



Purdue University

Forestry and Natural Resources

Forestry and Wildlife Management Assistance Available to Indiana Landowners: Providers, Organizations, and Programs

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“What kinds of assistance are available to me, and from whom?” “Is there money available to help me?” “Where do I go to get help with my forest and wildlife resource problems?” These are questions frequently asked by Indiana landowners. However, the answers to these questions can be quite complicated since programs that assist landowners are implemented by a number of public and private organizations. The best place to start is with your county Cooperative Extension Service representative. Your county educator will assist you in contacting the appropriate person and/or agency administering the assistance programs best suited to your needs. The address and phone number for

your county’s Cooperative Extension Service office can be found in the telephone directory under “county government office.” They may also be listed in the white pages under the name of your county.

The principal providers of assistance are illustrated in Figure 1. The brief descriptions which follow will help acquaint you with these organizations and kinds of assistance they offer.

State Agencies

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Division of Forestry

402 West Washington St., Room W296
Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 232-4105

<http://www.state.in.us/dnr/forestry/index.htm>

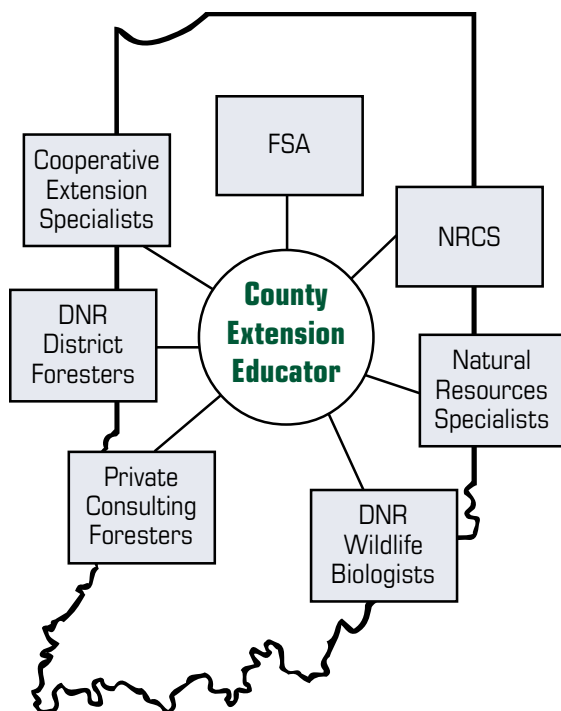


Figure 1. Principal providers of assistance.

Forest Resource Management Services

There are 18 District Foresters who provide a personal link between the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the people needing assistance. Their services are provided through the federal-state Private Landowner Assistance program. These foresters can:

1. Develop woodland stewardship management plans and/or tree planting plans,
2. Provide information and assistance on classified forest, classified windbreak, forest stewardship, and the Stewardship Incentive Programs (SIP),

3. Provide information and assistance on cost-share programs for forest management activities,
4. Inventory your forest resources, and
5. Provide advice and assistance in timber marketing.

Provided free on a “first-come, first-serve” basis, these services are a good way for non-industrial private landowners to obtain on-the-ground management assistance and information. Because of the demand for these services, there is often a backlog of clients waiting to be served. As a result, the time that an IDNR forester can spend with an individual landowner may be limited. Contact the above address or your county Extension educator to obtain the name and address of your district forester.

State Forest Nurseries

The Division of Forestry operates two state forest nurseries, Vallonia Nursery (2782 West 540 South, Vallonia, IN 47281, phone: 812-358-3621) and Jasper-Pulaski Nursery (15508 West 700 North, Medaryville, IN 47957, phone: 219-843-4827).

Planting stock may be purchased at minimal cost for use in reforestation, windbreaks, erosion control, or other forestry purposes. Ornamental use or resale of planting stock is prohibited. Order blanks, lists of available planting stock, and current prices are available from the IDNR Division of Forestry; District Foresters; Cooperative Extension Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service county offices; and the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Office, Purdue University.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Division of Fish and Wildlife
402 West Washington Street, Room W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-4080
<http://www.state.in.us/dnr/fishwild/index.htm>

