

**AGENDA**  
**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**  
**Monday, May 7, 2012**  
**9:30 AM**  
**Indiana Farm Bureau**  
**225 S East Street Hall D**  
**Indianapolis, Indiana**

- I. 9:30 AM: Call to Order**
- II. Approve Minutes of March 2012**
- III. Clean Water Indiana**
  - a. Budget Update-Jerod Chew
  - b. CREP Update-Jim Norris
  - c. Grants Update-Jennifer Pinkston
- IV. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
  - a. Temporary Supervisor Appointments-Jennifer Pinkston
    - i. Vermillion County
    - ii. Johnson County (2 requests)
    - iii. Lake County
- V. SSCB Board Reports and Discussion**
  - a. SSCB Chairman's Report – Larry Clemens
    - i. Task Force Update
- VI. ISDA Reports**
  - a. Technical Support Update – Jerod Chew
  - b. District Support Update – Nathan Stoelting
  - c. Water Quality Update – Jerod Chew
  - d. Accountability and Technology Update – Deb Fairhurst
  - e. Agriculture Affairs Update – Jordan Seger
- VII. Conservation Partner Reports**
  - a. IASWCD President's Report
  - b. NRCS State Conservationist's Report
  - c. IDEA Report
  - d. FSA Report
  - e. Purdue Report
  - f. DNR Report
  - g. IDEM Report
- VIII. Public Comment**
- IX. Next Meeting: TBA**
- 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.



## **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**

### **April 2012 Report**

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a federal-state natural resources conservation program that addresses agricultural-related environmental concerns at the state and national level. CREP participants receive financial incentives to voluntarily enroll in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in contracts of 14 to 15 years. Participants remove cropland from agricultural production and convert the land to native grasses, trees and other vegetation.

The Indiana CREP is a partnership of the Indiana State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB), Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). The program currently targets the enrollment of 26,250 acres of land in 11 watersheds where sediments, nutrients, pesticides and herbicides run off from agricultural land.

The program will improve water quality by creating buffers and wetlands that will reduce agricultural runoff into the targeted watersheds. Installing buffer practices and wetlands will enhance habitat for wildlife, including State and Federally-listed threatened and endangered species. The program will also reduce nonpoint source nutrient losses.

**Table 1. COMPLETED CREP AGREEMENTS AND DOLLAR AMOUNT AS OF APRIL 16, 2012**

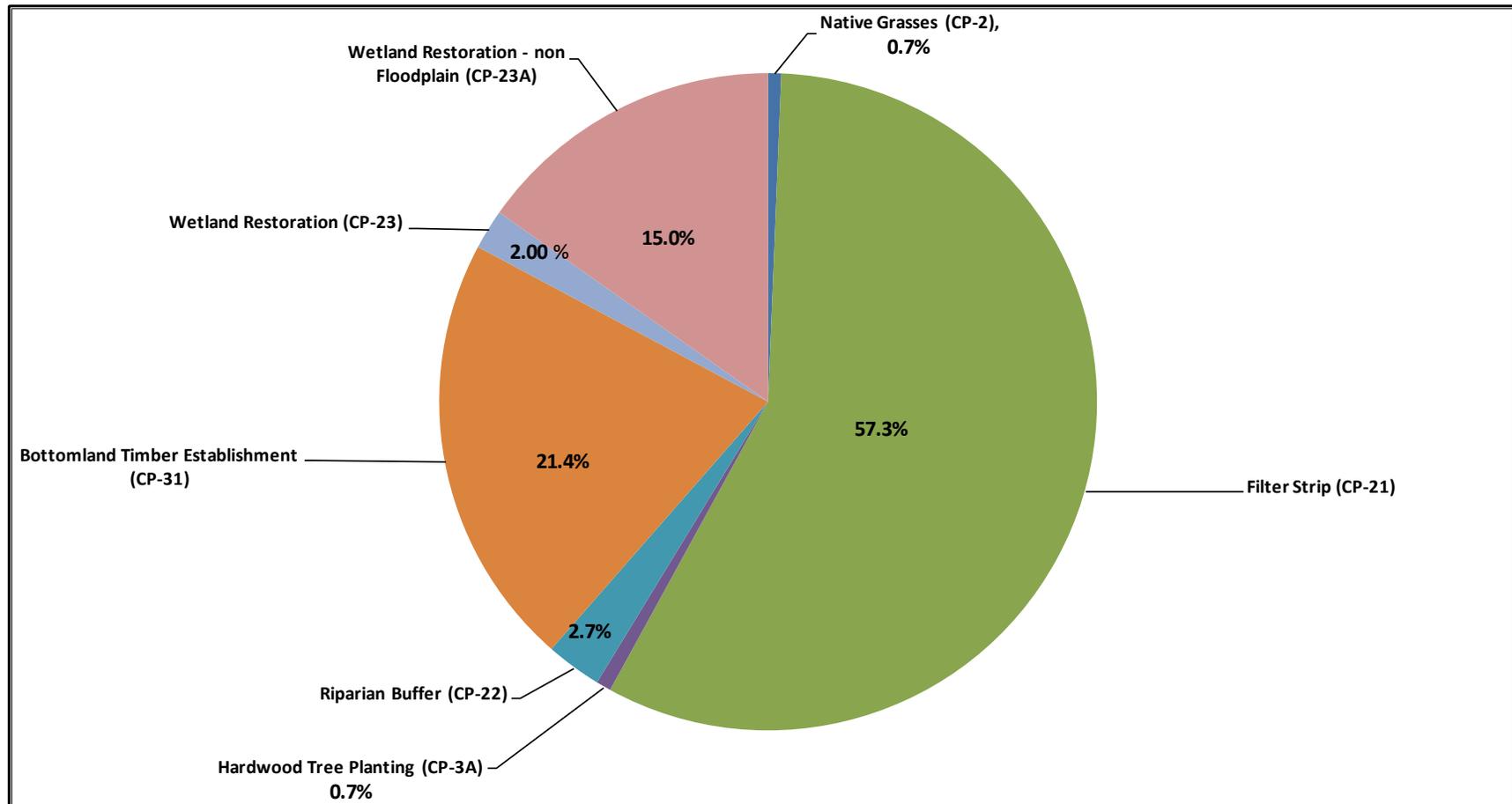
Watershed	SWCD CREP Administrators	Completed Contracts	Completed State Funds (Paid to Landowner)	SWCD Administrative Fees <sup>(1)</sup>
Upper White River Watershed	Hamilton Co.	241	\$650,900.00	\$5,596.50
Tippecanoe River Watershed	Fulton Co.	521	\$759,895.00	\$2,026.00
Highland-Pigeon Watershed	Gibson Co.	108	\$105,897.00	\$180.00
Lower East Fork	Orange Co.	5	\$35,210.00	\$3,521.00
Lower Wabash	Gibson Co.	1	\$2,504.00	\$250.00
Lower White	Daviess Co.	1	\$6,960.00	\$696.00
Middle Wabash Busseron	Sullivan Co.	1	\$41,040.00	\$4,104.00
Middle Wabash Deer	Howard Co.	1	\$5,080.00	\$508.00
Middle Wabash Vermillion	Parke Co.	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Upper East Fork White	Decatur Co.	1	\$13,360.00	\$1,336.00
Upper Wabash	Huntington Co.	2	\$8,520.00	\$852.00
<b>Current Reporting Period (ending on April 16, 2012)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>\$1,629,366.00</b>	<b>\$48,140.50</b>
<b>Previous Reporting Period (October 2011)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>\$1,565,443.00</b>	<b>\$47,508.00</b>

(1) Totals include pre-expansion projects that have been completed and paid to the SWCDs after expansion

**Table 2. ENROLLED ACREAGE BY WATERSHED AS OF APRIL 16, 2012**

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
Upper White River Watershed	6.8	0.0	423.4	1.0	127.1	1,003.8	0.0	20.4	1,582.5
Tippecanoe River Watershed	30.4	0.0	2,916.8	0.0	7.8	20.4	121.7	924.0	4,021.1
Highland-Pigeon Watershed	2.5	0.0	214.8	10.8	16.0	113.8	0.0	0.0	357.9
Lower East Fork	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.7	26.1	0.0	0.0	44.8
Lower Wabash	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0	0.0	6.3
Lower White	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.4	0.0	0.0	17.4
Middle Wabash Busseron	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	102.6	0.0	0.0	102.6
Middle Wabash Deer	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.7	0.0	0.0	12.7
Middle Wabash Vermillion	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Upper East Fork White	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.4
Upper Wabash	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.3	0.0	0.0	21.3
<b>Current Reporting Period (ending on April 16, 2012)</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3,555.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>169.6</b>	<b>1,324.4</b>	<b>121.7</b>	<b>944.4</b>	<b>6,200.0</b>
<b>Previous Reporting Period (October 2011)</b>	4.1	0.0	3,544.7	45.2	150.9	1,311.7	121.7	940.0	6,118.3

