

## BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION:

Your community's drinking water is better protected at its source as a direct result of the actions you take.

### Partnerships:

Many organizations are ready to collaborate with your community:

- Indiana Section of American Water Works Association
- Local watershed groups
- Solid waste management districts
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources' Hoosier River Watch
- Local Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)

### Networking:

Sharing ideas and techniques for outreach events, educational programs, workshops, and other implementation strategies can help ease the burden on volunteers and maximize efforts.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

(800) 451-6027

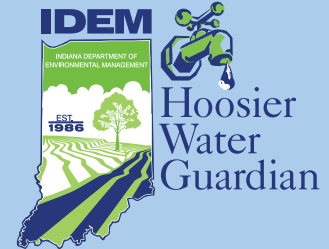
Or

(317) 234-7430

and ask for the  
*Drinking Water Branch.*

Indiana Department of  
Environmental Management

[www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)



Indiana Department of  
Environmental Management

Office of Water Quality  
Mail Code 66-33 IGC N045  
100 N. Senate Ave.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251  
[www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)

## WHO ARE HOOSIER WATER GUARDIANS:

The Hoosier Water Guardian program recognizes those communities who go above and beyond the minimum state standards for Wellhead Protection and Source Water Protection. It is a voluntary initiative for all community public water supplies that depend on ground water for all or part of their drinking water. Through the Hoosier Water Guardian program, community public water supplies receive recognition for local efforts to protect their residents and the environment.

## REVIEW PROCESS:

### Eligibility:

If your community has been involved in activities over the past five years that further the protection of your drinking water, IDEM wants to recognize you as one of our heroes, as a partner striving to improve our environment, and as a "Hoosier Water Guardian."

Hoosier Water Guardian applications can be reviewed annually rather than every 5, 7, or 10 years as required in the state's Wellhead Protection rules.

Your community is eligible to receive a Hoosier Water Guardian award every five years.

### Evaluation:

Your community will be evaluated for the award based upon the amount of steps taken, the implementation of innovative strategies, and the application of your plans. A complete list of evaluation criteria can be found on the Hoosier Water Guardian application.

## HOW TO QUALIFY:

Your community gains points for the activities it executes.

### Examples of Qualifying Activities:

- A well represented Local Planning Team that meets regularly
- Promoting good land use practices
- Monitoring known contamination sites to minimize impact and to ensure cleanup
- Preparing for spills and accidental releases
- Partnering with solid waste agencies, conservation groups, and watershed organizations to assist in the proper management of waste and potentially contaminating substances
- Educating students on the vulnerability of their water supply
- Adding a local ordinance to protect water resources including wellhead protection areas

## HOOSIER WATER GUARDIAN AWARD:

**Awards will be granted to communities that score at least 40 points out of a possible 100.**

### Recognition:

Your community's Hoosier Guardian award will be included on IDEM's website.

When your community qualifies for a Hoosier Water Guardian award you have the option of receiving one or more of the following to display your accomplishment in your community:

- A metal 11" x 13" sign with the Hoosier Water Guardian logo
- Static window clings with the Hoosier Water Guardian logo
- Digital copies of the Hoosier Water Guardian logo

## HOW TO APPLY:

Communities can either apply through IDEM or through the Groundwater Foundation.

### Through IDEM:

Hoosier Water Guardian applications are available on IDEM's website:

[www.in.gov/idem/cleanwater/information-about/hoosier-water-guardian/](http://www.in.gov/idem/cleanwater/information-about/hoosier-water-guardian/)

Completed applications and required documentation can be e-mailed to [GWSection@idem.IN.gov](mailto:GWSection@idem.IN.gov) or mailed to:

### Indiana Department of Environmental Management

100 North Senate Avenue  
Mail Code 66-33-2, IGC N045  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251

### Through the Groundwater Foundation:

Communities can apply for automatic consideration with the Groundwater Guardian Program and will receive 30 points toward their Hoosier Water Guardian application:

<https://groundwater.org/groundwater-guardian/>

