

2025

INDIANA DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITIES REGIONAL MEETINGS LEGISLATIVE REPORT

PREPARED BY: INDIANA FINANCE AUTHORITY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
BACKGROUND.....	3
APPROACH	4
DISCUSSION OF RESULTS	5
CONCLUSION.....	6
APPENDIX A: INDIANA’S REGIONAL WATER PLANNING MAP	7
APPENDIX B: LIST OF UTILITIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN IFA REGIONAL MEETINGS	8

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As required by IC 5-1.2-11.5-6 (“Act”), the Indiana Finance Authority (“IFA”) submits to the Indiana General Assembly the data gathered from the State’s 2023 and 2024 regional water planning meetings. This report fulfills the reporting requirement set forth in Section 6(e) of the Act.

In 2023 and 2024, 75 regional water planning meetings were held throughout the State of Indiana, with approximately 1,708 utility representatives in attendance.

Frequent regional meeting topics included:

- PFAS in drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater – regulations and funding
- Lead Service Line inventory and replacement - implementation and funding
- Operator exams and prep courses
- Capital improvement projects
- Hiring assistance from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development
- Coordination with county Health Departments
- Certified Operator Apprenticeship programs
- Updates from Indiana 811.

Less common topics included:

- Regional water supply and demand studies
- Software: billing, asset management, work order tickets, budgeting
- Succession planning
- Forming a stormwater utility
- Water audits
- Engaging customers/public outreach
- Sewer extensions in unsewered areas
- Comparison of drought management/water conservation ordinances.

BACKGROUND

In 2018, the Indiana Legislative Council convened the Water Infrastructure Task Force (“Task Force”) to study drinking water and wastewater utility needs and best practices in Indiana. One recommendation of the Task Force was for the State to assist utilities with long term planning by establishing Water Infrastructure Study Areas for the purpose of studying supply and demand, drought preparedness, infrastructure needs, and opportunities for utility collaboration within a region.

As a result of these recommendations, the 2019 Indiana General Assembly enacted Senate Enrolled Act 4 (“SEA 4,” now Section 6 of IC 5-1.2-11.5, the “Act”). The Act requires the IFA to conduct regional meetings throughout the State to help drinking water and wastewater utilities work together to address long-term planning needs. The Act also requires drinking water and wastewater utilities to participate in regional meetings to qualify for assistance from the IFA and to report participation to the IFA. Lastly, the Act requires the IFA to summarize and prepare a report for the Indiana General Assembly on November 1 of every odd-numbered calendar year.

To create the State of Indiana’s regional map, the IFA began in 2020 by conducting (or participating in) a series of regional water planning meetings throughout the State for the purpose of collecting input from utilities on how the regional map should be configured. The majority of utilities wanted the boundaries to follow county boundaries and be clustered into areas based on existing relationships between utilities and/or watershed boundaries. [Appendix A](#) displays the final map. While utilities may attend a regional meeting outside of their region, the intention is that they attend one in their region to get the benefits of interacting with their neighbors.

Regional meetings are for utility personnel, board members, and elected officials, and only these individuals can meet the attendance requirement. Examples of utility representatives who can meet the attendance requirement are listed in Table 1. A sign-in sheet is used to document utility participation. Consultants and contractors are welcome to attend when they attend at the invitation of a utility who is also attending.

Table 1: Examples of utility representatives who can meet the attendance requirement.

Utility Leadership	Utility Operations	Utility Billing/Other	Utility Elected Officials
Superintendent, Office Manager, Town Manager	Operator, Treatment Plant Manager, Distribution Collection System Manager, Laborer, Apprentice	Clerk, Billing Manager, Communications Manager	Board Members, Town Council, Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROACH

In 2023 and 2024, the IFA continued conducting planning meetings in all regions of the State. In some cases, the IFA managed all the meeting arrangements, but in most cases the IFA worked with the host utility to find a location and determine meeting time and date. Where possible, the IFA held meetings in conjunction with partner utility associations’ events (e.g., Alliance of Indiana Rural Water, Indiana Section of the American Water Works Association, and Indiana Wastewater Operators Association meetings and conferences, etc.). This approach served to reduce utility travel and reporting requirements, increase participation, and minimize duplicative efforts.

Setting the regional meeting agenda was a collaborative effort. In some instances, utilities arranged the entire agenda. Other times, utilities suggested the topics and the IFA identified the speakers.

Utilities decided how often to meet; some met quarterly, most met once or twice per year. The schedule and location of regional meetings was advertised on the IFA Regional Planning Meeting website,¹ and was also sent by email to utilities approximately twice a year.

