to learn new tools, not enough time given for group discussions, and the frustration more Supervisors weren’t present

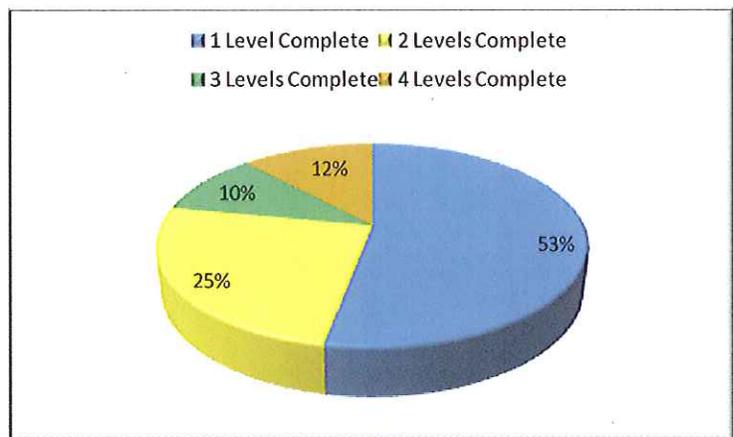
Attendance at Leadership Institute Workshops 2006-2009

To date, 12 Leadership Institute workshops have been held. This bar graph shows attendance at each of the four workshop levels.



Program Participant Completion Levels 2006-2009

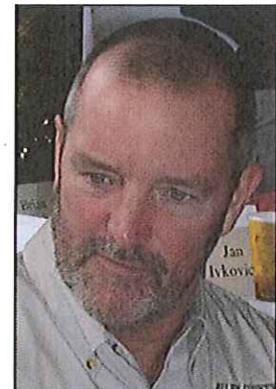
Since 2006, the Leadership Institute program has trained 236 individuals. The pie chart to the right depicts how many workshop levels these individuals have completed.





Next Steps

- Four workshops will be held state-wide in 2010 (one per quadrant of the state). One of each level will be offered. Local advisory committees will assist with workshop logistics.
- The Leadership Institute committee will meet in late January to further discuss topics including identifying additional workshop instructors to partner with Janet in 2010, potential future adjustments to the program, and other trainings that may be developed based on discussions during or resulting from the trainings.
- SWCDs who haven't participated in the Leadership Institute program yet are particularly encouraged to attend in 2010. By year's end, at least 10 more of these SWCDs will ideally have attended one or more of the workshops.



2010 Leadership Institute Tentative Locations and Dates

Leadership in Change: June 25-26, West Lafayette. Evening activity: TBA

Key topics: dealing with change in your SWCD, understanding yourself and others through the Myers Briggs Personality Type Indicator, how you can best serve your organization, & matching your skills and abilities with your position and responsibilities

Communication: March 12-13, Bloomington. Evening activity: Oliver Winery

Key topics: building relationships with others, influencing others, listening to understand others, & speaking your message clearly

Board Development: September 10-11, Honeywell Center, Wabash. Evening activity: TBA

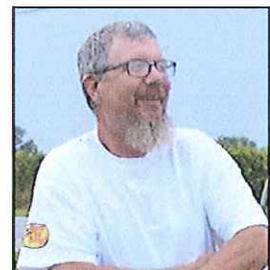
Key topics: understanding group problem solving and decision-making, supervisor recruitment and retention, understanding group dynamics, & better meeting management

Impacting Community: December 3-4, Clifty Falls State Park, Madison. Evening activity: Nights Before Christmas Candlelight Tour of Homes

Key topics: strategic planning, community partnership building, managing a community level project, & securing resources

"I feel this workshop was very helpful to new supervisors. Also would be refreshing for seasoned supervisors." –Dale

Thomas, Wells Co
SWCD Supervisor,
Leadership in
Change participant



Budget Report: Leadership Institute Account, HHH RC&D

Income from 2008 Leadership Institute Workshops

Purdue	\$	7,976.41
Clarksville	\$	4,716.54
Muncie	\$	1,618.90
Fort Wayne	\$	5,348.65
New Harmony	\$	5,439.97
SUBTOTAL	\$	25,100.47

Expense from 2008 Leadership Institute Workshops

Purdue	\$	5,713.52
Clarksville	\$	3,774.77
Muncie	\$	1,625.00
Fort Wayne	\$	4,961.69
New Harmony	\$	3,187.07
Supplies (binders)	\$	3,365.98
SUBTOTAL	\$	22,628.03
TOTAL 2008 FUNDS REMAINING	\$	2,472.44

Income from 2009 Leadership Institute Workshops

Indianapolis	\$	2,834.75
Monticello	\$	3,047.31
Columbus	\$	2,382.75
Portland	\$	715.00
Nashville	\$	4,331.18
Indianapolis - 1 day	\$	618.90
Wabash	\$	6,183.05
SUBTOTAL	\$	20,112.94

Expense from 2009 Leadership Institute Workshops

Indianapolis	\$	2,628.04
Monticello	\$	2,386.86
Columbus	\$	1,942.89
Portland	\$	715.00
Nashville	\$	2,696.79
Indianapolis - 1 day	\$	625.00
Wabash	\$	4,371.78
Supplies (annual conference)	\$	235.00
SUBTOTAL	\$	15,601.36
TOTAL 2009 FUNDS REMAINING	\$	4,511.58

Total Funds Remaining in Leadership Institute Account

2008	\$	2,474.44
2009	\$	4,511.58
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$	6,986.02

IDEM REPORT, WATERSHED PLANNING BRANCH

STORM WATER PROGRAM (2009 NOVEMBER & DECEMBER ACTIVITIES)

