

Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District



Fall 2018



Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)
10165 Oxford Pike
Brookville, IN 47012
(765) 647-2651, ext. 3
www.franklincountyswcd.com

**Due to the nature of our work there will be times the office must be closed. Please call ahead before visiting.*

District Supervisors:

Michael Schwab – Chairman
David Hartman – Vice-Chairman
Michael Schwegman – Secretary
Darin Hodapp – Supervisor
Tim Hofer – Supervisor

Associate Supervisors:

Roger Bommer
Lee Giesting
Clinton McNally
Eugene Meyer
John Selm

Conservation Staff:

Kim Lampert – NRCS
Katie Hardin – SWCD

The SWCD Board of Supervisors meets on the third Wednesday of each month starting at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Oct 17 Nov 14 Dec 19

Need to test your well water?

The SWCD has bottles for collecting water samples to test for various pollutants. The cost for tests start at \$30. For more information, contact the SWCD office.



Suffering from the woes of the powerful forces of water and sediment eroding rivers or streams on your property? Then you need to attend one or both of our upcoming streambank erosion workshop series!



“Streambank Erosion Management”

**Monday October 22nd – 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Brookville Public Library
Presented by Robert Barr, IUPUI Research Scientist & Silver Jackets**

The Silver Jackets group has been studying the streambank erosion in the Whitewater River Watershed and throughout Indiana for many years. They have just completed a streambank erosion manual that will be made public this fall. This workshop will overview the manual and provide information on how to go about addressing streambank erosion.

Please call 765-647-2651, ext. 3 with questions and to RSVP by October 17th

“Stream Permitting and Local Stabilization”

**Thursday, November 1st – 9:30 a.m. to Noon, Brookville Public Library
Representatives from IDEM, IDNR, and USACE & Robert Barr**

Streams can be regulated by more than one government agency and the permitting process can be confusing and overwhelming, to say the least! There will be representatives from each of these agencies to review their program, jurisdiction, and permitting process to help make the permitting process as pain free as possible. Robert Barr will also be coming back to discuss and recommend stabilization techniques for some local sites and situations.

Please call 765-647-2651, ext. 3 with questions and to RSVP by October 26th

****AGENDAS ON NEXT PAGE****

“Streambank Erosion
Management”

**AGENDA
October 22, 2018**

Registration – 9:15 a.m.
Introduction – 9:30 a.m.
Fluvial Erosion Hazard Concepts
– 10:00 a.m.
*Data Gathering & Problem
Identification* – 10:30 a.m.
BREAK – 11:00 to 11:10 a.m.
Analysis and Design – 11:15 a.m.
Project Implementation – 11:45
a.m.
Case Studies and Discussion –
12:15 p.m.
Final Remarks/Wrap up – 1:00
p.m.

“Stream Permitting and Local
Stabilization”

**AGENDA
November 1, 2018**

Registration – 9:15 a.m.
*Indiana Department of
Environmental Management* –
9:30 a.m.
*Indiana Department of Natural
Resources* – 9:55 a.m.
US Army Corp of Engineers –
10:20 a.m.
Q/As & BREAK – 10:45 to 11:00
a.m.
**** Local Stabilization Site
Recommendations** – 11:00 a.m.
****May be held inside or travel to
sites – weather depending.**

Laughery Creek Watershed Meeting

October 30th at 6 p.m.

Ivy Tech Batesville Campus, Room 1405

Historic Hoosier Hills and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) invites you to participate in a public meeting to learn about the water quality of the Laughery Creek Watershed and how IDEM is working with local stakeholders to develop a Total Maximum Daily Load report and watershed management plan for pollutants. This will allow the rivers and streams to meet water quality standards.

What is a Total Maximum Daily Load?

A Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, is the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and nonpoint sources. The calculation must include a margin of safety to ensure that the waterbody can be used for the purposes the State has designated. IDEM is developing TMDLs for impaired waters in Indiana to characterize the causes of the impairments and identify potential sources of pollution.

What are water quality standards?

