



**Clean Water Indiana
2021 SWCD Led
Competitive Grant Application**

Contact Information

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|--|-----------------------|
| Lead District | Delaware County SWCD |
| Address | 3641 N Briarwood Lane |
| City, State, ZIP | Munice, IN 47304 |
| Lead District Contact Name | Becky Daugherty |
| Email Address | Delcoswcd@gmail.com |
| Phone | 765-747-5531 x3 |
| Amount Requested | \$150,000 |
| Authorized Signatory Name | Joshua Gruver |
| Authorized Signatory Email | Jbgruver@bsu.edu |
| Participating District(s), if applicable | N/A |

Project Information

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| <i>Project Title</i> |
| River Bank Stabilization, Full Time Technical & Education Position, Cost Share |

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| <i>Project Description</i> |
| <p>Over the last 40+ years, agencies across Delaware County (DelCo) have poured countless resources into assessing and understanding water quality and aquatic species health for our local waterways. Since the 1970's, the Bureau of Water Quality has been monitoring fish, mussel, and other aquatic species within DelCo. This effort, generally recognized as the nations longest running survey, has spurred the clean-up of waterways across the county, specifically the White River. In more recent years the Delaware County SWCD (DelCo SWCD) has been involved in the following water quality initiatives: 319 watershed management plans (WMP) of Buck Creek and the Upper Mississinewa River (UMR), 319 Implementation of the UMR WMP, 205j WMP of the Upper White River (starting in 2021), and the Ball Brothers Foundation (BBF) Project Blueways Initiative, whose goal is to increase recreational opportunities in the waterways in East Central Indiana. All of these efforts have led to countless implementation projects, including but not limited to: cost share BMP's, bank stabilization, dam removals, education, and community engagement efforts. With the requested CWI funds, the DelCo SWCD will continue to build upon the foundation laid through previous efforts, while expanding its reach to citizens across DelCo.</p> <p>Project #1: White River Bank Stabilization</p> |

In 2019, the DelCo SWCD led the effort to remove multiple dams along the White River in Muncie, IN. One of these dams, the Indiana Steel & Wire Dam, located on the east side of town, sat near a proposed trailhead connecting the White River and Cardinal Greenways. The dam removal was a critical component not only in the development of the trailhead, but for the increased water quality and recreational and fish passage opportunities free flowing rivers provide. In early 2020, funding was secured through US Fish and Wildlife Service to address erosion on the left bank within the extent of the previous dam backwater pool. However, the \$79,500 received from the USFWS falls short of the anticipated restoration costs. An additional \$15,000 is being requested from CWI grant to complete the restoration efforts, which includes soil lifts, riparian seeding, and the planting of willow and dogwood live stakes.

Project #2: Full Time Technical & Education Position

Currently, there is one employee at the DelCo SWCD. Once a full-time position, the employee has now moved into a part-time/semi-retired role focusing on administrative tasks and duties. Providing technical assistance for producers, and being boots on the ground for the DelCo SWCD has been difficult to accomplish with limited hours and limited funding. With this CWI grant, the DelCo SWCD would be able to employ a full-time position who could a) provide technical assistance to farmers and producers, b) create and carry out educational and public outreach activities, c) advocate for the SWCD locally and regionally, and d) expand the overall capacity of the DelCo SWCD. The DelCo SWCD is requesting \$80,000 from CWI, with \$25,000 in cash match coming from the BBF, and another \$1,875 in in-kind match coming through administrative support.

Project #3: Cost Share

Through the current 319 UMR Implementation Plan, and past and current CWI grants (DelCo portion virtually fully expended and/or committed), the DelCo SWCD has been able to implement an extremely successful cost share program across the region. In DelCo alone in 2019, over 150 practices were installed, with an estimated reduction in sediment of 15.8 million pounds. Both figures are nearly 3x those of 2018, which in itself was 2x from 2017. As successful as this program has become, the DelCo SWCD will be between funding sources in less than a year. CWI funds would help continue this work, while also providing the capacity to bring new producers into the program, spearheaded by the newly created position. The DelCo SWCD is requesting \$55,000 from CWI with a cash match of \$22,500 coming from local foundations

Provide the specific issue, problem or need that the project will address.