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

- **INDOT Initiative Update:** IDEM will participate in INDOT Construction Forums to present information on construction site erosion and sediment control. These are tentatively scheduled for end of February through March.
- **INDOT Design Staff Training:** Staff conducted two sessions for INDOT design staff regarding plan development. The sessions were interactive and required participants to evaluate existing plans. IDEM staff critiqued the review and comments of INDOT staff and then opened the session up for discussion.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND INITIATIVES:

- **New database and online submittal of Notice of Intent** development continues. IDEM is currently addressing requirements of EPA to accept electronic signatures.
- **Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELG):** EPA rules have been published that establish ELG for active construction sites. The parameter being monitored would be related to turbidity levels that are associated with run-off from active construction sites. Internally, staff is reviewing the requirements and the mechanisms that would be required to administer ELG, including the process for Rule revisions.
- **EnviroCert Inc:** this international organization is developing a certification program for MS4 Operators. IDEM is participating in this national committee. The roll out of the certification is scheduled for the first of February.

PROGRAM UPDATE:

- **MS4 Audits:**
To date, 85 audits (includes MS4 and those that are co-permitted) have been completed for the Public Education, Public Involvement, and Good Housekeeping Minimum Control Measures.

The Storm Water Specialists have completed 65 audits of the Construction Run-Off Minimum Control Measure. There are 189 MS4 entities and 143 permits to account for those MS4s that are co-permitted.

RULE 6 PROGRAM UPDATE:

- Currently there are 3,231 permits associated with Industrial Operations exposed to storm water.
- Compliance:
 - Inspections: 7
 - Violation Letters: 1
 - Enforcement Referrals: 1

RULE 5 PROGRAM UPDATE:

- Compliance:
 - Inspections: 42
 - Violation Letters: 1
 - Enforcement Referrals: 0

NPS/TMDL

- 3 Watershed Coordinator Networking sessions on the topic of hydro-modification and its impact on flooding and water quality were held in December. The sessions were well-attended and received very positive feedback. These sessions have prompted further dialogue and action for 2010 centered on managed drainage, floodplain and wetland restoration opportunities, two-stage ditches and natural stream restoration.
- Comment and rejection letters for 2010 319 funds will likely be sent out in mid January.
- The NPS/TMDL program has been working with IDEM's Media and Communication Services office to completely face—lift the current website. New tools, resources, and information will be the focus of the project, with an overall goal of IDEM helping our partners communicate and understand water quality in Indiana. Tentatively, we are targeting a full go-live release before Earth Day.
- The comment period for the 303d List 2010 Draft closes January 26, 2010. A presentation was made to the Water Pollution Control Board on the draft list in December. At that meeting, both the Board and commenters in the audience expressed concern over bacteria loadings from agriculture and the efficacy of current regulatory and non-regulatory programs to address this source of pollution.

If the District does not receive the CWI grant monies (that were applied for this fall), how does that impact your District?

Hamilton SWCD

The funds were to be used for supervisor training, conservation outreach, announcing our new office location and cost share for urban practices. These funds would enhance our annual program and allow us to advertise the programs. Two programs that probably wouldn't happen would be a tree sale and advertising our new office space.

Wayne SWCD

If the CWI monies would not be approved, this would affect our septic system/well water testing and recycling workshop being planned. Also leadership training for supervisors & staff - With two new supervisors in 2010 it is important we continue to make training accessible not only to supervisors but to staff to better serve and provide good leadership in our county and the implementation of our business plan.

Pike SWCD

Pike County planned to use their CWI money to help start our first ever newsletter published by the SWCD for our county. This newsletter was going to help tell the county what the SWCD along with our partner, the NRCS, has to offer along with the who, what, when and where that's found in every newsletter. Not only were we going to start a newsletter but we were also going to get informational brochures made to place in our agricultural businesses in our county, install welcome signs at all major roads entering/exiting our county, and possibly advertise on a billboard along a new route of the new 169 if time and money allow.

White SWCD

If we do not receive the grant we applied for, we will still do part of our storm drain marking project but probably not the cover crop incentive project.

Marion SWCD

All districts have been hard hit by reductions in funding from most levels. In our case we were hoping to use this year's CWI grant approved for \$7,000 to match with other potential sources of funding for procurement of an urban conservationist position to directly help landowners with backyard conservation needs as well as improved stormwater management issues (particularly rain gardens and rain barrels issues) to actually enhance and expand our existing program. We also hoped to improve our educational outreach efforts with groups wanting more information on these topics. These are needed activities particularly in light of the new NRCS emphasis on helping improving water quality issues in the Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI). Other potential sources of funds were asking us to provide some match money of our own, which the CWI grant would have done. Without the \$7,000 grant match, our new desired expanded efforts appear to be on hold again for at least another year.

Vanderburgh SWCD

1. We have two Quad-County workshops set up with most of the speakers committed already for the CWI Grant 2010.
2. We are doing a rebate program on Rain Gardens, Rain Barrels, Native Plantings to help the urban flooding problem in Vanderburgh County, rain garden demonstration spots in strategic spots like the University of Southern Indiana, ECHO Housing, etc., bringing in a Farm Life Exhibit at Angel Mounds, Invasive Species Conference at the University of Evansville with national speaker Doug Tallamy, partnered with Mesker Zoo, USI to put a rain garden at the entrance of the Mesker Zoo Botanical Gardens with signage. We also have plans to hire a Purdue intern this summer to do water monitoring.

Miami SWCD

We were in hopes of using it to hire another part-time technical assistant - a retired NRCS engineer. He would provide valuable assistance to our district conservationist. We anticipate another \$1 million in CRP and EQIP contracts in 2010 so our workload will be great. AND, we do not know yet what type of workload the new watershed programs will bring to our county but we have both the Eel and Wabash River watersheds so we know it will impact us somehow.