**Figure 1. TYPE AND PERCENTAGE OF ALL INSTALLED CREP CONSERVATION PRACTICES AS OF APRIL 16, 2012**





# Impact of Clean Water Indiana

Established within the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) provides guidance and coordination to the state's 92 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) as they provide local leadership in the protection of Indiana's soil and water resources. Additionally, the SSCB administers the Clean Water Indiana Grants Program, a water quality related erosion and sediment reduction program. Through the Clean Water Indiana Grants program, the SSCB aids local SWCDs to develop and maintain projects and programs that achieve the following goals:

- Clean drinking water
- Clean rivers, lakes and streams
  - More productive soils
  - Enhanced quality of life



# Clean Water Indiana 2011 Grant Report

**INDIANA**  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE



# Overview

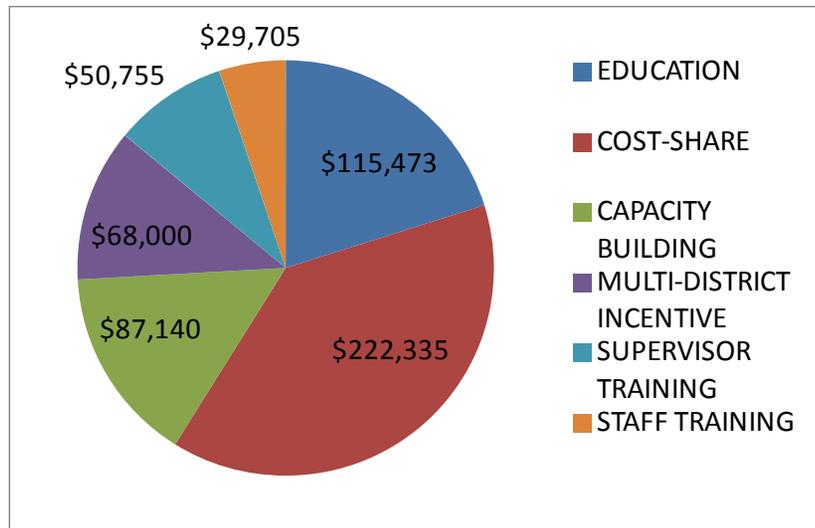
## Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative

In 2011, the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) designated \$644,000 for Soil and Water Conservation District grants. Each Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) was given the opportunity to apply for Clean Water Indiana funds up to \$7,000. The focus for this round of grant funding includes:

- Adult Education/Outreach
- Cost Share Incentives
- Multi-District Initiatives
- Capacity Building

Eighty-eight SWCDs submitted CWI grant applications totaling \$573,408 (Chart 1). The SSCB approved all grant applications and funded the total amount applied. All applicants had one year to complete their project which started January 1, 2011 and concluded by December 31, 2011<sup>1</sup>.

Chart 1

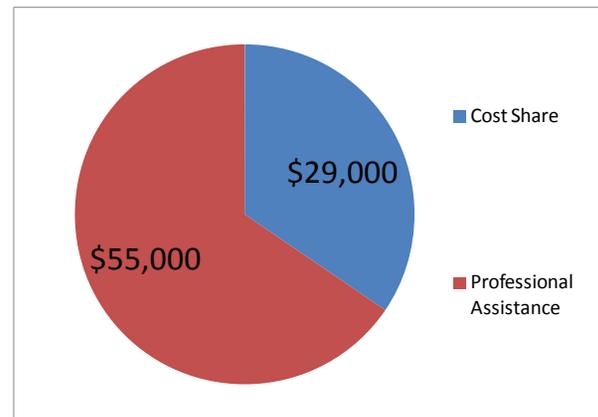


1. Fifteen districts have extensions on the 2011 CWI grants. These grants will end between March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2012.

## Clean Water Indiana 2011 Watershed Grants

For 2011, the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) also awarded \$84,000 for competitive watershed-based grants. Projects are to fund one or more of the categories listed below:

- Cost Share/Incentives/Demonstrations
- Increase Direct Professional Assistance to Land Users



Eighteen applications were received for the 2011 CWI grant totaling over \$500,000. The SSCB approved five grant applications and awarded a total of \$84,000. Districts report on their grant progress on an annual basis, with the first report due in July, 2012.

## Blackford County SWCD

Blackford County SWCD put on a Tri-County Soil Fertility Field Day in June 2011. The field day featured a soil pit, eight cover crop demo plots, a tour of Davis-Purdue farm's corn into cover crop plots, and a no-till planter set-up. Speakers were Hans Kok (CSSI), Greg Haley (NRCS), and Greg Downing (CISCO Seeds). There were approximately 70 people in attendance and the event covered by Hoosier Ag Today. The Blackford County SWCD advertised for participation in a cover crop planting incentive program. The district funded the planting of 237 acres on highly traveled roads in different parts of the county. Signage was put at each plot to advertise the project and Hoosier Ag Today played radio spots during twice daily farm reports for one week. The Clean Water Indiana dollars used to promote this field day impacted many decision-makers and will be turned into Best Management Practices (BMPs) to keep sediment and nutrients in the soil.

## Newton County SWCD

Newton County had approximately 3,000 acres in cover crops that were put in this fall. In November 2011, Newton County SWCD held soil pit field days in Newton and Jasper Counties. The district dug out three pits. One at Larry Strole's, one at Ollie Dorn and one at Brian Johnson. The district also used a rain simulator to show the effects of having cover crops on your land versus bare soil when it rains. It was a huge success! Newton County SWCD is going to follow up with soil pits again in 2012 to show the rooting depths of cover crops the spring. Newton County SWCD also ordered two signs to be used in the fields in the future to draw attention to the cover crops.

## Jefferson County SWCD

In December 2011, the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District hosted a forest management field day. The field day was held at the National Guard Armory in Madison, IN. There were many speakers that gave information packed presentations for the attendees. Phil Marshall, Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Entomology & Plant Pathology, spoke about spoke about invasive insects, such as the Emerald Ash Borer and their effects on landowners' trees and forests. Duane McCoy from IDNR Division of Forestry gave a great presentation of the Best Management Practices in forests. Tom Rathert and Brad Meagher (private consulting foresters) Tim Schwipps (NRCS) Susan Knowles (U.S. Fish and Wildlife) also informed the attendees of cost-share programs available to landowners through each of their different organizations, as well as, how to go about receiving funding.

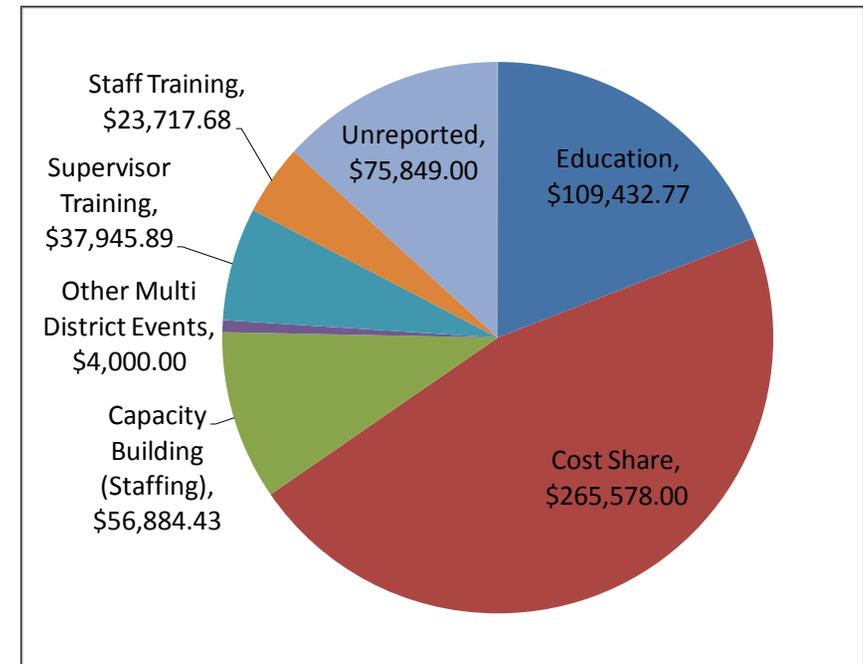
## Clinton, Benton, Warren, & Montgomery County SWCDs

The Tippecanoe, Benton, Warren, Montgomery & Clinton SWCD's partnered to host a no-till breakfast meeting to encourage communication and candid discussion on the benefits and challenges of no-till farming. Hans Kok and Dan Towery facilitated discussion. A panel of experienced no-till farmers answered questions from those attending. The Clinton and Tipton County SWCD's partnered to host a Septic Maintenance Workshop held in March 2011 at the Kempton Town Hall. The area targeted falls within the Wildcat Creek Watershed with known E. coli impairments. Purdue Cooperative Extension, Board of Health, and contractors led the discussion. The Clinton, Howard, Tipton and Madison county SWCDs partnered to host a Soil Quality Field Day at the farm of Warren Baird. CCSI staff, NRCS staff and local producers Rodney Rulon and Cameron Mills provided the program.