Wildlife Management Services

Twenty-two wildlife management biologists specialize in assisting landowners with the development, enhancement, and restoration of all wildlife habitats by providing technical advice, written management plans, cost-share assistance, and property tax reduction opportunities available through the Classified Wildlife Habitat Program. In addition, they assist farm operators in enhancing the wildlife values of agricultural lands being entered or currently enrolled in various USDA land retirement programs through similar services. Wildlife management biologists can also recommend additional sources of wildlife management assistance and cost-share opportunities. All services are free of charge. Contact the above address or your county Extension office for the name and address of your wildlife management biologist.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Division of Soil Conservation
402 West Washington Street, Room W265
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-3880
<http://www.state.in.us/dnr/soilcons/index.htm>

OR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Purdue University
Hentschel Center, Room 101
1220 Potter Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47906
(765) 494-8383

The Division of Soil Conservation belongs to the Indiana Conservation Partnership. The partnership includes Indiana’s 92 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service. Working together, the Indiana Conservation Partnership provides technical, educational, and financial assistance to citizens in order to solve

erosion- and sediment-related problems occurring on the land or impacting public waters. The Division's field staff coordinates and implements the state's Clean Water Indiana Soil Conservation/Water Quality Protection Program in cooperation with SWCDs and other state, federal, and local agencies. Division field staff also work directly with landowners/users to help solve natural resource related problems. You can contact your resource specialist at your county SWCD office.

Federal Agencies

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

(See your local telephone directory under United States Government for address and phone number.)

OR

5981 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, IN 46278

(317) 290-3030

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/in/>

For more than 50 years, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) has fostered the wise use of the nation's agricultural land and water resources in a voluntary partnership with farmers and ranchers. The agency's conservation and forestry programs offer landowners cost-sharing and technical assistance to protect soil against erosion and waterways from pollution, to enhance wildlife habitat, and to encourage development of private forestland for timber production.

FSA programs are administered through local FSA offices. In each county, a farmer-elected county committee works with people in the community to assess conservation problems and determine which measures are best suited to meet local needs. The agency also works closely with other federal and state agencies and organizations to carry out its programs.

Forestry and wildlife practices are offered under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), Forestry Incentives Program (FIP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), and the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). The Emergency Conservation Program provides emergency help in the wake of drought, freeze, and other natural disasters. FSA also provides administrative assistance to the U.S. Forest Service and state forester in implementing the Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP).

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

(See your local telephone directory under United States Government for address and phone number.)

OR

6013 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, IN 46278

(317) 290-3200

<http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/>

The mission of the NRCS is to help people manage, conserve, and enhance natural resources for present and future generations through education, public information, leadership, technical assistance, and the development of innovative programs. The NRCS also provides federal leadership for the National Cooperative Soil Survey and Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) programs.

NRCS staff assists landowners in preparing comprehensive resource conservation plans for private lands. Assistance is provided by field office staffs in all 92 county Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in cooperation with other federal, state, and local government agencies and private organizations. Points of emphasis include soil surveys, erosion control, water quality, wildlife habitat development, and wetland identification and restoration.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Cooperative Extension Service
Department of Forestry and Natural Resources
Purdue University
1159 Forestry Building
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1159

(765) 494-3583
<http://www.fnr.purdue.edu/>

OR

See your local telephone directory for the address and phone number of your county office.

<http://www.ces.purdue.edu/>

The primary goals of the Cooperative Extension Service are to insure the transfer of information from academic research to potential users and to provide continuing educational services to resource professionals. To reach these goals, the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources Extension staff is available to assist public and private organizations and individuals with educational programs. CES also organizes and conducts educational workshops and demonstrations around the state. Technical information and continuing education training is also provided to county Extension educators, district foresters, district wildlife biologists, resource consultants, and the general public upon request.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

APHIS-Wildlife Services
1158 Smith Hall
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1158

(765) 494-6229

Toll free Wildlife Conflicts Hotline
1-800-893-4116

<http://www.entm.purdue.edu/wildlife/wild.html>

Wildlife Services is part of the Animal Health and Plant Inspection Service (APHIS), an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture

(USDA). The goal of Wildlife Services is to help solve problems that are created when species of wildlife cause damage to agricultural resources, private property, or public health and safety.

Wildlife Services recommends and uses an integrated pest management approach to reduce wildlife damage. This approach employs multiple methods to prevent damage from occurring as well as techniques to stop damage once it begins. All techniques used are biologically sound, science based, and meet strict guidelines for safety, selectivity, and effectiveness. Changing management practices, modifying habitat, dispersing animals, or removing specific individuals may be involved in addressing damage problems. A combination of these approaches is generally employed.