The IFA applied for Continuing Education Credits, or “CEUs,” for drinking water and wastewater certified operators who attended the regional meetings and submitted necessary paperwork to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

Unless a regional meeting was held as part of another group’s conference, there is no cost to attend a regional meeting.

¹ <https://www.in.gov/ifa/regional-planning-meetings/>

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

From January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024, 75 regional meetings were held and attended by approximately 1,708 people. See Table 2. The list of utilities that attended a regional meeting during this period is listed in [Appendix B](#).

Table 2. Number of regional meetings and utilities in attendance in Calendar Year 2023 and 2024.

	Number of regional meetings	Number of people attending
2023	36	888
2024	39	820
TOTAL	75	1,708

Frequent regional meeting topics in 2023 and 2024 included:

- PFAS in drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater – regulations and funding
- Lead Service Line inventory and replacement - implementation and funding
- Operator exams and prep courses
- Capital improvement projects
- Hiring assistance from the Department of Workforce Development
- Coordination with Local Health Departments
- Certified Operator Apprenticeship programs
- Updates from Indiana 811.

Less common topics included:

- Regional water supply and demand studies
- Software: billing, asset management, work order tickets, budgeting
- Succession planning
- Forming a stormwater utility
- Water audits
- Engaging customers/public outreach
- Sewer extensions in unsewered areas
- Comparison of drought management/water conservation ordinances.

CONCLUSION

Since 2020, there have been 133 regional meetings held (by the IFA and partnering entities) with over 3,400 people attending. Since 2022, the average number of people attending a regional meeting per year is 825. See Figure 1.

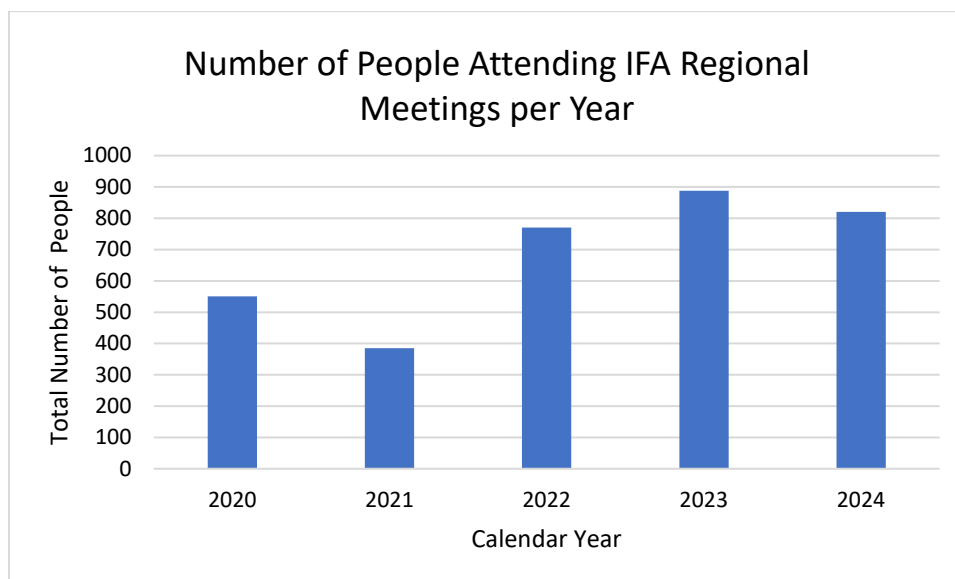
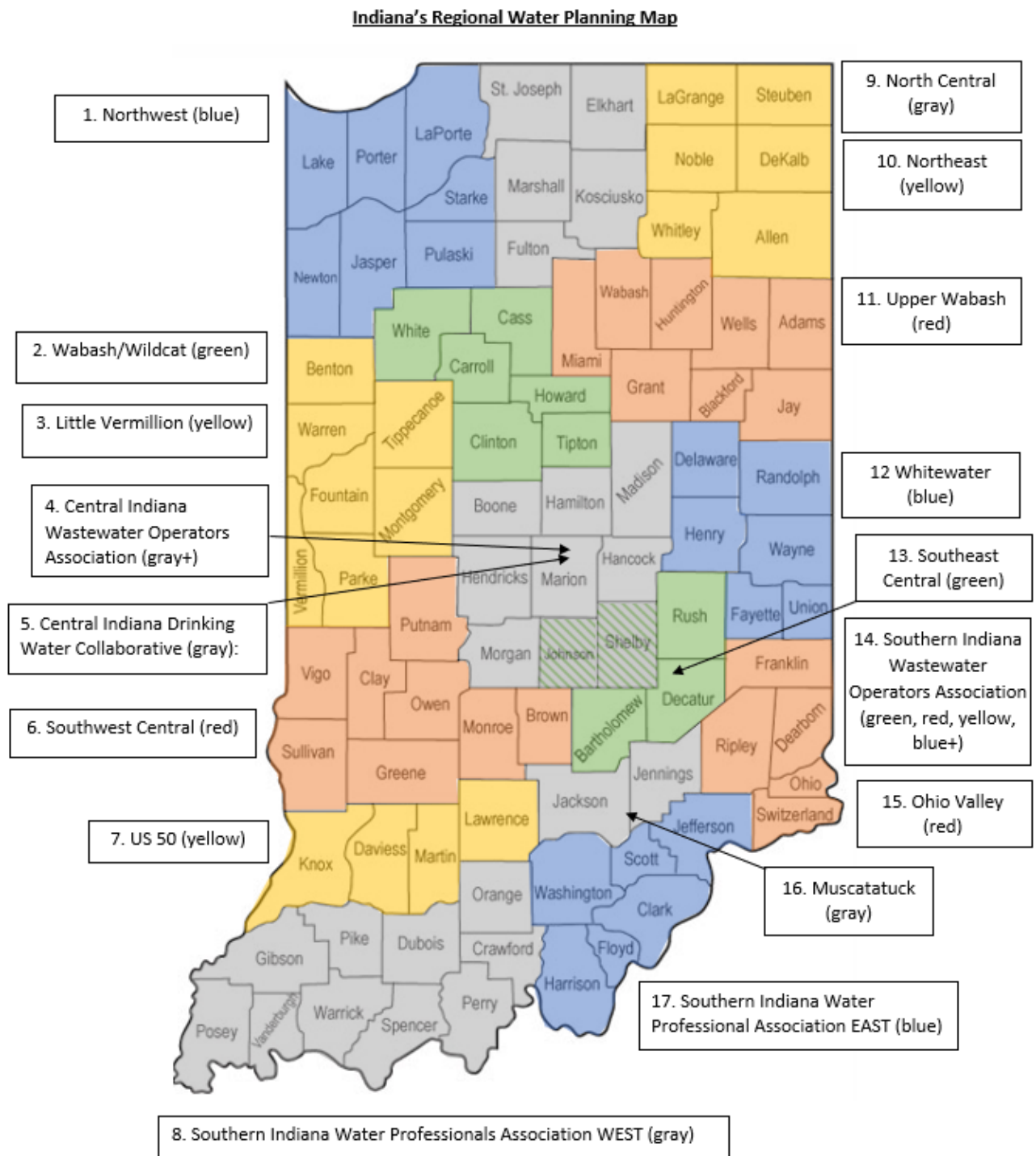


