

# Region of the Great Bend of the Wabash River Watershed Project



## Cost-Share Sign-Up

### Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance is free. Contact the Tippecanoe County NRCS or SWCD office to set up a farm visit.



### USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Mark Eastman, District

Conservationist [mark.eastman@in.usda.gov](mailto:mark.eastman@in.usda.gov)  
765-474-9992, ext 109

### Soil and Water Conservation District

Angela Garcia-Miller  
[Angela.Garcia-Miller@in.nacdnet.net](mailto:Angela.Garcia-Miller@in.nacdnet.net)  
765-474-9992, ext 110



### Landowner Sign-Up

Landowners in the Region of the Great Bend of the Wabash River Watershed are eligible to apply for assistance through this cost-share program. The program is a voluntary conservation program that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality.

The cost-share program offers financial and technical assistance to implement structural and management conservation practices that optimize environmental benefits on working agricultural land.



WREC partners—NRCS and SWCD staff—will assist producers in developing a conservation plan, if they do not already have one, for their operation. Conservation practices identified in the plan may be eligible for financial assistance up to 75% of the total cost. Conservation practices must meet NRCS technical standards.

WREC and our partners will evaluate and rank each application with higher priorities given to conservation practices that address local resource concerns and provide the most environmental benefit.

# Region of the Great Bend of the Wabash River Watershed

Agricultural landowners in critical areas within the Region of the Great Bend of the Wabash River (RGBWR) watershed have a unique opportunity to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in the Wabash River.

The Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) and its collaborating partners are working with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Section 319 program to improve soil and water quality within the Wabash River Basin. Under the RGBWR agricultural cost-share program, producers will have an opportunity to implement conservation practices that avoid, control and trap nutrient runoff. At the same time, farmers will be able to maintain agricultural productivity.

## Project Background

Excess nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, in our streams and river contribute to both local water quality problems and the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico. Improving nutrient management on agricultural land is part of the solution to local and downstream water quality issues such as this.

Each year, an area of water along the northern shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico exhibits low oxygen conditions, known as hypoxia. The size of the zone has increased over time, averaging about 15,000 square kilometers in recent years.