Allen SWCD

The Allen District requested \$7,000 to further its opportunity to strengthen its effectiveness through increased Supervisor training (\$1,000) and enhanced education / outreach (\$6,000).

The District has already felt the impact of the pullback of funding on our education/outreach efforts. We were looking forward to the opportunity to improve the District's outreach effectiveness by updating our tradeshow display unit. Over the next 90 days the District will participate in three tradeshow events that will draw well over 65,000 visitors, undoubtedly the District's greatest exposure for the year. Delivering assistance to local landowners and producers is a vital role for Districts but we must first make them aware of our programs, thus the need for effective and professional looking exhibits.

Scott SWCD

If we did not receive the CWI \$7000 grant money we would be unable to purchase the new lime spreader we had planned for 2010. This equipment would be used to rent to producers as well as affect soil quality. The long term financial impact is a loss of sustainability to the District as we search for more ways to financially stand alone. The long term environmental impact is the ability of farmers to improve their soil quality. The point of the lime spreader was to offer a way for farmers to treat small areas on their own as the local fertilizer company prefers to spread only large areas. Without the availability of a small spreader, farmers will continue to neglect small areas or only apply lime when they can do the 'whole' farm. Another impact from the loss of this grant would be our ability to send staff and Supervisors to Annual Conference. It was our intent to use this money to subsidize those costs.

Franklin SWCD

If the District doesn't receive the CWI funds that they applied for then the District won't be able to do

cost-share programs with the land owners in the county. There are things that NRCS and FSA don't cost-share on and these are the things that the Districts need to pick up to help with soil erosion and water quality.

Martin SWCD

If we do not receive the CWI grant funds we would not be able to partner with Daviess Co. on the Grass Drill upgrade. Martin Co. uses their share of the rent from the drill for newsletters, farm fair, Ag Day etc.

Owen SWCD

Owen SWCD relies upon CWI grants to provide cost-share opportunities for local land users to implement conservation projects that accomplish our sediment and nutrient reduction goals. The cost-share we provide is frequently the only assistance these farmers receive. We have also planned a huge public service announcement educational campaign that includes a partnership between Owen, Greene, Putnam and Monroe counties. These counties also joined together to apply for a grant from the Temper of the Times Foundation and we were hoping to use CWI grant as matching funds.

Hendricks SWCD

If we did not get the CWI grant monies, we could not have the rye grass program. That would mean several acres of land that would not be protected for the winter.

Washington SWCD

Without the CWI money that we applied for recently, we'll not be able to provide the grid sampling program we wanted to offer. Also, without receiving any additional funds the SWCD will not be able to provide any cost share to landowners to do conservation practices in 2010. With EQIP allowing larger cost share percentages in 2010 this will mean less people getting to participate in EQIP. It would be nice if the SWCD could continue to provide services.

Daviess SWCD

The Daviess County SWCD prides itself on being able to provide services that allow producers to directly implement conservation practices. Since 1999, the Daviess County SWCD has provided a no-till grass drill which has been used to establish over 5,000 acres of cool season grass, native warm season grasses, and forbs. This service accounts for about 500 acres a year of improved grasses, wildlife habitat, and establishment of new grass acreage. New or improved forages accomplish many different goals set forth by the district. It reduces soil erosion, improves water quality, pasture and hay land, and wildlife habitat. The CWI money applied for this fall will allow the district to improve and continue its service to producers in Daviess County. This grant will benefit any producer that chooses to work through the district, and is an investment that the district can utilize for many years to come. Without the grant, service falters, and it reduces the services that the district can provide to producers.

Wabash SWCD

If our District does not receive the CWI grant monies we will not be able to hold half of the adult educational meetings or be able to offer cost-share incentives for cover crops which has greatly reduced erosion and runoff, while building soil quality which is one of Wabash County's and our State's Critical

Natural Resource issues. With past CWI cost share grant we were able to increase cover crop usage by 3,659 acres and no-till farming by 4,159 acres. Both of these best management practices support improving soil quality. In addition, we would not be able to market the district at a higher level or be able to provide continued development for our supervisors.

Warren SWCD

If our district does not receive the CWI grants monies we will need to cancel or severely cut our workshop on cover crops, discontinue sending updates on conservation to our customers, severely cut back on promoting conservation programs and cut back on conservation programs in the schools.

LaGrange SWCD

Most of the new CWI monies that were applied for were to be used to add additional hours to our part time Clearinghouse Coordinator, which was funded part time by the county for 2010. The individual currently working for us needs those additional hours or we will lose her, since she will have to find something to make some additional money. It will put us back to square one having to advertise and interview for a new person, and then going through the training. We do not want to or have the time to do that.

Lake SWCD

If need be and we don't get the CWI Grants we applied for this fall with matching grant dollars, this is where we would want the cut to happen. With the entire budget cut matching funding may be hard to come by. We could live without this fall grant; one of the items we asked for was for Technical assistance for NRCS but that was supposed to be matched with Coastal Grant money. That also could be eliminated if we do not get the matching money from the coastal program. If we knew the state budget would be cut we would not have requested the dollars for the grants we applied for this fall.

Cass SWCD

Cass County SWCD has very limited funds. They had wanted to hold three educational conservation workshops this next year. We were counting on the \$7,000 to purchase educational hand-outs for these functions.

Crawford SWCD

If the CWI grant monies are not received then they will not be any cost share programs for pasture planting.

Tippecanoe SWCD

Regarding the loss of CWI grant monies, I have already entered into an agreement with the Engineering Departments of both Lafayette and West Lafayette. We were all contributing funds to initiate an Urban Water Conservation Cost-Share Program. I was putting in money from the grant and from the SWCD.

