

YEAR in REVIEW



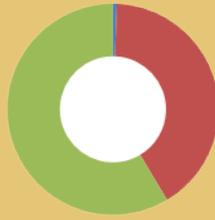
Helping People Help the Land.

Indiana Natural Resources Conservation Service: October 1, 2013 - September 30, 2014

147,953

ACRES ENROLLED

ACEP - 865
CSP - 58,588
EQIP - 84,000
EQIP Initiatives - 4,500*



Historically Underserved

Acres Enrolled

Beginning Farmers
12,600 ac
Veterans
570 ac



Contracts Signed

Beginning Farmers
123 contracts
Veterans
14 contracts



Dollars Spent

Beginning Farmers
\$2.6 Million
Veterans
\$91,034

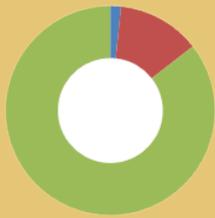


■ Beginning Farmers ■ Military Veteran Farmers

729

CONTRACTS SIGNED

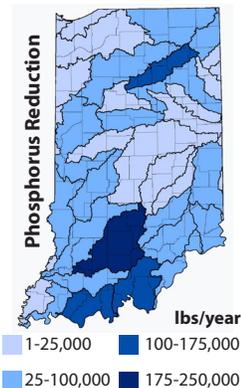
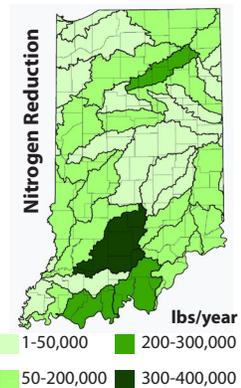
ACEP - 11
CSP - 86
EQIP - 573
EQIP Initiatives - 59*



Nutrient Load Reductions

Based on Region 5 Model analyses conducted on 15,332 conservation practices installed by the Indiana Conservation Partnership January 2013 thru December 2013.

- A total reduction of 1,469,926 pounds of phosphorus statewide.
- A total reduction of 1,661,636 tons of sediment statewide.
- A total reduction of 2,780,790 pounds of nitrogen statewide.



The Lower East Fork of the White River Watershed ranked highest in reductions of phosphorus, sediment, and nitrogen.

\$19.75

MILLION DOLLARS

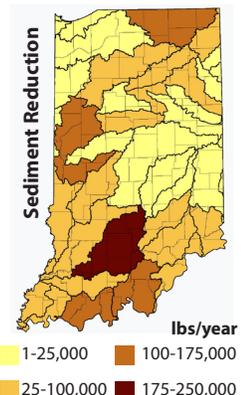
ACEP - \$3.1
CSP - \$1.2
EQIP - \$14.05
EQIP Initiatives - \$1.4*



■ Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)
■ Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
■ Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

* Special Initiatives

- State Specialty Crop:** \$212,000 for 20 contracts on 173 acres
- Organic Initiative:** \$80,000 for 9 contracts on 285 acres
- On-Farm Energy Initiative:** 157,000 for 9 contracts on 135 acres
- National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI):** \$397,000 for 10 contracts on 1,100 acres
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI):** \$456,000 for 26 contracts on 2,100 acres
- Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI)** \$43,260 for 3 contracts on 774 acres
- CCPI - Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI):** \$307,000 for 5 contracts on 790 acres



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Pathway to Water Quality

We worked with the Indiana Conservation Partnership to staff the Pathway to Water Quality at the 2014 State Fair. Pathway gives us an incredible opportunity to interact with the nearly one million fairgoers and let them know what we do as an agency and conservation partnership, and to show some of the conservation practices that we help landowners implement.



Soil Health Kick

Together with our Indiana Conservation Partners we continue to lead the nation in our promotion and implementation of soil health management systems. We are working with the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI) to deliver training for both farmers and employees. Our hub farms are all functioning and they are serving as great research facilities and training sites. Over one million acres of cover crops were reported as planted in 2014! Want to know more? Visit the Unlock the Secrets of the Soil webpage or <http://ccsin.iaswcd.org/>.



Conservation Planning First

We continue to make huge strides in getting conservation on the ground by working with farmers and other landowners to prepare or update their conservation plan. District conservationists make it a priority to meet with farmers on their land and talk about their goals and how to address resource issues.



Earth Team Volunteers

2,164

Number of Volunteers (5th in Nation)

13,851.75

Number of Hours Logged (6th in Nation)

90%

Percent Field Office Utilization



Special Projects

NRCS is working with partners to pilot innovative conservation approaches and monitor the effects of conservation practices. Some of these include the Ohio River Basin Water Quality Trading Pilot Project in southeast Indiana (Wayne, Ripley, Dearborn, Ohio and Switzerland Counties); the Watershed Approach Conservation Innovation Grant in Beargrass watershed in Wabash County working to strategically implement conservation practices and monitor effects of adoption; and a multi-agency water quality monitoring project on School Branch, a sub-watershed of Eagle Creek in Hendricks County, that is working to quantify the water quality effects of conservation practices.

Emergency Watershed Protection

Near record flooding of White Lick Creek and adjacent floodplain led to three Emergency Watershed Protection projects in Plainfield, IN.



One Hundred Seventy

Homes effected in the Town of Plainfield



Seven

Bridges saved in the Town of Plainfield



\$189,678

Financial Assistance provided to the Town of Plainfield

\$37,936

Technical Assistance provided to the Town of Plainfield

Watershed Structure Assessments

As part of the new Farm Bill, Indiana received funding in 2014 to work with local sponsors to conduct rehabilitation assessments on seventeen watershed structures.



Reaching Out

Indiana NRCS held three women's learning circles in Howard, Boone and Hendricks Counties for women that own and/or operate ag land. Many of the participants were organic or specialty crop producers. Six more learning circles are planned for 2015.