Figure 1. The number of people attending an IFA Regional Meeting per year.

There are several factors that might influence the attendance observed in Figure 1. Besides the standard start-up aspects (i.e. utilities becoming familiar with the new requirement), other reasons may include the end of the COVID-19 pandemic and the transfer back from virtual to in-person meetings, or the increase in IFA financings as a result of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Acts of 2021. While the exact cause is unknown, the IFA will continue to assist utilities by facilitating opportunities for regional collaboration in the drinking water and wastewater utility sectors.

APPENDIX A: INDIANA'S REGIONAL WATER PLANNING MAP



APPENDIX B: LIST OF UTILITIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN IFA REGIONAL MEETINGS

Reporting timeframe is January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2024

Aberdeen Pate Water Company	Bremen Water Department
Adams County Regional Sewer District	Bristol, Town of
Advance, Town of	Brookston, Town of
Akron Water Department	Brookville Lake Regional Waste District
Albany, Town of	Brookville Utilities
Anderson Township Regional Sewer District	Brown County Water
Anderson, City of	Brownsburg, Town of
And-Tro Water Authority	Brownstown Wastewater Utility
Angola Utilities	Burlington, Town of
Aqua Indiana Water Company	Burnt Pines Water Association
Ashley, Town of	Cambridge City, Town of
Auburn, City of	Camden, Town of
Aurora, Town of	Canaan Utilities
Avilla, Town of	Cannelton Municipal Utilities
Bargersville, Town of	Carbon, Town of
Batesville Water & Gas Utility	Carmel, City of
Battle Ground Conservancy District	Carthage, Town of
Battle Ground, City of Wastewater Utility	Cayuga Water Department
BBP Water Corporation	Centerville, Town of
Bear High Wolf Lake RSD	Chalmers, Town of
Bedford, City of	Chandler, Town of
Ben Davis Conservancy District	Chesterfield, Town of
Berne, City of	Chrisney Water Department
Bicknell, City of	Churubusco, Town of
Bloomington, City of	Cicero, Town of
Bluffton, City of	Citizens Energy Group (Indianapolis)
Boonville, Veolia Water	Clarks Hill, Town of
Borden Tri County Regional Water District	Claypool, Town of
Bourbon Utilities, Town of	Clinton Township Water
Brazil, City of	Clinton, City of

