

APPLICATION PROCESS

Eligibility forms are available at the CCSWCD Office.

Staff will schedule an appointment to review eligibility for conservation practices and funding rates/options. Applications must be reviewed and approved by CCSWCD Supervisors.

The LERW Cost-Share Program uses a continuous sign-up system, though funds are finite within the timeline of the grant and a WAIT LIST may be enacted until additional funding becomes available. All projects/best management practices (BMPs) must be located within critical areas and address the resource concerns as documented in the LERW Watershed Management Plan. Completed projects must meet NRCS specifications or other recognized standards. **Critical areas include land uses that pertain to cropland and livestock grazing only.**

PLAN DEVELOPMENT

319 and SWCD staff work with local NRCS offices to develop Engineering and Conservation plans as required by the 319 program. These documents are used as planning guidelines for 319 projects.

Requests to NRCS for engineering plans may take up to 6 months for development, depending on the complexity of the project and NRCS workload.

PRACTICE STANDARDS

All structures and vegetative practices must meet standards as defined by NRCS guidelines or other approved standards. Select eligible practices must be new to the operation.

PAYMENTS

Payments are made as reimbursements of practice implementation expenses. Participants must provide documentation of implementation costs, including cash or in-kind match.

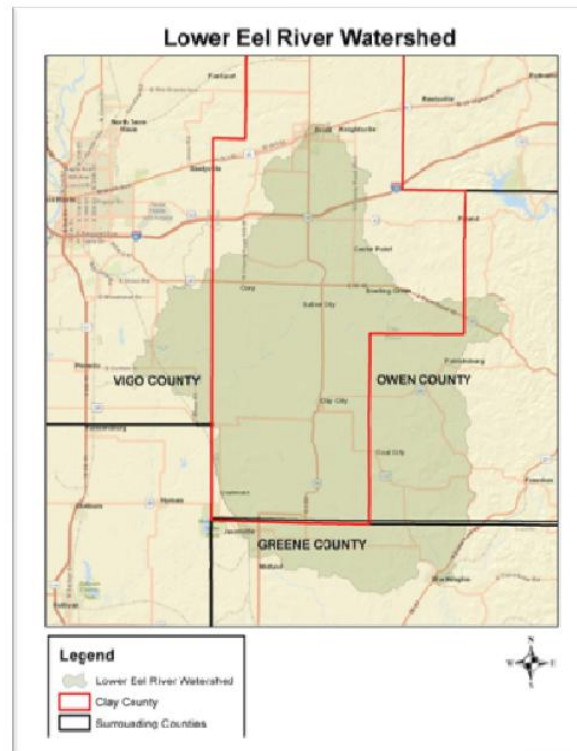
After staff has verified practice implementation, a submittal will be made for program approval and payment. **Payments may take up to 4 months! We appreciate your patience.**

For some vegetative practices, payments are made for the first year of implementation only.

WATERSHED LOCATION



The Lower Eel River Watershed drains 241,304 acres from Clay, Vigo, Owen, and Greene counties



319 Cost-Share Program II 2018-2021

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Brazil, IN 47834

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<https://www.claycountyswcd.com/>

**Clay County Soil & Water
Conservation District**



Guidelines to Cost-Share Practices and Payment Rates

Short-Term Vegetative Practices

Up to 75% Cost-Share

• **Cover Crops**

Payment issued for seed and labor costs.

75% cost-share drilled, 50% for aerial seeding

Fertilizer costs excluded

Single-year commitment

Not to be used in conjunction with NRCS payments

• **Critical Area Planting**

• **Forage and Biomass Planting**

Must be converting from production farming

Must maintain for 5 years

Not intended to be cut and sold as hay

No Annuals

• **Pasture Seeding/Prescribed Grazing**

Must be associated with a rotational grazing

and/or exclusion efforts

10-Year Vegetative Practices

Up to 75% Cost-Share

Practices must remain in place for 10 yrs minimum

Must follow NRCS specifications and engineering

• **Field Border**

• **Filter Strip**

• **Grassed Waterway**

• **Riparian Buffer Establishment**

• **Tree and Shrub Establishment**

Additional Program Information

- **Cost-Share Funding will be determined during application process; funding rate (either 50%, 65%, or 75%) is based on current land-use practices (tillage methods, etc.) as well as other conservation efforts (Ex. stream/ditch buffers)**
- **\$50,000 cap/customer for lifetime of grant**
- **Cover Crop fields = 3 yrs max enrollment**

Livestock Practices

Up to 75% Cost-Share

Practices must remain in place for 10 yrs minimum

Must possess livestock on-site at the time of sign-up

Must provide proof of Grazing Plan upon request

• **Access Control (Interior Fencing) ***

• **Animal Trails and Walkways***

• **Watering Facility***

• **Heavy Use Area Protection**

• **Spring Development***

• **Roof and Stormwater Runoff Structures**

*Must be associated with a grazing plan and exclusion efforts. Not intended for exterior fence that is not associated with rotational grazing efforts

Structural Practices

Up to 75% Cost-Share

Practices must remain in place for 10 yrs minimum

Requires an approved engineering plan

Intended for erosion control in cropland

• **Diversion**

• **WASCOB (Water & Sediment Control Basin)**

• **Terrace**

• **Grade Stabilization Structure**

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Additional BMPs are available, pending eligibility and project feasibility. For more information see full list www.in.gov/idem/nps/3900.htm or make an contact the Watershed Coordinator or CCSWCD.

Reduced Nutrient and Tillage

Up to 75% (max = \$1,000/row unit)

Practices must remain in place for 5 yrs minimum

Must be able to provide Nutrient Management

Plan upon request

• **Planter Modifications/Upgrades**

• **Reduced Tillage Equip. Modifications**

*NRCS definitions of reduced tillage and no-till

*Upgrade must reflect transition from a higher to lower system of tillage

Precision Ag Equipment

Up to 75% Cost-Share with \$10,000 cap

Practices must remain in place for 5 yrs minimum.

Technology must be **new** to the operation

Equipment must facilitate reduction of nutrients

Must be able to provide Nutrient Management Plan upon request

• **AutoSteer/Guidance**

• **Variable Rate Controllers**

• **Cover Crop Seeder Attachments**

319 is Unable to Fund:

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