Shelby SWCD

This past year we were able to assist many Shelby County landowners in installing conservation practices

on their land that otherwise would not have been installed without the assistance of CWI funds. This year we applied and were accepted for \$7000.00 CWI grant which we planned on using towards cost-share and district development.

Steuben SWCD

If the District does not receive the CWI grant monies, this would greatly slow down our progress in applying conservation on the land and educating the public in the importance of conservation. We have used the CWI grant funds in the past to implement both agricultural and urban BMP's such as cover crops and rain gardens and pervious concrete. We would not have been able to fund these BMP's through other means, so this enabled us to reach landowners we would not have normally been able to work with. We have also been able to educate the public by holding workshops and distributing brochures on conservation practices, such as the two-stage ditch. Our supervisors and staff have also benefited from this grant because some of the grant money was made available for training, and we have attended educational sessions through this funding.

Porter SWCD

The Porter County SWCD was looking forward to offering a program on Best Management Practices beginning in the new year. A lot of groundwork and time was already devoted to promotion and research. Now a much needed program is on hold.

Spencer SWCD

Grant monies for this fall were going to be used for technical assistance in promoting Heavy Use Area Feeding Pads.

Dubois SWCD

Dubois Co. SWCD applied for CWI funds for incentive payments for cover crop planting by people who had not traditionally planted cover crops. This incentive program was to have been offered in tandem with a cover crop field day. The SWCD has already established a partnership to do the field day, and planned to match the CWI funds for the incentive payments. Without the CWI funds, the incentive program will be greatly reduced, if not cancelled altogether by the Supervisors. No decision about the field day has been made yet.

Decatur SWCD

We're using the CWI grant money for staffing a watershed technician in our office in conjunction with Bartholomew County. So not getting the grant money means the person is out of a job come April when her contract is up.

Newton SWCD

If our district does not receive our CWI monies we applied for 2010---it will be very difficult. We have started a surface water testing program to go out and test our ditches and rivers in our county. We are now a 1 person office and it will be extremely difficult to leave the office unmanned all the time to go out and accomplish this. Newton County is also to get wind turbines this year. I do the Rule 5

approvals. We are the point of contact in our county to make sure that the NRCS and FSA programs (such as waterways, filter strips) are not disturbed or put back in original condition if there is construction in those areas. I will be out of the office a lot checking the construction daily. If we do not do this, we could have TERRIBLE erosion in our county. We just purchased testing equipment and are VERY excited about providing our county with data regarding are water. We have also been getting a lot of well tested in our county which provides excellent data.

Huntington SWCD

If we do not receive grant monies for the CWI grant 2010 we will have to eliminate cost share for the conservation program we are promoting to landowners. It will also affect attendance at training programs encouraged by the ISDA and IASWCD, as these funds help the district to cover costs where local funding has been cut.

Jasper SWCD

Not receiving the CWI grant monies would mean a 50%+ cut in our SWCD programs. For example, our well plugging cost share, cover crop incentive, Arbor day event, tree planting incentives, field days, and conservation education materials that are made available to the public would no longer exist. Less conservation would be implemented in Jasper County.

St. Joseph SWCD

The St. Joseph County SWCD was planning on spending the CWI grant monies in a variety of ways. The producer meeting, backyard conservation meeting and environmental film screening are not big expenses and the district may still be able to provide these services. Another larger component was a monthly newsletter that would focus on one conservation subject and be both a paper and email newsletter. This cost cannot be picked up by the district. The other large component of the CWI grant was a cost share program for people that qualified but were not funded by EQIP, this program will be lost as well. This cost share will be our biggest loss.

Parke SWCD

If the District does not receive the CWI grant monies there probably will not be any assistance to landowners for conservation projects or marketing/outreach. In the case of this year's grant, it was requested for outreach/marketing the District name in the county by replacing the old decaying county entrance signs and publishing a newsletter to all landowners/operators and creating a website to market the SWCD since that seems the way most landowners get their information in this technical world. In 2008-09, the District cost-shared over \$7,200.00 with landowners on Heavy Use Protection Areas. With the ECAP funding, the District cost-shared almost \$32,000 with landowners spending over \$98,260 on projects.

Clinton SWCD

Over 40% of Indiana's 13.5 million acres have sufficient slope to be seriously damaged by erosion if not adequately protected. Erosion of valued cropland results in lower crop yields and increased sedimentation and nutrient loading in our rivers and streams. The Clinton County Soil and Water

Conservation District seeks to offer a cost-share program to increase the use of cover crops by providing educational, technical and cost-share assistance. In addition, two field days to promote no-till farming and cover crops are being planned. These programs are to be funded by Clean Water Indiana approved grant proposals.

The District requested \$5,000.00 for the cover crop cost-share program and an additional \$3,000.00 cash match was committed from other sources. An additional \$2,000.00 in-kind was pledged for this cost-share program. These additional funds would be forfeited and the potential to reduce erosion and nutrient loading in our rivers and streams will be lost. The major watersheds in Clinton County are the Sugar Creek and the S. Fork Wildcat. The S. Fork Wildcat is listed as one of Indiana's State Scenic Rivers, a State Heritage Program Site, and a designated Canoe Trail. In order to preserve Indiana's designations it is the Districts' goal to address the current water quality impairments and to plan for the future. As a largely rural community it is imperative that we provide these types of cost-share programs to reduce sedimentation and not having a dedicated funding source seriously impedes our ability to make a difference.

Five Soil and Water Conservation Districts have partnered the past three years to host a no-till and cover crop field day. Attendance has averaged 100-125. These field days promote the latest technology to agriculture producers who then incorporate the practices into their operations. No-till farming and cover crops improve soil quality; reduce erosion/sedimentation and nutrient loading. Speakers have committed, a site has been booked and many hours of planning have occurred. This partnering effort has led to being able to offer a quality event with a streamlined budget. A consistent message is being delivered to the farming community. The headway that has been made will be lost in both a consistent message and the relationships that Districts are building with the farming community.

