

Elkhart County

PAY DIRT

2024

Where cultivation & construction meet

IN-field

Please join us on a Hoosier Homestead Farm as we demonstrate erosion control best management practices, analyze soils, sample water quality, and further discuss the many ways the ag and MS4 communities can continue to work together to improve water quality.

August 22

Hess Family Farm
63300 CR 111, Goshen, IN 46526



Learn more and register at
www.elkcoswcd.org



Schedule

7:00am-9:00am Vendor Setup

9:00am-10:00am Registration

Stop by the registration table when you arrive. Coffee & refreshments available. All vendors will be available throughout the day, but will be available at vendor booths at this time.

10:00am-10:15am Introductions

10:15am-12:15pm IN-Formational sessions (see sessions below)

Attendees will break into groups based on interest:

- Livestock/Crop Producers
- Engineers, SWPPP plan Preparers, Project Managers
- Inspectors, Installers, Excavators
- Regulators

12:15pm-1:30pm Lunch & Vendor Expo

Free lunch is provided via food trucks

1:30pm-2:45pm The Water Quality "Why" (all attendees)

- Macro Biology in the Yellow Creek – What is it telling us?
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)
- Permitting Beyond the SWPPP –Waterway, Flood-way, and Wetland Permitting Q&A

2:45pm-3:00pm Conclusions and Final Thoughts

Pay Dirt IN-Field 2024 has been approved for Continuing Certification Hours (CCHs) Categories 1 (3 CCH max), 14 (2 CCH max), and RT (3 CCH max)

IN-formational Sessions

These IN-formational sessions will cover best management practices for improving water quality. Attendees will be divided into groups based on their interests. Each group will rotate through the different sessions, though not all groups will attend every session. Please refer to the listing below for more details.

Groups will be organized as follows:

Livestock/Crop Producers (**Green**)

Engineers, SWPPP plan Preparers, Project Managers (**Blue**)

Inspectors, Installers, Excavators (**Yellow**)

Regulators (**Red**)

Drone Features and Flight - Clay Kusbach, Davey Resource Group
(**Green, Blue, Yellow, Red**)

Concrete Washout Demonstration - Indiana Ready Mix Concrete Association and Joe Moore, ECS/Siltworm
(**Blue, Yellow, Red**)

Stabilization Station, A 150 x 20 foot slope featuring stabilization examples - Ron Geator, Flexamat; Kevin Boyce, American Excelsior; Joe Moore, ECS/Siltworm; Nelson Slusser, Slusser's Green Thumb, Inc.
(**Blue, Yellow, Red**)

Stormwater Skimmer Demonstration - Lynn Ramsey, Rymar Waterworks,
(**Blue, Yellow, Red**)

Stabilized Entrance Installation and Maintenance - Dan Augustyn, FODS/DiStefano Sales Co., Joe Moore, ECS/Siltworm, and Bobcat of Michiana
(**Blue, Yellow, Red**)

Perimeter Protection Options, Features, and Benefits - Joe Moore, ECS/Siltworm
(**Blue, Yellow, Red**)

SWPPP example for all demonstrated BMPs - Megan Bolyard, BF&S Engineering
(**Blue, Yellow, Red**)

