



## What Have We Done For LaGrange County Lately?

Wood-Land-Lakes RC&D has made a significant difference in helping local volunteers solve local natural resource problems. We have partnered with regional groups, community-based groups, watershed groups, state, and federal groups to make a positive impact regarding local natural resources. Some of the projects and activities we have undertaken in the past year include:

### 2007 Projects

- Protecting 6 farms & woods, for a total of 830 acres of land, with a conservation easement.
- Serving as financial administrator for historic round barn restoration.
- Serving on advisory board of local group promoting water quality management.
- Promoting & educating consumers about the benefits of purchasing locally produced food & farm products.
- Promoting program encouraging landowners to plant a row of produce to donate to local food pantries.
- Serving on steering committee & financial administration for closing local landfill.
- Promoting program encouraging hunters & meat processors to donate game to a local food bank.
- Evaluating "50-50-50" Arboretum Plan (planting Indiana trees, shrubs & wildflowers) at 4-H park.

### 2007 Completed Projects

- Facilitated watershed planning & awareness meetings.
- Facilitated start-up of nonprofit group, promoting urban forestry.
- Co-sponsored Tri-State Woodland & Wildlife workshop.
- Promoted sale & use of bio-diesel fuel.
- Co-sponsored seminar for managing stormwater.
- Hosted the 2007 Envirothon—a resource competition for high school students.
- Assisted in finding financial & technical resources to start up a local agribusiness.
- Permanently protected forest from future development.
- Co-sponsored 2007 grazing land field day.
- Co-sponsored 2007 Indiana Master Naturalist training.
- Assisted in the development of a comprehensive agribusiness resource guide.
- Co-sponsored 2007 tree planting workshops.
- Sponsored workshop managing established tree plantations.

### 2007 Accomplishments

- Coordinated 408 volunteers, donating more than 2709 hours, benefiting 61,129 people.
- Assisted a variety of nonprofit organizations in securing over \$980,945 for local use.
- Published 49 news articles in local newspapers.
- Displayed projects & activities at 11 workshops, field days, presentations, or exhibits.
- Facilitated 13 group meetings.
- Maintained up-to-date website with a variety of information.
- Published a quarterly newsletter of accomplishments, upcoming projects, and events.
- Assisted in the creation of 9 new jobs.
- Guided 1 new business start-up & 1 business expansion.
- Served 34,379 disadvantaged people.

Wood-Land-Lakes RC&D office is located in Angola and serves the six northeast Indiana counties of DeKalb, Elkhart, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, and Whitley. Contact Wood-Land-Lakes at 260.665.3211, ext. 5, or visit our website at [www.wood-land-lakes.org](http://www.wood-land-lakes.org) for more information or with ideas for projects.

James Penick, President  
 Mike McCoy, Vice President  
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**LaGrange County**  
 residents and/or natural  
 resources are involved in this  
 project or accomplishment.