



Lower Salamonie River Watershed Newsletter

June 2019

**Watershed Coordinator
and Local SWCDs
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Lower Salamonie River Cost-Share Program

The Lower Salamonie River Watershed (LSRW) group received additional funding through an IDEM 319 Implementation Grant to continue their cost-share program. Funding for the program is available for a variety of best management practices (BMPs) that help reduce soil loss and erosion, improve water quality and soil health. Practices available for cost-share include, but are not limited to: cover crops, heavy use area protection, prescribed grazing, equipment modifications, filter strips, and nutrient management. To be eligible, all practices must be installed in Tier 1 critical areas of the Lower Salamonie River Watershed. (See Figure 1.)

All applications received will be ranked by the SWCD and the Watershed Coordinator in cooperation with local NRCS and ISDA staff. A point system will be used for ranking. Site specific conditions or situations may impact the final ranking of a project. The cost share program will be available until October 2020.

For more information about the cost share program and to receive an application, please contact your local SWCD office or contact Collin Huffine, LSRW Watershed Coordinator at 765-914-2324.



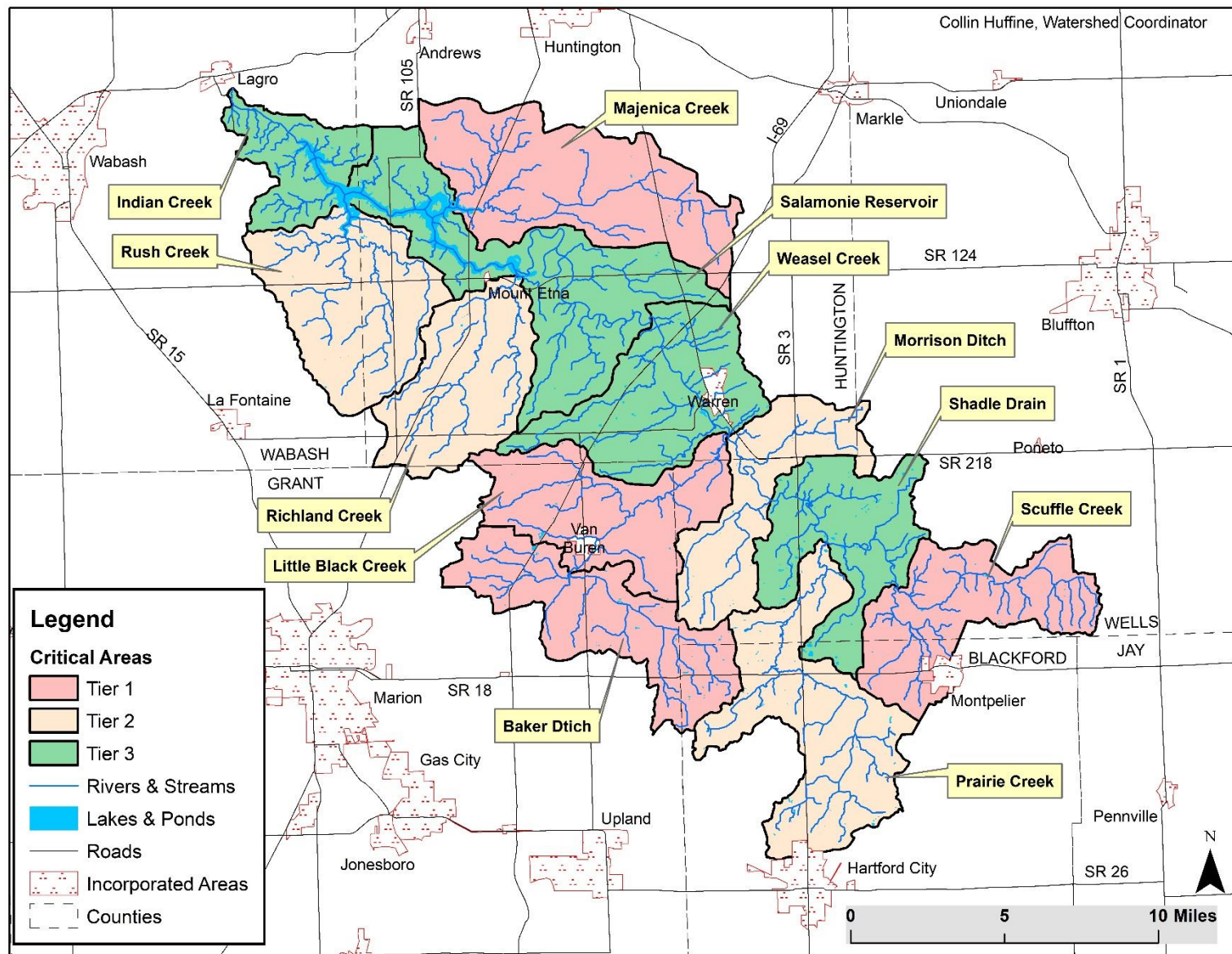


