

West Fork of the Whitewater River Watershed Cost-share Plan



**EDS# A305-5-5
Prepared by: Zach Lee
Watershed Coordinator**

Table of Contents:

Section		Page
1	Table of Contents	2
2	Introduction	3
3	Watershed Management Plan	3
4	Target Watershed & Audience	3
A)	Map of the West Fork Watershed	3
B)	Map of the Land Uses in the Watershed	3
5	Best Management Practices	4
6	Advertisements	4
7	Review Process	4-5
8	Permits	5
9	What is Eligible for Cost-Share?	5
10	What is Not Eligible for Cost-Share?	5
11	Maintenance of Best Management Practices	5
Appendix		7-16
A	Map of the Critical Areas and Their Priority	7
B	West Fork of the Whitewater River Watershed Impairment Table	8
C	Eligible Cost-Share Best Management Practices	9
D	Cost Share Eligibility Sheet	10
E	West Fork Cost-Share Application	11-14
F	West Fork Cost-Share Ranking Sheet	15-16

Introduction:

A 319 Grant was awarded to the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), on October of 2014, to reduce non-point source water pollutants. The grant is responsible for funding the Whitewater River Initiative for Implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) to generate better water quality in the West Fork of the Whitewater River Watershed. We are using information from the West Fork Watershed Management Plan in order to help guide us to alleviating the problems found in the watershed.

Watershed Management Plan:

The funds will be allocated by using the West Fork Whitewater River Watershed Management Plan.

Target Watersheds & Audience:

The West Fork of the Whitewater River Watershed (HUC-0508000301), (HUC-0508000302), (HUC-0508000303), is located in East Central Indiana. It spans from the Eastern part of Henry County to the Central part of Wayne County. The headwaters are located in the Southern part of Randolph County. It spans southward to the Northeast corner of Fayette County and a very small portion of the Northwest corner of Union County. It covers approximately 412 mi² and lies within the 1,329 mi² of the Whitewater River Basin. The watershed land use consist of 69% cultivated crops, 11% hay/pasture, 10% forested, 7% developed, and 3% other. The cities in this area include Cambridge, Centerville, East Germantown, Economy, Fountain City, Greens Fork, Hagerstown, Losantville, Lynn, Milton, and Mount Auburn. The grant will be available for both agricultural and urban landowners that live in the priority areas indicated in Appendix (A).

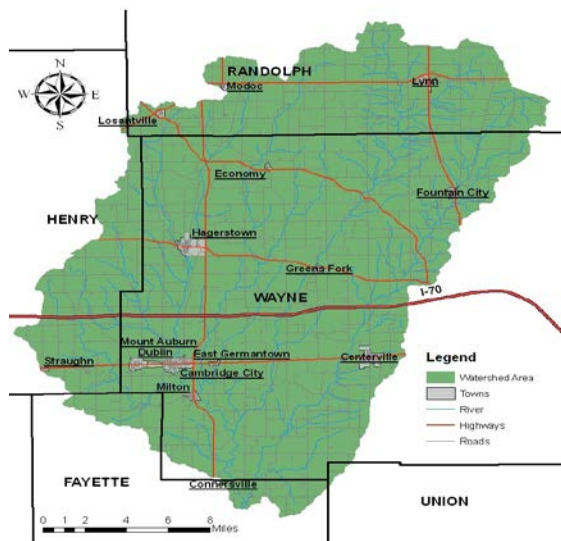


Figure 1: This is a map of the West Fork Whitewater River Watershed and the towns located in it.

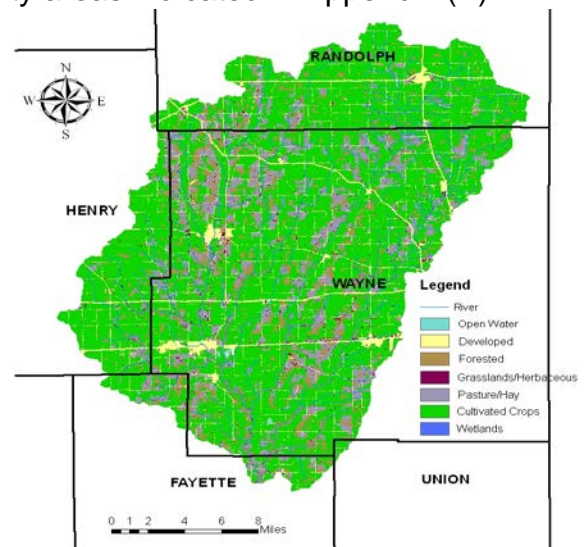


Figure 2: This is a map of the land uses in the West Fork of the Whitewater River Watershed.

