

GENERAL PROVISIONS

APPLICATION PROCESS

Materials are available online and at the:

- Owen Co. SWCD Office
788 Pottersville Road
Spencer, IN 47460

Contact the Watershed Coordinator to confirm eligibility and 319 funding availability.

The FCW Cost-Share Program uses a continuous sign-up system, though funds are finite within the timeline of the grant. Proposed practices must lie within a critical area of the watershed for the pollutant addressed and must be installed according to specifications and with pre-approval.

CONSERVATION PLANNING

The Watershed Coordinator works with the local SWCD/USDA offices and technical staff to collect conservation planning documentation as required by the Section 319 program. In some cases, this information can also be used for planning purposes in other programs.

PRACTICE STANDARDS

All structures and vegetative practices must meet standards as defined by NRCS or other approved guidelines. Eligible practices must follow an approved engineering plan when applicable.

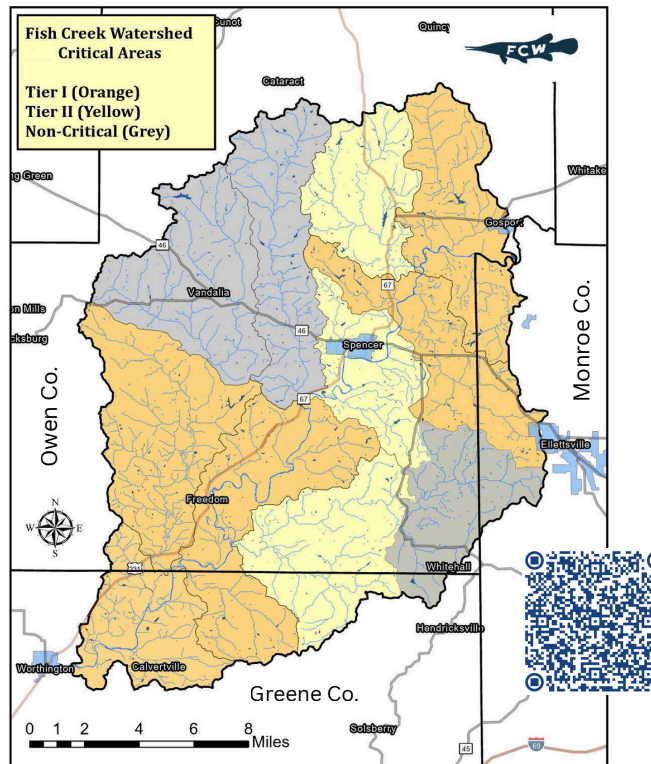
PAYMENTS

Payments are made as percentage reimbursements of practice implementation expenses. Participants must provide documentation of all costs, including cash or in-kind match. \$20,000 cap per customer.

After staff has verified practice implementation, a submittal will be made for program approval and payment. **Payments may take up to 8-12 weeks** and will be issued as a check from the Owen Co. SWCD (no direct deposits). A 1099 will be issued for payments over \$600.

WATERSHED INFO

The Fish Creek Watershed spans 172,729 acres in Owen, Monroe, and Greene counties. The purpose of this initiative is to improve regional water quality through the installation of conservation practices in critical areas as shown on the map/QR code below.



This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance #98692 to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

FISH CREEK WATERSHED

319 Cost-Share Program 2026-2028



Watershed Coordinator

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Owen Co. SWCD Office

Phone: (812) 829-2605

788 Pottersville Road

Spencer, IN 47460

<http://owencountyswcd.org/>

Guidelines to 319 Cost-Share Practices and Payment Rates

Short-Term Vegetative Practices

- **Cover Crops 50-75% cost-share**

75% for NEW customers (no cover crops >5 yrs)

50% for other applicants

Seed and labor costs reimbursed.

No winter kill mixes.

Fertilizer costs excluded.

Single-year commitment (3 yrs/field max cost-share).

Not to be used in conjunction with NRCS payments.

- **Critical Area Planting - 75%**

- **Forage and Biomass Planting - 75%**

Must be converting from row-crop farming.

Must maintain for 5 years (no annuals).

- **Pasture Seeding - 75%**

Must be associated with grazing plan and/or exclusion efforts. Seed and labor only

10-Year Vegetative Practices

Practices must remain in place for 10 years minimum

No yearly incentive payments

- **Field Border**

- **Filter Strip**

- **Grassed Waterway *****

- **Wetland Construction* ****

- **Riparian Buffer Establishment**

- **Tree and Shrub Establishment**

**Primary purpose must be reduction of pollutants*

***Permits may be necessary*

**** Approved engineering plan necessary*

**\$20,000 MAX per customer per
319 grant (all combined practices)**

Nutrient and Tillage Reduction

Equipment Cost-Share

75% Cost-Share with \$9,999.99 cap

Practices must remain in place for a minimum of 5 years.

Must be moving from a lower to higher residue systems.

Must demonstrate reduction in N, P, or sediment.

Technology must be new to the operation.

No replacements/repairs. No software subscriptions.

No incentive payments. No vertical tillage tools.

Must be used to implement BMP prior to cost-share and must show proof of purchase/use.

- **No-Till Planter Upgrades**
- **Reduced Tillage Mods (Chopping Heads)**
- **Guidance/AutoSteer**
- **Swath Control/Variable Rate for N**
- **Cover Crop Seeding Equipment (including drone attachments)**

Livestock Practices

Practices must remain in place for 10 years minimum

Must possess livestock at the time of sign-up

Must provide proof of grazing plan upon request

- **Livestock Fence (interior/exclusion only)**
- **Virtual Fencing components**
- **Bale unroller**
- **Animal Trails and Walkways**
- **Watering Facility**
- **Spring Development**
- **Heavy Use Area Protection**
- **Roof & Stormwater Runoff Structures**

Structural Practices

Practices must remain in place for 10 years minimum. Must follow approved engineering plan.

75% Cost-Share

- **Diversions**
- **WASCOB (Water & Sediment Control Basin)**
- **Terrace**
- **Grade Stabilization Structure**
- **Streambank/Shoreline Protection****

***Permits may be necessary*

*** No rip-rap; only vegetative measures*

May apply for redesign and reconstruction of structures that have outlived their useful lifespan.

Septic-Related Practices

Repairs must be pre-approved by IDEM

All work must be completed by licensed, certified, and locally-approved contractor and must meet local Health Dept standards. No new systems.

75% Cost-Share (max \$600 for pump-outs)

\$2,500 max per system repair per grant

- **Inspections and pumping services**
- **Repairs (case-by-case approval)**

319 is Unable to Fund:

- Projects outside of designated critical areas
- Log Jam removal projects
- Purchase of land, easements, etc.
- Fertilizer or other soil amendments
- Purchase of large equipment
- Dredging or channelization
- Sales Tax
- Projects associated with mitigation or permit compliance
- Projects directed at water quantity rather than water quality