Figure 1. Lower Salamonie River Watershed - cost-share funding is available in Tier 1 (pink) areas.

Cost-share continued...

Funds for the cost-share program originally totaled \$154,000. Thus far, the LSRW 319 cost-share program has paid out nearly \$21,000 including over 340 acres of cover crops and an equipment modification in the Scuffle Creek-Salamonie River Watershed. Additionally, another round of cost-share applications totaling over \$19,600 are currently being reviewed and processed before being submitted to IDEM. Table 1 and Table 2 provide information on cost-share balances by Tier 1 watershed and county including funds paid out and current applications. Values in red indicate changes to the original cost-share balances.

Table 1. LSRW 319 Cost-share funds by Tier 1 Watershed

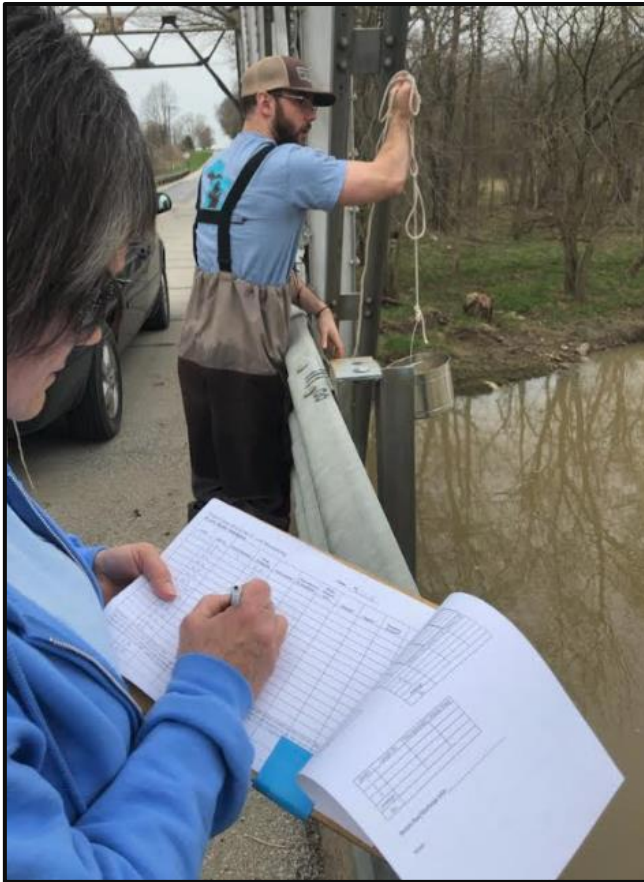
Watershed	County	Acres	%	Original Cost-Share (\$)	Remaining balance as of 5/23/2019
Majenica	Huntington	22,245.00	31.76	\$48,908.26	\$48,908.26
Little Black Creek-Black Creek	Huntington	1,778.29	2.54	\$3,909.78	\$1,853.10
	Grant	11,748.64	16.77	\$25,830.78	\$25,830.78
	Wells	2,434.07	3.48	\$5,351.58	\$1,751.58
Baker Ditch-Black Creek	Grant	12,928.26	18.46	\$28,424.30	\$14,424.30
	Blackford	2,747.30	3.92	\$6,040.27	\$6,040.27
	Wells	694.44	0.99	\$1,526.81	\$1,526.81
Scuffle Creek-Salamonie River	Blackford	4,094.08	5.85	\$9,001.31	\$9,001.31
	Wells	11,373.92	16.24	\$25,006.91	\$9,696.66
	Total	70,044.00	100.00	\$154,000.00	\$119,033.07

