



# Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) Soil Conservation

JENNIFER THUM

**INDIANA**  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF

# MISSION

ISDA will support growth in Indiana agriculture by serving as an advocate at the local, state and federal level; defining and nurturing economic opportunity in the food, fuel and fiber sectors; and enhancing the stewardship of natural resources on agricultural land.

# DIVISIONS

- » Economic Development
- » Indiana FFA Association
- » Division of Soil Conservation
- » Public Affairs
- » Indiana Grain Buyers and Warehouse Licensing Agency
- » Indiana Grown

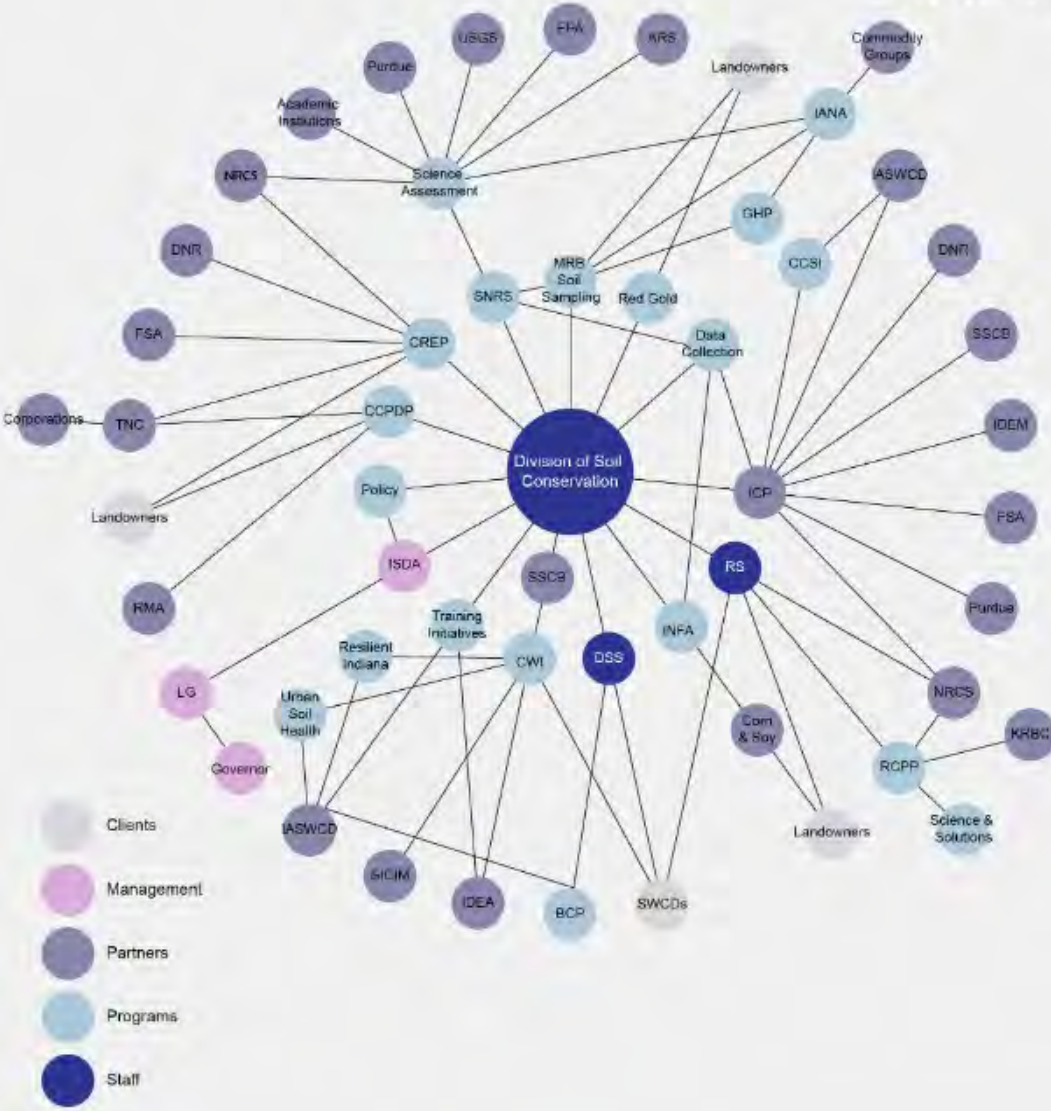


“ Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not. ”

