

# 2012 Clean Water Indiana Grant



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 2012, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 21 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,078,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).

LEAD DISTRICT: DEKALB  
 COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: STEUBEN  
 TARGET WATERSHEDS: FISH FREEK; UPPER CEDAR CREEK  
 PROJECT NAME: INNOVATIVE CONSERVATION  
 IMPLEMENTATION  
 PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2012-12/31/2014  
 PROJECT AMOUNT: \$60,000



## Purpose: Promote innovative conservation through cover crops, installation of blind inlets and targeted study area

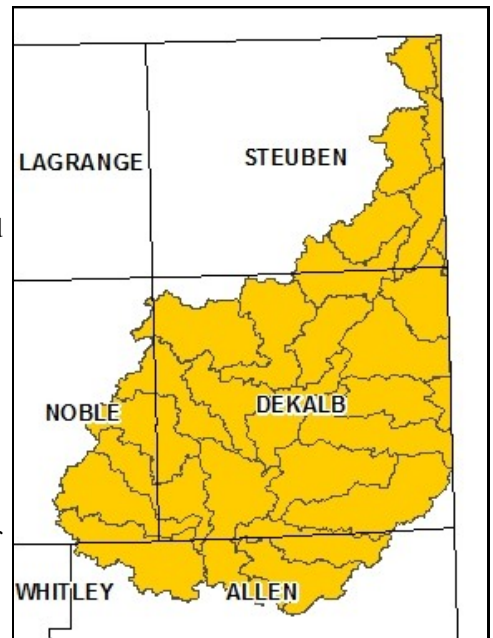
**Cover Crop Incentive Program:** Shown to improve soil structure and productivity, this program will provide \$20 per acre on a maximum of 60 acres per producer/operator to experiment with cover crops as part of their farming operation.

**Blind Inlet Cost-share Program:** Would partner with NRCS and USDA – Agriculture Research Service (ARS) to replace traditional tile risers with the new ARS designed Blind Inlets.

Preliminary results indicate this new design not only reduces sedimentation of streams from tile outlets, it also provides filtering of herbicides, pesticides, and nutrients, including phosphorus. The program would provide 75% cost-share of actual cost up to a maximum payment of \$1000 per inlet within the targeted watersheds.

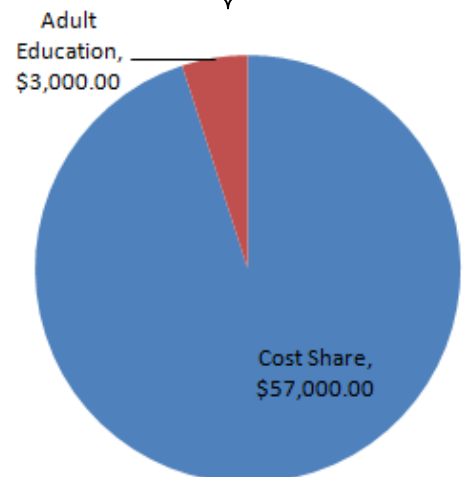
**Targeted Study Area:** During the grant period the Districts would collaborate with ARS to identify a small demonstration watershed where a total conservation cropping system, including cover crops and blind inlets, could be implemented and effects on water quality monitored.

The Upper Cedar Creek Watershed was selected partially because it is the location of the Conservation Effectiveness Assessment Project operated by the USDA – ARS where research of the Blind Inlets is already underway.



IN ADDITION TO THE 120 ACRES OF COVER CROPS FUNDED THROUGH COST SHARE, PRODUCERS PLANTED AN ADDITIONAL 235 ACRES WITHOUT COST SHARE ASSISTANCE.

Cost Share payments are available for cover crops and installation of ARS designed blind inlets.



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