Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)
2007 Annual Activities Report
(January 1, 2007 thru December 31, 2007)

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is a unit of state government, supported primarily by the City-County Council with some funds from state government. The SWCD was established to provide technical assistance to Marion County residents and land users concerning the proper management of soil, water and other related natural resources. We work closely with local government, community organizations and residents on such items as water quality and drainage issues, soil erosion and sedimentation control, green space and wildlife habitat, conservation planning and education to help create a better quality living environment for everyone in the county.

Holladay Properties and Indiana Wildlife Federation officials join in admiring the newly dedicated marker recognizing AmeriPlex Business Park as a "Wildlife Friendly Development

IUPUI Professor Bein and students voluntarily gather watershed data for the Marion Co. SWCD on the Lower Fall Creek Watershed Planning Project funded by IDEM

This 2007 annual report was developed to keep city, county, and federal level legislators, government agency directors, and various community leaders informed of our on-going activities. This is just a snapshot of our activities, anyone with any questions or comments are encouraged to contact our Marion Co. SWCD office at 6960 S. Gray Rd., Suite C, Indianapolis, IN 46237 for more details. Our phone number is 317-786-1776, and our web site is www.marionswcd.org

I. Natural Resource Technical Requests, Contacts, & Visits with Landusers & Landowners:

These on-site visits assist landowners with drainage, water management, erosion control, vegetative management options, and other related natural resource topics. These assistance efforts take an estimated amount of hours shown below depending on the type of assistance provided to schedule, inventory available site data, visit the site, plan recommendations, and respond to the request with written comments to the land user or landowner. The Mayors Action Center routes many assistance requests to our office.

Township	No. Technical Assists Provided (@1 hr)	No. Site Visits Made (@ 2hrs)	No. Letters or Reports Provided (@ 4hrs)	No. Conservation Plans or Surveys Provided (@ 6 hrs)
Center	39	7	26	0
Decatur	29	8	14	0
Franklin	59	21	25	4
Lawrence	40	22	20	1
Perry	53	11	32	6
Pike	24	10	16	1
Warren	35	9	27	3
Washington	74	17	49	4
Wayne	35	5	30	0
Countywide				
TOTAL	**388**	**110**	**239**	**19**

II. On-Site Development, Erosion Control and Stormwater Reviews, Contacts & Reports

Following state law requirements and through joint agreements with the City of Indianapolis, plus Beach Grove, Lawrence, and Speedway, the Marion County SWCD assists developers and contractors by reviewing Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) for government sponsored projects and providing compliance inspections for Erosion Control Plans during development for county construction sites with one acre or more of site disturbance. These assistance efforts take an estimated amount of hours shown below depending on the type of assistance provided to schedule, inventory site data, visit the site, make additional follow-up visits as needed, and write review or inspection reports. Most sites need 2-4 visits to close out a review or inspection. Currently, the district does not have enough staffing to complete inspections for all construction sites in as timely manner as desired.

Township	No. Construction Sites Assisted (@1 hr)	No Provided Soils or Other Info (@ 1 hr)	No. SWPPP * Reviews Provided (@ 3 hrs)	No. Erosion Plan Inspections Reports (@ 2hrs)	No of Site Inspections Made (@ 2hrs)
Center	39	3	2	10	29
Decatur	22	0	0	6	15
Franklin	31	4	1	12	11
Lawrence	37	2	4	16	44
Perry	9	1	0	8	5
Pike	8	4	0	4	5
Warren	51	1	0	15	36
Washington	14	2	0	7	16
Wayne	2	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	**213**	**17**	**8**	**78**	**162**

* Note: SWPPP= Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans -

III. State and Federal Cost Share Projects:

The SWCD is always looking for ways to assist landowners via a variety of county, state, and federal cost share funds to assist with the installation of conservation practices in the county. Funds are often limited for the SWCD assistance with funding on land improvement or land protection conservation measures. The projects can take a minimum of 2-4 days to several months depending on the type of activity needed. Most of this support activity on this matter are being provided through our joint- cooperative efforts with the USDA- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) assigned to assist the Marion County SWCD.