# Final Reports

Final reports for 2011 grants were due on March 1, 2012. As of April 2012, 63 reports were submitted and reviewed.

Chart 2



SWCS reported spending \$497,559. The remainder (labeled "Unreported") is comprised of the balance of the 15 grants with extensions and \$2,253 which was not spent and reverted back to the State.

In conjunction with Clean Water Indiana funds, districts also utilized \$264,832 in district funds, \$212,816 in district in-kind, \$105,100 in partner funds, and \$148,938 in partner in-kind.

In an effort to allow districts to fully utilize their grant funds SWCDs were able to modify their grant spending from their original request, as long as the spending stayed within the scope of the grant. This flexibility allowed most SWCDs to fully utilize their grant funds.

Staffing \$54,519.43

## Staffing

The 2011 Clean Water Indiana grants assisted in funding 23 employees. CWI funds provided support for the following positions:

- 11 Technicians
- 3 Education/Outreach professionals
- 5 Project Managers
- 4 SWCD Managers/Administrative staff

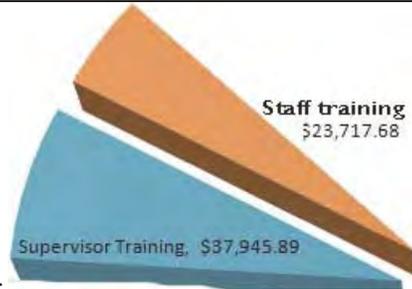
- 11 positions served at least two districts
- 7 Full time positions
- 16 Part time positions
- 8 new staff
- 9 positions saw increased hours

*“Jerry (Smith) was already working as a contract employee through another grant to educate the public in the Pigeon Creek Watershed on Water Quality and Septic System Education. There were requests for these presentations and materials outside the watershed. We used the CWI money to hire Jerry to give presentations to groups in other watersheds within our county.”*

*-Steuben County SWCD*

## Supervisor and Staff Training

Clean Water Indiana funds provided training reimbursement for 233 staff members and 289 supervisors. Districts could receive up to \$1,000 in training reimbursement, with at least 50 percent spent on Supervisor training.



IASWCD Annual Conference Attendance:

- 136 Supervisors
- 81 Staff

Leadership Institute Attendance:

- 26 Supervisors
- 11 Staff

*This grant has allowed the Porter SWCD to build on its relationships with fellow government agencies and individual landowners.*

*-Porter County SWCD*

## Vigo, Clay and Sullivan County SWCDs

Through Clean Water Indiana grant funds, Clay, Sullivan, and Vigo SWCD along with the West Central Indiana Watershed Alliance, Ceres Crop Solutions, and EdAir coordinated aerial seeding of approximately 3500 acres, leveraging Busseron 319 funds for about 2000 of those acres. They had three airplanes in the air at one time, and seeded about 2500 acres in a single morning. As a follow up to the aerial seeding, the SWCDs, Greene Co SWCD, WCIWA, Purdue Extension, and Ceres hosted a workshop in December, focusing on spring management programs.



*photo courtesy of West Central Indiana Watershed Alliance*

## Warrick County SWCD



*photo courtesy of Warrick County SWCD*

In 2011, cover crops were successful for Warrick SWCD in partnership with the Vanderburgh, Posey, Gibson, and Pike SWCDs. Some were seeded by plane and some conventionally but the weather was good last fall so the cover crops looked really good. Approximately 3100 acres were seeded within the five counties using Clean Water Indiana cost-share funds. These Districts conducted a no-till planter set-up workshop last summer for farmers with older equipment to help prepare them for fall seeding. In March 2012, the partnering SWCDs sponsored a breakfast for our farmers. This project served as both a follow-up to last year’s CWI program and a kickoff for the 2012 grant cycle.

# Fulton County SWCD



photo courtesy of Fulton County SWCD

Fulton and Marshall County SWCDs held a multi-county Healthy Soils field day event in September 2011 and provided practical information on soil health and field demonstrations. Sixty-five people attended, and many participants remained after the workshop to ask questions of the experts and to discuss their particular concerns about soil health and cover crops. The winter follow-up meeting was held in March 2012 with thirty-six people in attendance. Again, good questions were asked of the speakers, and the producers who attended seem more inclined to use cover crops. Both meetings concentrated on soil health, with emphasis on how to build soil tilth, reduce nutrient inputs, increase productivity, increase profitability, use cover crops, and practice crop rotation.

# Vermillion County SWCD

Vermillion County SWCD, working with their counterparts in Parke and Fountain counties, hired Larry Timm as a Conservation Cropping Expert to supply one-on-one support, advice and encouragement for anyone considering initiating or expanding their use of conservation cropping methods. Larry's time and expenses are paid with grant funds allowing the SWCDs to offer this service free-of-charge to county producers. Larry spent the year meeting with individuals and small and large groups. Vermillion County SWCD also utilized the some of their CWI funds to offer producers cost share funds to plant cover crops in the fall. CWI funded cover crops were installed successfully by seven producers protecting over 630 acres of prime farmland.



photo courtesy of Vermillion County SWCD

# Education and Outreach



The 2011 Clean Water Indiana grants helped fund 143 events across the state with nearly 12,000 people in attendance. The grants also helped fund outreach and promotional items including:

- Over 195,000 printed materials
- 416 Radio Ads
- 32 Websites
- 5 Billboards
- 15 e-blasts
- 23 Fair exhibits
- 50 Newsletters
- 34 Newspaper Ads

*"At least three producers attending our field day expressed to me (Debra Carpenter) a desire to plant cover crops this fall and asked for assistance in planning. The CWI dollars used to promote and put on this field day impacted many decision-makers and will be turned into BMP's to keep sediment and nutrients in the soil where they belong."*

-Delaware County SWCD

# Cost Share

The 2011 Clean Water Indiana grants helped fund over 340 cost share programs around the state. These programs impacted over 190,000 acres. Cost share programs included:

- Cover Crops
- Tree Plantings
- Tile Drainage Systems
- Pasture Plantings
- Private Well Water Supply Testing
- Nitrification Inhibitor
- Hillside Erosion Control
- Grid Sampling
- Abandoned Well Closures
- Bank Stabilization
- Buffer Strips



*"Without this cost share program many Crawford County Farmers would be unable to help with soil fertility, sediment reduction and nutrient management principles."*

-Crawford County SWCD

# Clean Water Indiana Funds in Action

## Brown County SWCD



photos courtesy of Brown County SWCD.

Brown County SWCD utilized their CWI Grant to repair an old logging trail. The old logging trail covered over 700 feet along properties belonging to three landowners. The ruts, up to five feet wide and deep, caused gullies and erosion issues that needed to be permanently repaired along the entire logging trail. The Clean Water Indiana funds allowed the district to repair the trail. The photo above shows the “before” pictures of the land to be repaired. The photo on the right shows the “after” shot.

## Dekalb County SWCD



Photo courtesy of Kent Sweitzer

The Andersons Ag Center, in cooperation with the Dekalb and Steuben County SWCDs and Purdue Extension hosted an agronomy field day. The theme of the event was Stewardship: “Balancing the business of feeding the world & preserving it for our future”. Additional contributions were made by Cisco, NRCS and other sponsors. Topics under the tents included Nitrogen Management in Corn, Soybean High Management, and Blind Inlets & Cover Crops.

## Porter County SWCD



photo courtesy of Porter County SWCD

The Porter County Soil & Water Conservation District dedicated roughly \$1,000 of its 2011 CWI funds to purchase seed which was utilized by the Porter County Drainage Board to reseed recently cleaned and repaired ditches throughout the county. By seeding as part of the cleaning and repair process, the potential for erosion and sedimentation was greatly reduced and water quality improved. This expenditure also helped to strengthen

the relationship between the County Drainage Board, the District and the adjoining landowners. “The Drainage Board was grateful to have the seed especially for smaller areas where it wouldn’t pay to bid out the project. If the seed was not made available these places most likely would not have been seeded.” said Russ Pumroy, Porter County Drainage Board member. “As a landowner you really appreciate that the seeding took place in a timely fashion. Without it all the work that was done could have been destroyed with one heavy rain,” said Jim Lambert, Porter County SWCD Chairman and farmer. Once made aware of how the seed would be utilized, the seed dealer sold the seed to the District at cost.