Best Management Practices:

The West Fork Watershed Management Plan indicated the main problems found in the watershed consist of *E. coli* (WMP, 46), elevated Atrazine levels (WMP, 46), elevated nutrient load (WMP, 47), and elevated sediment levels (WMP, 48). The grant will provide funds and services to alleviate the watershed problems for areas that are labeled first, second, third, and fourth priority. Appendix (A) displays a map labeling the critical sub-watersheds or page 61 on the West Fork of the Whitewater River Watershed. Appendix (C) includes a chart of the approved Cost-share practices.

Advertisement:

The Cost-share articles will be displayed in the local newspaper and the SWCD Newsletter. Brochures will also be provided at SWCD events and at the SWCD office. We will also use direct mailing to landowners in the critical areas.

Review Process:

The cost share program will use the following review process:

1. Project Coordinator and Wayne County Conservation Office technical staff will work with the landowner to complete the Eligibility Application (Appendix D) and the Cost-Share Application (Appendix E).
2. The Watershed Coordinator receives application to ensure it is complete and eligible.
3. The Watershed Coordinator works with Technical Committee to prioritize applications. Applications will be rated according to the West Fork Cost-Share Ranking Sheet (Appendix F).
4. The Watershed Coordinator will visit high ranking plots to ensure the ranking process was done properly.
5. Money will be awarded using the following criteria.

“High” ranking projects or 800-530 points on the ranking sheet, will receive funds first.

“Medium” ranking projects or 530-260 points on the ranking sheet, will receive funds after the “High” ranking projects receive their funds.

A “Low” rankings or 260-0 points on the ranking sheet will receive cost share money after both the “High” and “Medium” ranking projects receive their funds.

Note: The \$10,000 amount will be held to cover any errors and/or omissions that might occur. The SWCD Board of Supervisors can negotiate with the person in line to receive the approved practices to reduce Cost-share amounts or percentages so the final Cost-share funds can be used. The maximum cap of Cost-share money that an individual can receive is \$10,000. All questions regarding practice approvals and fund allocations will be decided by the Wayne County SWCD in consultation, as necessary, with IDEM guidance.

The Watershed Coordinator will be responsible for the paperwork associated with the Cost-Share Program.

The Technical Committee will approve the BMPs installation to confirm that they are up to the recognized standards.

Permits

Landowners are responsible for attaining their own permits, if necessary.

What is eligible for Cost-share funding?

1. Cost of materials (such as seed, fertilizer, lumber or concrete)
2. Labor charges (including landowner labor)
3. Contractor, consultant, or third party charges
4. Lab fees (such as for manure, soil or plant tissue tests)

The Best Management Practices are found in Appendix (C).

What's not eligible for the Cost-share Program?

1. Dredging, Drainage, or Flood Control
2. Work required by regulations or permits, such as NPDES permits
3. Permit fees of any type
4. Sales Tax
5. Incentive payments
6. Land payments
7. Equipment for individuals
8. Yield Losses