If the District does not receive its \$10,000 CWI match, how would this impact the District?

Hamilton SWCD

The \$10,000 state match is part of our annual budget. We use these funds for supervisor training, per diem, conservation outreach and the annual meeting. We can handle a reduction but removing these funds will hurt the program. Education programs will be reduced or eliminated to cover the shortfall.

I think the biggest hit is the State being removed as a partner in soil and water conservation. Districts try hard to meet the requirements of the District Act but the State of Indiana provides little support and removing the current funding would only strengthen that view. I think a reduction of the \$10,000 State grant is reasonable as all other State Agencies have been asked to cut back but don't remove the full amount.

Wayne SWCD

If our \$10,000 was cut it would affect the position of our conservation educator. We "partner" with three other entities to support this position. The total \$10,000 goes to this position. This would have a

double negative affect - not only would lose this position but also many education programs put on by our educator.

White SWCD

If we do not receive the \$10,000 match, we will possibly have to let our part-time person go and drop our Outdoor Education Grants.

Floyd SWCD

As for the \$10,000 grant we most definitely use that for several different programs. One main program we use it for is to host our Annual Farm Days program. We work with Farm Bureau and the Extension office to put on this event and it is a part of the school curriculum. All of the 4th grade students in Floyd County attend this event (both public & private schools). Without these funds, the program could be in jeopardy. We also use the grant to put on other various workshops and programs such as our wildlife plot seed program. We use the grant to purchase office equipment, supplement part of our dues and supervisor per diem. As you know County Budgets have been cut and/or frozen so all counties will continue to need the \$10,000 grant now more than ever. Without the grant SWCD's could face great difficulties in carrying their programs.

Miami SWCD

We are a high work load county and have only one full time district employee and one district conservationist. Over the years, we have relied on this money to hire part time help such as our part-time administrative person and our part time technical assistant. We utilize this extra help for education, office administration and technical assistance. We also use the money to supplement county money to purchase computers, copiers and technical equipment. (We just had to purchase a new district computer and we are in the process of having to lease a new copier as ours is over 12 years old and we can no longer get parts) There is no county money for these items. We also use the money for training. We cannot fully operate on money we receive from county appropriations and we make wise use of this \$10,000. We make it spread over a wide area to help us fulfill our mission. Without the \$10,000 we would have to curtail many programs including education - both youth and adult, and our assistance to farmers would be drastically reduced. I hope this information will help you. If I had to choose only one funding opportunity for our district, I guess I would have to say, please keep our \$10,000. That money is greatly needed and it would be hard to function without it. That money is a staple for us along with our county appropriations.

Allen SWCD

An even bigger impact to the District will be the loss of the \$10,000 CWI Match. In a year when local financial support through the county appears to be in jeopardy, the state cutback will be especially difficult to overcome. For some Districts, this may be insurmountable. We count on the state funds, just like county funds, to serve as match for federal and NGO grants. Remove the state and local support and you curtail our ability to secure federal and or private grants. In the end the state and local economies lose out because of the lost revenue coming into the region.

Jackson SWCD

Per Jackson County if the District does not receive the \$10,000 matching, all outside programs (education-both adult and student, field days, travel, partner involvement as to outside meetings and such, etc) will cease.

Scott SWCD

If we did not receive the CWI \$10,000 match money, we would be severely crippled in our ability to serve this community. That money is integral to the programs we consistently and successfully implement through our District. Besides the direct financial impact, the loss of the match money could hurt the Districts credibility with their County governments. It could put County contributions in jeopardy if the County legislators learn that the State will not be giving the match. Please do not let this happen. Without the match money, not only would we lose our ability to pay State and National dues, but more importantly we would lose the resources necessary to make a positive impact on the future of soil and water conservation in Scott County.

Franklin SWCD

Our District has had its appropriations cut completely by the county and if we don't get appropriations from the state we will need to close our door because what the District earns from selling fish and plat books and renting of the two drills won't bring in enough funds to support the District.

Delaware/Blackford SWCDs

Since we operate on a shoestring for staff anyway (we are down to one person now, doing two jobs), this could be devastating. We were counting on the CWI funds to pay part of my salary so I could at least go back to full-time. The county is making enormous cuts to survive and they aren't about to help any more than they currently do (we've tried for the last two years). The county pitches in \$23,000 per year for salary but that won't keep quality personnel. If the District is unable to pad that salary to an acceptable level, I'll have to look elsewhere for a job and they'll be back to just a secretary who mans the phones. If the Districts are to actually be effective, we need to be able to attract qualified personnel and offer educational opportunities for landowners and the general public.

Carroll SWCD

We receive about \$3000 to operate from the county. That is it. We generate some funds of our own through equipment rental, but lack of these funds will impact us GREATLY. We are a busy county with LOTS of environmental programming with the schools and other adult ed. programs. These would come to a standstill if this happens. We could withstand a CUT, but not to BE CUT.

Martin SWCD

If Martin Co. does not receive the \$10,000 match we would probably have to close the office at the end of 2010 if not before. The District would have to use any funds we now have to pay the remaining 2 yrs. of the contract with our District Technician, our LARE grant match and internet service. We would no longer be able to supply education to students through Farm Fair and adults through Ag Day and newsletters. The District would no longer be able to pay National, State and local dues. We would not

have the funds to hold an Annual Meeting or Elections due to lack of supplies, postage, internet service etc. The District would no longer be able to apply for grants due to lack of matching funds. There would be no where to send Rule 5(IDEM) applications in the County.

