

The Indiana Conservation Partnership Agreement



Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts,



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service,



Indiana State Department of Agriculture,



Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service,



Indiana State Soil Conservation Board,



USDA Farm Service Agency,



Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and



Indiana Department of Environmental Management

... jointly provide leadership in the State on natural resource conservation issues. As partners, we are interdependent, having independent responsibilities, yet dependent upon each other for successful delivery of resource management programs and services. We will meet annually to review our ICP strategic initiatives.

Partnership Vision	An innovative partnership dedicated to land and water stewardship assistance that will improve the water quality of Indiana's streams, rivers, and lakes.
Goal	To coordinate between partners to achieve, throughout the State, water quality that meets or is better than Indiana's surface water quality standards.
Objectives	<p>To cooperatively promote programs that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce soil erosion and sedimentation into Indiana's streams, rivers and lakes. • Reduce the runoff of nutrients and pesticides into Indiana's streams, rivers and lakes. • Improve the quality of the habitat of Indiana's streams, rivers and lakes.
Quality Policy	<i>We are committed to providing our customers with quality service through effective communication, professional integrity, and mutual respect.</i>

Partnership Guiding Principles

We share a commitment to:

- listening to, anticipating, and responding to our clientele's needs;
- anticipating, identifying, and addressing the relevant issues;
- permitting decision-making at the lowest appropriate level;
- advocating total resource management;
- maintaining and enhancing our locally led delivery system;
- building new alliances to expand our partnership;
- fostering economically viable environmental policies;
- improving the quality of life for future generations; and
- sustaining and conserving our natural resources and environment.

We pledge to work together by:

- advancing and practicing teamwork;
- involving each partner in the decision making process;
- communicating, coordinating and cooperating;
- promoting mutual respect, support, trust, and honesty; and
- sharing in the leadership, ownership, credit, and responsibility.

We will improve our efficiency and effectiveness by:

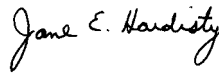
- putting quality first;
- empowering people to make decisions;
- demonstrating professionalism and dedication;
- striving for continuous improvement;
- coordinating and integrating program requirements; and
- targeting resources to accomplish strategic initiatives.



Nola J. Gentry
Chairperson
Indiana State Soil
Conservation Board



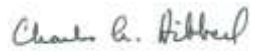
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Jane E. Hardisty
State Conservationist
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Joseph M. Kelsay
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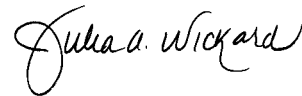
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Thomas W. Easterly
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Julia A. Wickard
State Executive Director
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This agreement affirmed January 12, 2010