

## **ORIENTATION FOR NEW SWCD SUPERVISORS & STAFF**

*Empowering you to become a confident and contributing member of the team.*



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## **WELCOME!**

**Congratulations on becoming a Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Supervisor! You have joined 460 other SWCD supervisors and over 180 SWCD staff in Indiana and more than 15,000 other leaders of conservation district programs and services across the United States who are committed to the stewardship of natural resources at the local level.**



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## **AGENDA**

This orientation will help you understand:

- **Why SWCDs were formed**
- **SWCD Responsibilities**
- **Your Role as a Supervisor**
- **Indiana's Conservation Partnership**



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## SWCD HISTORY



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## SWCD HISTORY



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**SWCD HISTORY**  
SWCD Act –  
Indiana Code 14-32



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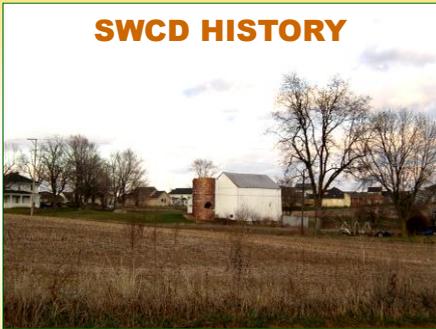
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**SWCD HISTORY**



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**SWCD HISTORY**

To provide information about soil, water and related natural resource conservation; identify and prioritize local soil and water resource concerns; and connect land users to sources of educational, technical and financial assistance to implement conservation practices and technologies.



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## SWCD FUNDAMENTAL FUNCTION

To serve as the local hub for connecting land users to direct sources of educational, financial, and technical assistance for applying conservation practices and best management technologies on the land to address soil and water quality problems.



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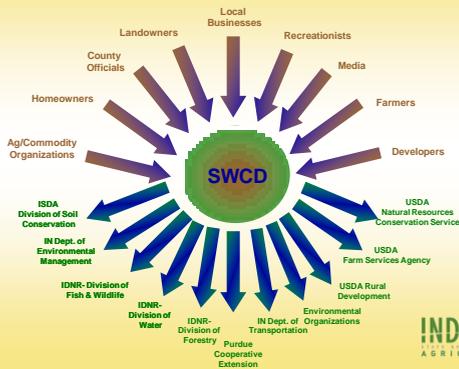
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## YOUR CLEARING HOUSE FOR INFORMATION & ACTION



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## SWCD SUPERVISORS



Five local citizens oversee the planning and implementation of soil and water conservation district programs in each county.



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## SUPERVISOR ELECTION & APPOINTMENT



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## SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Identify local conservation priorities, and then develop, implement and evaluate plans and programs to address these needs
- Participate in appropriate multi-district activities such as watershed projects, river basin projects, resource conservation and development efforts, the Clean Water Indiana program, and multi-district conservation efforts such as field days, workshops, and seminars



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## SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Administer the SWCD programs and activities by delegating tasks through a structure of SWCD supervisors, committees (including audit committee), staff and volunteers
- Supervise SWCD staff and volunteers working with the SWCD, and coordinate conservation efforts with cooperating agency personnel



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## **SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Coordinate assistance and funding from local, state and federal government sources; commercial, charitable and private entities
- Manage all district-owned funds, facilities and equipment
- Comply with all Federal, state, and local tax guidelines (e.g. paid supervisor per diem and commuting mileage to Board Meetings is subject to all federal, state, and local withholding/reporting tax requirements)
- Conduct employee evaluations



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## **SWCD STAFF**



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## **ROLE OF DISTRICT STAFF**

- Bring information, new opportunities and recommendations to the board
- Accept direction from board
- Assist the board in fulfilling the district's mission and goals
- Help carry out an effective information outreach program
- Assist the board in carrying out a well planned and effective monthly board meetings



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## ROLE OF DISTRICT STAFF

- Assist Board of Supervisors with applying for grants and managing grants
- Pursue opportunities for cooperative agreements and/or contracts for services with partnering agencies and organizations
- Help connect land users to sources of educational, financial, and technical assistance in order to address soil and water quality problems.
- Help provide direct technical assistance



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## WHAT ARE THE SWCD'S LEGAL POWERS?



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## TWO KEY POWERS

- Develop comprehensive plans for the proper management of soil and water resources within the district; publish such plans and information to bring them to the attention of land occupiers within the district
- Carry out soil erosion/water runoff preventive and control measures within the district



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## KEY SWCD BUSINESS PLAN COMPONENTS

- Purpose of the district
- Who the district serves and why
- Mission statement
- Critical natural resource issues
- Critical geographic areas
- Statements of intent
- Priority actions
- Staffing needs
- Annual budget needs



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## WHAT IS AN SWCD REALLY TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH?

