



IFB's Efforts to Improve Water Quality

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ILLINOIS
NUTRIENT LOSS
REDUCTION STRATEGY

Improving our water resources with
collaboration and innovation





TRACKING MEASURES

Resources

- ▶ Staff
- ▶ Funding & Grants

Outreach

- ▶ Partner organization's events & media
- ▶ Farmer knowledge

Land & Facilities

- ▶ Land use changes
- ▶ Facility & permit updates

Water

- ▶ Calculated load reduction
- ▶ Measured loads at existing monitoring stations



IFB HAS PRIORITIZED LEADING ON
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES - WITH A SPECIAL
FOCUS ON THE NLRS
2015 TO CURRENT - \$1.5 MILLION

CURRENT IFB NLRS PRIORITIES

- Education and Outreach
- Supporting Research
- Supporting Implementation
- Demonstrating Progress



EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- From 2015 to present:
 - Almost 48,000 people reached in 306 events (field days, workshops, webinars, conferences, presentations)
 - Approximately 500 FarmWeek articles to 74,000 weekly subscribers
 - Approximately 45 RFD Radio interviews, 80 rural markets in Illinois
 - Approximately 5 million people reached on social media
 - Approximately 60,000 visits to www.ilfarmersconserve.com



SUPPORTING RESEARCH

Scientific Researchers from:

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Illinois Extension
- Illinois State University
- Southern Illinois University Carbondale
- Prairie Research Institute

- ❖ Advisory Committees
- ❖ Support letters
- ❖ Farmer focus groups
- ❖ Hosting on-farm research sites





Supporting Implementation





DEMONSTRATING PROGRESS

Reporting Element 2 – Outreach and communication activities JULY - DEC 2018
 Please describe the following items related to resources available and/or provided in Organization/Agency-Supported Outreach Activities during the reporting period for the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy and/or practices detailed in the science assessment.

Name:	Attendance:	Topics Covered:	Partnerships:	Response/ Feedback:
Field Days: Includes learning activities sponsored at demonstration farms, water treatment plants and other locations.				
41401 Field Day Clinton County Farm Bureau / FA - 7/12/2018	50	Nutrient management trials	Illinois Farm Bureau, GROWMABIC	Showcase of local farmers/retail partnership
SRU Berkeley Research Station Field Day - 7/13/2018	222	NRPS, farmer implementation	Southern Illinois University	Great relationship building opportunity between the Farm Bureau and SRU
Stark County Farm Bureau and Blackhawk East Community College Nutrient Stewardship Local Field Day - 7/26/2018	45	Woodchip biochar	Stark County Farm Bureau, Blackhawk Community College, SWCD, USDA-NRCS	Great learning opportunity for students - bring laboratory on campus
Evangelion County Farm Bureau Field Day at John Wilkens Farm - 7/26/2018	60	Cover crop termination, strip till, soybean cyst nematode	American Farmland Trust, Swanton Headwaters Watershed Group, Soil Health Partnership	Great data from a local farmer on how management impacts cover crops
Clinton County Farm Bureau Nutrient Stewardship Grant Project Field Day - 7/28/2018	100	Cover crops, manure	Clinton County Farm Bureau, Gateway FS, Terry Wyszka, SWCD, U of I Extension, Heartland Conservancy, Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders, & Milk Producers, & Pork Producers, & Beef Asia, Marchhoff Pork, Kaskaskia Conserv. College	Continued success for multiple years looking at integrating livestock and cover crops, soil health, and manure management
Knox County Farm Bureau Saturated Buffer Field Day - 8/16/2018	55	Saturated buffers, research, cost-share	Knox County Farm Bureau, Knox County SWCD, Springfield Plastics, University of Illinois-ACFS, USDA-NRCS	Revelation of sampling data showing aggressive nitrate removal rates for the practice



Important for:

- Tracking progress
- Telling farmer stories to a variety of audiences and agencies
- Showing diversity of needs and practices across state

2018
WATER QUALITY UPDATE

ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU
 Farm. Family. Food.™





THANK YOU!

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