Township	No Projects	No. Visits Made	$ Provided & Source	Type of Projects
Center		0	0	
Decatur	Indy Parks-Southway	4	$1,575	WHIP (FED $)
Franklin	April & David Camps	5	$5,529	WHIP (FED $)
Lawrence		0	0	
Perry		0	0	
Pike	Indy Parks- Eagle Creek Traders Point Organics Farm	4 8	$10,500 $42,301	WHIP (FED $) EQIP (FED $)
Warren		0	0	
Washington		0	0	
Wayne	Camp Dellwood	4	$24,990	WHIP (FED $)
TOTAL	**5 different land units**	**25**	**$84,895**	**2 programs**

IV. Major Natural Resource Projects Summary:

In addition to on-site visits, additional SWCD educational and outreach efforts are needed to help the SWCD program communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with others on conservation needs and solutions for landowners and landusers in the county. The efforts can take a minimum of 2-4 hours to several days depending on the type of activity needed.

Project Summary	Numbers	Date	Comments
IDEM Lower Fall Creek Watershed Grant initiated	$192,900	1/1/07	30 month planning effort
ISDA Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Grant initiated	$40,000	1/1/07	Hire Regional Coordinator
Initiated Affiliate Member Program (Seeking Private Funds)	1 request	1/1/07	Seeking local support
Conservation Day at the State House (staff on own time)	@ 200+	1/23/07	Helped with Event
Hoosier Association of Science Teachers Inc Conference	@1200+	2/8/07	Helped Host SWCS Booth
Marion Co. SWCD Annual Meeting	@ 75+	2/20/07	Coordinated Event
Urban Contractor Workshop (w-HHRC&D)	@ 350+	3/1/07	Helped Coordinate Event
Booth at Flower & Patio Show (visits to booth)	@ 800+	3/13/07	Helped Host HHRCD Booth
Vegetative Options Workshop at Ameriplex Park	@ 75+	4/4/07	Helped Coordinate Event
Earth Day in Downtown Indianapolis (visits to booth)	@ 300+	4/28/07	Hosted SWCD Booth
Spring & Fall Tree & Shrub Sales Project (317 trees)	54 people	Apr & Oct 07	SWCD Sponsored Project
Indy Students Youth Conservation Field Day (w-HHRC&D)	@ 65	5/10/07	Helped Coordinate Event
Tour of Merry Lea Environmental Center, N. Indiana	@ 40+	6/8/07	Helped Host w-HHRC&D
Conducted Pond Pro workshop w- 5 interrelated meetings	45 people	Began 8/23	8 different topics + Tour
Attended Sargent Rd & Mud Creek Neighborhood Tour	1 Tour	10/22/07	Learned about HOA issues
Led Indianapolis Southside Landfill Inspection	1 inspection	10/23/07	Done jointly with IDEM
Began work with "Health by Design" (new group)	9 mtgs	during year	Active on Council & Comm
Active w-Indy Green Print, Clean Streams Team, Tree Bd	16+ mtgs	during year	SWCD Bd & Staff involved
Meetings w-Indpls DPW, DMD, Indy Parks, & Bd of Health	6 meetings	during year	Work on Resource Items
Met w-City of Lawrence & Indy on working agreement	6 meetings	during year	Work on Joint Work MOU
Conducted IDEM Fall Creek Watershed mtgs (w-CBBEL)	10 mtgs	during year	w-Steering & Work Groups
Established Lower Fall Creek Watershed website	1 site	during year	Shares info about Fall Crk
Worked w-staff on CWI Central IN Watershed Coordination	10 counties	during year	w- Central IN SWCDs
Established Central IN Watershed web & blog sites	2 sites	during year	Shares info on watersheds
Worked w-Watershed Grps-Eagle Crk & Upper White	8 mtgs	during year	Locally Led Efforts
Actively supported Hoosier Heartland RC&D & Committees	16 mtgs	during year	Including Plant-A-Million
Actively supported CILTI, ILPA, ILUC, INCA, ISDA etc	38 mtgs	during year	Large variety of Groups
Maintained current Marion Co. SWCD website	1 site	during year	Shares info about SWCD
Distributed Newsletter on activities & watershed progress	4 times	during year	2,000 on mailing list
Distributed News Releases on Variety of Topics	54	during year	30 Media, 80 Organizations