Knox SWCD

Losing CWI monies would hurt because we were hoping to use the funds to fill a new staff position. It won't be the end of the world if we don't get CWI money since we are pretty well funded by the county council, but it will affect our ability to offer additional services to our community.

Marion SWCD

As a subdivision of state government, all local districts have continued to have reductions in funding from all past sources of funding. Current existing funding levels from the State to help SWCD's with basic operational costs have been Spartan to say the least. All districts continue to deal with increase costs to do the same programs they did in the past year. As part of state government, we should at minimum receive some basic funding to cover our basic operational needs. Now state audits, when done, have fairly high costs. Particularly those districts that have had NRCS pull out of the county and had its needs handled from an adjoining county, have been hard hit. Most Districts have had to find additional funding sources to help them cover the cost of office space. And in our case we have had to pick up around \$30,000 extra costs for complete office rental, utility costs, computers, internet access, and computer information technology support. Meanwhile we are also facing local government asking us to find ways to reduce our budget needs, or at least not provide any cost of living increased support for the district, because they have had declining revenue as well. We have had a level budget support for at least the last six years from local government. Every source of funding lost (i.e. \$10,000) means we have to find replacement funding or reduce services to landowners. Costs go up every year for additional cost of living expenses, but districts are receiving less. Districts are losing their basic core support to cover normal operating expenses. \$10,000 does not cover all these needs, but it is a step in the right direction. We need increased basic support funding to continue our basic program services from the state not less. Urban conservation needs are particularly hard hit, because we do not have any funding, such as Farm Bill, to assist in our efforts.

Ripley SWCD

The other CWI funds (i.e. the \$10,000) we depend on rather heavily. In the past we have used this for such things as cost share programs and equipment but just recently we have given that money to the county to supplement the salaries of our two positions. Without this money we may lose partial salary funding or even lose employees totally in the future. In our county both SWCD positions work closely with the DC to help the federal programs but if this funding is cut that help may also be cut. All in all that \$10,000 is essential and very much appreciated.

Owen SWCD

Owen SWCD is not co-located in a USDA Service Center due to the closing of the USDA office here some years ago. Since that time the SWCD has independently maintained an office in Owen County. We utilize a good portion of the CWI matching funds for office rent, technology, communication, and supply

expenses. While we do receive support from our county budget as to salary most of our office expenses are subsidized from CWI funds. In addition we use CWI funding to maintain our IASWCD and NACD annual dues.

Hendricks SWCD

If we don't get the \$10,000.00, we could not pay Jessica Norcross's salary. We would not have the money to pay the state and IASWCD dues. It would be devastating.

Washington SWCD

Without the \$10,000 the SWCD would be strapped greatly. With paying rent, office supplies, truck cost, education supplies, annual meeting cost things would really change for the SWCD. Our county only provides \$3,000 towards the operation of the SWCD. However, they do provide two employees which we have worked very hard to keep with all the county shortfalls. If we cut programs because we don't get CWI funds the County will see this and in turn possibly cut staff with the money problems that Lawrence County is having. If we can continue to show State support I think are chances of keeping staff and a SWCD existence in Lawrence County would be more likely.

Daviess SWCD

The Daviess County SWCD works hard toward a stated goal, improving soil and water quality as efficiently as possible. The CWI match helps the district to operate. Without the match, staff efficiency is significantly reduced. The match provides staff with working tools to maintain an efficient work environment, which in turn benefits everyone in the county. Improved soil and water quality, improved wildlife habitats, improved forages, and improved farming operations benefits all citizens in Daviess County. In order for the district to work towards stated goals in an efficient and meaningful manner, the CWI match is essential.

Wabash SWCD

If our District does not receive its \$10,000 CWI match, we would not be able to retain our technical engineer. In 2009 this technical engineer designed over 10 miles of waterways which covered 50.2 acres. He also designed 17 structures and 23 wascobs all of which support best management practices to help landowners help the land. Each dollar invested in Wabash County in 2009 had a return on the investment of \$76.12. In short, NOT receiving these monies would impact our District greatly. To expect landowners to be knowledgeable on best management practices we need to constantly educate them and inform them of new programs, opportunities, applications and information. Continued development of our landowners through educational workshops and field demonstrations is vital to the health and vitality of the soil and water in Wabash County. Providing prompt and accurate designs through technical support enables landowners to apply these best management practices on their ground in a timely fashion. We all live downstream from someone else and we need to be able to care for the land that we have been entrusted. Your funding helps make a positive impact on land in Wabash County.

Warren SWCD

If our district does not receive the \$10,000. CWI match we'd be in big trouble. There would be no workshops, no school programs, and no conservation newsletters to the customers. I'm not sure if any SWCD office would be able to survive without the CWI match. We would need to use our emergency savings until it ran out. We are just starting on a good run in this county; I would hate to see it stop now.

LaGrange SWCD

The \$10,000 would require us to cut some of our programming. Part of those funds are being used to fund an ICE student who is working part time and going to school part time. We would not have the money to continue that position, so would be short personnel again. Another portion of those funds go to pay our IASWCD and NACD membership. That is not anything that we ask the county for so we would not be able pay that membership. The remainder, which is about 45%, goes to fund youth education programs carried out at Par Gil Natural Resources Learning Center and adult education workshops. The education and outreach portion of our program is vitally important to maintain not only a visible presence with citizens, but with our county council and commissioners.

These funds are of vital importance to the LaGrange Co. SWCD to maintain the quality of program we have developed over an extended period of time. The county officials are looking to the SWCD to provide guidance in soil and water issues in the county and fund us accordingly. BUT - they do not always understand why more money is not sent to us from the state. If we lose personnel, it will impact the amount of assistance we can provide to NRCS. Programs will need to be cut, which will impact our primary goal of "conservation on the land". The SWCD is willing to do their part to help get through this economic crises, but some thought needs to be given as to where cuts are made.

