

SECTION 319 Grant Program Eligible Natural Resources Conservation Service Field Office Technical Guide Practices



The Clean Water Act Section 319(h) provides funding for various types of activities that work to reduce nonpoint source (NPS) water pollution. Section 319 grant projects in Indiana that implement best management practices (BMPs) are required by Indiana's NPS Program to develop a cost-share program. The approved cost-share program allows Section 319 funds to be used to pay a portion of the cost of implementing BMPs that reduce sediment, nutrients, and other pollutants from nonpoint sources in the watershed. For information on cost-share program requirements, see [Clean Water Act Section 319 Agricultural Guidance for Indiana](#) or [Clean Water Act Section 319 Urban Guidance for Indiana](#). These documents provide general program information, funding restrictions, definitions of basic terminology, and frequently asked questions related to the distribution and reimbursement of cost-share funds for BMPs.

The ***Section 319 Grant Program Eligible Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) Practices*** spreadsheet is a list of NRCS practices that may be incorporated into a cost-share program and implemented with Section 319 funds. The *Key Requirements* are noted elements that must be followed in addition to the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard specifications when implementing the BMP, and are usually Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) requirements or Section 319 Program requirements. If the Key Requirements column is blank, only the NRCS FOTG Conservation Practice requirements for that practice apply. Implementation of a BMP not listed in this document must receive prior approval from IDEM.

IDEM advises coordinating with your IDEM Project Manager prior to allocating funds for any BMP to avoid delays, ensure the practice is approved, and receive technical guidance. IDEM reserves the right to reject any request for reimbursement for a cost-share activity that does not follow the grant agreement, the watershed management plan, the approved cost-share program, and/or IDEM or USEPA policy. All agricultural BMPs must be implemented in accordance with a Conservation Plan for the land. A signature is required in Section B of the 319-A Agriculture and 319-U Urban Cost-Share Forms for reimbursement to certify that the BMP is needed to improve or maintain water quality and will reduce off-site sedimentation or nutrient, pesticide or pathogen loads to receiving waters, and was implemented consistent with NRCS standards or other approved specifications.

Maintenance of BMPs

BMPs are required to be maintained for a specified period of time listed on the 319-A Form (with the exception of Cover Crop (Practice Code 340) which must be maintained for one season). Section 319 funds cannot be used for maintenance of practices. If a BMP that was paid for with 319 funds is damaged or destroyed by extreme natural events (i.e., flooding, drought, lightening, etc.) during the term of the grant agreement, it may be repaired or replaced with 319 funds.

Permits

Some BMPs may require permits. While it is the responsibility of the property owner to apply for and obtain all required local, state, and federal permits, grantees are advised to seek guidance on the need for permits from IDEM staff before initiating any work on a given BMP. If a BMP cannot receive a permit, IDEM will not fund the BMP.

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Practice Code	Practice Name	Key Requirements
472	Access Control	1. Livestock exclusion from stream, wetland or woodland only. 2. Area protected must have a minimum of 30 ft. distance to water in the case of streams, measured from barrier to water's edge.
560	Access Road	Must be used as approach to stream crossing (578).
309	Agrichemical Handling Facility	
316	Animal Mortality Facility	
317	Composting Facility	
102	Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan	For CNMP development, the NRCS CNMP Review Checklist must be completed and signed by the landowner, a Certified CNMP Developer, and an approved NRCS CNMP Reviewer, if appropriate.
327	Conservation Cover	
656	Constructed Wetland	
332	Contour Buffer Strip	
330	Contour Farming	
340	Cover Crop	1. Funds may be used to establish the cover crop only (does not include termination). 2. This practice is required to be maintained for one season, unless funds are used to purchase equipment modification(s), in which case the practice must be implemented for five seasons. 3. A farmer is eligible to receive cost-share on a field a maximum of three times.
342	Critical Area Planting	
747	Denitrifying Bioreactor	
362	Diversion	
554	Drainage Water Management	
382	Fence	1. Only eligible if used to exclude livestock under (472) Access Control or for pasture management that meets (528) Prescribed Grazing standard. 2. Temporary fence is not eligible under this practice.
386	Field Border	
393	Filter Strip	
512	Forage and Biomass Planting	
410	Grade Stabilization Structure	This practice may not be used in a water of the State unless appropriate permits have been obtained.
412	Grassed Waterway	
561	Heavy Use Area Protection	

