Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)
2009 Annual Activities Report
(January 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009)

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.

This 2009 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

Helped install rain garden & rain barrels at Indiana State Fairgrounds

The SWCD sponsored several technical workshop programs & utilized display

Helped install rain garden at Indianapolis Museum of Art

I. 2009 Major Natural Resource Projects Summary

In addition to on-site visits, additional SWCD educational and outreach efforts were completed 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
Indiana Association of Conservation Districts Conference	3 days	1/12-14	Board & Staff attended
Central Indiana Stormwater Workshop (w-HHRC&D & others	400+	1/21-22	Helped coordinate event
Conservation Day at the State House (staff on personal time)	75+	1/27	Informed on key issues
Marion Co. SWCD Annual Meeting	@ 65+	2/17	Reported SWCD progress
Sponsored Drain and Waterway Workshop on Fall Creek	30+	3/25	Part of watershed projec
Green Site Planning Workshop at Eagle Creek Park	75+	3/26	Helped coordinate event
Earth Day at City Market downtown event (visits to booth)	@400+	4/22 & 25	Had booth at both events
Spring tree, shrub, & rain barrel Sale (sold 100 rain barrels)	467 trees	5/16	163 trees cost shared
Hosted 4 separate Pond Pro workshop sessions	@75	8/20&27, 9/3&10	Covered separate topics
Helped host Groundwater Workshop series with tour	@75	9/14, 21,28	One of many sponsors
Fall tree & shrub sale	386 trees	10/11	83 trees cost shared
Led Indianapolis South Side Landfill Inspection	1 review	10/15	Done jointly w-IDEM
Helped host Gardening for Life Workshop at Clowes Hall	1025+	11/3	One of many sponsors
Worked with-DPW & DMD on MOU & NPDES Report	3 items	11/30	MOU, budget, and report
3rd Yr. IDEM Lower Fall Creek Watershed Grant Continued	$59,897	during year	Assisted by CBBEL
3rd Yr. ISDA Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Grant Continued	$10,000	during year	Assisted by John Ulmer
Affiliate Member Program (and other Donations)	$1,005	during year	Seeking local support
Conducted IDEM Fall Creek Watershed mtgs w-CBBEL	6 mtgs	during year	Steering & Work Groups
Continued Lower Fall Creek & Indy Watershed websites	2 sites	during year	Watershed info shared
Worked with Eagle Creek, & Upper White River Watershed	10 mtgs	during year	Assisted locally led efforts
Actively supported Hoosier Heartland RC&D & Committees	26 mtgs	during year	Including Plant A Million
Worked w-Health by Design (HbD) Council organization	18 mtgs	during year	On Council & Ed Comm.
Assisted Indy Clean Streams Team, Tree Bd, & Sustain Indy	10 mtgs	during year	SWCD Bd & Staff involved
Mtgs w-Indpls DPW, DMD, Indy Parks, & Bd of Health	10 mtgs	during year	Worked on joint issues
Maintained Marion Co. SWCD website w-current updates	1 site	during year	Shares info about SWCD
Distributed newsletter on activities & watershed programs	4 / yr	during year	2,000+ on mailing list
Distributed news releases on variety of conservation topics	42 / yr	during year	30 media+220 others

II. 2009 Calendar Year Natural Resource Technical Requests, Contacts, & Visits with Landusers & Landowners:

Through on-site visits, telephone calls and written recommendations, the district assists 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	8	9	2	1
Decatur	5	2	4	--
Franklin	23	19	6	3
Lawrence	33	24	15	3
Perry	58	47	24	6
Pike	17	12	9	--
Warren	23	22	11	3
Washington	28	32	13	3
Wayne	18	13	9	--
TOTAL	**213**	**180**	**93**	**19**

III. 2009 Calendar Year On-Site Development, Erosion Control and Stormwater Reviews, Contacts & Reports

Following state law requirements and through a joint agreement with the City of Indianapolis, the Marion County SWCD assists developers and contractors by reviewing Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) for government sponsored projects and providing compliance inspections for SWPPPs 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. At any one time during the last year, the county has had at least 200 of these construction sites that should be inspected. Due to funding and manpower limitations, the district was able to inspect only about 65% of the sites in 2009 before the project was completed. Fifty per cent of all construction sites inspected were out of compliance in 2009.

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	62	1	7	11	32
Decatur	39	2	1	7	31
Franklin	49	5	1	28	36
Lawrence	30	1	--	10	18
Perry	42	1	2	14	32
Pike	69	4	3	24	50
Warren	14	--	1	6	7
Washington	43	--	4	22	38
Wayne	36	1	5	14	24
TOTAL	**384**	**15**	**24**	**136**	**268**

***** Note: SWPPP= Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans -

IV. 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				
Decatur				
Franklin	April & David Camps David Craig	4 4	$126 $2,334	WHIP (FED $) WHIP (FED $)
Lawrence				
Perry				
Pike	Traders Point Organics Traders Point Organics	14 11	$36,358 $27,940	EQIP (FED $) CSP (FED $)
Warren				
Washington				
Wayne				
TOTAL	3 different land units	33	$66,758	3 programs

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District working every day … to help people care for the land & provide a better quality of life in our community.