



What Have We Done For Whitley 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:

2008 Projects

Protecting 211 acres of farmland, including 61 acres of cropland and 47 acres of pasture, with a conservation easement.

Coordinating fundraising efforts and financial administrators for restoration of historic round barn.

Helping sponsors, consultants, nonprofits, and business start-ups on diverse projects and activities.

Developing 2 Present Condition Documents for 550 acres being protected with recently donated conservation easements.

Creating and updating list of current grant opportunities.

Facilitating meetings and assisting a local group develop a county-wide park system.

Assisting local groups promoting water quality and quantity management.

Serving on steering committee & financial administration for closing local landfill.

Promoting program encouraging farmers, hunters, & meat processors to donate livestock and game to local food banks.

2008 Completed Projects

Co-sponsored 2008 Indiana Master Naturalist training, Tri-State Woodland & Wildlife workshop, tree planting workshops, and the high school student Envirothon competition.

Assisted 2 conservation groups in protecting 46 acres of woodland, wetland, and wildlife areas.

Solicited input from sponsors, committees, and general public for local needs and concerns in updating area plan.

Revised, submitted, and approved long range area plan.

Published articles encouraging volunteer service - resulting in local citizens filling 100% of Council positions.

Promoted sale & use of renewable fuels.

Offered new forestry activities to underserved inner-city youth.

Completed 3 Present Condition Documents for 267 acres being protected with recently donated conservation easements.

2008 Accomplishments

Tracked 183 volunteers, donating more than 1,210 hours, benefiting over 500,000 people.

Documented 44 news articles in local newspapers.

Displayed projects & activities at 5 workshops, field days, presentations, or exhibits.

Partnered with regional community-based groups to provide services and products to over 135,000 disadvantaged people.

Facilitated 9 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 fostering of 2 new jobs.

Guided 1 new business start-up & 1 business expansion.

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 email to office@wood-land-lakes.org or visit our website at www.wood-land-lakes.org for more information or with ideas for projects.

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Whitley County residents and/or natural resources are involved in this project or accomplishment.