



Watershed Connection

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Watershed Update

The Indian Creek Watershed Steering Committee met on November 10, 2008, for its final meeting before submittal of the final draft of the Watershed Management Plan to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). The group was presented with the final draft for comment before the submittal to IDEM on January 2, 2009. After approval by IDEM, the final Plan will be available to the general public either in hard copy or digital format. We will have a pdf version available on our website as well.

The Indian Creek Watershed Management Plan contains a portrait of the watershed land uses and how they relate to water quality, concerns about non-point source pollution in the watershed and recommendations for how to reduce pollutants in the watershed through structural Best Management Practices (BMPs) on agricultural land and educational and outreach programs. It also features a visual stream assessment of the watershed waters and results of two models designed to determine how land uses contribute to non-point source pollution. The Plan also features recommendations for moving the project forward with financial assistance through a subsequent Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant and other sources. It is hoped that the stakeholders in the watershed will find the development of this Plan as a valuable approach to future land uses and changes in behaviors that impact water quality throughout the Indian Creek Watershed.

Cost-share Update

The Youngs Creek Watershed cost-share program recently reached a milestone. We have allocated all the available funds. There still are other sources for implementation of best management practices throughout the county.

If you have a project that you would like to implement, please contact the office to discuss funding.

If you have any questions about these or other practices, please see our website at www.swcd.org or call David Harrell at 317-346-6102 ext. 106.

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Tree Planting



The Youngs Creek Watershed cost-share program was able to provide a \$10,000 grant to the City of Franklin to aid in a riparian area development project along Hurricane Creek. These are two of the photos of the project. The \$10,000 was used to purchase trees through the Johnson County SWCD fall tree sale.

The cost-share

program enabled the park to purchase 785 trees; the labor to plant them was provided by the Franklin Parks Department.

The tree planting not only serves to improve the visual aspects of the trail, but also aids in erosion control and water quality for the city. The trees were planted along both sides of the creek in Morgan Park. The trees were laid out in a grid to provide easy maintenance and in some places the planting is up to 60' wide. Additional plantings were done in Province Park and Blue Herron Park.

There will be informational signs placed along the trail to explain the importance of riparian areas.

This project and others are a step towards getting Franklin back to its pre-flood condition.

If you have a chance to use the Franklin Heritage Trail, please look for the tree plantings.