## Steuben County SWCD

Through the Clean Water Indiana grant, Steuben County SWCD was able to assist producers in the planting of 150 acres of cover crops in the Pigeon and Fish Creek Watersheds, keeping sediment and nutrients from getting into nearby streams. This grant also enabled the district to partner with other conservation districts, Purdue Extension, and other non-traditional partners, such as The Nature Conservancy, The St. Joe River Watershed Initiative, and The Andersons to put on several local field days to educate producers on the benefits of best



photo courtesy of Steuben County SWCD

management practices (BMPs). The district sponsored the Conservation Farming Expo in Montpelier, Ohio, as well as the Agronomy Field Day in Waterloo, Indiana. The Steuben County SWCD was also involved with several other educational events, such as our Annual Meeting, the Steuben County Lakes Council’s Fall Forum, and a Cover Crop Field Day, which not only promoted the grant, but also BMPs producers could use to reduce the sediments and nutrients leaving their farms. The district was also able to expand the work of their part-time Water Quality Education Coordinator, who is funded through an IDEM-319 grant, to work in the Pigeon Creek Watershed. He was able to provide septic system and water quality education to different watersheds in the county.

## Miami County SWCD

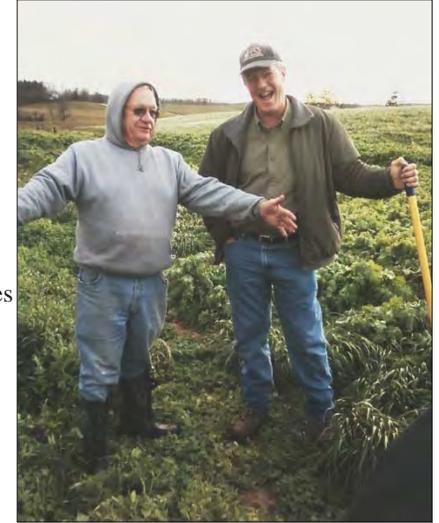
Miami County SWCD used 2011 CWI funds to acquire retired NRCS technician/engineer, Roger Roeske, for part-time employment. Roger's expertise in creating conservation designs benefits a strong partnership between the Miami County SWCD and the many different divisions of NRCS. One project Roger worked on is a 6.8 acre grass waterway and a concrete toewall structure constructed this past summer on rented ground that required a lot of coordination between the renter, the landowner, Miami Co. SWCD, NRCS, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Wabash County Surveyor's office, Miami County's Farm Service Agency, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The project, which physically lies in Wabash County, is within the flowage easement of the Army Corps of Engineers' Mississinewa Reservoir, and has a Wabash County-maintained tile. Almost 600 acres of cropland drains through this grass waterway and concrete toewall structure.



*photo courtesy of Miami County SWCD*

## Dubois County SWCD

Dubois County SWCD used Clean Water Indiana grant funds for a soil health workshop and a cover crop cost share program. The cost share program assisted farmers in planting nearly 1400 acres of cover crops. The district also no-tilled a test plot of seed donated by Cisco and held a cover crop field day in November. About 20 local farmers came to the field day. The test plot had about 10 different species and mixes of cover crops for the participants to examine. Field day leaders dug up selected plants to demonstrate the root structure and the value of cover crops to the soil. From these efforts, the Dubois County SWCD actually had one long-time conventional farmer "see the light" so to speak and plant cover crops for the first time this fall!



*photo courtesy of Dubois County SWCD*

## Monroe County SWCD



*photo courtesy of Monroe County SWCD*

All of the CWI funding that Monroe County SWCD received went to offset the cost of the installation of Heavy Use Area Pads. Our SWCD neighbors to the south in Lawrence County have been encouraging the installation of this HUAP for a long time. They are now finally catching on here in Monroe Co and we wanted to do whatever we could to assist landholders to use them.

## Gibson, Pike, Vanderburgh, Posey and Warrick County SWCDs



*photos courtesy of Gibson County SWCD*

Over 60 landusers from Gibson, Pike, Vanderburgh, Posey and Warrick counties attended a workshop in August 2011. Districts brought in speakers to talk about cover crop integration, setting up planters for no-till, precision farming, and farm bill information.



# Huntington County SWCD

Huntington County SWCD used Clean Water Indiana funds to conduct two field days. They also exhibited a cover crop display at their county fair. Guests were able to view soil pits showing the root systems of the cover crop seeded the previous fall. Guest speakers provided information about different varieties of cover crops and the benefits of cover crops to soil. Through the CWI grant the SWCD also offered a one-time incentive to seed cover crops. The response was good and many landowners signed up for programs to incorporate cover crops in their farm plans.



*photo courtesy of Huntington County SWCD*

# Jasper County SWCD

680 acres from CWI funds  
 2000+ acres with farmer match  
 technical support on all acres  
 6 different cover crop mixes  
 5 Fall Soil Pits

*photos  
 courtesy  
 of Jasper  
 County  
 SWCD*



# Lawrence County SWCD

Lawrence County SWCD hosted a cover crop barn meeting in December 2011. The purpose of the barn meeting was to educate the public about the incredible benefits that cover crops have on soil health and erosion control. The SWCD planted a demo plot on the corner of State Road 58 East and Boyd Lane just west of the high school. The demo plot had 11 different varieties of cover crop mixes planted to show farmers the different root structures, and soil benefits between different varieties of plant species. The barn meeting began at the demo plot and Downing discussed the benefits with each different plant species. Immediately after the demo plot discussion the 39 attendees traveled to SWCD Supervisor Mike Spreen's farm near Williams, Indiana, where we continued our discussion about cover crop advantages. The SWCD gave those who attended a free book on cover crops. Cost share dollars were given to all attendees who planted cover crops in the fall of 2011.



*photo courtesy of Lawrence County SWCD*

# Madison County SWCD



*photo courtesy of Madison County SWCD*

Madison County SWCD hosted a Confined Feeding Operation (CFO) Field Day with Hancock County at Lawyer's Hog Farm on the Madison/Hancock county line. The purpose for the event was to educate the public on CFO's. The district also worked with Tipton and its surrounding counties on a Soil Quality Field Day that was held on August 17, 2011.

## RECOMMENDATION FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT

Instructions for submitting this form:

**STOP! If you haven't read the SWCD SharePoint Tutorial on how to submit forms, please do so before proceeding.**

If you opened another Recommendation for Temporary Appointment form by mistake, click on the Close button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. Then read the SWCD SharePoint Tutorial on how to submit new forms and update/save previously submitted forms.

If you are submitting the Recommendation for Temporary Appointment form for the first time, click on the Save As button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. **Uncheck Overwrite Existing File.** Enter the name of your county followed by the date in the File Name box. For example Allen County would Enter Allen03.12.12 Click Save. Click Close.

If you previously submitted the Recommendation for Temporary Appointment form and re-opened the form to make some changes or additions, click on the Save button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. Click Close.

**NEVER open another SWCD's form and modify it.**

### ELECTED SUPERVISOR, VACANCY: IC 14-32-13

#### Sec. 13

(a) If a vacancy in the position of elected supervisor occurs during the 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 appoint an individual to temporarily fill the vacancy; and

(3) the board shall notify the supervisors of the appointment made by the board.

(b) The individual appointed to temporarily fill a vacancy under subsection (a) shall serve until the district's next annual meeting.

(c) At the annual meeting immediately following the appointment of an individual to temporarily fill a vacant elected supervisor's position, the position shall be filled through the regular election procedures set forth in sections 6 through 9 of this chapter.

("Board" as used in the state statute refers to the State Soil Conservation Board)

The Supervisors of the  County Soil and Water Conservation District certify that  (name) 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

City, State and Zip

IN

This temporary appointment is necessary because of:

Resignation of

**YOU MUST SUBMIT THE RESIGNATION LETTER TO YOUR DISTRICT SUPPORT SPECIALIST AS WELL AS KEEP A COPY IN YOUR DISTRICT RECORDS.**

Death of

No election held

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)

\_\_\_\_\_

Leslie Zimmerman (typed)

Date 4/12/2012

Keep a signed copy of this form in the District office. Do not send to your DSS.

**IC 14-32-4-1**

***(b) To hold the position of elected supervisor, an individual:***

***(1) must be an occupier of a tract of land that is located within the district;***

***(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

Darrell Morgan

PHONE NUMBER

765-505-0438

DATE OF BIRTH

3/14/1958

ADDRESS

3966 N 300 W

CITY, STATE, ZIP

Cayuga, IN 47928

EDUCATION

North Vermillion High School

OCCUPATION OR TYPE OF BUSINESS

Farming - Corn and Soybeans

LIST CONSERVATION AND OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES

Has previously served as a SWCD supervisor for 15 years. He and his brother are supportive of current SWCD activities. He serves as an elder in his church.

**LAND OWNERS OR OPERATORS ONLY**

If applicable, list some of the soil and water conservation practices you have installed or performed  
100% no-till, grassed waterways and filter strips, erosion control structures and cover crops.