595	Integrated Pest Management	1. For pest management plan (PMP) development, the NRCS PMP Checklist must be completed and signed by the producer/operator and a Certified Pest Management Specialist. 2. The PMP must be developed prior to the practice implementation. 3. For practice implementation, the item that was completed in the PMP that produced an outcome must be listed on the cost-share form.
449	Irrigation Water Management	1. Eligible only for existing irrigation systems. Participant must have irrigated two of the past five years. 2. A Uniformity Test and flow monitoring is required. 3. Cost-share is for detailed record keeping and data collection, and irrigating according to an approved irrigation scheduling program (such as Purdue's Michiana Irrigation Scheduler or equivalent). 4. Management must decrease non-point source pollution of surface or ground water resources.
543	Land Reconstruction, Abandoned Mine Land	
468	Lined Waterway or Outlet	1. Must be applied as part of a resource management system. 2. This practice may not be used in a water of the State unless appropriate permits have been obtained.
516	Livestock Pipeline	Must be in conjunction with exclusion fencing (382), watering facility (614), or prescribed grazing (528).
484	Mulching	Only eligible to support another practice for the purpose of establishment of permanent vegetative cover.
590	Nutrient Management	1. For nutrient management plan (NMP) development, the NRCS NMP Checklist must be completed and signed by the producer/operator and a Certified Nutrient Management Specialist. 2. The NMP must be developed prior to the practice implementation. 3. For practice implementation, the item that was completed in the NMP that produced an outcome must be listed on the cost-share form. 4. For manure application, 319 funds may only be used for technology (including equipment modifications) that reduces or eliminates surface application of manure or that increases application efficiency such as no-till manure injection, variable rate controllers, and Geographic Positioning Systems. 5. Practice must be above and beyond any permit requirements. 6. Soil test must have been completed within the last four years to be valid. 7. The minimum number of acres necessary for manure application shall be based on the IDEM "Guidance Manual for Indiana's Confined Feeding Program, Land Application of Manure." 8. Only fields with a soil test phosphorus level of <50 ppm (100 lbs.) per acre will be eligible for manure. 9. Does not include any aspect of transport/hauling of waste.
582	Open Channel	1. Eligible only for the conversion of an existing ditch to a Two-Stage ditch as described in the additional criteria of the 582 FOTG Standard. 2. Eligible for existing constructed channels with > 1 square mile drainage area. 3. Site evaluation by person with adequate engineering approval is required prior to implementation.
378	Pond	1. Ponds are only allowed as a source for livestock watering in an existing grazing system. Livestock must be excluded from accessing the pond. Ponds are not eligible for a watering source for confined livestock operations. 2. Must be sized for the grazing need or the minimum to meet standards.
338	Prescribed Burning	1. Only eligible where acreage has Prescribed Burning Plan. 2. Must obtain a variance from the IDEM Office of Air Quality. 3. Must be implemented only to prepare site for an approved vegetative BMP.

