

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: HAMILTON
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: MARION, HANCOCK, MADISON
TARGET WATERSHED: UPPER AND LOWER FALL CREEK
PROJECT NAME: BACKYARD CONSERVATION IN FALL CREEK
PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2012-12/31/2014
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$60,000



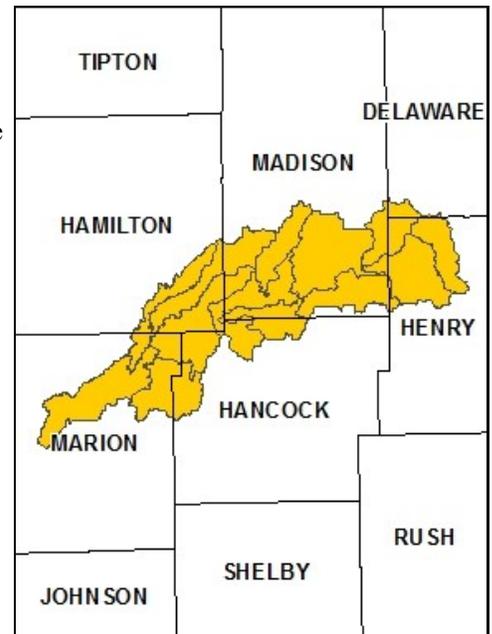
Purpose: Educate, promote and install urban conservation practices in the Fall Creek Watershed

This grant request involves hiring a natural resource professional to encourage the adoption of urban conservation practices. The watershed plan identifies the need for urban practices to reduce nutrient loading, eColi and excess sedimentation.

While it is easy to find information on water conservation practices, it is much harder to inspire such interest in individuals in the middle of their busy lives. A first, crucial step is making personal contact with each community, neighborhood, and landowner to connect them with their watershed, and in this the FCWP excels. That personal touch, which leads so naturally to educational and technical assistance and best-practice implementation, often makes the difference, enabling and empowering people in both rural and urban areas who are interested in doing their part to ensure cleaner water and better soil health at home and in their region.

Landowners are encouraged through print, email, website and social media to contact the Fall Creek Watershed Coordinator for presentations, lunch and learn sessions, technical assistance and questions about technical assistance and cost-share programs that can help individuals, organizations and communities install backyard conservation practices.

Funding is being used to employ an Urban Conservationist to engage stakeholders in urban centers to improve water quality.



YEAR 1 GRANT STATUS

RAIN BARRELS-70
RAIN GARDENS-8
BIOSWALES-3
STREAMBANK STABILIZATION-1

Technical Assistance
\$60,000