In Indiana, information and control options are provided over the telephone and leaflets are mailed to the inquiring party. Wildlife Services can provide callers with a list of licensed private companies that specialize in nuisance wildlife. These companies provide on-site control services for a fee.

United States Department of the Interior

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bloomington Ecological Services Field Office
620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403

(812) 334-4261

<http://www.fws.gov/>

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can provide up to 100 percent of the cost of habitat restoration projects through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) Program. Eligible practices include wetland restoration, native prairie plantings, and bottomland hardwood reforestation. Landowners must agree to maintain the restored habitat for a minimum period of 10 to 15 years, depending upon the practice, but retain all other rights of ownership, including the right to control public access. Fish ponds are not eligible for cost-share through this program.

Local Agencies and Organizations

Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

(See your local telephone directory under United States Government, Soil Conservation Service for address and phone number of local SWCD.)

<http://www.swcs.gen.in.us/>

Each of the 92 counties in the state have a Soil and Water Conservation District board of supervisors composed of three elected and two or more appointed county residents. They assist county residents in developing resource plans and applying conservation practices. Each SWCD is part of the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Inc. (IASWCD). The IASWCD works in conjunction with groups, agencies, and associations by serving as a link between the general public and government agencies at the state level. The NRCS assists the SWCDs in carrying out local soil and water conservation programs.

Indiana League of Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D)

The Indiana League of Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils, Inc. is the state organization representing the eight RC&D areas in Indiana, covering about two-thirds of the counties in the state. Local people initiate and direct RC&D areas through a council. Residents join together and work with available resources to benefit their community and improve the quality of life. The RC&D areas sponsor local forestry and wildlife educational programs and workshops for the general public and teachers, and they are involved in forestry promotion and related community development projects. The RC&D areas can also receive and administer grants and other financial support for qualified economic development projects. Councils serving the eight RC&D areas in Indiana are as follows:

Arrow Head Country RC&D

436 North West Street
Winamac, IN 46996
(765) 946-3022

Hoosier Heartland RC&D

5995 Lakeside Boulevard
Suite B
Indianapolis, IN 46278
(317) 290-3250

Sycamore Trails RC&D

5 Depot Street
Greencastle, IN 46135
(317) 653-9785

Four Rivers RC&D

715 South 9th Street
Petersburg, IN 47567
(812) 354-6808

Lincoln Hills RC&D

Courthouse Annex
125 South 8th Street
Cannelton, IN 47520
(812) 547-7028

Historic Hoosier Hills RC&D

1981 South Industrial Park Road
P. O. Box 407
Versailles, IN 47042
(812) 689-6410

Wood-Land-Lakes RC&D

214 W. North Street
Kendallville, IN 46755
(219) 349-1433

Northwest Territory RC&D

Porter County Administration Center
155 Indiana Avenue
Valparaiso, IN 46383
(219) 465-3555

Private Enterprise

Consulting Foresters

(See your local telephone directory.)

<http://www.fnr.purdue.edu/extension/foresters/consult/cfi.htm>

Consulting foresters provide a wide range of forestry services on a fee basis. The consulting forester provides management plans, timber marking and marketing services, reforestation, timber stand improvement, timber evaluation, and other services. Individuals with woodlands or individuals desiring to manage their woodlands may find the service of a consulting forester useful. The consulting forester can provide services on demand and is able to spend time needed to provide the necessary professional services required by the client.

A list of consulting foresters is available from the IDNR Division of Forestry, your District Forester, or the Cooperative Extension Service, either from the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University or your local county Extension office.



In general, your District Forester, Wildlife Management Biologist, or county NRCS or FSA office staff should be your first contact if you are seeking forestry or wildlife management assistance. Tables 2 and 3 can be used to identify the appropriate contact for the particular assistance or service you require. In addition, there are a number of private organizations that either provide direct assistance to landowners or provide an opportunity for fellowship, support, and information updates on specific topics (Table 1).

Like all of the state and federal agencies listed above, some of the private organizations will also sponsor or develop publications, videotapes, workshops, field tours, or local meetings that discuss their specific topics of interest. The following paragraphs describe some of these organizations active in Indiana. Other organizations or local groups may exist which are also of interest. Your District Forester, Wildlife Management Biologist, or county Extension educator can help you identify these.

