

These instructions apply to all approved County/Local Records Retention Schedules.

1) Reference the Appropriate Retention Schedule

Check your [office-specific Retention Schedule](#). If no Record Series applies, consult the [County/Local General Retention Schedule \(GEN\)](#). If no applicable record series is identified, contact IARA at cty@iara.in.gov for assistance.

2) Copy of Record vs. Duplicate

- Copy of Record: The official version that fulfills all legal and retention requirements.
- Duplicate: Other versions that contain the same information that are not used to fulfill all legal and retention requirements.

Unless a Record Series says otherwise, duplicates may be destroyed at any time without permission.

3) Digitizing Records

Records may be digitized under [OCPR Policies 20-01](#), [Policies 20-02](#), and IARA's [Electronic Records Guidelines](#).

After verifying completeness and legibility, the digitized record may be used as the Copy of Record, and the original then is considered a Duplicate.

Destroy the digitized version (now the Copy of Record) only after:

- Meeting the retention period.
- Completing a [Notice of Destruction of County/Local Government Records \(SF 44905\)](#). (Once destroyed, send the completed form to the [County Commission of Public Records](#).)

4) Managing Permanent and Critical Records

It is a best practice to maintain a physical copy of Permanent Records. For Critical Records, it is a best practice to maintain two copies: a physical copy that acts as the Copy of Record and a second copy that can be in any of the following approved formats:

- Physical paper or electronic format.
- Verified microfilm (per 60 IAC 2).
- Verified digitized files (per OCPR Policies and Electronic Records Guidelines).

Unsure if your record is scheduled? Need help?

Contact cty@iara.in.gov or (317) 232-3380.

5) Storage Options for Permanent and Critical Records

A Copy of Record may be stored:

- In the office of origin.
- With a trusted storage provider.
- In approved State/Federal Systems that meet standards and guarantee permanent access.

Store second copy separately to ensure continuity.

6) Managing Unscheduled Records

Before submitting forms for the destruction or transfer of unscheduled records, contact IARA for guidance. Approval is required prior to taking any action on unscheduled records.

7) Electronic Records Assistance

If you have questions about born digital records that are, or for help duplicating records electronically, contact the Electronic Records Program at erecords@iara.in.gov.

8) Litigation Holds

No record may be destroyed or transferred if it is involved in or anticipated to be involved in:

- Litigation, Claims, Audits, Public Information Requests, and/or Administrative Reviews.

Destruction or transfer can only proceed after all related actions are fully resolved.

9) Additional Guidance

- Multiple Record Series: If a record fits multiple Record Series, follow the longest applicable retention period.
- Form Examples: Forms listed in Record Series descriptions are examples, not exhaustive.
- Item Numbers: Used for convenience and may vary in printed copies.
- State Forms: To document destruction or transfer.
 - [State Form 44905](#): To destroy records on a retention schedule.
 - [State Form 30505](#): To destroy unscheduled records or severely damaged records.
 - [State Form 57236](#): To transfer scheduled or unscheduled records to state or county/local entities.

Please refer to the County/Local Records Custodian Handbook for additional information:
<https://www.in.gov/iara/files/handbook-countylocalrecordscustodian.pdf>

TRANSMITTAL OF PROPOSED / APPROVED RECORDS RETENTION AND DISPOSITION SCHEDULE

State Form 39443 (R9 / 04-25)

Section 1: Description of Proposed Changes

An approved records retention and disposition schedule grants your agency the authority to transfer or destroy records on a continuing basis in accordance with IC 5-15-5.1-5.

Below is an executive summary of the revisions made to the retention and disposition schedule of the following agency or division:

County/Local Surveyors Retention Schedule

Streamlining permanent record retention period language, amending a title and description.

Section 2: Agency Approval of Proposed Changes

Please have your agency head or designee sign below to indicate approval of the proposed revisions. The proposed revisions will then advance to the next scheduled meeting of the Oversight Committee on Public Records (OCPR). You will be notified when OCPR has approved the revisions, and the schedule is finalized.

Return the signed form to the State Records Management Program at rmd@iara.in.gov.

Agency head signature (or designee) and date

N/A; IARA acts as agency head

Section 3: Oversight Committee on Public Records Approval of Proposed Changes

The Oversight Committee on Public Records met on 9/24/2025 and approved this records retention and disposition schedule for the use of the following agency or division:

County / Local Surveyors (SL) Retention Schedule

Oversight Committee on Public Records Secretary signature and date

S. Ash Lighthouse



INDIANA ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION (IARA) – County/Local Records Management
County Surveyors Retention Schedule (SU)

ITEM NO.	RECORD SERIES	TITLE/DESCRIPTION	RETENTION PERIOD
1	SU 23-01	ORIGINAL FIELD NOTES Public land surveys and township plats from the original division of public land in a county. These records are no longer created, but existing records must be preserved permanently.	PERMANENT. See Retention Schedule Instructions for format and transfer options.
2	SU 23-02	LEGAL SURVEYS Legal surveys are conducted to resolve a dispute between property owners or discrepancies between claimed boundaries and actual boundaries.	PERMANENT. See Retention Schedule Instructions for format and transfer options.
3	SU 23-03	COUNTY VERIFICATION OF BUSINESS LOCATION SF 44184 or its substitutes.	DESTROY after three (3) years.
4	SU 23-04	REGULATED DITCH AND DRAIN FILES Petitions, assessments and watershed boundary information on land containing a regulated ditch and/or drain.	PERMANENT. See Retention Schedule Instructions for format and transfer options.
5	SU 23-05	REGULATED DRAIN ASSESSMENT ROLLS This is a roll of all current property-owners with land in the affected watershed area, who will need to pay an assessed fee for upkeep and service on regulated drains. When the original petition is approved, that roll becomes a court record, with a certified copy also filed with the County Auditor. Assessment rolls are also created for annual assessments; these cease being relevant after the end of the affected tax year.	DESTROY when replaced by a new assessment roll.
6	SU 23-06	SECTION CORNER PERPETUATION County Surveyors are tasked with finding and recording the current locations and physical reference points of the corner stones set during the original survey of the State of Indiana. This includes continued tracking and recording of any changes to original or previous reference points.	PERMANENT. See Retention Schedule Instructions for format and transfer options.



2025 Record Series Update Overview

THIS IS NOT PART OF THE APPROVED RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE. It is only a detachable overview of the updates that were made to the County/Local Educational Institutions Retention Schedule in 2025.

No background: This Record Series contains updates.

IF YOU USED TO USE RECORD SERIES...	NOW YOU SHOULD USE RECORD SERIES...
SU 23-01	SU 23-01 (Retention language has been updated.)
SU 23-02	SU 23-02 (Retention language has been updated.)
SU 23-04	SU 23-04 (Title, description, and retention language have been updated.)
SU 23-06	SU 23-06 (Retention language has been updated.)

SUMMARY

Amended: SU 23-01, SU 23-02, SU 23-04, SU 23-06