

Environmental Grant Program Winners – 2011

Clark County Soil & Water Conservation District – awarded \$5,000

Reading Rain Gardens for Water Quality

The Clark County Soil & Water Conservation District used its grant to heighten community awareness of water quality concerns in the Silver Creek watershed through educational opportunities and visual and printed resources. Reading Rain Gardens were established at three locations in the Silver Creek watershed: Riverside Elementary School, Sellersburg Library and the Clark County 4H fairgrounds. Instructional materials, including books, brochures and brochures are being used to educate the public on various water quality issues and to encourage them to create and report their own rain gardens at a special Web site. A rain gardens and water quality workshop was held September 17 in Clarksville. Topics covered included on rain gardens, rain barrels, proper septic system maintenance, closing private wells, and non-point source pollution. The overall objective of this initiative is to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff into area streams and waterways.



Kosciusko Lakes and Streams – awarded \$5,040

Water Conservation Education

This grant was used to incorporate water conservation education into existing programming and events already in place in Kosciusko County. Kosciusko Lakes and Streams (KLAS) is a community water quality program centered at Grace College which is focused on its mission of protecting and enhancing local water quality by fostering grassroots ownership among the general population. KLAS used the grant funding to expand its existing field days for a K-12 education program and to incorporate hands-on interactive water conservation activities into the annual Northern Indiana Lakes Festival. The overall objective of the project was to educate the community about the importance of our water resources and to inspire them to take action to protect them now and in the future. Warsaw is the county seat for Kosciusko County, which features more than 100 lakes.