Private Associations and Organizations

Providing Forestry and Wildlife Management Information and/or Assistance to Landowners

Indiana Tree Farm Committee

Bob Burke
2895 Centennial Road
Martinsville, IN 46151
(317) 342-3851

The Tree Farm Program is a national, industrially sponsored program coordinated by the American Forest Institute in Washington, D. C. The program encourages sound forest management and the orderly flow of timber products into

commercial market channels. To qualify as a Tree Farm, a woodland must be:

- Privately owned
- Managed for repeated forest crops
- Protected from potentially destructive agents such as grazing, insects, disease, and fire
- At least 10 acres in size

A professional forester will inspect the woodland to determine if the woodland meets the Tree Farm Program's criteria for acceptance into the system. Interested woodland owners should contact the program through the above address. The owners of approved woodlands receive the familiar, green and white Tree Farm sign, woodland management information, and publications of interest pertaining to woodland management.

Indiana Christmas Tree Growers Association (ICTGA)

Harold Kingma, Executive Secretary
8910 West 100 North
Demott, IN 46310

(219) 987-2847

<http://www.indianachristmastree.com/>

The ICTGA is an organization of Christmas tree growers and technical people dedicated to the interests of the Christmas tree growing industry in Indiana.

The objectives of ICTGA are to promote the production of high-quality Christmas trees, engage in publicity and educational activities for the membership, encourage and finance research relating to production and marketing of Christmas trees, and keep its membership enlightened on new production techniques through meetings, tours, and research reports. Membership includes a subscription to the quarterly ICTGA Newsletter and Christmas Tree Magazine.

Indiana Forestry and Woodland Owners Association

P. O. Box 2102
Indianapolis, IN 46206

OR

John Seifert
6120 E C.R. 175 N.
Butler, IN 47223

(812) 873-6713

purfor@seidata.com

The Indiana Forestry and Woodland Owners Association (IFWOA) is a nonprofit organization of forest landowners, forestry professionals, forest industries, and others interested in proper and efficient management of their woodlands. The IFWOA unites people that have a common interest in objectives such as forest conservation, forest management, forestland investment, forest wildlife, and tree planting. Members of IFWOA receive training on many forestland subjects, including tax management, timber stand improvement, walnut plantation establishment and care, maximizing income from timber sales, hunter management, and crop tree management. The IFWOA also provides seminars and discussions on trespass and rights-of-way concerns, as well as current issues in forest legislation. The IFWOA cooperates with another nonprofit organization, the Indiana Forestry Education Foundation (IFEFF), on educational efforts with youth.

The Walnut Council

John Allen, Executive Director
3094 East Private Road, 125 North
Logansport, IN 46947

(219) 722-5298

The Walnut Council is a nonprofit association of landowners, foresters, and academic and industry people interested in the growing and utilization of the black walnut (*Juglans nigra*). The organization sponsors quarterly bulletins to

provide a transfer of technical information from researchers to property owners and managers.

The annual meeting of The Walnut Council, usually held the first weekend in August, is the most comprehensive collection of walnut experience and knowledge to be found. The field trips and technical services are well organized and highly prized for their “hands-on” approach.

Quail Unlimited

10364 South 950 E.
Stendal, IN 47585
<http://www.qu.org>

Quail Unlimited is a national, nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation and reestablishment of crucial upland game bird habitat vitally needed to sustain healthy populations of quail and other upland game bird species. These goals are achieved through habitat management and public education programs

Table 1. Services provided by each private organization.

ORGANIZATION SERVICE	Indiana Christmas Tree Growers Association (ICTGA)	Indiana Forestry and Woodland Owners Association (IFWOA)	Indiana Wildlife Federation	The Walnut Council	Indiana Tree Farm Committee	Quail Unlimited	Pheasants Forever
Equipment loan to landowners						✓	✓
Seed provided to landowners						✓	✓
Volunteer assistance with habitat improvement project						✓	✓
Field tours and sponsored management workshops	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Publications on management information	✓			✓		✓	✓
Regular meetings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Magazines	✓		✓			✓	✓
Newsletters	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Legislative activities		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

conducted by its nationwide network of local chapters. Quail Unlimited chapters across the Hoosier State are providing free seed, loaning specialized equipment to landowners (such as warm season grass drills and root plows), and in some cases, planting and prescribed fire assistance. They sponsor educational workshops related to wildlife management. Landowners interested in learning more about Quail Unlimited habitat and conservation projects can contact the above address.