Project #1: White River Bank Stabilization

This project is needed to fix an immediate issue that arose out of the Indiana Steel and Wire dam removal in 2019. Bank erosion has occurred along the left bank of the White River where the backwater pool of the dam once was. Without addressing the problem, bank erosion will continue to occur, reducing the impact to water quality by removing the dam, and threatening the success of the new trailhead currently under construction. While USFWS funds were secured for the project, they fall short of the restoration costs. With the CWI funds, the DelCo SWCD can fully fund the restoration efforts, which is slated to occur in the summer of 2021 (pending permit approval). Existing partners for the trailhead project include: BBF, Community Foundation,

Community Enhancement Projects, USFWS, Indiana DNR LARE, City of Muncie, INDOT, IDEM, and the Cardinal Greenways.

Project #2: Full Time Technical & Education Position

Due to the limited funding and current capacity of the DelCo SWCD (the SWCD receives no funding from the County), the ability to expand community outreach activities, provide technical assistance to producers, and continue BMP and cost share implementation is extremely limited. The proposed position would allow for the DelCo SWCD to provide these services in a manner that expands our reach, capacity, and effectiveness across the county.

Project #3: Cost Share

In short, funding for the existing cost share program has run out. In order to build upon the success of the last three years more funding is needed. There are plenty of opportunities to draw in new farmers and producers into the program, which would be one of the tasks of the new position.

Describe each partner and their specific contributions and anticipated match to the project.

- IDEM
 - o 319 WMP of the Upper White River WatershedData and information to help guide new cost share participants
Shared education/public engagement events and workshops
- USDA – NRCS
 - o Assistance with conservation planning
 - o Office space
- The Nature Conservancy
 - o Water quality monitoring in Upper WhiteBeing run in conjunction with the 205j WMP of the Upper White River
Data and information to help guide new cost share participants
- BBF
 - o Major funder of SWCD operations
 - o Project Blueways Initiative
 - o Match \$26,000
- USFWS
 - o Main source of funding for bank stabilization projectCash match of \$79,500

Describe how the funds will be utilized.

Project #1: White River Bank Stabilization

Funding will be utilized to implement the restoration activities along the White River at the Kitselman Trailhead.

Project #2: Full Time Technical & Education Position

Funding will be utilized to expand the capacity and functions of the DelCo SWCD.

Project #3: Cost Share

Funding will be utilized to continue the existing cost share projects while also expanding to new farmers and producers.

What are the primary goals for the project?

Project #1: White River Bank Stabilization

The goal of the project is to stabilize the left bank of the White River (~400 feet in length) and reduce erosion. This project is slated to be completed in the summer of 2021. Historically, the IDNR has required monitoring for up to three years for projects like this, and the DelCo SWCD expects a similar condition for this project. This monitoring will help ensure the successful implementation of this project, and will run in conjunction with the monitoring of river post dam removal, which runs through 2024.

Project #2: Full Time Technical & Education Position

The goal of this position is to expand the capacity of the DelCo SWCD and the cost share program. Success will be measured by a) increased participation in the cost share program, b) conducting multiple education events and workshops, and c) recording public engagement through the collection of contact information.

Project #3: Cost Share

The goal of this project is to continue and expand the cost share program. Progress will be measured by the number of practices installed and reduction in sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen quantified for Delaware County.