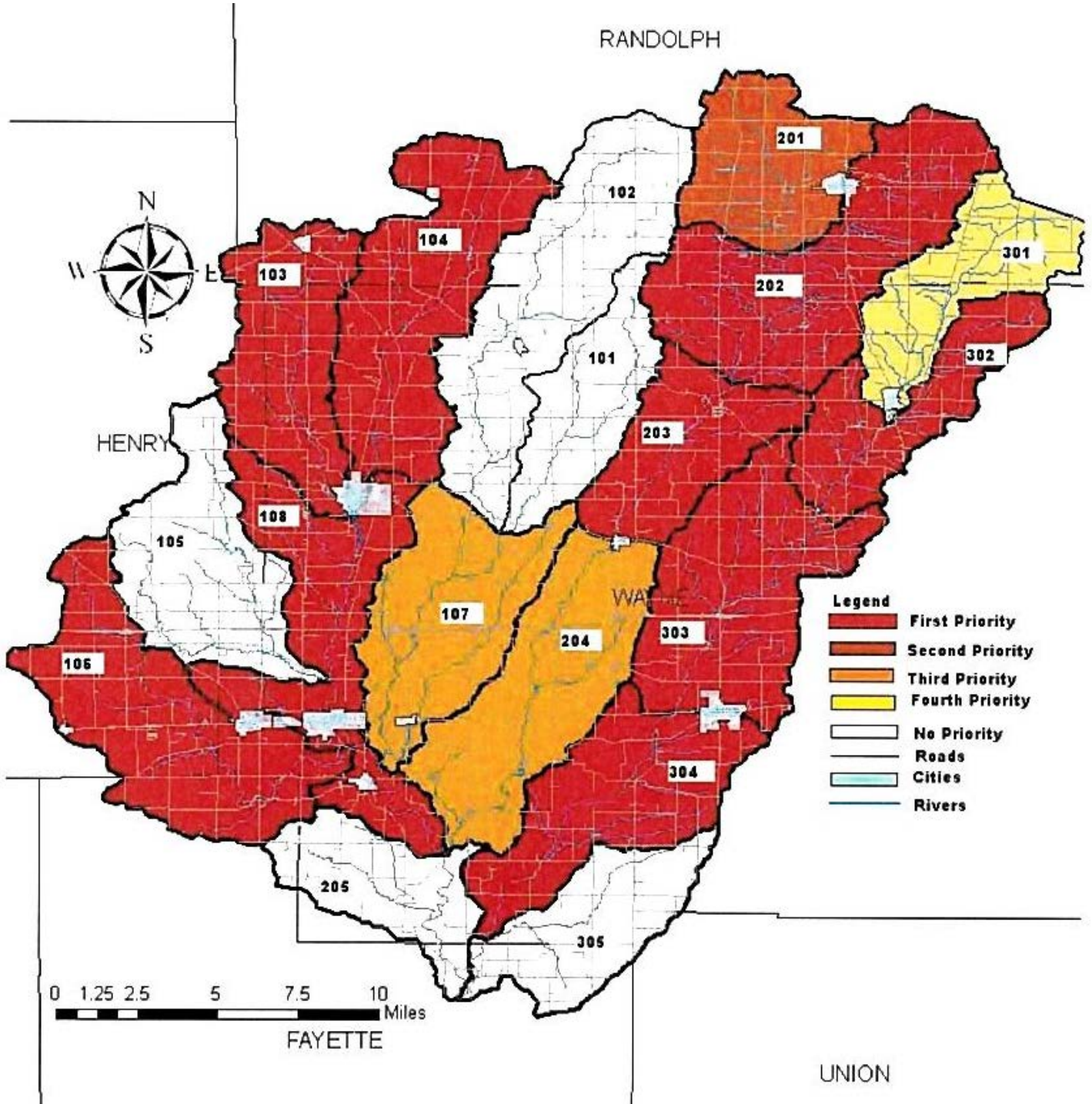
Maintenance of BMPs

The cost share recipient is responsible for maintaining the BMP after implementation. Vegetation and land management practices will be maintained for 5 years. Cover crops are maintained for only a year, but you can reapply for three years. Structural Practices

will be maintained for 10 years. If the BMP was destroyed or damaged by extreme natural events (i.e., flooding, drought, lightening, etc.) it may be repaired or replaced with 319 funds during the 319 project grant term, if funds are available.

Appendix

Appendix A: Map of the Critical Areas and Their Priority



Appendix B-

A table of Critical Impairments of the Priority Areas in the West Fork of the White-water River Watershed.