Pheasants Forever

40 Crater Lake Drive
Springfield, IL 62707

(217) 498-7558

<http://www.pheasantsforever.org/index.html>

Pheasants Forever is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and enhancement of pheasant and other upland wildlife populations through habitat improvement, public awareness and education, and land management benefiting landowners and wildlife alike. Pheasants Forever is fortified by a unique system of county chapters that provide incentives for sportsmen and sportswomen to raise money: 100 percent of the funds raised by the chapters, exclusive of membership fees, remain at the chapter level for local habitat projects on private and public lands.

Habitat projects could include food plot establishment, windbreak and hedgerow plantings for winter cover, grass/legume plantings for nesting cover, wetland restorations, and land acquisitions. Chapter leaders, with help from resource professionals establish these programs, customized to meet the needs of upland wildlife in their area. Landowners interested in cooperating with Pheasants Forever on habitat improvement projects should contact the address above for the nearest local chapter.

Discussion

One obstacle many people find when selecting a

conservation program is that a single program by itself will not meet their needs. However, many programs can complement each other in meeting the goals for a specific project. The following examples may give you ideas for a conservation plan on your property, as well as economic incentives to do them.

Do you have acres that are highly erodible, subject to scour erosion, or hard to farm? If so, consider if this acreage would serve you better in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or another erosion control program (no-till, pasture, woodland, etc.). In many cases, CRP is the most cost-effective. To determine if your land qualifies for the CRP program, meet with your local NRCS representative. Your NRCS representative can also help you decide which cover practices best suit your needs.

You must enroll your land for the CRP program during designated periods; however, you may enroll in the Continuous CRP program at anytime. You may be referred to an IDNR District Forester or District Wildlife Biologist to receive more detailed information on the design and establishment of your selected practice (tree planting, wildlife habitat, etc.).

Do you have wet areas in your fields that periodically don't dry out in time to plant or frequently produce poor crops? If a ditch or tiles currently drains this land, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service could restore this area to a wetland at no cost to you. Furthermore, if this wet area is in a highly erodible field, this wetland could be entered into the CRP program, earning annual payments that could be guaranteed for 10 years (generally, payments may be similar to cash rent rates). Wetlands not eligible for CRP might be eligible for the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), which essentially pays for an easement on the acreage up to the fair market value of the land. In addition, your tax assessment could be reduced to \$1 per acre by enrolling the wetland and surrounding acreage in the Classified Wildlife Habitat Program.

Contact the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service about their wetland restoration program, your county NRCS representative about CRP or WRP, and your District Wildlife Biologist to enroll in the Classified Wildlife Habitat Program.

Certain previously cropped wetlands or marginal croplands enrolled in CRP can be reforested. This is a very attractive option for the farmer and is beneficial to wildlife. You can plant these areas to trees that could be marketed for timber, and you will receive payments for 15 years rather than 10 years for other practices. FSA will provide up to 50 percent cost share assistance to establish and maintain the planting, and you will be eligible for 65 percent cost share to maintain and improve the planting after CRP expires. You can purchase low-cost seedlings from the state nursery, and also enter the area into the Classified Forest Program, which would reduce your tax assessment to about \$1 per acre. To explore these options, contact your NRCS District Conservationist, your IDNR District Forester, and your FSA office (in that order).

Do you have any ditches or streams on your property? Consider establishing a vegetative filterstrip along this area. Filterstrips can be planted to trees or grasses. Cost-share money may be available through FSA or NRCS for their establishment. For example, you can receive CRP payments for this practice (if the filterstrip is 66 to 99 feet wide) and create wildlife habitat at the same time while developing your conservation plan. In addition, you can enter areas up to 100 feet wide into the Classified Filterstrip Program (contact your county surveyor). This reduces your tax assessment to \$1 per acre for the filterstrip.

This practice has the added benefit of improving water quality by reducing soil erosion, pesticide runoff, and maintenance to adjacent streams. Trees and shrubs are efficient at removing nutrients from the area, and therefore, are attractive options for this application. In addition,

careful selection of woody plant materials may provide a marketable crop (for example, timber, nuts, berries, or cut branches for floriculture market). Contact your IDNR District Forester for advice on plant material most suited for your soil conditions. These filterstrips may also serve as travel corridors for wildlife to move from one patch of habitat to another, and can connect isolated habitats to make enrollment in the Classified Wildlife Habitat Program possible (15 acre minimum of connected acreage; adjacent riparian areas can be a part of the enrolled habitat). Contact your local Wildlife Management Biologists and local NRCS representative to enroll in these programs and for advice on the best types of vegetation to plant.