The Lorax



# Partnerships





# CLEAN WATER INDIANA

## 2024 Clean Water Indiana Grants

**\$4,570,938**  
Funding  
Requested

**49**  
Applications  
Received

**61**  
Organizations  
Requesting  
Funding

**\$2,313,287**  
Funding  
Awarded

**26**  
Grants  
Awarded

**48**  
Organizations  
Receiving  
Funding

# Watershed Initiatives

- Western Lake Erie Basin
- Kankakee River and Yellow Basin
- I-COVER
- Mississippi River Basin Soil Sampling Program



# Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a powerful initiative designed to address the concerns of high nonpoint source sediment, nutrient, pesticide, and herbicide losses from agricultural lands. By restoring buffers and wetlands, it significantly improves water quality. Moreover, it protects the land from frequent flooding and excessive erosion by planting hardwood trees in floodplain areas along rivers and streams.
- Future: Goals for 2024 include expanding the program in the state to make the program last longer and continue to get conservation on the ground and improve water quality by: 1) increasing the acreage enrollment goal; 2) expanding CREP coverage statewide; and 3) adding a new practice to the list of eligible CREP practices
- Partners - The Nature Conservancy has signaled that it will continue to support the CREP in Indiana by providing support dollars to be used toward direct payments to the landowners and participants in the program. These additional funds beyond what is given through the Clean Water Indiana (CWI) program, will allow landowners to enroll in the program and allow more practices to be installed on the ground. The ISDA, CREP Program Manager will continue to partner with organizations to cover demand.





# Indiana State Nutrient Reduction Strategy

- An inclusive effort under the leadership of the ISDA and IDEM to “capture statewide, present and future endeavors in Indiana which positively impact the State’s waters as well as gauge the progress of conservation, water quality improvement and soil health practice adoption in Indiana”.
- The Indiana SNRS represents the state’s commitment to reduce nutrient runoff into Indiana’s waters from **point** sources and **non-point** sources.



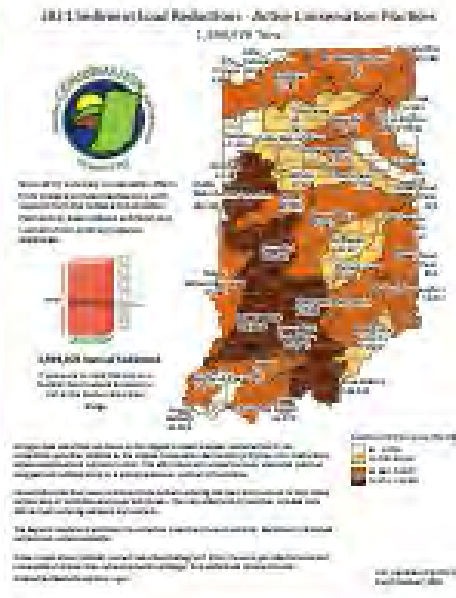
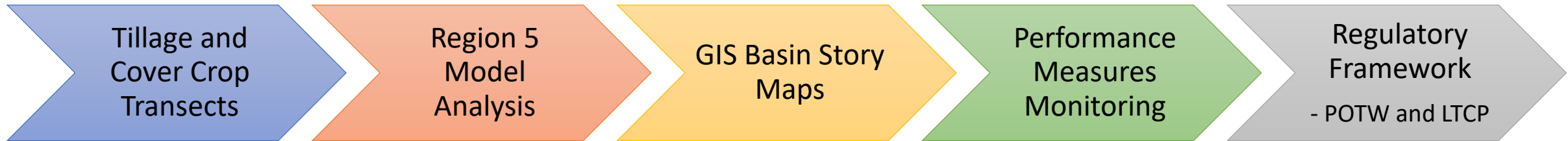
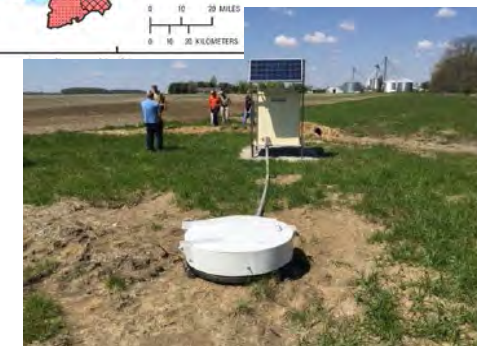
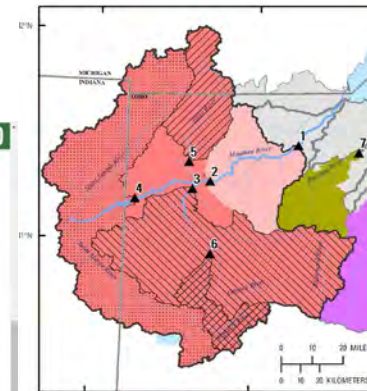
- ❖ Encourage voluntary, incentive-based, practical, and cost-effective actions
- ❖ Use and strengthen existing regulatory and non-regulatory programs
- ❖ Identify existing and additional funds needed and funding sources
- ❖ Identify research needs
- ❖ Identify opportunities for innovative, market-based solutions
- ❖ Follow adaptive management

