



# Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Extension

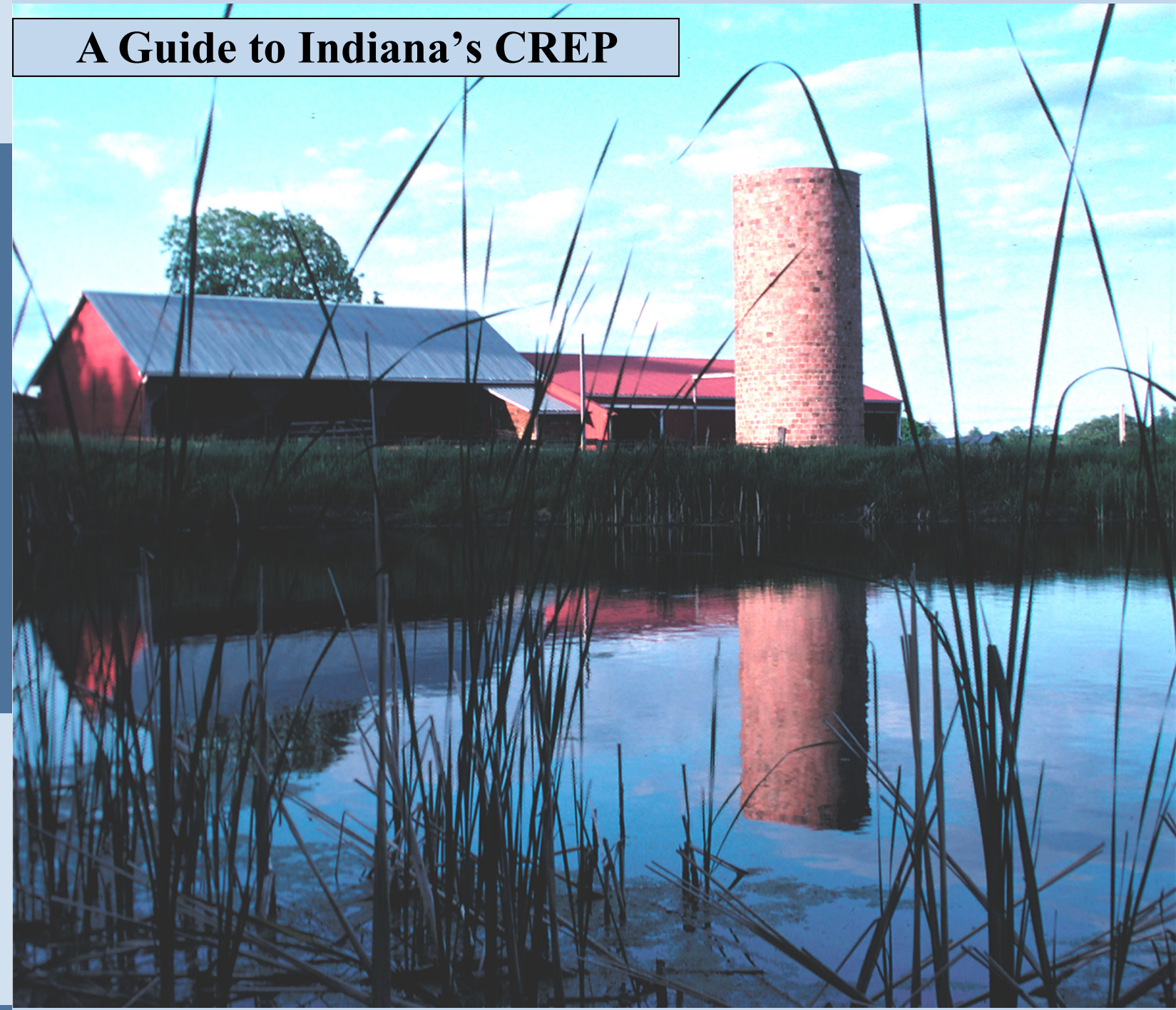
## A Guide to Indiana's CREP

### Federal

- Cost Share of Practice Implementation: Based on a current FSA cost-share plan of 50% of eligible cost (not to exceed) as determined by FSA for eligible reimbursable practice establishment costs.
- Practice Incentive Payment (PIP): A one-time payment equal to 50% of the eligible reimbursement cost for CP-21, CP-22, CP23, CP23A, CP-31, and CP-9.
- Signing Incentive Payment (SIP): A one-time payment according to FSA National CRP Directives for newly enrolled land for CP-21, CP-22, CP-23, CP-23A, CP-31 and CP-9.
- Annual Rent Payment:
  - Payment for normal maximum CRP weighted average soil rental rate for the three predominant soil types using the current posted applicable local soil rental rates for cropland offers. Marginal pasture land rates are calculated using applicable local marginal pasture land rental rates in accordance with FSA national CRP directives.
  - Incentive payment of 40% of the base rental rate without regard to other incentive payments ("infeasible to farm" acres are not eligible for incentive payments).
  - A maintenance fee equal to the terms of FSA national CRP directives, if applicable.