Table 2. LSRW 319 Cost-share funds by County

County	Tier 1 Area (Acres)	Original Cost-Share (\$)	Remaining balance as of 5/23/2019
Blackford	6,841.38	\$15,041.58	\$15,041.58
Grant	24,676.90	\$54,255.07	\$40,255.07
Huntington	24,023.29	\$52,818.04	\$50,761.36
Wells	14,502.43	\$31,885.31	\$12,975.06
Total	70,044.00	\$154,000.00	\$119,033.07

Water Quality Monitoring Program

The LSRW group resumed annual sampling on April 17th, 2019. Sampling in April marked the seventh sampling event of the project. Volunteers collected physical, chemical, and biological data at thirteen (13) sites in the LSRW. Data were collected for dissolved oxygen (D.O), *E. coli*, pH, biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), nitrate-nitrite nitrogen, total phosphorus, flow, turbidity, and temperature. Increased precipitation and high river levels has made water sampling a difficult task in 2019. Volunteers were unable to complete a sampling event in May. Two sampling events will likely be conducted in June or July to compensate for the lack of sampling in May.



Collin Huffine (Watershed Coordinator), conducts a 'bridge pull' to collect water while Cheryl Jarrett (Huntington Co. SWCD), records data during a high flow event on the Lower Salamonie River Watershed

The LSRW seeking volunteers to assist in water sampling. If you would like to assist with monitoring events, please contact the Huntington County SWCD office at 260-356-6816 ext. 3 or Collin Huffine, Watershed Coordinator at 765-914-2324.

THANK YOU TO ECI!



The Lower Salamonie River Watershed Group and Huntington Co. SWCD would like to thank Ecosystems Connections Institute (ECI), LLC. for donating a HACH FH950 Portable Velocity Meter. The HACH flow meter will allow for more accurate measurements of stream discharge (flow) and aid in sediment and nutrient load calculations. Donation of the flow meter will also help the project reach its in-kind goal.



On-Site Waste Systems Workshop

The Huntington County SWCD and LSRW group hosted an informative on-site (septic) waste systems workshop on April 11th, 2019 at the Dogwood Glen Golf Course in Warren, Indiana. The workshop featured speakers L.A. Brown (L.A Brown Co.) and Brant Ricker, Environmental Health and Safety Specialist (Huntington Co. Department of Health). The workshop provided a setting for members from surrounding communities to learn about on-site waste systems and how to prolong the life of their systems. Attendees gained a better understanding of how to maintain their on-site waste systems in order to protect their finances as well as the health of the environment. General topics covered during the workshop included:

- Basics of how an on-site waste system works and common components
- Proper care and maintenance
- Do's and Don'ts of on-site waste systems
- Viewpoints of a septic installer and the Health Department

The Huntington County SWCD and LSRW group would like to thank L.A Brown, Brant Ricker, and all the attendees who participated in this event!



L.A. Brown (L.A. Brown, Co.), performs his "Funeral for a Septic System".



Brant Ricker, Environmental Health and Safety Specialist with the Huntington Co. Dep. of Health, stands in front of his model on-site waste system.



L.A. Brown and Brant Ricker lead a Q & A session during the septic system workshop held on April 11th, 2019 at Dogwood Glen Golf Course in Warren, Indiana.

Remaining LSRW 2019 quarterly steering committee meetings:

- **August 22nd, 2019**
- **November 21st, 2019**

Meeting objectives include:

- Progress report and planning for Cost-share program
- Outreach planning
- Entertain questions and concerns from the committee and other stakeholders present

All meetings are located at the Huntington County SWCD Office, 2040 Riverfork Drive, Huntington, Indiana 46750 at 9 a.m. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend

For more information, please contact Collin Huffine, watershed coordinator at (765) 914-2324/ collinhuffine87@gmail.com, or the Huntington County SWCD office at 260-356-6816 ext. 3.

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Andy Ambriole, Chairman

Kyle Lund, Vice Chairman

Adam Couch, Supervisor

Kandace Villanueva, Supervisor

Stuart Stephan, Supervisor

Salamonie River Watershed Partners

Blackford County SWCD

Grant County SWCD

Wabash County SWCD

Wells County SWCD

Indiana Dept. Natural Resources

Indiana State Dept. of Agriculture

CCSI

Taylor University-Dept. of Earth and Environmental Science

Purdue Cooperative Extension Service-Master Gardeners

Huntington County Health Department

Huntington County Commissioners

Wabash River Defenders

NRCS -Northeast Indiana

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