2014 Clean Water Indiana Grant

The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The CWI Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

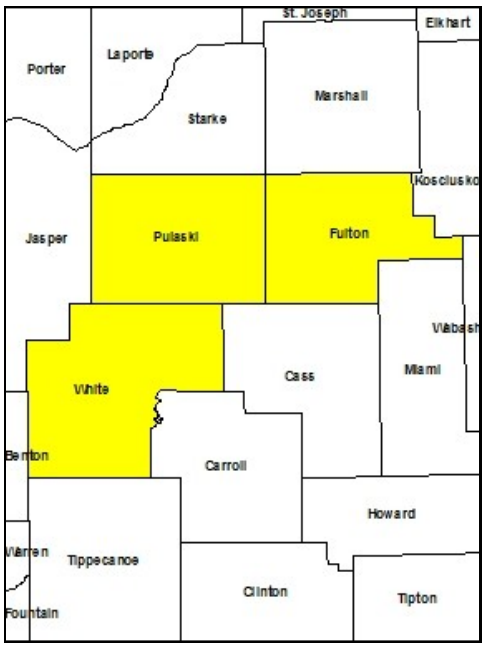
Furthermore, the CWI Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2014 ,the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 12 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling $724,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of $1,000 per year).

LEAD DISTRICT: PULASKI
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: FULTON, WHITE
PROJECT NAME: COVER CROPS – ABOVE AND BEYOND
PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2014-12/31/2016
PROJECT AMOUNT: $75,000

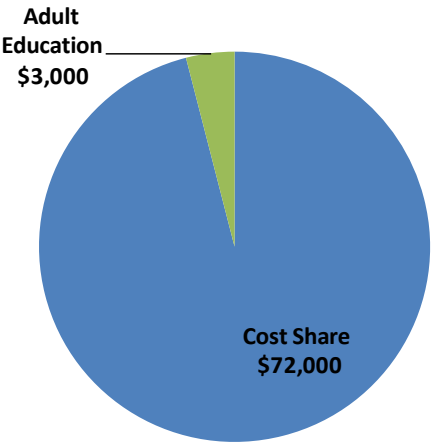
Purpose: Address soil quality degradation and waterquality

This project will address Soil Quality Degradation and Water Quality Impairments in the Tippecanoe River Watershed. Fulton, White, and Pulaski will continue their 2012 CWI Grant focus on cover crop cost-share and add the On Farm Network® to teach farmers about the amount of available nitrogen left in the soil and how to capture it with cover crops. This will reduce sediment and nutrients in the Tippecanoe River. Other Farm Bill programs, such as CREP, will be promoted to address soil and water quality. Technical assistance will be utilized for land owners/ managers and will help them plan and implement best management practices and technologies that will reduce erosion, sediment, and nutrient loading into the Gulf of Mexico (MRBI).
The goal of this three year project is to promote conservation on the ground through the use of cover crops, the On Farm Network®, and CREP in the Tippecanoe River Watershed. Multiple partnerships – Indiana Conservation Partners (ICP), Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI), County Extension Services (CES), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC) – will be utilized.



PARTNERS FOR THE PROJECT INCLUDE: FULTON, PULASKI, AND WHITE COUNTY PURDUE EXTENSION OFFICES, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, CTIC, AND CCSI.

Districts will host fall cover crop plot tours, spring root digs, and winter meetings to educate producers.



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