**TEMPORARY APPOINTEE**

Have you previously served as an SWCD supervisor?

Yes

What was the date of last service? 2/15/2005

What was the reason for termination of last service?

Ready to get off.

How many years did you serve as a supervisor? 15 Years #Months

No

**I currently hold a public service position/office**

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

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.

APPOINTEE:

\_\_\_\_\_

Darrell Morgan (typed)

4/20/2012 Date

**Keep a signed copy of this form in the District office. Do not send to your DSS.**

Instructions for submitting this form:

**STOP! If you haven't read the SWCD SharePoint Tutorial on how to submit forms, please do so before proceeding.**

**If you opened another District's Recommendation for Temporary Appointment form by mistake, click on the Close button located in the menu bar at the top or bottom of this form. Then read the SWCD SharePoint Tutorial on how to submit new forms and update/save previously submitted forms.**

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**NEVER open another SWCD's form and modify it.**

March 13, 2012

I resign my position as supervisor  
with the Vermilion Co. SWCD.

Thank you,  
D. D. Hill

## RECOMMENDATION FOR VACANT APPOINTMENT POSITION

**APPOINTED SUPERVISOR, VACANCY: IC 14-32-13**

**Sec. 13 (a) If a vacancy in the position of appointed supervisor occurs during a district's operating year:**

**(1) the district supervisors shall, within thirty (30) days after the vacancy occurs, recommend to the board in writing one (1) or more individuals qualified to fill the position,**

**(2) at the first board meeting held after the board received a recommendation under subdivision (1), the board shall act upon the recommendation, and**

**(3) the board shall notify the supervisor of the appointment made by the board.**

**(b) The individual appointed to fill a vacant appointed supervisor position under subsection (a) shall serve the unexpired term of the individual's predecessor.**

**("Board" as used in the state statue refers to the State Soil Conservation Board)**

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**NEVER open another SWCD's form and modify it.**

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

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

This temporary appointment is necessary because of:

Resignation of

(If supervisor has resigned, you **MUST** attach copy of resignation letter. See SharePoint Tutorial for instructions on attaching a file.)

Death of

We have advised him/her of the duties and responsibilities of the office of Supervisor. We have advised him/her about "Dual Office Holding" and provided a copy of the Attorney General's Dual Office Holding Guide.

**DISTRICT SUPERVISORS SIGNATURES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Kevin Thompson (typed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

**IC 14-32-4-1**

*(c) To hold the position of appointed supervisor, and individual:*

*(1) must be of voting age*

*(2) must maintain the individual's permanent residence within the district, and*

*(3) must be qualified by training and experience to perform the duties that this article imposes on supervisors.*

Name

Phone Number

Date of Birth

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Education

Occupation or Type of Business

List Conservation and Other Leadership Experiences

Various conservation practises. President JC 4-H Council, Board Member of JC Cattlemans's Assoc., FFA Advisory Board

**Please check one of the following:**

- New Appointment**  
 **Reappointment**

**I currently hold a public service position/office**

- Yes**  
**If yes, I have been informed about the "Dual Office Holding" and have reviewed a copy of the Attorney General's Dual Office Holding Guide**  
 **Yes**  
 **No**
- No**

By signing this document, if appointed as a supervisor by the State Soil Conservation Board, you agree to attend supervisors' monthly meetings regularly and carry out your responsibilities as a supervisor to the best of your ability.

Date

Signature of Appointee

Please keep a copy of this on file at the SWCD office and notify your District Support Specialist.

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## RECOMMENDATION FOR VACANT APPOINTMENT POSITION

**APPOINTED SUPERVISOR, VACANCY: IC 14-32-13**

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

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

This temporary appointment is necessary because of:

Resignation of

(If supervisor has resigned, you **MUST** attach copy of resignation letter. See SharePoint Tutorial for instructions on attaching a file.)

Death of

We have advised him/her of the duties and responsibilities of the office of Supervisor. We have advised him/her about "Dual Office Holding" and provided a copy of the Attorney General's Dual Office Holding Guide.

**DISTRICT SUPERVISORS SIGNATURES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Kevin Thompson (typed)

**QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

**IC 14-32-4-1**

*(c) To hold the position of appointed supervisor, and individual:*

*(1) must be of voting age*

*(2) must maintain the individual's permanent residence within the district, and*

*(3) must be qualified by training and experience to perform the duties that this article imposes on supervisors.*

Name Kevin Thompson

Phone Number 317-422-8954

Date of Birth 9/21/1961

Address 4630 W SR 44

City Morgantown

State IN

Zip Code 46160

Education

Assoc Degree - Ag

Occupation or Type of Business

Farming

List Conservation and Other Leadership Experiences

Currently elected SWCD Supervisor - moving to appointed SWCD Supervisor position.  
Premier Ag Board of Directors, JC Fair Board, Bargersville Fire Department Board

**Please check one of the following:**

- New Appointment**  
 **Reappointment**

**I currently hold a public service position/office**

- Yes**  
    **If yes, I have been informed about the "Dual Office Holding" and have reviewed a copy of the Attorney General's Dual Office Holding Guide**  
         **Yes**  
         **No**
- No**

By signing this document, if appointed as a supervisor by the State Soil Conservation Board, you agree to attend supervisors' monthly meetings regularly and carry out your responsibilities as a supervisor to the best of your ability.

Date

Signature of Appointee

Please keep a copy of this on file at the SWCD office and notify your District Support Specialist.

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## RECOMMENDATION FOR VACANT APPOINTMENT POSITION

### APPOINTED SUPERVISOR, VACANCY: IC 14-32-13

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("Board" as used in the state statute refers to the State Soil Conservation Board)

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**NEVER open another SWCD's form and modify it.**

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

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

This temporary appointment is necessary because of:

Resignation of

letter.jpg  
294.38 KB

(If supervisor has resigned, you **MUST** attach copy of resignation letter. See SharePoint Tutorial for instructions on attaching a file.)

Death of

We have advised him/ her of the duties and responsibilities of the office of Supervisor. We have advised him/ her about "Dual Office Holding" and provided a copy of the Attorney General's Dual Office Holding Guide.

### DISTRICT SUPERVISORS SIGNATURES

-----  
Chairman

-----  
Date

Donna Molchan 4/12/12 (typed)

### QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

#### IC 14-32-4-1

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- (1) must be of voting age
- (2) must maintain the individual's permanent residence within the district, and
- (3) must be qualified by training and experience to perform the duties that this article imposes on supervisors.

Name

Phone Number

Date of Birth

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Education

Occupation or Type of Business

### List Conservation and Other Leadership Experiences

Brian has been a supervisor for 20 years. He is a member of Farm Bureau Co-op, Farm Bureau Inc., member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, serves on his church's financial board and a Adopt-A-River project member.

Conservation practices he has applied includes: Contour Farming, Contour Buffer Strips, Wildlife Upland Habitat Management, Grade Stabilizations Structures, Grassed Waterways, WASCOB's, Filter Strips, Nutrient and Pest Management and 100% No-Till.

### Please check one of the following:

- New Appointment  
 Reappointment

I currently hold a public service position/ office

- Yes

If yes, I have been informed about the "Dual Office Holding" and have reviewed a copy of the Attorney General's Dual Office Holding Guide

- Yes  
 No

- No

By signing this document, if appointed as a supervisor by the State Soil Conservation Board, you agree to attend supervisors' monthly meetings regularly and carry out your responsibilities as a supervisor to the best of your ability.

