



CLIFTY CREEK

HISTORY OF THE CLIFTY CREEK WATERSHED PROJECT

Clifty Creek Watershed Project (CCWP) began in November 2003 to address growing local concern for water quality in Clifty Creek. The efforts of the project are sponsored by the Bartholomew County Soil & Water Conservation District, with support from the Decatur, Shelby, and Rush County Soil & Water Conservation Districts. Currently, the Project is funded through a grant from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's 319 program. The 319 program aims to reduce non-point source pollution within specific watersheds.

The project is guided by steering committee of diverse individuals from the watershed area. The mission of the steering committee is to maintain and enhance the natural resources by encouraging and building partnerships through a common sense approach to education, communication, and facilitation of local strategies and projects.

In order to effectively address local concerns, the Steering Committee consolidated similar ideas and categorized concerns in order of priority. The top three areas of concern were lack of public knowledge correlated to water quality degradation, increased sedimentation in the watershed, and nonpoint source biological & chemical runoff. These concern areas were used to form goals and objectives to remedy these concerns

Watershed project efforts are non-regulatory and based entirely on volunteer interest.

Interested in Volunteer Opportunities?

- Teach children about the environment
- Monitor the water of Clifty Creek Watershed
- Become a member of the steering committee
- Enter water monitoring data for the project
- Help organize events

Education/ Outreach

The goal of the program is to conduct activities to raise public awareness and participation in the East Fork of the White River Watershed Projects.

The CCWP will accomplish this goal by

maintaining the current steering committee, conducting public meetings, implementing student educational experiences, developing/distributing outreach materials, and conducting adult educational experiences.

CCWP is always looking for partners in order to reach the most diverse audience. Please contact Project Staff for information on helping with education/outreach events.



Water Monitoring

The CCWP's Water Monitoring Program goal is to document environmental improvements in the area. The project attempts to do this from many avenues such as a volunteer water monitoring program, side by side professional monitoring, a USGS water monitoring gauge, and monthly grab sample monitoring by a professional laboratory.



If you are interested in becoming a monthly water monitor to investigate the health of Clifty Creek please contact Project Staff for information.

Cost-share

The cost-share program aims to reduce non-point source pollution through the implementation of best management practices within urban or rural settings. Best management practices can include cover crops, conservation cover, alternative watering facilities, fencing, pipeline, heavy use area protection, pasture & hay

planting, nutrient management plans, pest management plans, waste utilization, residue & tillage management, water well development, prescribed grazing plans, riparian forest buffer, roof runoff structures/rain gardens, vegetative swales, rain barrels, and tree & shrub establishment.

For information on how to apply contact Project Staff for more information about the application process.

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**CLIFTY CREEK
ORIGINATES IN
SOUTHEASTERN RUSH
COUNTY, FLOWING
SOUTHWEST INTO
DECATUR COUNTY
AND EMPTYING INTO
THE EAST FORK OF
THE WHITE RIVER IN
COLUMBUS.**