



## WHAT IS A BMP?

“BMP” stands for best management practices. We focus on agricultural best management practices that will have a direct impact on the quality and quantity of water on your farm.



Funding provided by 319 EPA grant dollars

# UPPER IROQUOIS WATERSHED INITIATIVE

CONNECTING PEOPLE FOR WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT

[www.iroquoiswatershed.org](http://www.iroquoiswatershed.org)

Our vision for the Iroquois watershed is to ensure an ecologically and economically healthy Iroquois watershed for today and generations to come.

Our concerns are flooding along the river, loss of fish habitat, excess of sediment in the water, lack of recreational access, excess nutrients in the water and high levels of E.coli.

Our plan is to inform and educate the community about the watershed, do water quality testing, help residents employ land management practices, hold public meetings and provide information through newsletters and social media.

### Become Involved-

- ◆ Contact Jasper, Newton, or Benton SWCDs
- ◆ Attend public meetings
- ◆ Participate in work groups
- ◆ Volunteer for water monitoring



Jasper County Soil and Water  
Conservation District  
211 E. Drexel Parkway  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
Phone: 219-866-8008 Ext 3



## COST-SHARE FOR YOU

### Agricultural Best Management Practices



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### In-Field Options

**Cover Crops:** Improve soil health by building organic matter, reducing erosion & compaction, and providing weed control.



**Tile Riser Buffers:** Provide a direct entry for pooled surface water and air into the line to relieve pressure. They are good markers for underground drains.



**Conservation Tillage:** Any method of soil cultivation that leaves at least 30% of residue from previous crop when planting next crop.

### **Equipment Modification for Cover Crop**

**Seeding:** Your self propelled sprayer, Salford, VT tool, or combine head can be altered to plant cover crop seeds more easily.

## AGRICULTURAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES APPLY TO SWCD FOR FUNDING!

**Drainage Water Management:** Manages the timing and amount of water discharged from agricultural drainage systems. Based on the premise that identical drainage intensity is not required at all times during the year.

**Livestock:** If you have livestock, there are many options:

Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan

Forage & Biomass Planting

Heavy Use Area Protection

Animal Trails/Walkways

Alternative Watering System

Prescribed Grazing

Waste Utilization

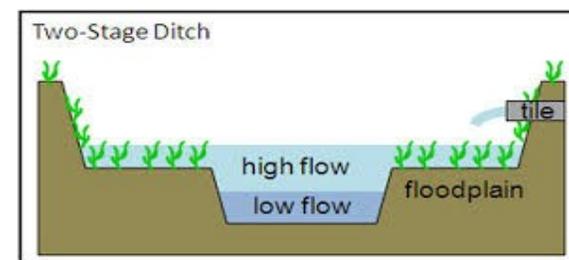
Exclusion Fencing

### Edge-of-Field Options

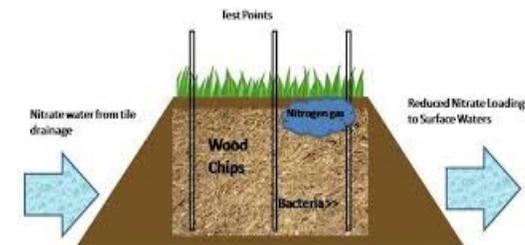
**Saturated Buffer:** A subsurface drainage area that holds water in the soil profile of buffer areas to allow for the uptake of nutrients and filtering prior to discharge. Two exist in Jasper County!

### In-Stream Options

**Two-Stage Ditch:** Consists of a natural base flow channel with floodplain “benches” that can reduce the amount of nutrients and sediment that reach the water course.



**Denitrifying Bioreactor:** A trench in the ground filled with a carbon source such as wood chips that allow colonization of soil bacteria that convert nitrate in drainage water to nitrogen gas.



Many more BMPs are available. Please contact our office for more information or visit our website.

[www.iroquoiswatershed.com](http://www.iroquoiswatershed.com)