Date

Signature of Appointee

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**1314 Southwood Dr.  
Lowell, IN; 46356  
March 22, 2012**

**Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District  
928 South Court Street  
Crown Point, IN; 46307**

**To whom it may concern:**

**I, Darlene Corns, am resigning my position as Supervisor for the Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District as of March 22, 2012.**

**It was my decision to only fill the position until the March election.**

**Thank you.**

*Darlene Corns*

**Darlene Corns**

**Q2: What are three things the State Soil Conservation Board could do to help increase your district's operating efficiency as well as its impact on conserving soil, water and related natural resources?**

**Funding:**

- 1.) Funding, as we are looking for grants to keep our Watershed Coordinator, whose position has always been paid for by grants.
- 2.) Help find non-traditional sources of funding/grant opportunities
- 3.) Secure larger amount of funding
- 4.) Give more money to each District for their county needs
- 5.) Advocate, where appropriate, for creative funding opportunities as they arise.
- 6.) Be more willing to stand up to administration when cutting funding.
- 7.) Most everything takes money. Provide sufficient funds to make an impact in Indiana.
- 8.) Work with SWCDs more on funding needs, priorities
- 9.) Decrease paperwork for grants, reporting, etc.
- 10.) Create large budget fund for improving district's infrastructural capital. An example might be federal agencies that generally have certain budget line items for office building, etc.; with these funds being requested if a need arises in a specific location. Receipt of funds may not be immediate but the chances of receiving NEEDED funding are much higher. This allows these agencies to save time, effort, and headache of search for resources for these purposes. All employees will require offices, etc. and employers of choice will provide high quality facilities. A fund of this type could enable improved conditions for SWCD employees and could play a critical role in employee retention (a major need for SWCD's).
- 11.) Greater consistency year-to-year in grant application process
- 12.) Concentrate CWI funding towards things that actually empower districts, such as professional staff.
- 13.) Reinstate the individual district CWI yearly grants. Working with other counties is difficult - especially when soil types and farmers are so different. Even if the amount of CWI is less than the \$10,000, there is an advantage to serving your own district.
- 14.) Support local SWCD efforts to obtain outside funding through support letters or other means.
- 15.) Continue to help fund technicians since county budgets are getting cut.
- 16.) Work at getting the increased monetary support from the state.
- 17.) Make us a line item in state budget so we aren't always handed the programs no funding is available for to implement on begged, borrowed or stolen shoe string budgets from county government.
- 18.) Keep the CWI grants coming;
- 19.) I like the multi-district grants and fewer, but larger approach to grants. Smaller grants of up to \$7,500 are helpful to get some things going, but the impact for us has been generally modest.
- 20.) Funding
- 21.) Dedicated funding stream so that cost share programs are available for people who are not eligible for federal funding.
- 22.) I am trying to think of something more important that adequate and reliable funding. My district has partnered as best we can. It keeps coming back to funding. Tweaking programs and learning and applying new practices takes "boots on the ground."
- 23.) Easier access to CWI funds, not on a multi-county basis
- 24.) Simpler cost share programs from NRCS that the DC's can understand and implement fairly across the board.
- 25.) Push for a larger base funding from legislature by helping establish a new funding stream that gets away from Cigarette tax and ties to more nat. res. related funding

- 26.) Seek additional funding by changing legislation to allow the creation of a Soil & Water tax similar to the tax created for Solid Waste Districts.
- 27.) Maintain support for CCSI
- 28.) Don't do for districts what they can do for themselves
- 29.) CWI funds-Which is more impactful for districts? Money for staffing vs cost share to landowners
- 30.) More Money!
- 31.) Support CCSI
- 32.) Working with nearby districts can often be a struggle. Don't penalize us when another district in our watershed will not cooperate!
- 33.) Allow each District to decide on how they spend the money that is given to them each year. Currently the requirements for the money are somewhat restrictive and sometimes requires that a District come up with additional projects that fit the requirements instead of allowing us to put that money towards the existing projects/programs they are already working on. This creates an atmosphere where minimal effort is put into these projects/programs and existing projects/programs. Sometimes the requirements for the money are such that they do not fit the current needs of the community surrounding the District and then the money is unusable and the District may appear in a negative light because they are not applying for the money offered.
- 34.) Focus on agricultural needs but also focus on urban soil/natural resource needs. Soil health is important for both ag and urban areas and urban soils are greatly altered and Districts and the citizens they serve would benefit if resources were available for urban areas.
- 35.) Do not require extra or unnecessary reporting by way of paper or the Internet.
- 36.) Work with federal agencies to expand critical areas for programs such as CREP
- 37.) Additional funding for programs
- 38.) Keep programs focusing on local level issues along with the broader watershed issues
- 39.) Develop cost share programs to encourage first time users of cover crops
- 40.) Help provide support for the local projects with education, manpower (when/if needed) and funding
- 41.) More funding
- 42.) Funding based on county contributions to SWCD (leverage to get more county funding).
- 43.) Make CWI grants easy and flexible
- 44.) Let the Districts decide how to spend state grant money

#### **What SSCB Should Do:**

- 1.) Push for law that makes it mandatory that all counties have at least 1.5 employees for the district (remove the option)
- 2.) Provide assistance in facilitating or policy changes, if needed, to allow the above suggestions to occur.
- 3.) Run interference between outside agencies and the Districts. You should be our biggest advocate and sometimes it does not seem that way.
- 4.) Provide direction on key issues within the district.
- 5.) Continue to explore ways, along with ISDA and NRCS, of empowering Districts to concentrate on critical field operations-put conservation on the land-rather than wasting effort on peripheral detail work such as bookkeeping of \$35 per diem for supervisors.
- 6.) Provide consistency and stability. Longer range help.
- 7.) Share successful strategies districts (within the state) are implementing

- 8.) Share successful strategies other states have implemented and are implementing.
- 9.) Encourage the State of Indiana to match County appropriations for Soil & Water districts.
- 10.) Encourage consolidation of smaller or less active Soil & Water districts with larger or more active adjoining districts.
- 11.) Increase the emphasis on protecting the drinking water supply.
- 12.) Increase state allotment to SWCDs
- 13.) Provide support to insure SWCDs are housed WITHIN NRCS offices
- 14.) Find as many ways as possible for our district (and others) to utilize the quality, longevity, publicity and economy of performing fewer larger scale projects versus many small scale.
- 15.) Acknowledge the diversity of Districts
- 16.) Acknowledge the importance and impact of conservation implementation on small tracts of land created by developing lands; both commercial and residential
- 17.) Provide on-going support to promote Districts' Return on Investment to County- and State-level officials (not just during budget hearings and IASWCD Annual Conference)
- 18.) Incentivize SSCB / ICP goals: Provide a list of goals you would like each SWCD to achieve - tie the normal CWI assistance to each District to reaching individual goals. i.e. In order to receive \$X.XX, District Staff must complete XXXXX training modules. In order to receive \$X.XX each District Supervisor must attend XX Soil Health Field Days / Workshops. ... etc.

#### **Communications:**

- 1.) Help districts better advertise our programs to the public
- 2.) Streamline communication, information, programs
- 3.) A PR campaign supporting Districts aimed at local governments and urbanites would probably help them understand that we are actually a useful and cost-effective investment of taxpayer dollars.
- 4.) Find ways to facilitate cooperation and communication between Districts.
- 5.) Public Relations
- 6.) Provide a website template that districts could personalize to respective needs.
- 7.) Offer assistance in getting word out to the public about who we are and what types of programs we have, continue to work with NRCS in partnership efforts for grants, etc., and continue to offer the CWI grant programs; they are much appreciated.
- 8.) More direct contact with supervisors with emails
- 9.) Public meeting seem to have the most impact for us. How about more GOOD speakers that can be available for local meetings on conservation issues.
- 10.) More field days and fliers and education
- 11.) Keep talking up best practices and innovative things districts are doing. DSS's and IASWCD communications are good channels for these. Region meetings are opportunities to showcase as well.
- 12.) I think that it would be so helpful if all districts were branded the same...used the same logos, had standard menus of programs, etc. I recognize that not all counties are the same, but I think that it would be helpful for our constituents to understand what an SWCD does across the board.
- 13.) Offer a library of videos (soil health, grants, trainings, etc) for districts to use
- 14.) Keep us informed!
- 15.) Educate state reps about SWCDs
- 16.) Do the county councils/commissioners know anything about SSCB?
- 17.) Do supervisors know anything about SSCB?
- 18.) Obtain a higher profile status; state meetings for commissioners, etc. Reach out en masse

- 19.) Shameless promotion; work together to raise awareness in language the general public will understand
- 20.) Legislators are not all aware of what SWCDs are about

#### **How to Improve SSCB:**

- 1.) Make the SSCB more visible to the public. Only SWCD people know the Board exists.
- 2.) More statewide education - improve and promote SWCD's image (TV spots - Billboards - with contact your County's SWCD)
- 3.) Make yourselves more known to each county commissioner and council member
- 4.) Quit being so secretive about what you do and decisions you have made
- 5.) Support us as individual counties. Learn from the lessons of NRCS District Conservationists. Splitting personnel between counties causes stress on the staff and poor customer service
- 6.) Audit and provide SPECIFIC recommendations for districts to improve their outreach to communities, including performance of supervisors.
- 7.) Lobby state government for increased funding
- 8.) Send minutes of SSCB meetings to district coordinators for inclusion in minutes of board meeting
- 9.) Make State Annual Conference more affordable
- 10.) Do you have any way of leaning on local officials?
- 11.) Stop cutting
- 12.) Continue to lobby for grant funding opportunities.
- 13.) Help districts redefine conservation into the future; advocate for WQ to the public