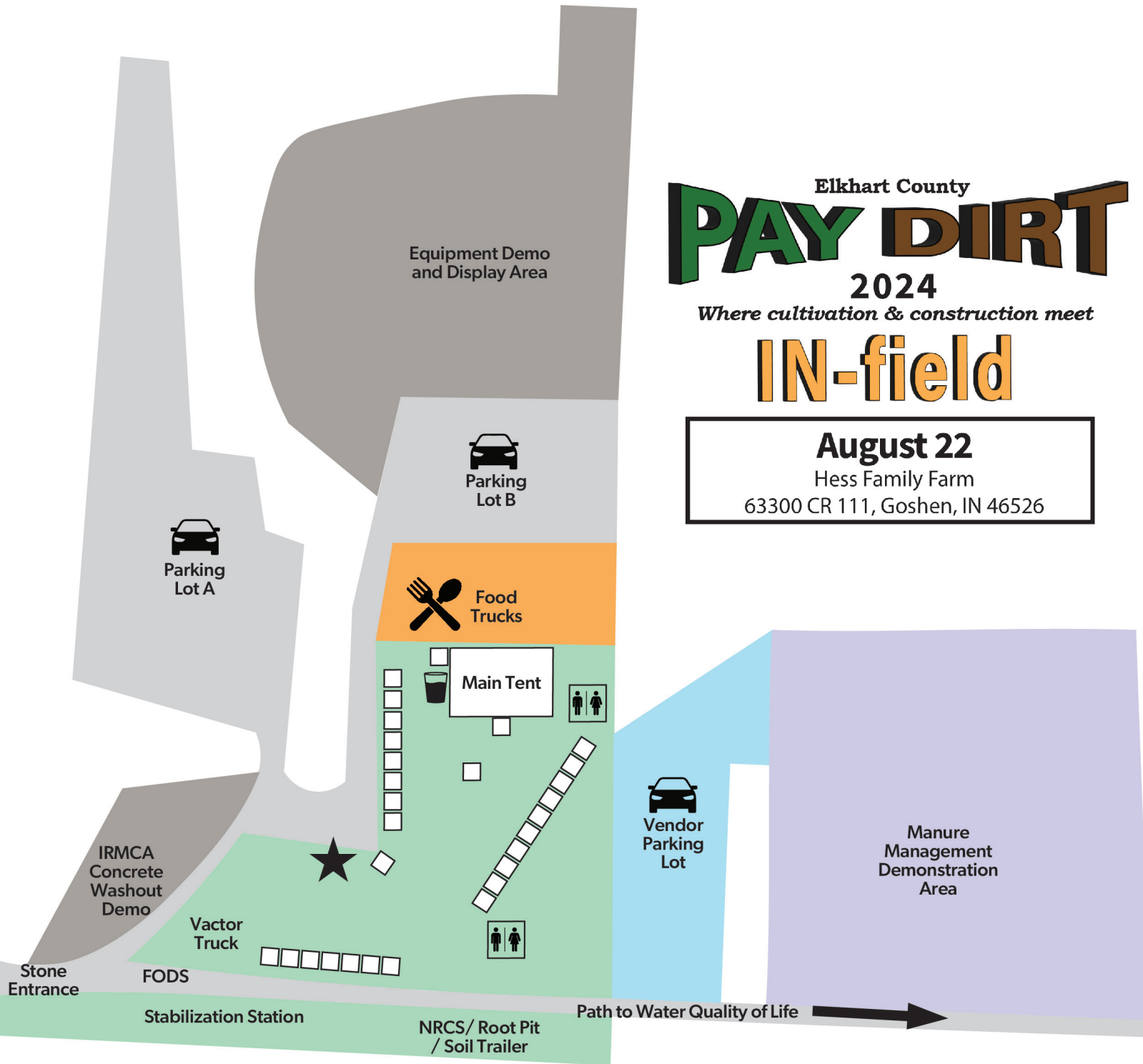
Managing Your Manure Assets - Melissa Lehman, Agronomic Solutions, Brook Wilke, Associate Director for Science and Agronomy, W.K. Kellogg Biological Station
(**Green**)

Soil Health Trailer and Root Pit - NRCS Soil Health Team (**Green**)