Madison SWCD

We use our CWI monies for communication with the public in our county. Examples include Field Days and educational programs targeted at producers. We also use part of the money towards producing our newsletters to let the public know what kind of programs we have at the SWCD, as well as NRCS and FSA. By not receiving the CWI money, it will drastically change our approach to 2010. Typically, we partner with FSA, NRCS and Purdue Extension for most of our programs. We allot the money to put on these programs, so it will not only affect the SWCD, but the three other offices, as well. Without the money, I believe we will not hold our Field Day, which has become fairly popular in our county. We value our partnerships with these groups, and would definitely like to continue the partnership. Pretty much all our CWI money goes towards educating the public, specifically the farmers. Some of these programs are targeted at the farmers to allow them to participate in gaining Continuing Education Credits for lice

Lake SWCD

1. The SWCD does need the \$10,000 CWI Legislative Grant; we use this funding for operating expenses. And the \$10,000 is really important in 2010 because the county wanted us to cut our budget by 15% (\$16,799) but they allowed us a 10% budget cut which amounted to \$11,450. The \$10,000 was to pick up the reduction. Our employees have not had a raise in seven (7) years. We have also been told that

we may still need to make additional cuts in the spring of 2010. Which is what we hear and that may also ask for additional drastic cuts in budgets and even of county employees to the SWCD and CES.

Cass SWCD

If we do not receive our annual \$10,000.00 monies, that would be detrimental to the functions of the Cass Co. SWCD. We are in a Contribution Agreement with NRCS for engineering assistance. That \$10,000 pays the contractor until we get reimbursed from NRCS. It also pays for Annual Dues to NACD, IASWCD, RC&D, and other environmental organizations totaling \$4,030.00, which is almost half of the \$10,000. The rest of the \$10,000 helps with day-to day operations and a big help in holding the Annual Meeting.

Putnam SWCD

Putnam County will use the current CWI funding for Cover Crop cost share programs...thus with the funding cut the conservation does not potentially get on the ground causing loss of top soil and sedimentation in the county waterways. Also, the funding was to be used as match for our 319 grant of the Big Walnut watersheds through Boone, Hendricks and Putnam Counties. The total grant was for \$436,500 for 30 months...our portion of match tallies in at \$174,000 plus. Without the match the funding will be lost. The two grants are closely tied together for conservation efforts without the funds the conservation of cover crops does not get done and the match loss will decrease the amount of best management practices that can be put on the land to protect the water quality of the Big Walnut watersheds.

Crawford SWCD

The Crawford County SWCD only receives \$850.00 from the county so the \$10,000 is used for everything.

Brown SWCD

The Brown County Soil and Water Conservation District depends a great deal on grant funds and the \$10,000.00 legislative grant we receive from the State. We are a standalone district and have the support of the county for our office space. We of course pay out association dues and NACD dues with the legislative grant we receive. We feel these are important supporters of the districts.

As a standalone district, landowners in Brown County do not qualify for many of the NRCS cost-share programs. We are a mainly forested county, with a limited amount of agriculture of row crops and livestock. The district board began a mini-grant program several years ago where the board reviews applications from landowners with conservation needs on their land or educational programs that will enhance the education of youth and adults on natural resource needs and assets in our county. This mini-grant program has enabled the district to continue conservation on the land and to protect the natural resources. All of the BMP's that landowners have been able to incorporate into their conservation plans would not have happened without the funds we receive from the State of Indiana. With those financial resources, we have been able to make real strides to continue conservation on the land in a county that would otherwise be without programs for our landowners. Making landowners aware, helping them put BMP's on the ground and being here to make sure our natural resources are

conserved and understood as the important resources that they are involves many programs, field days and opportunities that we just could not do without grants and funding from the state.

Shelby SWCD

However, the lack of a \$10,000.00 CWI match would be very detrimental to the SWCD as well as the County as a whole. Shelby County uses this match to fund our educator position. Without this match the district cannot fund this position, which we believe is vital to our mission.

Steuben SWCD

If the District does not receive its \$10,000 CWI match, it would be detrimental to the basic function of our office. We use these funds to promote our projects through newsletters, etc. and also to hire contract services to assist in the office's basic function. Eliminating this funding would be equivalent to cutting off the right arm of our operation and our customer service would be greatly affected.

Wayne SWCD

The CWI \$10,000 match will impact the Wayne County SWCD's education outreach. My position (Conservation Education Coordinator), which is funded by 4 partnering groups (Wayne County SWCD, Richmond Sanitary District, Wayne & Union Solid Waste Management District, and Union County SWCD), would be affected as this funding helps to pay for Wayne County SWCD's portion of the position. I have a whole "laundry list" of activities, events, and other education and outreach items that I provide to the entities through this position that would be affected by the loss of this funding.

Porter SWCD

There's no doubt that our education program which serves over 10,000 students each year with free science programs would need to cut the number of students served, as we could not afford the materials needed for the programs. We use CWI funds to pay our rent. The county provides only a portion and will not increase this amount.

Spencer SWCD

The CWI 10,000 match would impact us greatly as this money is used to pay employee salaries.

Dubois SWCD

The SWCD utilizes the \$10,000 match as a match to other grant programs and is also used to leverage funds from the county officials. Without the match in place, the ability of the SWCD to leverage funds is greatly reduced if not eliminated.

Newton SWCD

If our district does not get its \$10,000 matching money, this will be devastating!!!! We use that money to get conservation out in our county and ALL of it will come to a screeching HALT! We use that money to help with well testing, well plugging, education via workshops for farmers and education in the classrooms to teach our kids....We will have NO MONEY to do our job. Our office would be open but we couldn't do anything ---it would stop ALL programs. That is VERY scary-- what would happen with our soil and water which are vital to our lives! All of our soil grows our food and our water we drink EVERY

day.....scary. We are able to do A LOT with the monies you provide us. We are VERY appreciative and hope that you realize the importance of this money. PLEASE help the world to have better soil and water!