#### **Staffing:**

- 1.) more guidance from the state level for administrative needs
- 2.) centralized staff; enough people to go to for assistance
- 3.) Provide better communication/guidance when it comes to "new" duties/programs (such as the new requirements for SBOA and IRS).
- 4.) Provide each district with a technician to help with NRCS workload (contribution agreements, etc.) and get programs on the ground.
- 5.) Higher standards in general: (a) for supervisor appointment / reappointment and (b) for \$10,000 state matching funds.
- 6.) Additional funds to fund a FT employee
- 7.) The DSS people are spread way too thin. \* is probably the minimum number for them to be effective.
- 8.) How much time do SWCD personnel need to be assisting NRCS? Could \$'s be saved if NRCS had their own secretary or could NRCS have a cost-share agreement and pay part of the salary of the SWCD secretary?
- 9.) Work with ISDA in hiring district support specialist so the individuals we currently have do not have such large areas to cover.
- 10.) The tech team sometimes does not get plans done in time. I guess more people on the tech team.
- 11.) Push to have District Coordinators who are qualified and educated in each county. The job is so much more than just a secretary. Recognize the necessary skills and require a college education or equivalent experience. Raise the level of expectation.
- 12.) Provide a state level person available to come and talk to local county councils, commissions, etc. Help them get engaged

### **Training:**

- 1.) Become more involved in training programs like the LI, for staff and Supervisors.
- 2.) Help supervisors better develop district business plans
- 3.) Facilitate networking/share strengths of staff, knowledge, experience
- 4.) Make capacity building a very high priority - we can get cost-share money elsewhere, salary money is HARD to come by.
- 5.) Put a premium on capacity building kinds of activities for supervisors and staff such as Leadership Inst.
- 6.) Reward innovation and leadership.
- 7.) More training for employees. There are plenty of trainings that are offered but very few are geared towards the technical side of the job. To be efficient on the ground districts need to be capable of the technical aspects of "HOW" to conserve soil. What practices can be implemented? What is that structure?
- 8.) Continued support through counseling and education on conservation.
- 9.) Provide information and/or technical assistance to local SWCD offices for programs.
- 10.) **Leverage more with districts to raise expectations (i.e Leadership Institute)**
- 11.) **Need employees to become more like managers. Need skill development (marketing, relationship building, etc)**
- 12.) **Develop a mentor program**
- 13.) **Help districts learn new roles**

### **Partnerships:**

- 1.) Encourage new communications with urban centers to unify efforts needed by both rural and urban stakeholders in conserving soil, water and related natural resources.
- 2.) Coordinate with FSA and Purdue on maintaining offices together to maximize service to county residents.
- 3.) Help focus District's on state-wide initiatives
- 4.) work on partnerships and breaking down barriers

### **Success:**

- 1.) Last state meeting was excellent with good topics and presenters
- 2.) The funding for supervisor and staff training has allowed us to use our more limited funds for other things.
- 3.) The CWI grants allowed to us to do demonstration projects to show landowners the proper installation of fence and HUAPs and geo textile fabric.
- 4.) Doing a good job now. Excellent programs and direction
- 5.) **Existing position being used efficiently**
- 6.) **Keep up good relationships/connections**

### **Opinions:**

- 1.) I typed in SSCB in the computers search engine.605 results, none of which were correct for this use.
- 2.) A new supervisor, or an old one, might have to scramble to know or remember what SSCB is?
- 3.) Lets not be lazy, or in such a hurry that we can't spell out words. How many times will a friend, "Robert" responds to "hey R "?
- 4.) An overall synopsis or theme of these three ideas is the increase of sophistication for SWCD's in order to keep up with modern times as well as maintains the relevance and effectiveness of

local level conservation. There is a significant case to be made for local, representative, government conservation but it can only be made if the tools used by local actors are on par with the rest of the conservation arena.

**Brain Trust:**

- 1.) Proactive rather than reactive....new ideas and practices should be piloted here and measured for success here rather than status quo.
- 2.) Create expert youth educators, similar to teachers in major metropolis's, which are dedicated to the in-depth teaching of environmental science. Even if this means they must cover large areas. This would allow for increased on the ground technical specialization within district offices. Should be joint partnership with school systems (SSCB capacity may only be as proponent or funding body, with the teacher being included in the school systems for greatest integration possible).

**Agricultural Affairs Report – J. Seger**  
State Soil Conservation Board Meeting  
May 7, 2012

Indiana On-Farm Network® - Program focusing on production agriculture, working with farmers to examine management techniques improving profitability and the environment.

***2011 Crop Year***

Indiana's On-Farm Network Program completed the 2011 crop year with the following participation:

- 9 Groups
- 114 Farmers
- 252 Guided Stalk Sampling Fields (10,080 individual samples)
- 19 Replicated Strip Trial Fields (approx. 4,500 individual samples)
- 8 Grower Group Meetings

The CIG grant, which funds the program, requires the engagement of 25 farmers across three groups in 2011. As seen above, these requirements were met and well exceeded due, in part, from other additional funding sources from partners such as Indiana Corn Marketing Council and Indiana Soybean Alliance.

***2012 Crop Year***

- While the program only requires a one year commitment, the majority of the 2011 participants are returning for the 2012 season. This trend illustrates that growers see value in OFN even after only one year of participation.
- All groups are expected to maintain most 2011 participants and bring additional new participants into the group
- Each group will be allowed to have a maximum of 20 grower participants
- In 2012, participants will be able to enroll more of their fields for OFN analysis. A grower participant can have up to four fields enrolled for Guided Stalk Nitrate analysis and two fields with Replicated Strip Trials. This means in 2012 a grower can have approximately 240 acres under OFN analysis
- Two more groups will be added: Big Walnut and South Fork Wildcat, which brings the total to 12 OFN groups distributed across IN
- The use of Replicated Strip Trials will grow tremendously and we envision they will become even more useful as a diagnostic tool as Indiana OFN participants, group leaders, and other staff become more familiar and comfortable with their complexities.



**Indiana Association of  
Soil and Water  
Conservation Districts**

Protecting and enhancing Indiana's soil  
and water resources for all Hoosiers



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**To:** State Soil Conservation Board  
**From:** Ray McCormick, President, IASWCD  
**Date:** Monday, May 7, 2012

**Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI)**

- Applied for grant through the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation to fund the base CCSI project. Expect to receive notification by end of May if awarded.
- Applied for a USDA-NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant for a major expansion of the program. Expect to receive notification by end of July if awarded.
- The Indiana National Wildlife Federation is presenting CCSI with a conservation award at its May 19 annual meeting.
- Year 3 of the project is on track with over 50 presentations already completed; 10 private providers on board to provide one-on-one technical assistance to farmers; and 2 water quality monitoring projects in the works.
- 2 Interviews conducted – one with a major French reporter on Mike Starkey's Farm and one with Kara Kenny, Channel 6 news on Rodney Rulon's Farm. Lots of social media taking place from these interviews!

**Sustainable Natural Resources Task Force**

- Duties of the task force: (1) collect programmatic and funding data on current natural resource protection programs in Indiana; (2) perform a needs assessment concerning natural resource programs; and (3) collect information concerning the natural resource protection programs of other states, including information about funding and funding mechanisms for those programs.
- Task Force has been meeting since late last summer – meetings have included presentations by various agencies on programs and funding; and presentations on various conservation topics (soils, water quality/quantity, wildlife, biodiversity, forests, recreation and trails, etc.)
- Two public meetings will be scheduled for this summer to gain additional information along with the public's opinions.
- A full, completed report will be done by January 2013.

**Other**

- Jeff Meinders and Jennifer Boyle Warner have been serving on the SSCB Conservation Beyond 2016 Task Force.
- Ray McCormick and Jane Hardisty sent a letter to all the Districts regarding the "Office of the Future" letter from Gene Schmidt and Dave White.
- March regional meetings – Jennifer attended each to assist with the breakout session on the Conservation Beyond 2016 Task Force. Good discussions at each meeting.
- 2013 Annual Conference planning committee has met – theme of conference is "The Power of Conservation: Today's Actions, Tomorrow's Rewards"
- Jamie Scott, Bobby Hettmansperger and Jim Droege visited with our Congressional folks in March. This was a nationwide effort by NACD to get folks out talking about the Farm Bill and appropriations. Excellent visits!

**THE IASWCD MISSION** is to represent SWCDs as one voice and assist the leadership of local Districts through coordination and education for the wise use and management of our natural resources.

IDEM Report for SSCB Meeting  
May 7, 2012

**Agricultural Liaison Update**, Steve Howell

New CFO Rule Transition – Met with ag groups, Purdue Extension, and livestock consultants, to discuss rule changes. Four outreach meetings were held across the state. Approximately 150 permit holders attended. We are open to attend additional meetings by commodity groups to discuss rule changes. Guidance Manual will be completed soon and sent out to permit holders.

Public Concerns – Most of the public calls to ag liaison have been related to odors from applying manure this spring. We also had a few calls regarding stockpiled manure. Some calls earlier related to applying manure on frozen and snow covered ground. New CFO Rule has a prohibition as does the new State Chemist Rule. Public perception is that rules were already in place.