To lead people to a decision to implement conservation practices and technologies that conserve soil, improve water quality and enhance related natural resources!



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**WHAT ARE SOME THINGS A SWCD CAN'T DO?**



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## The Indiana Conservation Partnership

*Understanding the purpose of the Conservation Partnership, who the member are, and what they do.*




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### State Soil Conservation Board

Chairperson	Secretary		
Governor Appointed	<p><b>Governor Appointed:</b> <i>Scott Ham</i>  <i>Nola Gentry</i>  <i>Larry Clemens</i>  <i>Bob Eddleman</i>  <i>Warren Baird</i>  <i>Ray Chattin</i>  <i>Robert Woodling</i></p> <p><b>Non-Voting Position:</b>  <i>Jordan Seger, DSC</i>  <i>Director</i></p> <p><b>Advisors:</b>  <i>ISDA</i>  <i>IDNR</i>  <i>IDEM</i>  <i>NRCS</i>  <i>FSA</i>  <i>IASWCD</i>  <i>Purdue Extension</i></p>		
Governor Appointed			




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## STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Approve appointed supervisors based on SWCD recommendation
- Assist districts in carrying out their programs
- Keep supervisors informed of the activities and experiences of all other districts
- Coordinating the diverse programs of districts through advice and consultation
- Securing cooperation from other state and federal agencies in the work of districts
- Administer the Clean Water Indiana Program and oversee other soil conservation and water quality protection programs of the ISDA-Division of Soil Conservation




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### DIVISION OF SOIL CONSERVATION KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Perform all administrative duties requested by the State Soil Conservation Board.
- Assisting districts with program planning, development and information exchange
- Arrange for or provide training for supervisors and district staff.
- Provide conservation technical assistance
- Assist the State Soil Conservation Board in administering the Clean Water Indiana Program in cooperation with conservation districts.

INDIANA AGRICULTURE

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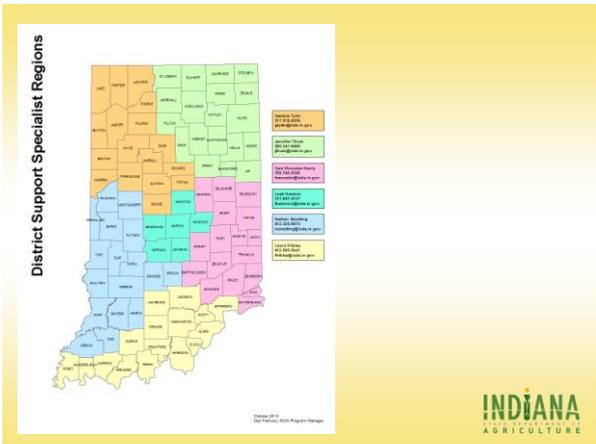
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Conservation Implementation Teams



**NRCS  
TECHNICAL TEAMS**

- Rensselaer
- Albion
- Huntington
- Lebanon
- Greencastle
- Greensburg
- Princeton
- Salem




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**NRCS  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
AREAS**




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**PURDUE COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION SERVICE**



<http://www.ces.purdue.edu>




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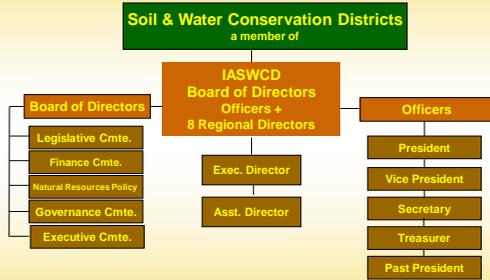
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## IASWCD ORGANIZATION




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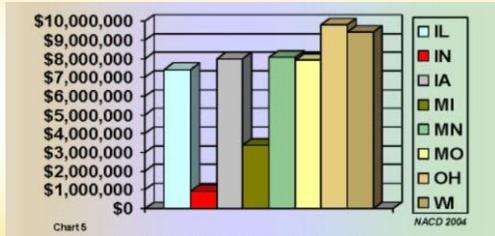
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## STATE APPROPRIATIONS TO CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (excluding cost-share)




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## CLEAN WATER INDIANA GRANTS




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## CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



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## SUPERVISOR BENEFITS



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## BENEFITS OF SERVING

- Satisfaction in seeing conservation practices applied
- Interaction with others interested in natural resources conservation
- Involvement in shaping local, state, and federal conservation programs

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For more information visit our website at:  
<http://www.in.gov/isda>

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**Thank You**



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