Name of the Sub Watershed Sixth-level Hydrologic Unit Name	Priority Level	12 digit HUC	Critical Impairments
Nettle Creek	1 st Priority	050800030103	E. Coli, Nutrients
Little Creek-Whitewater River	1 st Priority	050800030104	E. Coli
Symons Creek	1 st Priority	050800030106	E. Coli
Beard Run-Martindale Creek	3 rd Priority	050800030107	Atrazine, and Sediment
Pronghorn Run-Whitewater River	1 st Priority	050800030108	E. Coli, Nutrients, Sediment
Little Mud Creek-Mud Creek	2 nd Priority	050800030201	Nutrients, Atrazine
Copy Run-Greens Fork	1 st Priority	050800030202	E. Coli, Nutrients, Sediment, Atrazine
Williamsburg Creek- Greens Fork	1 st Priority	050800030203	E. Coli
Black Water Branch-Greens Fork	3 rd Priority	050800030204	Sediment, Atrazine
Headwaters-Nolands Fork	4 th Priority	050800030301	Atrazine
Fountain Creek- Nolands Fork	1 st Priority	050800030302	E. Coli, Nutrients, Sediment, Atrazine
Fork Creek-Nolands Fork	1 st Priority	050800030303	E. Coli, Nutrients, Sediment, Atrazine
Common Run-Nolands Fork	1 st Priority	050800030304	E. Coli, Nutrients, Sediment, Atrazine

**Appendix C:
Eligible Cost-share BMPs in the West Fork Watershed.**

Problems	WMP Page Number	Practice Code	Best Management Practice	Percent Cost-Share	Maximum Amount Cost-share Cap
Erosion, Nutrients	65	327	Conservation Cover	75%	Up to \$5,000
Erosion, Nutrients	64, 65	340	Cover Crop	75%	Up to \$5,000 not to exceed \$45 per acre
Erosion	65	342	Critical Area Planting	75%	Up to \$5,000
Livestock	63	382	Fence	75%	Up to \$5,000
Erosion, Nutrients	65	386	Field Border	75%	Up to \$5,000
Erosion, Nutrients	65	393	Filter Strip	75%	Up to \$5,000
Erosion, Nutrients	65	512	Forage and Biomass Planting	75%	Up to \$5,000 not to exceed \$162/acre
Erosion, Nutrients	65	412	Grassed Waterways or Outlet	75%	Up to \$5,000
Livestock	63	561	Heavy Use Area Protection	75%	Up to \$5,000
Erosion	65	468	Lined Waterways or Outlet	75%	Up to \$5,000
Erosion	65	484	Mulching	75%	Up to \$5,000
Nutrients	64	590	Nutrient Management Plan	75%	Up to \$5,000
Livestock	63	516	Pipeline	75%	Up to \$5,000
Livestock	63-65	528	Prescribed Grazing	75%	Up to \$5,000
Erosion, Atrazine, Nutrients	64,65	391	Riparian Forest Buffer	75%	Up to \$10,000 not to exceed \$767/acre
Livestock	63	574	Spring Development	75%	Up to \$5,000
Erosion, Nutrients	65	612	Tree Shrub Establishment	75%	Up to \$5,000
Livestock	63	614	Watering Facility	75%	Up to \$5,000

Appendix D
Cost Share Eligibility Application:

Cost Share Eligibility Application:

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please answer Yes (Y) or No (N) to the following questions to determine if you are eligible for cost-share monies:

_____ Is the project area located in one of the priority sub-watersheds? If no, the project is not eligible for 319 funding.

_____ Do you have livestock with access to a river or stream?

_____ Are you currently conventionally tilling your fields?

_____ Do you have cropland that is considered highly erodible?

_____ Does a river or stream pass through your property?

If yes provide the name of the stream or river _____

_____ Does your stream have a Riparian Buffer?

_____ Do you apply atrazine to your highly erodible fields?

If yes what rate?

_____ Are you interested in putting cover crops on your agricultural field?

Appendix E:
West Fork Watershed Cost-Share Application

West Fork Watershed: Cost Share Application

Applicant Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone:

Home: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

Check one: Landowner Land User

Project Address/location:

Farm#: _____

Tract#: _____

Field#: _____

Section#: _____

Township#: _____

Range#: _____

County: _____ State: _____

Township: _____

12-Digit HUC: _____

Assisting Staff Member: _____

Please Answer the Following Questions:

Project Description:

Cost Share Ranking Application	Yes	No
1. Which high priority sub-watershed is the project located on? _____		
2. How far away is the job site from a river or stream? Adjacent <1/2 mile >1/2 mile		
3. Will this practice cut down on erosion?		
4. Is the job site considered Highly Erodible Land (HEL)		
5. Are you committed to maintaining this project for the required number of years?		
6. Are you willing to use this site for educational and/or demonstration purposes?		
7. Do you have the proper permits for this project		
8. Do you have a nutrient/pest management plan?		
9. Does your livestock have access to a stream or river? If so how many? a)1-5 b)6-24 c)25+		
10. Will this project exclude livestock from a stream or river?		
11. Are you interested in implementing prescribed grazing?		
12. Are you interested in implementing an alternative water source for your livestock?		
13. Will this project include planting cover crops? If so what percentage of land? _____%		