**Watershed Assessment and Planning Branch Update**, Marylou Renshaw

Grants: For 2012, IDEM has submitted to EPA eight 319(h) projects and two 205(j) projects, which are still under review at EPA and not yet awarded. Two additional 319(h) projects were submitted to use unspent 2010 funds, but no funds have been re-allocated or awarded.

*Please see the attached spreadsheets for a current accounting of all open 319(h) and 205(j) projects. SWCDs are highlighted in green.*

National Water Quality Initiative: We worked closely with NRCS to prioritize 12-digit HUC watersheds for the NWQI (NRCS program) for which the following three were selected: Silver Creek, in the Eel Watershed, Eil Creek in the Patoka Watershed and Eagle Creek Reservoir/Eagle Creek in the Upper White Watershed.

The analytical and decision-making process (described in Jane Hardisty's April 24<sup>th</sup> e-mail message to the State Technical Committee) was a productive exercise that could certainly be used as the template for identifying watersheds of concern and prioritizing them for future initiatives.

## 205 Open/Pending Projects

5/3/2012

Contractor	Project	Status	Start Date	End Date	205jDollars	Projecttype	HUC
Clinton County SWCD	S. F. Wildcat Creek WMP	Open	10/29/2009	10/28/2012	\$166,000.00	Planning	0512010703
enfoTech and Consulting, Inc.	AIMS II Expansion, Enhancements & Maintenance	Pending			\$175,997.00	ProgramSupport	Statewide
Jasper County SWCD	Upper Iroquois Watershed Initiative	Open	11/8/2010	8/7/2013	\$134,653.00	Planning	07120002
Jefferson County SWCD	Indian-Kentuck Creek WMP	Open	3/13/2012	5/12/2014	\$175,560.00	Planning	0514010102
LaGrange County SWCD	Fawn River WMP	Pending			\$200,000.00	Planning	0405000108
Marion County SWCD	ICP Technical Training Coordination	Open	1/24/2012	1/23/2014	\$146,900.00	ProgramSupport	statewide
Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission	Lower Wabash R. Nutrients & Continuous Monitoring	Open	2/3/2010	4/2/2012	\$98,723.00	Assessment	05120113,05140202
Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission	Lower Wabash River Nutrients Monitoring	Open	1/20/2012	1/19/2015	\$201,318.00	Assessment	05120113
Orange County SWCD	Lost River Watershed	Open	11/15/2010	2/14/2013	\$159,100.00	Planning	0512020812,0512020813
Save the Dunes Conservation Fund	Salt Creek Integrated Pilot	Open	6/1/2010	2/28/2014	\$105,432.00	Planning	0404000103
U. S. Geological Survey	Assessment of Nutrients using Invertebrates & Fish	Open	4/8/2011	4/7/2012	\$74,750.00	Assessment	Statewide
Upper Wabash River Basin Commission	Upper Wabash River WMP	Pending			\$131,250.00	Planning	05120101

### 319 Open/Pending Projects

5/3/2012

Contractor	Project	Status	Start Date	End Date	319Dollars	Projecttype	HUC
Allen County SWCD	Upper Maumee WMP & Implementation	Open	2/14/2012	1/31/2016	\$297,066.00	Restoration/Implementation	04100005
Allen County SWCD	St. Marys River WMP Implementation	Open	1/15/2010	1/14/2013	\$396,072.00	Restoration/Implementation	04100004
Bartholomew County SWCD	Flatrock-Haw WMP Implementation	Open	1/3/2012	1/2/2015	\$306,070.00	Restoration/Implementation	0512020506
Carroll County SWCD	Deer Creek-Sugar Creek WMP & Implementation	Open	4/13/2012	1/31/2016	\$457,702.00	Restoration/Implementation	0512010504,0512010505,0512010506
Clark County SWCD	Silver Creek Watershed Improvement Project	Open	10/18/2010	1/17/2014	\$405,995.00	Restoration/Implementation	0514010108
Dearborn County SWCD	Hogan Creek Watershed Project	Open	11/16/2010	11/15/2013	\$360,000.00	Restoration/Implementation	05090203040
Greene County SWCD	Plummer Creek WMP	Open	3/1/2012	8/31/2014	\$134,982.00	Planning	0512020203
Historic Hoosier Hills	South Laughery Creek Watershed	Open	4/1/2009	1/31/2013	\$419,440.00	Restoration/Implementation	05090203070,05090203080
Historic Hoosier Hills	Central Muscatatuck Watershed Project	Open	8/27/2009	8/26/2013	\$562,656.00	Restoration/Implementation	0512020706,0512020701

Historic Hoosier Hills	Indian Creek Watershed Project	Open	2/26/2009	2/25/2013	\$382,212.00	Restoration/ Implementa tion	0509020309
Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation	Capacity Building & Public Support for Wtrshd Grps	Open	9/22/2010	9/21/2012	\$150,000.00	ProgramSup port	STATEWIDE
Indiana State Department of Agriculture	Technical Assistance for Agriculture	Open	7/15/2011	7/14/2014	\$430,250.00	ProgramSup port	STATEWIDE
Indiana University	Indiana Clean Lakes Program	Open	1/5/2012	1/4/2016	\$319,200.00	Assessment	Statewide
Indiana University	Eagle Creek Watershed Implementation Project	Open	12/3/2009	12/2/2012	\$393,225.00	Restoration/ Implementa tion	05120201120
LaGrange County SWCD	Pigeon River WMP Development & Implementation	Open	9/28/2010	9/27/2014	\$539,000.00	Restoration/ Implementa tion	04050001
Manchester College	Middle Eel River Watershed Initiative	Open	1/1/2009	12/31/2012	\$599,000.00	Planning	05120104060, 05120104050
Monroe County SWCD	Bean Blossom Watershed Implementation Project	Open	11/3/2009	11/2/2012	\$401,345.00	Restoration/ Implementa tion	05120202010
Purdue University	Watershed Leadership Academy	Open	2/1/2011	1/31/2013	\$132,974.00	ProgramSup port	STATEWIDE
Purdue University	Watershed Leadership Academy Con't	Pending			\$173,653.00	ProgramSup port	STATEWIDE
Putnam County SWCD	Big Walnut/Deer Creek Watershed Implementation	Open	8/27/2009	8/26/2012	\$261,900.00	Restoration/ Implementa tion	051202030101
Save the Dunes Conservation Fund	Salt Creek Watershed Cost-Share & Outreach Program	Open	2/1/2009	1/31/2013	\$496,980.00	Restoration/ Implementa tion	04040001050

Save the Dunes Conservation Fund	Little Calumet River East Branch WMP	Open	1/17/2012	1/16/2014	\$114,845.00	Planning	040400010401,402,403
St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative	Upper St. Joe Watershed Project	Open	2/14/2012	1/31/2016	\$301,561.00	Restoration/Implementation	0410000302,301,304,303
St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative	Middle St. Joseph River WMP Development & Impl.	Open	9/27/2010	3/26/2014	\$349,800.00	Restoration/Implementation	0410000305
Steuben County SWCD	Pigeon Creek WMP Implementation Phase 2	Open	9/23/2009	9/22/2012	\$145,800.00	Restoration/Implementation	040500011001,040500011002,040500011003,04050001100
Sullivan County SWCD	Busseron Creek Watershed Implementation	Open	11/24/2010	11/23/2014	\$565,575.00	Restoration/Implementation	0512011115
The Nature Conservancy	Two-Stage Ditch Implementation	Open	1/17/2012	1/16/2014	\$255,278.00	Restoration/Implementation	Statewide
Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation	WQ Improvement in Upper Tippi/Grassy Creek	Open	8/27/2009	8/26/2012	\$380,611.00	Restoration/Implementation	0512010601
Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation	Upper Tippecanoe River-Grassy Creek Implementation	Pending			\$383,068.00	Restoration/Implementation	0512010601
Upper Wabash River Basin Commission	Wabash River Basin WMP Implementation	Open	8/28/2009	2/27/2013	\$198,500.00	Restoration/Implementation	0512010105,0512010106,0512010101,0512010104
Upper White River Watershed Alliance	Partners & Projects Protecting the White Implemen	Open	1/30/2012	1/29/2015	\$576,581.00	Restoration/Implementation	05120201,02,03

Wabash River Enhancement Corp.	Region of the Great Bend of Wabash WMP Impl	Open	2/14/2012	2/13/2015	\$799,740.00	Restoration/Implementation	0512010801, 0512010802, 0512010805
Wabash River Enhancement Corp.	Region of the Great Bend of the Wabash Bridging	Open	5/12/2011	5/11/2012	\$112,640.00	Planning	0512010801, 0512010802, 0512010805
Washington County SWCD	Mill Creek - Blue River Watershed Project	Open	11/15/2010	2/14/2013	\$162,894.00	Planning	0514010407