Do you have large fields needing a windbreak?

Consider the Classified Windbreak Act. This program reduces your tax assessment on this acreage to \$1 per acre. Windbreaks provide excellent wildlife habitat, reduce wind and soil erosion, increase crop yields due to reduced transpirational loss, and increase snow retention. In addition, you receive free technical assistance and free seedlings for any field windbreak plantings approved by a District Forester. These areas may also be entered into CRP for 15 years or WHIP for 5 years, and may be eligible for cost-share money to establish plantings. Contact your IDNR District Forester for details.

Summary

The number of available programs and organizations that administer them can be confusing. The main thing is to first consider your farm operation, then determine your long-range management plan for your property. With this accomplished, the rest will fall into place. Your basic course of action is already decided; you only need to determine which programs best fit within your objectives. The competent professionals at each agency listed in the attached tables can assist you.

www.fnr.purdue.edu/extension/extwelcome.html

Table 2. Summary of forestry assistance.

Assistance Description and Requirements	Organization(s) Providing Assistance
Technical Assistance	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark timber • Plant trees • Order seedlings • Administer timber sales • Perform TSI • Timber appraisals • Mark TSI • Management plan • Forest inventory • Tree planting advice • Advice on obtaining tree seedlings • Timber marketing advice 	<p>Consulting forester: Fee charged on an hourly or daily basis, or percentage of timber sale</p> <p>IDNR-District forester: Limited amount of time available to spend with each landowner</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland determination • Develop conservation compliance plans • Determine eligibility for CRP program and design and approve cover practices for enrollment • Advice on and design of soil and water conservation practices (e.g., windbreaks, filterstrips, & shelterbelts) 	<p>Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Landowner must be willing to implement recommendations</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance on resource plans and conservation practices • Equipment loan 	<p>Soil Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs): Rent agreement or other arrangement required</p>

Table 2. Summary of forestry assistance (continued).






Assistance Description and Requirements	Organization(s) Providing Assistance
<p>Cost Share</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Improvement Program (FIP) Must manage wooded area or plantation of at least 10 acres in size for timber production. Eligible practices: tree planting, timber stand improvement, site preparation for natural regeneration. • Stewardship Incentives Program (SIP) Serves to cover practices not covered in other programs. Must develop a stewardship plan. Eligible practices: management plans, tree planting, timber stand improvement, site preparation for natural regeneration, fencing, rodent and deer control, field windbreak, farmstead windbreak. • Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Up to 75% cost-share for conservation practices in accordance with 5- to 10- year contracts. Cropland, rangeland, grazing land and other agricultural lands are eligible. 	 <p>Farm Service Agency (FSA)</p> <p>IDNR, Division of Forestry</p> <p>Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)</p>
<p>Lease Incentive Payment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Provides 50% cost-share for establishing permanent cover and conservation practices, and annual rental payments for land enrolled in 10-15 year contracts. Land that is highly erodible, cropped wetlands, subject to scour erosion, located in a CRP priority area, associated with non-cropped wetlands are eligible, OR land planted to a high-priority conservation practice (filterstrips, riparian buffers, waterways, shelterbelts, field windbreaks, living snow fence, or shallow water areas for wildlife). May not use other cost-share programs on CRP lands. 	 <p>Farm Service Agency (FSA)</p>
<p>Tax Incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classified Forest Act (reduce tax assessment to \$1/ac.) Must have a minimum of 10 wooded acres, must pay up to 10 years of back taxes if land withdrawn, must complete application and have enrolled area surveyed. 	 <p>IDNR, Division of Forestry</p>
<p>Loans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (up to \$200,000 direct real estate, or \$700,000 guaranteed loans) Must own or lease a farm, and operate the farm for a large portion of total income. 	 <p>Farm Service Agency (FSA)</p>
<p>Grants</p> <p>Contact local RC&D for details.</p>	 <p>RC&D</p>

Table 3. Summary of wildlife assistance.

