



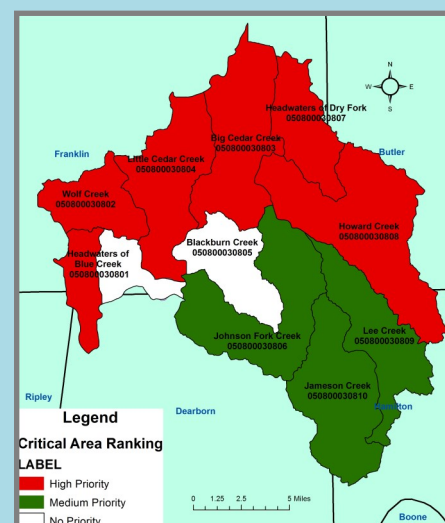
# WHITEWATER RIVER WATERSHED NEWSLETTER



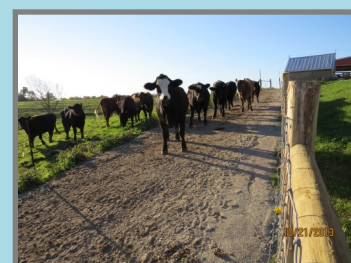
## Whitewater River Watershed Cost-share Program is Available



The Whitewater River Watershed 's Cost-share Program received its final approval by IDEM, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and now can begin accepting applications. The cost-share program will assist watershed landowners in Indiana who are willing to install best management practices to improve water quality in the watershed. All cost-share applicants will go through a ranking process and land located in high priority areas identified in the watershed management plan will be funded first (See map - Red = high priority, Green = medium priority, and White = no priority). If funds are still available halfway through the grant and after the applications in the high priority areas are funded, cost-share can be awarded to applicants in the medium priority areas with IDEM's approval.



Protecting the streams from sediment, nutrients, and E. coli are goals of the program. The cost-share program will provide 70% of the cost to install or implement the best management practices with set not to exceed rates. Both cropping and grazing practices will be available. Some practices available are riparian buffers, filter strips, tree plantings, cover crops, nutrient management, grassed waterways, fencing, watering systems, heavy use areas, and more. All funded applicants may receive up to \$8,000 in cost-share. Funding will be approved in rounds, and a field visit is required to complete the ranking. If you are interested or know someone else in the watershed who may be interested in applying for the cost-share program, please contact your local SWCD or Heather Wirth at [heather.wirth@in.nacdnet.net](mailto:heather.wirth@in.nacdnet.net) or 812-926-2406 ext. 107 as soon as possible to schedule your visit.





## Whitewater River Watershed Project

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## New Implementation Grant Begins

The Whitewater River Watershed received its 2<sup>nd</sup> 319 grant from Indiana Department of Environmental Management, IDEM, on November 10, 2016. The grant will last 39 months, so it will conclude on February 10, 2020. The grant was awarded to start implementing the watershed management plan. The new implementation grant includes funds for a cost-share program and to continue its education and outreach efforts through field days, workshops, clean-ups, and newsletters. Septic system maintenance and care, cover crops, and rotational grazing are some topics that will be covered over the next 3 years. If there is a specific topic you would like to see covered at a workshop/field day, please let us know. Upcoming events can be seen on the watershed website, local newspapers, and in these newsletters.



## Watershed Management Plan Approved

The Whitewater River Watershed Management Plan was approved by Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, in August 2016. The management plan contains watershed information on soils, hydrology, threatened and endangered species, windshield surveys, all of the water quality data, problems/concerns, goals, and much more. The plan can be viewed at [www.dearborncountywatersheds.org](http://www.dearborncountywatersheds.org) under Whitewater River publications. Hard copies of the management plan will also be made available to view at all of the local SWCDs, libraries, and high schools early next year.