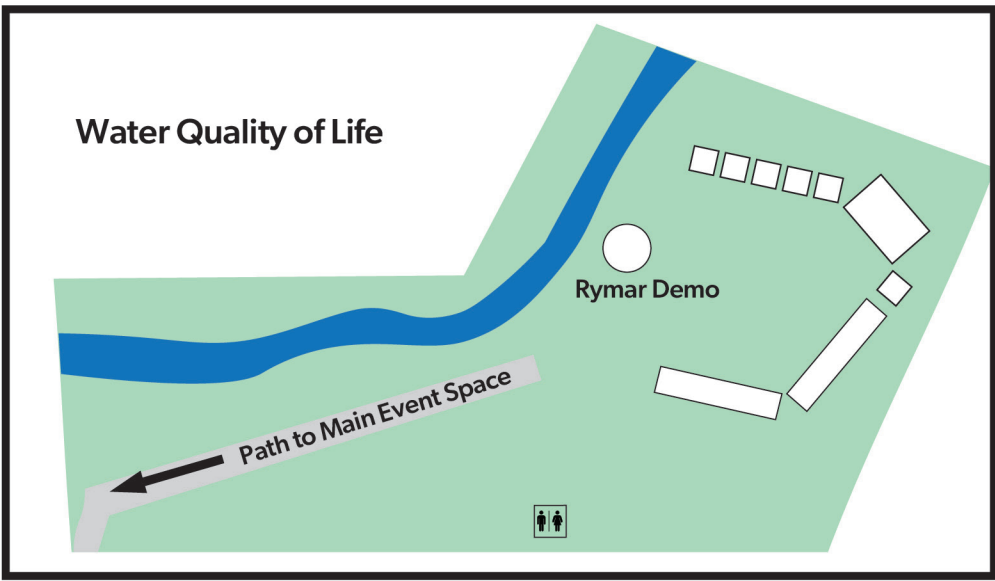
Enhanced Field Borders Walk and Talk - Keith Miller, Elkhart County SWCD Supervisor (**Green**)

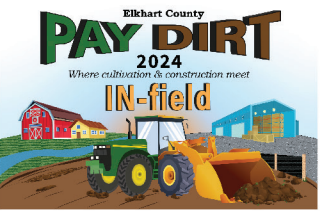
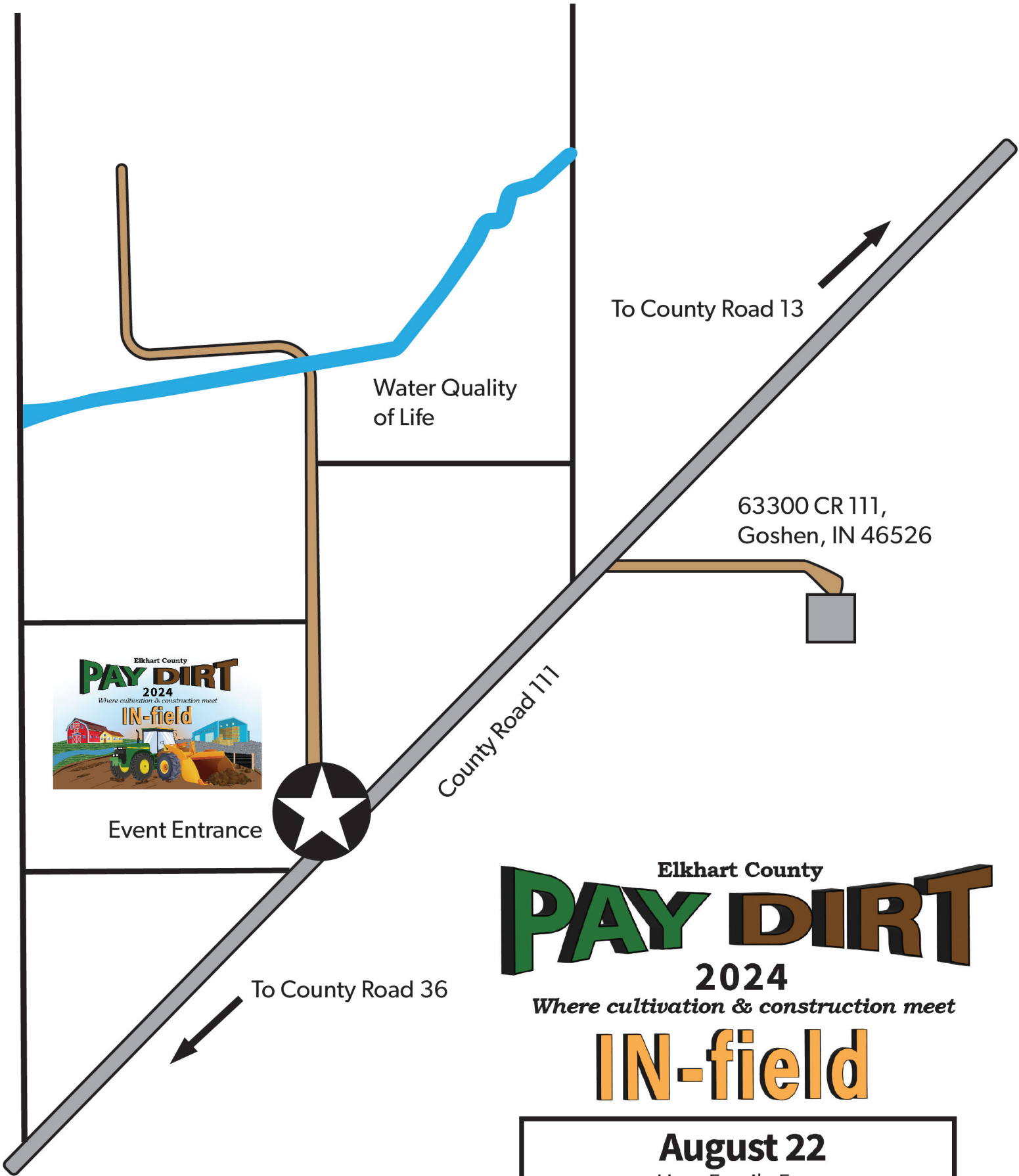
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-  Restrooms
-  Registration
-  Vendor Tents
-  Food
-  Parking
-  Drinks