- The inventory and utilization of resources and practices to achieve their highest impact on nutrient reduction;
- Encouragement of voluntary incentive-based conservation through the many local, state and federal water quality related programs;
- Measuring the impacts of urban and rural conservation best management practices and tracking nutrient load reductions;



# Measuring Impacts

- Tracking Progress

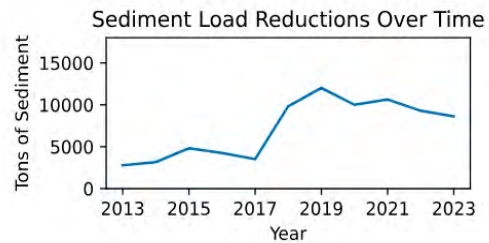
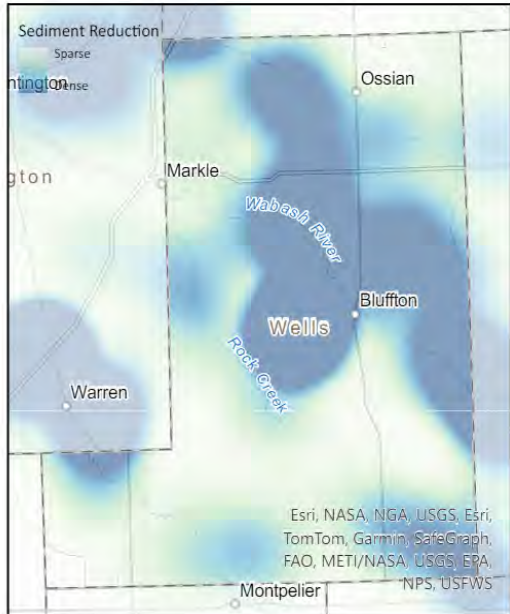



### County Conservation Funding

County	Local Total	State Total	Federal Total	Total Funding
WELLS	\$64,919.42	\$12,000.0	\$2,810,096	\$2,887,015.42

### County Land Use

County	Agricultural Acres	Developed Acres	Forest and Wetland Acres	Other Acres
WELLS	198,042	18,067	19,574	1,196



## Wells County Nutrient and Sediment Load Reductions: 2023



Accomplished By Private Land Owners and The Indiana Conservation Partnership

**Sediment Reduced by 17,252,207 lbs.**  
Enough to Fill Train Cars



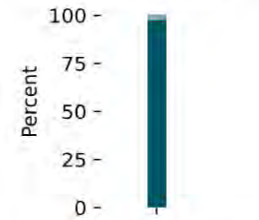
**Phosphorus Reduced by 17,532 lbs.**  
Enough to Fill 8' Truck Beds



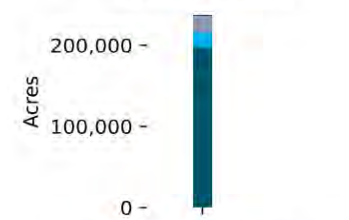
**Nitrogen Reduced by 54,462 lbs.**  
Enough to Fill 8' Truck Beds



### Conservation Funding By Source



### Comparison of Land Use Across County



### County Sediment and Load Reductions

Year	Practices Installed	Active Practices	Sediment Reduction (lbs)	Phosphorus Reduction (lbs)	Nitrogen Reduction (lbs)
2013	157	157	5,578,427	3,835	8,054
2014	78	123	6,311,594	4,325	9,021
2015	141	192	9,635,242	6,559	13,462
2016	70	158	8,461,518	5,671	11,689
2017	60	153	7,055,100	4,717	9,785
2018	224	307	19,631,488	18,539	55,343
2019	262	367	24,007,833	21,670	61,615
2020	201	326	19,999,700	18,936	56,133
2021	253	401	21,278,426	19,949	58,158
2022	214	377	18,588,931	18,014	54,378
2023	180	324	17,252,207	17,531	54,461

# THANK YOU

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