

2013 Clean Water Indiana Grant



LEAD DISTRICT: ORANGE
 COLLABORATING DISTRICT: MARTIN
 TARGET WATERSHEDS: ALTAR CREEK-PATOKA RIVER, PATOKA LAKE-PATOKA RIVER, DRY BRANCH-LOST RIVER, LOST RIVER, EAST FORK WHITE RIVER, BARN RUN-EAST FORK WHITE RIVER, BOGGS CREEK
 PROJECT NAME: LOST RIVER NUTRIENT AND SEDIMENT REDUCTION INITIATIVE
 PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2013-12/31/2015
 PROJECT AMOUNT: \$70,000



Purpose: Develop nutrient management programs within the watershed



The rolling topography and thin soils of the Lost River and adjacent watersheds make soil health and the reduction of soil erosion a top priority. For this reason, Orange and Martin County SWCDs will partner together to hire a Conservation Program Specialist to focus on soil health and water quality issues within the watersheds. Both SWCDs will develop a Nutrient Management Program utilizing funds from this grant to perform grid soil sampling and to assist with the creation of nutrient management plans on agricultural land within the selected watersheds.

The goal of the program will be to monitor and manage the amount of nutrients applied to cropland and promote no-till. White River Co-Op has agreed to partner with the SWCDs on this program. A Backyard Conservation Program will also be developed to provide cost share for installing rain gardens on urban and residential land. Purdue's Master Gardeners, the Indiana Karst Conservancy and the US Fish & Wildlife Service will partner with the SWCDs. Workshops and/or Field Days will be held to promote these programs and to provide education on conservation best management practices.

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.

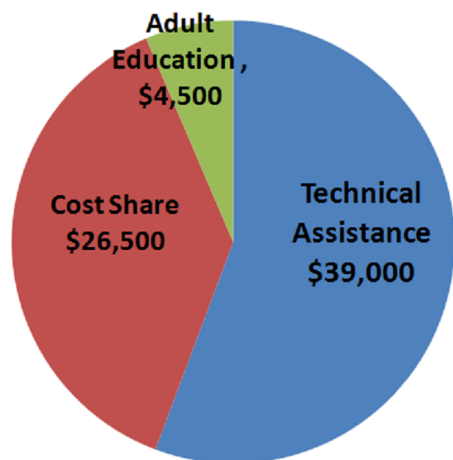
The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The (CWI) Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation 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).

PROJECT GOALS:

- GRID SAMPLING: 900 ACRES
- BACKYARD CONSERVATION EFFORTS: 9 ACRES
- WORKSHOPS: 150 ATTENDEES



Priority funding will be given to historically under-served producers who are either not eligible for Farm Bill Programs or have had trouble being funded in the past.



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