Water quality standards are set by the state of Indiana. They identify the designated uses for each waterbody, such as for drinking water, contact recreation (swimming), and aquatic life support (fishing). The water quality standards also set the scientific criteria to support each designated use. Any waterbody that does not meet the standards for a given pollutant is considered impaired.

What are the water quality impairments in the Laughery Creek Watershed?

The Laughery Creek watershed has streams that are impaired by *E. coli*, IBC (impaired biotic communities) and dissolved oxygen. IDEM is planning a watershed characterization study to characterize the condition of the watershed and gather more information to support the TMDL document and aid in the development of a watershed management plan.

What is *E. coli* and why should we care?

E. coli is the abbreviated name for a bacteria found in the intestines of warm-blooded animals. The presence of *E. coli* is used as an indicator of the overall sanitary quality of soil and water environments. Water becomes contaminated through either exposure to point (permitted activities) or nonpoint source pollution. The sources of contaminants can include a mal-functioning septic system, domestic animal wastes (overflow from feedlots, animals defecating in streams and ditches, runoff and leaching from manure applied to fields, wild animal waste (mammals and birds), and combined sewer overflows.

(over)

(Laughery Watershed Meeting Continued)

What is a watershed characterization study?

The main objective of the Laughery Creek watershed characterization study is to provide a comprehensive assessment of the streams in the watershed for their ability to support aquatic life use and recreational use. The stream monitoring will provide data for TMDL development and watershed planning and will aid in the evaluation of future changes within the basin. Chemical, physical, bacteriological and biological parameters will be collected for the project.

What is a watershed management plan?

A watershed management plan is a strategy and a work plan for achieving water resource goals that provides assessment and management information for a watershed. The watershed planning process uses a series of cooperative, iterative steps to characterize existing conditions, identify and prioritize problems, define management objectives, and develop and implement protection or remediation strategies as necessary. The primary purpose of a watershed management plan is to guide watershed coordinators, resource managers, policy makers, and community organizations to restore and protect the quality of lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands in a given watershed. The plan is intended to be a practical tool with specific recommendations on practices to improve and sustain water quality. These are also “living documents,” meaning that as conditions change over time in a watershed, the plan must be reexamined and revised to reflect goals that have been achieved or not met.

How can I help to improve our water quality?

You can help by attending this meeting and becoming involved in your local watershed group. Landowners, agencies, environmental specialists, and communities all play an integral part in the management of a watershed. At this meeting, IDEM will provide an overview of TMDLs, general information about the study area, and how the data will be used to determine the overall health of the watershed.

More information on IDEM’s TMDL Program can be found at:

<https://www.in.gov/idem/nps/2652.htm>

The meeting will take place on October 30, 2018 at Ivy Tech Batesville Campus, Room 1405, 1 Ivy Tech Drive, Batesville, IN 47006 beginning at 6 p.m. Reservations to attend the meeting are requested by October 26. Please call Historic Hoosier Hills at 812-689-4107 or email casie.auxier@hills.org to reserve your spot.

We look forward to your participation!



Dates to Remember

October 8: Columbus Day. Observed holiday. **Office closed.**

October 11: *Fall Fish Sale* fish pickup/delivery day

October 17: SWCD monthly meeting at 7:30pm.

October 22: Streambank Erosion Management Workshop. Brookville Public Library, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

October 30: Laughery Creek Watershed Meeting. Ivy Tech Batesville Campus, Room 1405. 6 p.m.

November 1: Stream Permitting and Local Stabilization. Brookville Public Library. 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

November 6: Election Day. Observed holiday. **Office closed**

November 12: Veterans Day. Observed holiday. **Office closed.**

November 14: SWCD monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. (Meeting date moved due to conflict with Thanksgiving holiday break)

November 22: Thanksgiving! Observed holiday. **Office closed.**

November 23: Observed Holiday. **Office Closed**

December 19: SWCD monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. **Location TBD**

December 24-25: Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Observed Holidays. **Office Closed.**



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