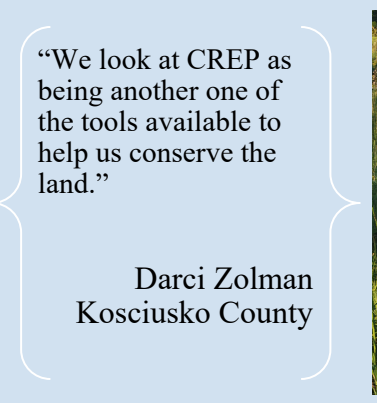
### State

- A one-time State of Indiana Incentive payment of \$100/acre for CP-2, CP-4D and CP-21.
- A one-time State of Indiana Incentive payment of \$400/acre for CP-3A, CP-22, and CP-31.
- A one time State of Indiana Incentive payment of \$950/acre for newly enrolled CP-23, CP-23A, and CP-9.
- A one time State of Indiana Incentive payment of \$400/acre for re-enrolled CP-23, CP-23A, and CP-9.



"It kind of rounds out our whole approach to farming as a way to both benefit the environment and produce quality food."

**Rodney Rulon**  
Hamilton County



"We look at CREP as being another one of the tools available to help us conserve the land."

**Darci Zolman**  
Kosciusko County

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For More Information  
Contact your local FSA office or local Soil and Water Conservation District office. Additional information is also found on FSA's Website: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) and ISDA's website: [www.in.gov/isda](http://www.in.gov/isda)



## What is CREP?

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a federal-state natural resources conservation program that addresses agricultural-related environmental concerns at the state and national level. The program is aimed at addressing water quality and wildlife issues by reducing sediment and nutrient runoff in watersheds and enhancing wildlife habitats for State and Federally listed threatened and endangered species and other wildlife.

## What is the Indiana CREP?

The Indiana CREP is a partnership between USDA and the State of Indiana. The Program, first announced in 2005, was originally slated to enroll 7,000 acres of eligible land within three watersheds touching 29 counties. In 2010, the program expanded into 11 total watersheds touching 65 counties, with a total acreage goal of 26,250 acres. In October of 2024, the program was expanded further and is now available in every county and watershed in the state.

## What are the Potential Benefits of the Indiana CREP?

CREP is designed to help alleviate some of the concerns of high nonpoint source sediment, nutrient, pesticide and herbicide losses from agricultural lands by restoring buffers and wetlands to improve water quality. The program works with landowners and farmers to set-aside environmentally sensitive agricultural land and frequently flooded croplands. Through CREP, program participants receive financial incentives from USDA and the State of Indiana to voluntarily enroll in the program for 14 to 15 years.

*Photos courtesy of USDA-NRCS, IDEM, ISDA Staff, and ISDA Photo Contest Submissions*

### Wetlands Restoration CP23, CP23A



- Restores the functions and values of wetlands
- Removes nutrients and sediments, allows for denitrification
- Attracts waterfowl species native to Indiana

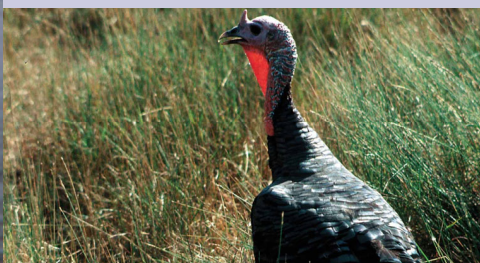
- Buffer area filters out sediments and nutrients prior to entering waterway
- Attracts species native to Indiana