Cloverdale, Town of
Columbia City Utilities
Columbus, City of
Connersville Utilities
Converse, Town of
Cordry-Sweetwater Conservancy District
Corydon, Town of
Crawford County Water Company Inc.
Crawfordsville Utilities
Cromwell, Town of
Crothersville Utilities
Crown Point, City of
Culver, Town of
Cumberland, Town of
Cynthiana Water Works
Daleville, Town of
Dana, Town of
Decatur County Rural Water Corporation
Decatur, City of
Delphi Water Works
Dillsboro Utilities
Dublin, Town of Dubois Water Utilities
Duff Water Corporation
Dugger, Town of
Dupont Water Company
Dyer, Town of Utilities
East Chicago, City of
East Fork Water Inc.
East Lawrence Water Authority
Eastern Bartholomew Water Corporation
Eastern Heights Utilities
Eaton, Town of
Edinburgh, Town of

Edwardsville Water Corporation
Elberfeld, Town of
Elizabeth, Town of
Elkhart, City of
Elwood Utilities
Etna Green, Town of
Evansville Utilities
Fairmount, Town of
Fairview Park Water Utilities
Farmersburg, Town of
Farmland, Town of
Fayette Township Water
Ferdinand, Town of
Finch Newton Water
Fishers, City of
Flora Water Works
Florence Regional Sewage District
Floyds Knobs Water Company
Fort Wayne, City of
Fortville, Town of
Fowlerton, Town of WWTP
Francisco, Town of
Frankfort, Town of
Franklin County Water Association
Franklin, City of
Frankton, Town of
Fulda Regional Sewer District
Galveston, Town of
Garrett Utilities
Gary Sanitary District
Gas City Water Department
Gaston, Town of
GEM Utilities

Geneva Water Works
Gibson Water
Glenwood, Town of
Goshen, City of
Gosport, Town of
Grabill, Town of
Grandview, Town
Grantsburg Rural Water Company
Greencastle Utilities
Greenfield Utilities
Greensburg, City of
Greentown, Town of
Greenville Water Utility
Greenwood Utilities
Hamilton County Regional Utilities
Hamlet, Town of
Hammond, City of
Hartford City, Town of
Haubstadt, Town of
Hayden Water Association, Inc.
Hebron, Town of
Helmsburg Regional Sewer District
Highland, Town of
Hill Water Corporation
Hillsboro Utilities, Town of
Holland, Town of
Holton Community Water Corporation
Hope, Town of
Huntertown Utilities
Huntingburg, City of
Huntington, City of
Indiana American Water
Ingalls, Town of

Ireland Utilities
Jackson County Water - Reddington
Jackson County Water Utility, Inc.
Jasonville, City of Utilities
Jasper Municipal Utilities
Jennings Northwest Regional Utilities
Jennings Water Inc.
Jonesboro, City of
Kewanna Water Works
Kingman, Town of
Kings Ridge Homeowners Association
Kingsbury, Town of
Kirklin, Town of
Knightstown, Town of
Knightsville, Town of
Knox County Water
Kokomo, City of
Kouts, Village of
L&M Regional Water District
La Crosse, Town of
La Grange County Regional Utility District
La Porte, City of
L-A-C Utilities
Ladoga, Town of
Lafayette, City of
LaGrange, Town of
Lagro, Town of
Lake County
Lake Dalecarlia Regional Waste District
Lake Station, City of
Lakeville, Town of
Lanesville Utilities
LaOtto Regional Sewer District