14. Do you practice conventional tillage prior to filling out this application?		
15. Will this practice convert current cropland into permanent hayland/pasture or wildlife habitat?		
16. Will this practice create or improve residue?		
17. Are you implementing a Nutrient Management Plan?		
18. Will this practice reduce the amount of fertilizer and/or pesticide being applied to the land?		
19. Will this project help reduce Atrazine application		
20. Will this practice provide vegetation near or along your stream or river?		
21. If planting a riparian buffer will it be at least 60 feet wide?		
22. Is the riparian buffer located within a high priority sub-watershed?		
23. Will the project provide any new wildlife habitat areas?		

Points:

High Ranking: **800-530**

Medium Ranking: **530-260**

Low Ranking: **260-0**

Funding will be allocated using the following criteria. “High” ranking projects or 250-500 points on the ranking sheet, will receive funds first.

“Medium” ranking projects or 125-250 points on the ranking sheet, will receive funds after the “High” ranking projects receive their funds.

A “Low” rankings or 0-125 points on the ranking sheet will receive cost share money after both the “High” and “Medium” ranking projects receive their funds.

Acknowledgements

I hereby certify that I own or have control of the above listed land under consideration for the West Fork of the Whitewater River Watershed cost-share program. I understand that in order to receive payment for implemented practices, a conservation plan must be in place for the land benefited by this cost-share program before cost-share dollars will be paid. I also understand that vegetative practices installed through this cost-share program must be maintained for 5 years, with the exception of cover crops which must be maintained for 1 year, and structural practices for 10 years.

Applicants Signature

Date

This cost-share program was made possible through the Section 319 Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency under an assistance agreement with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Section 319 Grant guidelines prohibit the use of grant funds for activities that include draining, dredging, flood control, incentive payments, yield loss payments, land payments, maintenance costs, large equipment purchase for individuals, cost of work required by Federal regulations, or permit fees of any type.

Appendix F Cost-Share Ranking Sheet

West Fork Watershed Cost-Share Ranking Sheet	Points Possible	Total Points
Location & Project Elements		
Which high priority sub-watershed is the project located on?		
1st Priority	100	
2nd Priority	75	
3rd Priority	50	
4th Priority	25	
How far away is the job site from a river or stream?		
Adjacent	50	
<1/2 mile	30	
>1/2 mile	10	
Will this practice cut down on erosion?	50	
Is the job site considered Highly Erodible Land (HEL)	50	
Feasibility & Economics		
Are you committed to maintaining this project for the required number of years?	15	
Are you willing to use this site for educational and/or demonstration purposes?	40	
Do you have the proper permits for this project?	10	
Do you have a nutrient/pest management plan	20	
Livestock		
Does your livestock have access to a stream or river? If so how many?	20	
a) 1-5	10	
b)6-24	20	
c)25+	30	
Will this project exclude livestock from a stream or river?	50	
Are interested in implementing prescribed grazing?	20	
Are you interested in implementing an alternative water source for your livestock?	50	
Cropland		
Will this project include planting cover crops? IF so what percentage of land		
100%	30	
>50%	20	
<50%	10	
0%	0	
Do you practice conservation tillage on the job site prior to filling out this application?	15	
Will this practice convert current cropland into permanent hayland/pasture?	20	
Will this practice create or improve residue?	15	
Are you implementing a Nutrient Management Plan?	10	
Will this practice reduce the amount of fertilizer and/or pesticide being applied to the land?	15	

Will this project help reduce the amount of fertilizer and/or pesticide being applied to the land?	15	
Habitat		
Will this practice provide vegetation near or along your stream or river?	50	
If planting a Riparian Buffer will it be at least 60 feet wide?	30	
Is the Riparian Buffer located within a high priority sub-watershed?	75	
Will the project provide a new wildlife habitat area?	20	
Maximum Points	800	
Total Points		

High 800-530

Medium 530-260

Low 260-0