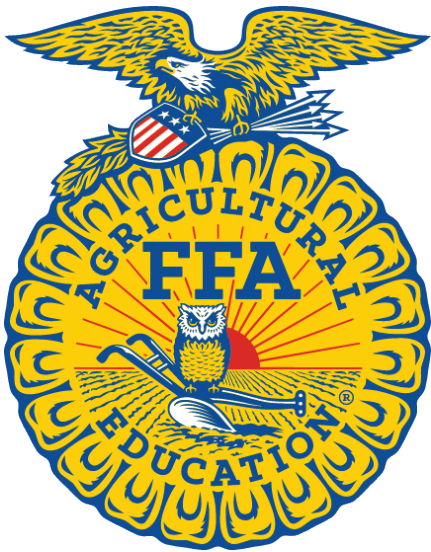
Event Entrance

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Food & Drink

Coffee, tea,
& lemonade
provided by:



Support local FFA chapters by stopping by one of their booths & purchasing a drink.

To receive a FREE meal, you must visit the registration tent.

Take your meal ticket to any of the participating food vendors in exchange for a meal. Some vendors may offer additional drinks and snacks for sale.



Speakers

Due to the nature of the event, Pay Dirt IN-field speakers will not be delivering formal presentations. Instead, they will offer professional insights on the various topics covered throughout the event.

Dr. Brook Wilke

Dr. Brook Wilke earned a Ph.D. in Agroecology at the Kellogg Biological Station in 2010 and has served KBS in the role of Farm Manager (2013-2020) and Associate Director of the KBS Long-Term Agroecosystem Research (LTAR) Program (Present). Brook oversees agronomy and science activities for KBS LTAR and conducts research on agronomic innovations that enhance efficiency and sustainability of cropping systems. In addition to growing up on a family scale crop and livestock farm, Dr. Wilke has extensive experience in agricultural systems ranging from organic vegetables and local markets to pasture based livestock and cropping systems, including educational activities related to these systems.

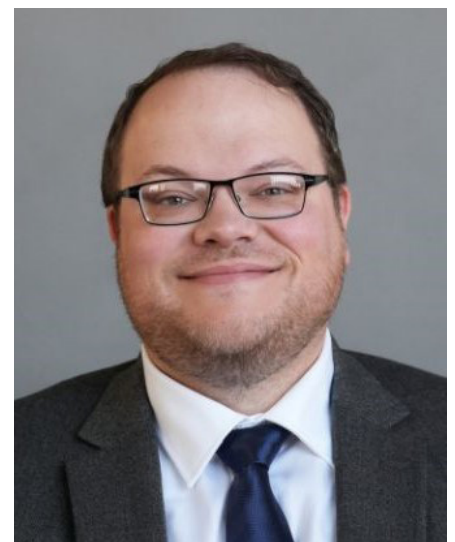


Daragh Deegan

Daragh Deegan is the Water Quality Manager for the City of Elkhart. As part of his responsibilities, Daragh oversees a cooperative biological monitoring effort between the Cities of Elkhart and South Bend to monitor the health of local waterways by sampling fish and other organisms. Daragh led this program as an Aquatic Biologist from 2009 until 2023 but still oversees the program in addition to other duties. He holds a bachelors degree in Environmental Science from Goshen College and a Masters Degree in Aquatic Biology from Purdue Fort Wayne.