LaPaz, Town of	Mishawaka Utilities
LaPorte County Regional Sewer District	Monon Utilities
Laurel, Town of	Monroe, Town of
Lawrence, City of	Montezuma, Town of
Leavenworth Water	Montgomery County Regional Sewer District
Lebanon, City of	Montgomery, Town of
Ligonier Utilities	Monticello, City of
Linden, Town of	Montpelier, City of
Linton, City of	Morgan County Rural Water Corporation
Lizton, Town of	Morgantown Utilities
LMS Conservancy District	Mount Summit, Town of
Logansport Municipal Utilities	Mount Vernon Utilities
Loogootee, City of	Mulberry, Town of
Lowell, Town of	Munster, Town of
Luce Township Regional Sewer District	Napoleon Comm. Rural Water Corporation
Lynnville, Town of	Nappanee Utilities
Madison, City of	Nashville Utilities
Mapleturn Utilities	New Carlisle, Town of
Marion Utilities	New Castle, City of
Markle, Town of	New Chicago Utilities
Marshall County Regional Sewer District	New Haven, City of
Marshall Water Works	New Richmond Utilities
Martinsville, City of	Newberry Water Utilities
Marysville Otisco Nabb Water	Newburgh Wastewater Facility
Matthews, Town of WWTP	Ninestar Connect Utilities
Maysville Regional Water & Sewer District	Noblesville, City of
Michigan City Water Works	North Dearborn Water Corporation
Michigantown, Town of	North Judson, Town of
Middlebury, Town of	North Lawrence Water Authority
Middletown, Town of	North Liberty, Town of
Milan, Town of	North Manchester, Town of
Milford, Town of	North Vernon Water
Milton, Town of	Oaktown Water

Orleans, Town of
Osgood, Town of
Ossian, Town of
Oxford Utilities
Palmyra, Town of
Paoli, Town of
Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District
Patoka Water Company
Patriot Water Company
Paxton Water Corporation
Pendleton, Town of
Perrysville, Town of
Peru Utilities
Petersburg Water
Plainfield, Town of
Plymouth, City of
Portage, City of
Portland Utilities
Posey Township Water
Poseyville Utilities
Prince's Lakes Utilities
Ramsey Water Co. Inc.
Reelsville Water Authority
Remington, Town of
Rensselaer, City of
Reynolds, City of
Richmond, City of
Rising Sun Municipal Utilities
River Ridge Development Authority
Roanoke, Town of
Rochester, City of
Rockport, Town of
Romney Regional Sewer District

Rossville, Town of
Royal Center Utilities
Rural Membership Water Corporation
Rushville, City of
Russellville, Town of
Russiaville, Town of
Salem Water
Santa Claus Utilities
Schererville, Town of
Scott County Regional Sewer District
Scottsburg Water
Seelyville, Town of
Sellersburg Water
Seymour, City of
Shadyside Water
Shamrock Lakes WWTP
Shelburn Municipal Water
Shelbyville, City of
Shipshewana, Town of
Shoals, Town of
Silver Creek Water Corporation
Sisters of Providence of St. Mary of the Woods
South Bend, City of
South Harrison Water
South Henry Regional Waste District
South Richland Conservancy District
Southern Monroe Water Authority
Southwestern Bartholomew Water Corporation
Speedway Utilities
Spencer, Town of
Springs Valley Regional Water District
Spurgeon Water
St. Anthony Utilities

St. Bernice Utilities
St. Henry Water Corporation
St. Joe - Spencerville Regional Sewer District
St. Joe, Town of
St. John, Town of
St. Paul, Town of
Sullivan Utilities
Sullivan-Vigo Rural Water Corp.
Sunman, Town of
Sweetser Utilities
Syracuse, Town of Utilities
Taylor Regional Sewer District
Tell City Utilities
Tennyson, Town of
Terre Haute, City of
Tippecanoe Chapman Regional Sewer District
Tipton Municipal Utilities
Topeka, City of
TriCo Regional Sewer Utility
Tri-Lakes Regional Sewer District
Tri-Township Water Corporation
Troy Township Water Association
Troy, Town of
Turkey Creek Regional Sewer District
Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District
Union City, City of
Valley Rural Utility Co.
Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District (L-A-C Utility)
Valparaiso, City of
Van Bibber Lake Conservancy District
Veedersburg, Town of
Vermillion Rise Mega Park
Vernon, Town of

Versailles, Town of
Vincennes Water
Wakarusa, Town of
Walkerton, Town of
Wanatah, Town of
Warsaw, City of
Washington Township Water
Washington, Town of
Waterloo, Town of
Watson Water
West Lafayette, City of
West Lakes Regional Service District
West Lebanon, Town of Utilities
West Terre Haute Waste Water
Westfield, Citizens Energy Group of
Westport Utilities
Westville, Town of
Wheatland, Town of
Whiteland, Town of
Whitestown, Town of
Williamsport, Town of
Winamac, Town of
Wingate, Town of
Woodburn, City of
Worthington, Town of
Yorktown, Town of