



WAYNE COUNTY
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



2025 SUMMER NEWSLETTER

LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER OR GET INVOLVED?

SWCD board meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month. The door is always open and we welcome anyone to join us!

We encourage partnerships with Wayne County landowners and residents with a passion for conservation.

Volunteer opportunities include Conservation Days, the Wayne County Urban S.O.I.L. Garden, the Rain Garden, and upcoming Whitewater Watershed water quality study!

Meet your board:



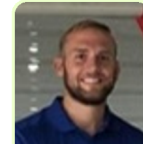
JASON WARD
CHAIRMAN



MAT BERGER
VICE CHAIRMAN



LISA BIHL
SECRETARY



MITCH JORDAN
SUPERVISOR



TRAVIS FRAME
SUPERVISOR

THANK YOU!



Thank you Whitewater Valley REMC Community Trust, Inc for your generous donation of \$1,200 towards Conservation Days!

If you would like to find out more information about this county-wide educational event for 3rd & 4th graders, please reach out to LuAnne Holeva @ luanne.holeva@in.nacdnet.net

Richmond Service Center Staff SWCD



LuAnne Holeva, Raquel Baker, Jennifer Brown



FSA
Caryn Sebring
McKinnah Harvey



SICIM
Liz Yetter
NRCS
Colt VanNatta



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Hagerstown Office

14231 Teeter Rd.
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SWCD granted \$125k to complete a water quality study of the Upper East Fork of the Whitewater River

Public Invited to Shape the Future of the Upper East Fork Whitewater River Watershed

The Wayne County SWCD is leading efforts to develop a watershed management plan for the Upper East Fork Whitewater River Watershed. This plan will address natural resource concerns in the basin and set goals to protect and improve water quality. Individuals who live, work, farm, or play in the East Fork Whitewater River Basin are invited to share their valuable input

This initial stage of the project aims to gather data and information, develop the project steering committee, and begin formulating the gathering of public opinion. Your perspectives on the Whitewater River, its lakes, streams, and watershed are crucial. The Upper East Fork Whitewater River Watershed project is in its early stages, with planning efforts just beginning in the community. Getting involved in a watershed project offers a direct opportunity to contribute to the health and sustainability of the local water resources that impact your community, from drinking water and recreation to the natural environment.

Over the next year, water sampling of creeks in the watershed will occur twice monthly through October. Sampling will swap to every other month through the winter and conclude with biweekly sampling again in the spring. The analysis of the data collected will help pinpoint those areas of concern and help establish goals for the watershed. Over the next two years, the watershed management plan will be developed. The development of this plan will allow those living and working in the watershed to request funds to help implement the plan and meet plan goals in the future.

In addition to water sample analysis and plan development, it is also beneficial to hear from a multitude and a variety of stakeholders in the watershed to best understand the natural resource concerns. If you were to list the top ten natural resource concerns around you, what would they be? Some might list soil erosion, river access or algae blooms. Others might say lack of wildlife habitat, still others may say too many non-native invasives. If you'd like to share your thoughts and suggestions regarding water quality, quantity, stream and lake quality, recreation, or other related topics; receive copies of water chemistry data results; **join an event or upcoming meeting, please reach out to Sara Peel, Watershed Coordinator at speel@arionconsultants.com.**

To learn more about this project, you can visit:

www.waynecountyswcd/watershed



Beacon
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Beacon Ag Group is a department of Beacon Credit Union. Each account insured up to \$250,000 by American Share Insurance. By members' choice, this institution is not federally insured. Beacon Ag Services not insured by American Share Insurance.

L.M. Kettler, Inc.
The Water Professionals



Jeffrey L. Kettler
President/Owner

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Richmond, IN 47374 Fax: (765) 966-5256

LMkettlerwelldrilling.com
Email: Jlkwaterwell@aol.com

UPCOMING SWCD Events

BOARD MEETINGS:

August 12th
September 9th
October 14th
November 4th
December 9th

Changes to board meeting dates will be posted on our website and Facebook page. Contact Jennifer for any accommodations needed or for more information regarding meetings.

POND CLINIC

August 28, 2025 ~ 5:30 PM

7656 Lacy Road
Hagerstown, IN 47346



SAVE THE DATE
2026 Annual Meeting
Monday, February 2nd, 2026

Topics to Include:

General pond maintenance, stocking rates, invasives, new pond builds and more. Bring your pond weed samples and your questions!

Light refreshment served, **RSVP requested by 8/25/25** to:
765-373-9542 or raquel.baker@in.nacdnet.net

Weed Wrangles



Sept. 6th - 10a-2p
Springwood Pavillion,
Richmond

Oct. 4th - 10a-12p
Swoveland Nature Preserve,
Hagerstown

Oct. 11th - 10a-?
Hayes Arboretum, Richmond

October 12th - TBD
Earlham College

Want to be a part of WIPER?
Next meeting will be held
November 3rd - 10a
SWCD Office

GARDEN WORKSHOP!

Chance to win a 50 plant kit!

Fall Into the Future

Want healthier soil, fewer weeds, and happier pollinators? It all starts this fall.

Join us for a fun, hands-on workshop on cover crops, pollinator support, and smart fall planting to give your garden a strong, sustainable future.

Date September 18th

Location First Bank Kuhlman Center
861 S. Salisbury Rd, Richmond

Time 5:30-7:30p (food and drink available)

Cost FREE! RSVP BY 8/15/25

For more details, visit our office, website or
facebook page



Want to get involved by learning how to monitor water quality?

Sign Up for our **FREE** Hoosier Riverwatch Workshop!

Friday, October 3rd

10a-4p

Earlham College

Limited seating - register online or contact our office. Link is listed at www.waynecountyswcd.org/watershed or follow the link on our Facebook Event page.

Hoosier Riverwatch is a volunteer stream monitoring program. Discover hands-on methods for testing water quality at this **FREE** workshop. Participants will earn certification and must be 18 & older. Great for teachers, natural resource professionals, and anyone interested in being a steward for our waterways! Session will be held indoors and outdoors, weather permitting.

WAYNE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
823 S. ROUND BARN RD
RICHMOND, IN 47374


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DO YOU CROP LESS THAN 10 ACRES?
CALL US ABOUT FREE SOIL TESTING!

FIND US
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The SWCD is looking to provide better communication with our landowners and supporters. Signing up for email communication will help cut back on printing and postage costs.

You will continue to receive printed materials unless you select email only.



Native Tree Sale!

Order Deadline
Thursday
September 11th

Tree Pick Up
Wednesday-Friday
September 24th - 26th
8:30am - 4:00pm

PLUS: FEEDERS, NESTBOXES, RAIN BARRELS AND COMPOST BINS!

Snag your Hoosier-grown trees, shrubs, vines & perennial flowers from:
WOODY WAREHOUSE NURSERY, INC.

FIND YOUR ORDER FORM ONLINE OR IN OUR OFFICE!