Huntington SWCD

To not receive the \$10,000 CWI match will cut district operations greatly. These funds provide for training, workshops, cost share programs and additional hours for staff. The cost share programs provided through the district are stepping stones that allow landowners that are hesitant of new government programs to implement programs without long-term commitment. They can experiment on a small scale to try different conservation programs and see if they will work in their operation. In turn they see the value of the conservation practice and can continue on a larger scale through federal programs. The grant money is also used to pay for staff to be in the office full time and is available to assist landowners especially when District Conservationist is out of the office. It also allows staff more time to assist District Conservationist on program files, contract information, payments, wetland determinations and other program data inputted in the computer.

Districts have also been effected the last couple of years with rent costs to be located in the Service Center. Without the \$10,000 CWI matching funds many SWCDs will have no choice but to leave the Service Centers and will impact the working relationship with partner agencies.

County budget shortfalls from the state allocations have hit Districts through reduction in funds provided through the county government for operations. Funding from our county for our budget has been cut nearly \$3,000 since 2004 and has restricted services we had previously provided for conservation programs and workshops. The Districts are a vital tool for local level contacts with landowners in getting conservation projects on the ground and building awareness of the impact we have on our soil and water resources. We are the eyes and ears of our county on conservation assistance needs and seek funds to help address local concerns as well educate landowners about our natural resources. **Without local SWCDs, many communities will be looked over by state level officials.**

Jasper SWCD

Our Jasper SWCD staff and board would not be able to attend workshops, pay annual dues such as RC&D, NACD, IASWCD, and provide sponsorship of local 4-H and FFA events. Plus, in recent years county budgets have been shrinking, which means that \$10,000 is even more critical to our operating and staffing budget. A loss of the CWI match would mean a majority of our program budget would shift to paying rent and basic operating expenses. A loss of operating dollars would negatively impact program continuation and development, as well as cut staffing salaries. Our Watershed and Conservation Program Specialist position would more than likely no longer exist. Ultimately, it means less conservation on the ground and less conservation of our county natural resources which are critical to economic growth and a high quality of life for all.

Howard SWCD

If the district would lose the \$10,000 match we would have to find other methods to cover the cost of our rent space along with other expenses such as insurance and fuel for our truck that the county does not cover.

St. Joseph SWCD

The St. Joseph County SWCD does not receive operating expenses from the county, so our office rent, office supplies and marketing materials are very dependent on the \$10,000 CWI grant. Without this money our agreements with NRCS would be in jeopardy and it would have a direct impact on the ability of the St. Joseph County SWCD to achieve its educational and conservation goals.

Jay SWCD

Without the \$10,000.00 CWI Match and/or the \$7,000.00 CWI grant, the Jay SWCD may be forced to: no training for SWCD Supervisors or staff, to include IASWCD Annual Conference, Leadership Institute or IDEA Fall training; no payment of IASWCD or NACD dues; limited educational programs, both youth and adult; elimination of District Coordinator/Educator position. 2009 incoming funds totaled \$28,130.00, expenses totaled \$29,663.00.

Parke SWCD

Parke County SWCD DOES NOT receive any funding from the county council other than the Administrative Assistant salary and the NRCS rent. It would be highly unlikely the District would be able to received program funding from the county again. Parke County is one of the lowest paid county officials (all) of any in the State of Indiana. The SWCD and NRCS has a great working relationship with the County Council and members personally, but the funds just aren't there in the county funds.

Clinton SWCD

County government supports Districts with staff/benefits and an operating budget. We have worked with our local government for many years to reach the level of funding that we have reached and it is still a very modest budget. Bare bones; however, the county officials have warned the District Supervisors that the next budget year will be a difficult year with projected job cuts. We should not anticipate any increase in our budget and should be prepared for possible cuts.

The Clinton/Boone County SWCD will soon be submitting a Lake and River Enhancement proposal for \$55,000.00 which requires a 10% cash match (or 5% cash match/5% in-kind). The Clinton SWCD is also currently administering two 319 grants which both require a 40% cash or in-kind match. In past years the \$10,000 has been used to provide a vehicle/fuel for staff to provide technical and educational assistance in administering these grants (and other District programs); newsletter mailings to promote cost-share programs and educational programs. It is not likely that the county will be able incorporate those costs into their next budget should CWI funds be revoked. The District is already financially obligated based on dedicated funding (CWI) to help meet the match obligations for these other grant sources. Not having the funds available could seriously affect our ability to further administer these

grants which have the potential to bring more than a half million dollars into our local economy (over a three year period).

Washington SWCD

EVERYTHING, we have been challenged especially for the past 5 years. Full-time Education Coordinator position w benefits supported by the county have been cut completely. The SWCD utilized CWI funds to maintain a part time / no benefits Education Coordinator. Three years ago the position was CUT completely due to the need for funding; this has been a disappointing step back. The Education Coordinator was a valuable teaching tool connecting students/teachers/parents/ landowners/and livestock producers. The district also hires on contract a Rule 5 /Landfill Review Coordinator (utilizing a portion of CWI \$10,000 funds). Another added expense NRCS Rental Agreement (office/storage space, utilities, computer /service, fax /phone services) which is paid with CWI \$10, 0000 funds. Thus helping districts maintain the local connection to assist and help implement conservation programs. As for Washington Co. SWCD the CWI \$10,000 funds is needed and budgeted wisely.

Gibson SWCD

As to not receiving the \$10,000, our district would be affected tremendously because now all that we are receiving from the county is for our rent.