

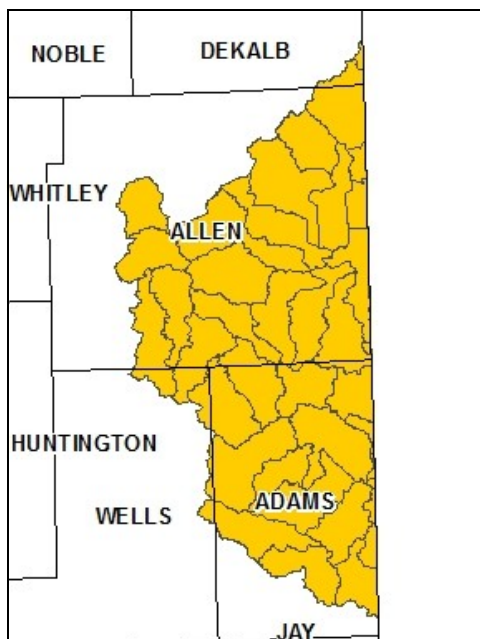
2013 Clean Water Indiana Grant



LEAD DISTRICT: ALLEN
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: ADAMS, WELLS
TARGET WATERSHEDS: ST. MARYS, UPPER MAUMEE, ST. JOSEPH
PROJECT NAME: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES TO CONSERVATION
PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2013-12/31/2015
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$70,000



Purpose: Implement conservation practices to benefit the community



PROJECT GOAL:
15,000 ACRES PER YEAR OF DIRECT
BENEFIT DERIVED FROM
COST-SHARE PRACTICE
IMPLEMENTATION

Technical
Assistance
\$70,000

The need to connect communities, urban or ag, with the benefits derived from sound conservation practices is paramount to water quality and soil health. To achieve the desired long-term adoption of soil and water conservation, SWCDs and watershed groups will need to join forces to ensure maximum efficiency with both manpower and monetary support programs.

In addition to maximizing internal effectiveness, districts and watershed groups will also need to enlist the support and involvement of local businesses, retailers, product manufacturers and others to carry the conservation message to their respective customers as well as the general public. By partnering, the conservation message will be heard consistently, more frequently, from multiple sources and on many levels.

On-farm plots and/or demonstrations will cover practices such as cover crops, phosphorus fertilizer management, nitrogen fertilizer management, livestock manure management, variable nutrient management technology, as well as proper fertilizer and manure storage and application. Practices such as the use of rain barrels, rain gardens, pervious concrete and bio-swales are examples of urban demonstrations proposed.

Working closely together, the project's partners will promote the conservation message through a host of meetings and field days conducted directly by the project partners.

The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The (CWI) Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the (CWI) Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2013, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded ten Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$612,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,500 per year).