528	Prescribed Grazing	Must follow the "Additional Criteria to Improve or Maintain Surface and/or Subsurface Water Quality and Quantity" in the standard.
533	Pumping Plant	Eligible for grazing livestock water only.
345	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till	1. This practice must either be used as a transition from conventional tillage to the Residue and Tillage Management, No Till/Strip Till (329); or Mulch-Till must meet the "modified No-Till" criteria; or applicant must prove that the current system's soil loss is above "T" and this practice will take it below "T". 2. Applicant must have mulch-tilled/modified no-tilled and/or no-tilled for no more than five consecutive years. 3. Must develop nutrient management (590) and pest management (595) plans that are specific for a mulch-till system, and have any component critical to the success of the system implemented the fall prior to the implementation of mulch-till.
329	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till	1. Applicant must have no-tilled for no more than five consecutive years. 2. Must develop nutrient management (590) and pest management (595) plans that are specific for a no-till system, and have any component critical to the success of the system implemented the fall prior to the implementation of no-till.
391	Riparian Forest Buffer	
390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover	
558	Roof Runoff Structure	Must limit stormwater runoff, thus reducing soil erosion and increasing the infiltration rate.
574	Spring Development	Only eligible where livestock are excluded from streams or wetlands currently being used as a watering source for grazing livestock.
570	Stormwater Runoff Control	May not be used to implement practices for the purpose of meeting any State Rule or National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Program requirements. These requirements most often apply to Rule 5 (327 IAC 15-5) and Rule 13 (327 IAC 15-13), which is also known as the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) rule.
578	Stream Crossing	1. May only be used in conjunction with exclusion fencing (382) to limit livestock access to water of the State, or for equipment crossing in conjunction with Access Road (560). 2. For livestock access, the practice must be sited and constructed in a manner to deter loafing time in the stream.
395	Stream Habitat Improvement and Management	This BMP is considered a secondary practice.*
580	Streambank and Shoreline Protection	This BMP is considered a secondary practice.* Bioengineering and/or vegetative establishment only.
585	Strip Cropping	Crop strips will be no wider than 360 feet.
587	Structure for Water Control	Only as needed for a drainage water management system (554).
606	Subsurface Drain	Must be used in conjunction with a Grassed Waterway (412), Diversion (362), Drainage Water Management System (554), WASCOB (638), or other approved BMP in which subsurface drainage is necessary.
600	Terrace	
575	Trails and Walkways	

612	Tree and Shrub Establishment	Must be used for long-term erosion control and improvement of water quality.
620	Underground Outlet	Must be used in conjunction with a Grassed Waterway (412), Diversion (362), Drainage Water Management System (554), WASCOB (638), or other approved BMP in which subsurface drainage is necessary.
635	Vegetated Treatment Area	This BMP is considered a secondary practice.*
367	Waste Facility Cover (Roofs and Covers)	
313	Waste Storage Facility	1. Must be above and beyond permit requirements. 2. If waste facility is on a property that does not contain animals there must be a contract in place to receive manure for at least ten years. 3. A CNMP must be written, delivered and certified prior to the start of the waste storage facility.
638	Water and Sediment Control Basin	1. Nutrient Management (590) and Integrated Pest Management (595) must already be implemented or implementation started within the year the structure is being built. 2. Fields within the watershed of the structure must be managed to "T", or practices must be installed in the year the structure is built that brings the soil loss to "T". 3. All of these requirements apply within the entire drainage area of the WASCOBs, whether on the applicant's land or adjacent land.
642	Water Well	Only eligible when used for grazed livestock watering.
614	Watering Facility	May only be used to meet daily water requirements and improve animal distribution. Not eligible for providing water to a confined livestock facility.
658	Wetland Creation	
659	Wetland Enhancement	
657	Wetland Restoration	

* **A secondary practice** is a BMP that may be implemented only after other BMPs have been implemented to address the pollutant of concern and supplementary BMPs are needed to fully address the concern. This practice will require prior approval by IDEM and will be approved on a case-by-case basis.

Definition

"Waters of the State" a.k.a. "waters" (IC 13-11-2-265)

Sec. 265. (a) "Waters", for purposes of water pollution control laws and environmental management laws, means:

- (1) the accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural and artificial, public and private; or
- (2) a part of the accumulations of water;

that are wholly or partially within, flow through, or border upon Indiana.

(b) The term "waters" does not include:

- (1) an exempt isolated wetland;
- (2) a private pond; or

(3) an off-stream pond, reservoir, wetland, or other facility built for reduction or control of pollution or cooling of water before discharge.

(c) The term includes all waters of the United States, as defined in Section 502(7) of the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1362(7)), that are located in Indiana.