

# CLEAN WATER INDIANA 2024 COMPETITIVE GRANTS



## GRANTS OVERVIEW

The Vermillion County Soil and Water Conservation District (VCSWCD) and the Parke County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) plan to foster sustainable land management practices while improving local ecosystems and agricultural practices. In Vermillion County, the SWCD recognizes the critical need to ensure safe drinking water for all residents. The district aims to address water quality concerns affecting agricultural and residential areas by initiating a county-wide well water testing program. The SWCD will identify potential contaminants through rigorous testing and provide necessary guidance to mitigate health risks. Parke County's agricultural legacy is integral to its identity. However, gully and rill erosion present challenges that impact soil health and water quality. To counter this, the SWCD proposes comprehensive strategies to reduce erosion, including effective conservation practices, reforestation, and the establishment of protective cover crops.

**Lead District:**  
Vermillion

**Participating District:**  
Parke

**Amount Funded:**  
\$175,000

**Project Title:**  
**Bridging Conservation Gaps:  
Empowering Communities for  
Sustainable Agriculture**

**Project Dates:**  
1/1/2024-12/31/2026



## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program (IC 14-32-8) was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. Through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs, the program supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution.

## PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The CWI fund is administered by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB). The fund is derived from a portion of cigarette tax funds. (IC 6-7-1-29.3) The cigarette tax fund is 4.22 percent of total cigarette tax revenue, and the CWI fund receives one sixth of this amount. The CWI Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects.



**INDIANA**  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE

Clean Water Indiana was established by statute. (IC 14-32-8)  
For more information about CWI and past and present grant summaries,  
please see: <https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/clean-water-indiana>.  
For more information about the State Soil Conservation Board,  
please see: <https://www.in.gov/isda/boards/state-soil-conservation-board>.  
Email questions or comments to [cleanwaterindiana@isda.in.gov](mailto:cleanwaterindiana@isda.in.gov).  
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