Budget Information

| <i>Item Description</i> | <i>CWI Funds Requested</i> | <i>Cash Match</i> | <i>In Kind Match</i> |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| White River Bank Stabilization | \$15,000.00 | \$79,500.00 | \$0.00 |
| Full Time Technical & Education Position | \$80,000.00 | \$25,000.00 | \$1,875.00 |
| Cost Share | \$55,000.00 | \$22,500.00 | \$0.00 |
| Totals | \$150,000.00 | \$127,000.00 | \$1,875.00 |

Self Assessment

These items are not specified in district law but are considered essential for district operations and will be considered for CWI 2021.

| | | |
|---|-----|----|
| <i>District Annual Meeting Information: January 1, 2020</i> | Yes | |
| <i>Updated SharePoint Directories: Within 30 days of changes</i> | Yes | |
| <i>The district has a current business plan.</i> | Yes | |
| <i>The district has had at least one current supervisor/staff/active associate attend a Leadership Institute workshop session since 2008. *Note that in order for an associate supervisor to count toward this item, they must be listed in the SharePoint directory.</i> | Yes | |
| <i>The district has at least one current supervisor/staff/active associate graduate of the Leadership Institute program. *Note that in order for an associate supervisor to count toward this item, they must be listed in the SharePoint directory.</i> | | No |
| <i>District Staff or supervisors participated in fall 2019 cover crop transects.</i> | Yes | |
| <i>District has applied for a grant other than CWI in the last 3 years.</i> | Yes | |
| <i>If so, how many?</i> | 10 | |



Protecting nature. Preserving life.

The Nature Conservancy in Indiana
Efroymson Conservation Center
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fax (317) 917-2478
[nature.org/indiana](https://www.nature.org/indiana)

September 11, 2020

CWI Selection Committee,

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) supports the Delaware County SWCD (DCSWCD) 2021 CWI grant proposal to increase staff resources, thus growing their capacity to carry out their expanding portfolio of watershed scale conservation. Like the DCSWCD, TNC works with partners to provide responsible solutions to resource issues as a key aspect of our organization's mission.

The Nature Conservancy mission is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. Our vision is a world where the diversity of life thrives, and people act to conserve grounding in science. The Nature Conservancy has been actively conserving environmentally significant places and natural resources since its founding in 1951. The Indiana Chapter was one of the earliest chapters and has been instrumental in bringing conservation in the agricultural landscape to the forefront. Social, scientific, economic, and cultural aspects of watershed level management is what we excel at. We understand the power of collaboration and partnerships, specifically at the local level.

The Nature Conservancy is committed to conserving freshwater resources across Indiana. Our strength is to bring resources and partners to the table that can enhance and highlight the implementation and success of the project.

TNC has been working with DCSWCD for the last year to discover opportunities and target valuable natural assets, including the headwaters of the West Fork White River, for conservation effort. With strong partnerships and local leadership, DCSWCD has the opportunity reach new audiences, protect natural resources, and embrace conservation innovation.

We give our highest recommendation to these efforts and appreciate the selection committee's consideration.

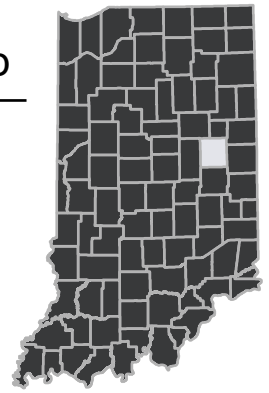
Kind Regards,

Seth Harden
Upper Wabash River Project Director
The Nature Conservancy

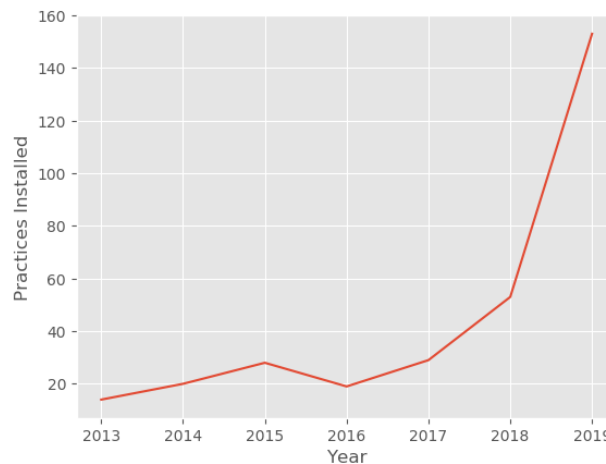
Delaware County Nutrient and Sediment Load