Donovan Wilczynski

A Certified Erosion, Sediment & Stormwater Inspector (CESSWI) and Geologist with over 15 years of experience in Environmental Inspections in construction & industry, Mr. Wilczynski holds a B.S. in Geology from Ball State University. As a consultant Mr. Wilczynski lead the eastern Indiana environmental inspection program for NIPSCO as the Environmental Compliance Specialist for the last year. Providing direct feedback to inspection field staff and functioning as a liaison between permitting, engineering, and construction field staff, as well as assisting with updating their Environmental Compliance documents to progress towards their goal of 100% compliance.



Speakers

Joe Moore

As a passionate outdoors-man and staunch supporter of the Clean Water Clean World initiative, Joe is dedicated to both enjoying nature and protecting it. He is the founder of two companies: Silt worm and ECS. Silt worm produces filter socks made from kiln-dried wood material that achieves over 99% reduction in sediment, distributed across the United States. ECS specializes in the installation, maintenance, and inspection of erosion and sediment control measures as outlined in Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) for construction sites.



Krista Daniels

Krista Daniels is the Interpretive Naturalist Manager with the Elkhart County Parks and has been with the parks for 23 years. She became a Hoosier Riverwatch instructor in 2002 and enjoys guiding people to take action as water quality monitors in their cities and towns through that program. Krista helps run the Indiana Master Naturalist program in Elkhart County, is a Certified Heritage Interpreter through the National Association of Interpretation and a Project WET & Project Wild instructor. One of her favorite programs to lead with any age is dipping for macroinvertebrates and teaching about what they can tell us about the health of the water. She received her bachelor's degree in Biology from Goshen College along with a minor in Environmental Studies. She lives in Goshen with her husband, two children, four cats and a dog.

Melissa Lehman

Melissa Lehman is the owner and operator of Agronomic Solutions, LLC in northeastern Indiana. Melissa received her Bachelor's degree from Purdue University. Agronomic Solutions, LLC is a company designed to help farmers with many different aspects of the traditional row crop or confined feeding operation. Services provided include soil sampling, manure management, NRCS plan writing, and IDEM permitting and compliance, or just about anything else a producer may require assistance with. Manure has become her specialty over the past few years and she is known and referred to as the "manure lady", which she enjoys. Melissa works closely with NRCS and educates producers about cost share programs and environmentally sound practices for their farms.



Speakers

Steve Schweisberger

Steve Schweisberger is a native of Bremen where he was active in the Bremen FFA and a ten year 4-H member in Marshall County. Steve was raised on, and is now a partner in, the family's centennial farm north of Bremen. The Schweisberger family farms approximately 1,000 acres of corn and soybeans. In the 70's and early 80's they had a small hog farrow-to-finish operation with 24 sows. After graduating from Bremen High School, Steve was a welder by trade for five years. In 1987, Steve was hired as an Erosion Control Technician in a new DNR program called "T By 2000". This involved working with farmers in Elkhart, St. Joseph and Marshall Counties, through the county SWCD to implement erosion control practices such as grass waterways, WASCOD's, terraces, etc. During this time, counties were tasked by the state to designate "Highly Erodible" and "Wetland Areas" on farm sites. In 1989, Steve joined the Elkhart County Surveyor's Office as the Deputy Surveyor. His primary function is to evaluate and manage maintenance concerns on County Regulated Drains, as well as providing technical assistance on private drainage issues within Elkhart County.

Other Contributors

Alysson Olinger, Technical Services Section Manager, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water

Janelle Kozelichki, 401 Project Manager, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Northeast Central Region

Ryan D Cassidy, CIV USARMY CELRE (USA), United States Army Corp of Engineers

Thank you sponsors!



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**New Pay Dirt IN-Field Sponsor*

Thank you to our partners!

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