

Eel River Watershed

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Earth Day 2017
- Non-Point Source Pollution
- Annual Meeting

Happy Early Earth Day (April 22nd)

We hope this newsletter finds you healthy and happy on Earth Day! Earth Day aims to inspire awareness of and appreciation for earth's environment. Founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson, Earth Day is celebrated on April 22 each year and was first organized in 1970 to promote ecology and respect for life on the planet as well as to encourage awareness of the growing problems of air, water and soil pollution. Senator Nelson was an American politician from Wisconsin who served as a United States Senator and governor.

Why is Earth Day so important to the Eel River Watershed Initiative? The Initiative's mission statement is:

"To protect and enhance the water resources of the Eel River Watershed through education and implementation of soil and water conservation practices."

Our mission matches up perfectly with Earth Day's aim. Freshwater is essential for life on Earth as we know it! Could there be any more gratifying work than protecting the natural resources upon which all life on the planet depends? Granted, not all life depends upon the water resources of the Eel River in north central Indiana, however, if we all work toward protecting and preserving that which is in our own back yards, collectively we have a huge, positive impact on the world we share. Our work focuses on protecting and preserving the freshwater resources of the Eel River for all life, not only for humans.

You may not know that freshwater in rivers make up only .006% of all water on Earth. Freshwater in rivers is some of the most easily accessible, usable, water on the planet; consequently one of our most precious natural resources and certainly worthy of all our efforts!

Funding for the Initiative comes from an Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Office of Water Quality. These are federal funds administered by the state to provide funding for various types of projects that work to reduce nonpoint source water pollution. What exactly is non-point source pollution? (Cont'd on next page.)



What Is Nonpoint Source Pollution? (Cont'd from Page 1)

Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution, unlike pollution from point sources that are discharged through a single, identifiable pipe such as industrial and sewage treatment plants, comes from many diffuse sources. Also known as polluted runoff, non-point source pollution is the result of rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into our rivers, lakes, and streams. Non-point source pollutants of concern in the Eel River Watershed are sediment (mud in the water), nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), and E. coli.

How does the Initiative work toward reducing non-point source pollution in the Eel River Watershed? We take a holistic, collaborative approach that includes the following 4 main components:



Go Green
Happy Earth day

- Development and implementation of a watershed management plan
- Development and implementation of a rigorous water quality monitoring program
- Development and implementation of a Education and outreach program
- Development and Implementation of a Cost-share program





W A T E R S H E D I N I T I A T I V E



INDIANA ASSOCIATION OF
soil and water conservation
DISTRICTS

9th Annual Eel River Watershed Public Awareness Meeting

Please come join the Eel River Water Initiative and its conservation partners for an evening of informative presentations on the Eel River and current projects within the watershed. This is a perfect opportunity to learn about conservation efforts in the watershed and to share your perspectives and concerns about the Eel River. Your input will help guide future projects within the watershed.

When: April 12th 2017

Where: Bison Ranch (Old Darley's Barn),
7480 W River Rd
South Whitley, IN 46787

Time: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm



ACRES
LANDTRUST





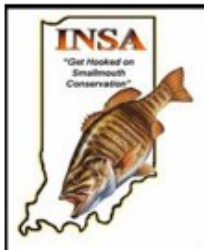
THANKS TO ALL OUR PARTNERS!!!



Local Farmers/Land Owners



Miller's Canoe Rentals



North Manchester Center for History

County Highway Departments



Contact Information

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