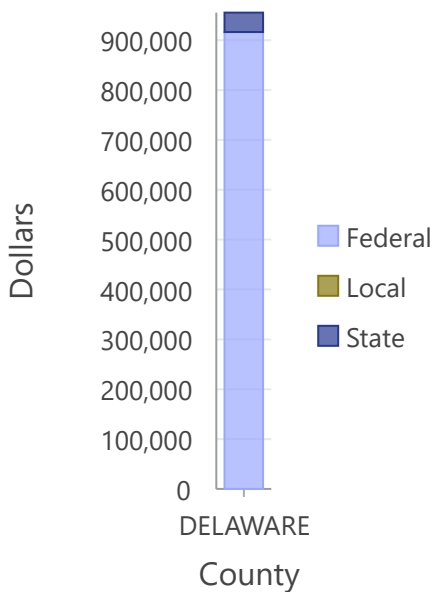
Accomplished By Private Landowners
and the Indiana Conservation Partnership



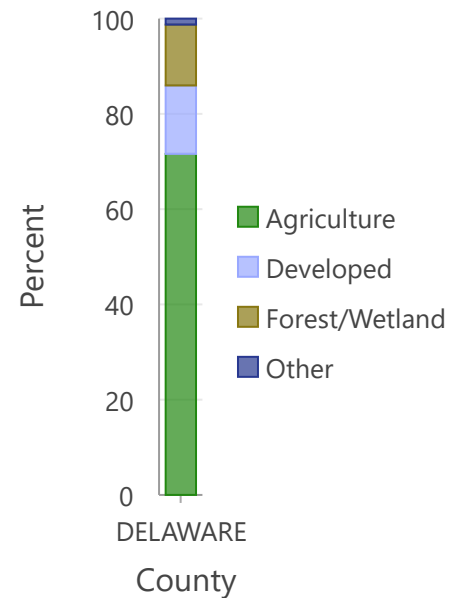
Practices Installed Over Time



Conservation Funding Percentage by Source



Comparison of Land Use Across County



Sediment Reduced 15,846,715 lbs.
Enough to fill 79 train cars.



x 79

Nitrogen Reduced 20,656 lbs.
Enough to fill 21 8' truck beds.



x 21

Phosphorus Reduced 10,339 lbs.
Enough to fill 10 8' truck beds.



x 10

| Calendar Year | Practices Installed | Active Practices | Sediment Reduction (lbs) | Phosphorus Reduction (lbs) | Nitrogen Reduction (lbs) |
|---------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2013 | 14 | 14 | 1,265,800 | 827 | 1,652 |
| 2014 | 20 | 25 | 1,607,630 | 1,050 | 2,098 |
| 2015 | 28 | 34 | 1,644,310 | 1,072 | 2,138 |
| 2016 | 19 | 30 | 956,385 | 594 | 1,183 |
| 2017 | 29 | 44 | 2,120,300 | 1,380 | 2,754 |
| 2018 | 53 | 70 | 5,886,850 | 3,580 | 7,150 |
| 2019 | 153 | 185 | 15,846,715 | 10,339 | 20,656 |

The "practices installed" column indicates the number of newly installed best management practices within a given calendar year, while the "active practices" column indicates the number of best management practices that are actively reducing sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus loading regardless of the year of installation. Practices do not include the many unassisted practices designed and installed by private landowners without ICP assistance. Nutrient estimates only consider sediment bound N and P, not dissolved components. Load reductions are calculated using the EPA's Region 5 Load Reduction Model, and rounded to nearest integer for display.

Data provided by: Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Last Updated: 5/15/20, Sam Stroebe ISDA

8.3 PHOTOS OF SITE



Image No. 1

Date: 4/20/2020

Direction: Northwest

Description: Erosion on left bank
(north of Jackson St./IN 32)



Image No. 2

Date: 4/20/2020

Direction: North

Description: Erosion on left bank
(north of Jackson St./IN 32)



Image No. 3

Date: 4/20/2020

Direction: South

Description: Left bank (north of Jackson St./IN 32)