### Native Grasses CP2



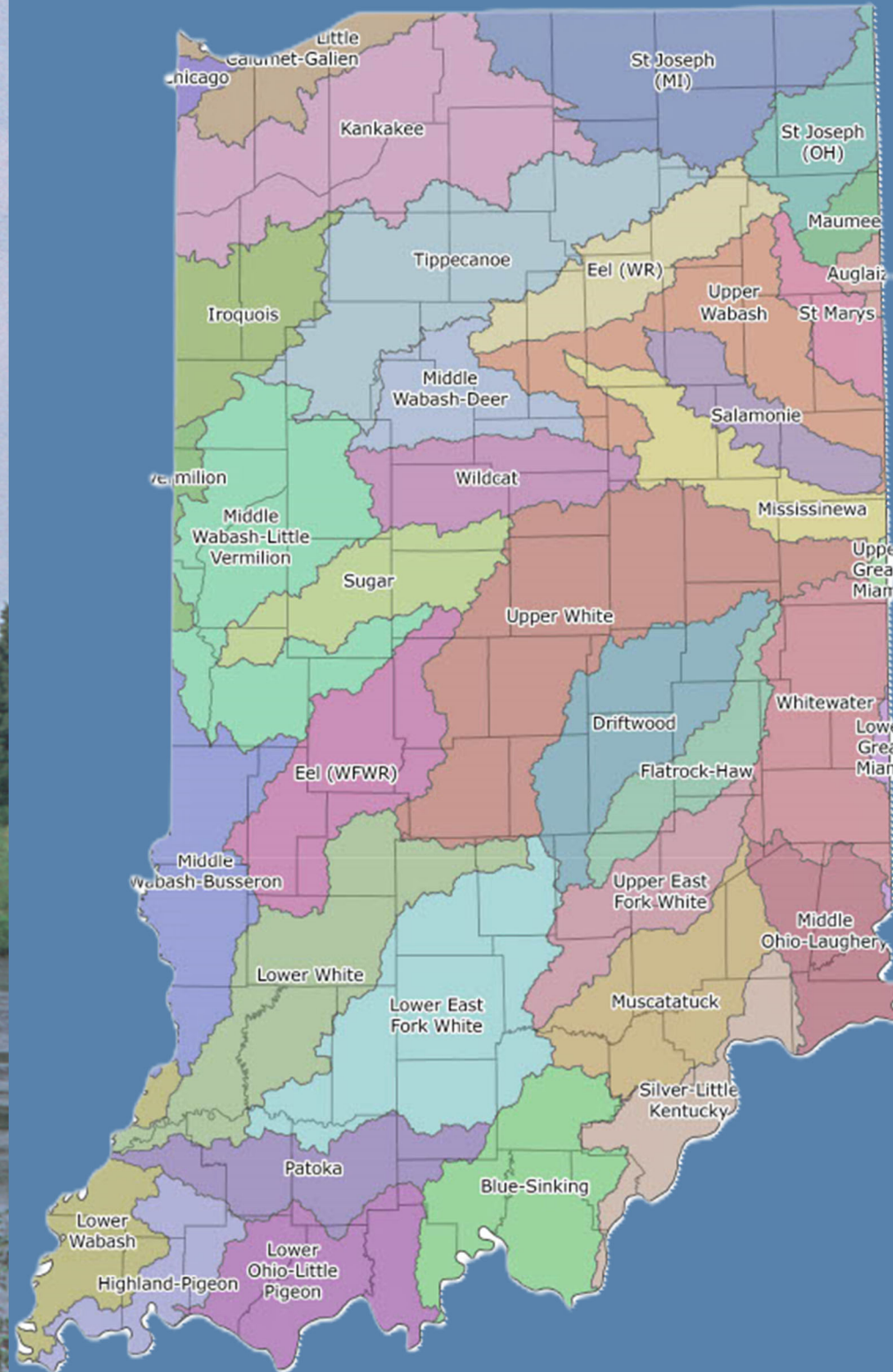
- Enhances wildlife for hunting or enjoyment
- Buffer area filters out sediments and nutrients prior to entering waterway
- Attracts species native to Indiana

### Wildlife Habitat CP4D



- Enhances wildlife for hunting or enjoyment
- Buffer area filters out sediments and nutrients prior to entering waterway
- Attracts species native to Indiana

# CREP Watersheds



## What CREP Means for You

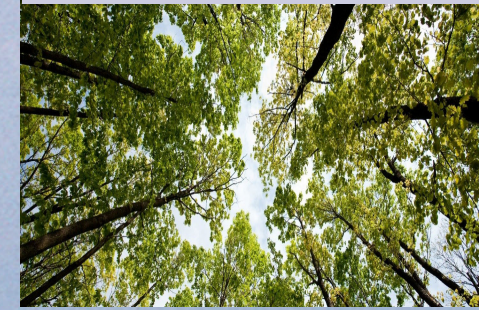
- Landowner maintains ownership rights to enrolled land.
- Enrolling in CREP does not allow the general public access to your property.
- Landowners may use the land for recreational activities such as hunting and fishing, and may charge guests for these activities providing the activity does not interfere with the Conservation Plan of Operation.
- Once the Federal contract expires, trees can be harvested under the state contract if a Forest Stewardship Plan/Reforestation Plan has been written.

### Filter Strip CP21



- Removes nutrients, sediments, organic matter, and other pollutants
- Provides a buffer area around waterways
- Protects water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of the water body

### Hardwood Trees CP3A



- Roots help control surface erosion
- Reduce water, air, and land pollution
- Promotes carbon sequestration
- Provides buffer area along waterways

- Creates a shady area around a waterway, allowing for cooler water temperatures to improve aquatic habitat
- Removes nutrients, sediments, organic matter and other pollutants

### Riparian Buffers CP22



### Bottomland Timber CP31



- Restores the functions and values of a forested wetland
- Roots help control surface erosion
- Promotes carbon sequestration
- Creates wildlife habitats

- Provides habitat for water-dependent species
- Can restore wet, hard-to-farm areas on farmland to a natural wetland habitat
- Filters nutrients, sediments, and other pollutants

### Shallow Water Areas for Wildlife CP9