Assistance Description and Requirements	Organization(s) Providing Assistance
Technical Assistance	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Management Plan 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat development advice 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadside habitat development 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland development or enhancement 	<p>IDNR-Division of Fish & Wildlife/ Wildlife Management Biologist: Landowner must be willing to implement practices</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native warm season grass establishment advice 	<p>Seed companies</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice on obtaining and planting tree and shrub seedlings 	<p>Consulting forester: Fee charged for services</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice and design of soil and water conservation practices (e.g., windbreak, filterstrip, and shelterbelt) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland determination 	<p>Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): No requirements</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop conservation plans 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine eligibility for CRP program, design and approve cover practices for enrollment 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice on soil suitability for grass and shrub species 	<p>County Extension Educator: No requirements</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil amendment recommendations for grass and shrub plantings 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free seed or woody seedlings for wildlife food plots on set aside acreage or idle areas (in some cases, may share cost or provide labor for establishment) 	<p>Pheasants Forever: Must be a local chapter in your area which offers this service</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment loan (rent or other arrangement) 	<p>Quail Unlimited: Must be a local chapter in your area which offers this service</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal damage information 	<p>USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services: No requirements</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland restoration 	<p>U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services: Restores natural wetlands that were previously drained through ditch or tile drainage. Must agree to maintain wetland for 10 years. All equipment and manpower provided free to landowner.</p>

Table 3. Summary of wildlife assistance (continued).


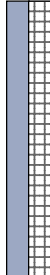






Assistance Description and Requirements	Organization(s) Providing Assistance
Cost Share	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) Program Offers technical and financial assistance for landowners to reduce non-point source sediment and nutrient pollution of surface waters. 	 IDNR, Division of Soil Conservation/SWCDs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Conservation Program Technical and financial assistance for installation of Best Management Practices that reduce soil erosion and off-site sedimentation and nutrients from agricultural land. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewardship Incentives Program (SIP) Serves to cover practices not covered in other programs. Must develop a stewardship plan. Eligible practices: management plans, tree planting, timber stand improvement, site preparation for natural regeneration, fencing, rodent and deer control, field windbreak, farmstead windbreak. 	 IDNR, Division of Forestry and Farm Service Agency (FSA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Up to 75% cost-share for conservation practices in accordance with 5- to 10- year contracts. Cropland, rangeland, grazing land and other agricultural lands are eligible. 	 Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) Up to 75% cost-share for establishment of selected conservation practices. No cropping history required. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game Bird Habitat Stamp Program (receive up to \$100/ac.) Must own or control over 10 acres. Parcel to be developed is a minimum of 5 ac. and maximum of 40 ac. Willing to protect and maintain improvements for at least 3 years. Parcel is not part of commercial shooting preserve. Eligible practices: permanent wildlife habitat, vegetation management, fencing, crops left unharvested, land purchase. 	 IDNR, Division of Fish & Wildlife Management Biologists
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Habitat Cost Share (receive up to 90% cost-share or \$1,000/year) Must own or control over 10 acres. Parcel is not part of commercial shooting preserve. Eligible practices: permanent wildlife habitat, windbreaks, brushpiles, vegetation management, wetland development. 	

Table 3. Summary of wildlife assistance (continued).

Assistance Description and Requirements	Organization(s) Providing Assistance
<p>Lease Incentive Payment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) <p>Provides 50% cost-share for establishing permanent cover and conservation practices, and annual rental payments for land enrolled in 10-15 year contracts. Land that is highly erodible, croppable wetlands, subject to scour erosion, located in a CRP priority area, associated with non-cropped wetlands are eligible, OR land planted to a high-priority conservation practice (filterstrips, riparian buffers, waterways, shelterbelts, field windbreaks, living snow fence, or shallow water areas for wildlife). May not use other cost-share programs on CRP lands.</p> <p>Loans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$200,000 direct real estate, or \$700,000 guaranteed loans. <p>Must own or lease a farm and operate the farm for a large portion of total income.</p>	 <p>Farm Service Agency (FSA)</p>
<p>Tax Incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classified Wildlife Habitat Act (reduce tax assessment to \$1/acre) <p>Minimum of 15 acres (less than 10 forested acres), must pay for initial survey, must pay up to 10 years back taxes if withdrawn, can't raise a commodity on enrolled land.</p>	 <p>IDNR, Division of Fish & Wildlife</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classified Filterstrip (reduce tax assessment to \$1/acre) <p>Minimum of 20' total width, and maximum of 100' on each side of stream.</p>	 <p>IDNR, Division of Soil Conservation</p>
<p>Grants</p> <p>Contact local RC&D office for details.</p>	 <p>RC&D</p>

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