



Highlights

- Mission Statement updated. Vision and Values statements created
 - **Mission:** *To improve soil health on Indiana Cropland*
 - **Vision:** *CCSI envisions an Indiana:*
 - *With healthy and productive soils*
 - *With clean water*
 - *With profitable and resilient agriculture*
 - *With healthy, diverse ecosystems*
 - *Where our communities embrace a conservation ethic*
 - **Values:**
 - *CCSI is farmer-focused and farmer-driven*
 - *CCSI values knowledge-based, farmer-proven solutions.*
 - *CCSI values the strength of grassroots leadership.*
 - *CCSI values improving soil health – the continued capacity of soil to function as a vital living ecosystem that sustains plants, animals, and humans.*
 - *CCSI values building an additive, synergistic, systems approach to improving soil health.*
- Formal by-laws reviewed and edited by Oversight Committee. (Adopted as amended 9/7)
- Memorandum of Understanding between IASWCD, USDA-NRCS, ISDA, SSCB, and Purdue University updated. To be forwarded to ICP leadership.
- Strategic Plan Drafts completed

General Workshops, Presentations, and Outreach Programs

Past

- Aug 1 – Indiana CCA Workshop, NEPAC (A)
 - Target: Certified Crop Advisors
 - Presentation: Cover Crops for Soil Health
 - 27 attendees
- Aug 2 – Cover Crop Round Table (pilot) – Gibson Co SWCD (D)
 - Target – farmers new(er) to cover crops
 - 8 farmers/supervisors, 5 staff
 - Aided in facilitation
- Aug 3 - Back to the Basics of Cover Crops – Decatur (Roger Wenning)
 - Target demographic – farmers newer to cover crops
 - Goal: Help insure success with termination (including testing their own water)
 - Approximately 30 attendees
 - Provided organizational support
- Aug 7 – Ag Retailer Roundtable, Scottsburg (A, D)
 - Target demographic – retailers in South Central Indiana
 - Approximately 15 retailers + 15 ICP staff in attendance
 - Presentation: Sustainable and Regenerative Soil Health Systems (A)

- Presentation: Cover Crop Selection and Seeding Tools (D)
- CCSI provided organizational support, connectivity to Ag Nutrient Taskforce members for support and promotion
- August 10th Building Resiliency to Extreme Weather, Brownsburg (A, PM, CM)
 - Dr. Jerry Hatfield, Dan DeSutter, Blake Vince presenting
 - Target audience: Farmers not currently in soil health management systems – promotions by ICMC/ISA and IFB
 - Approximately 30 attendees (most in soil health systems)
- Aug 15 – Fulton County Farmer Roundtable (A)
 - Helped facilitate discussion on cover crops / soil health (A)
 - Approximately 35 attendees
- Aug 17-31 – Lender Outreach
 - In partnership with NRCS and ISDA
 - Natasha Cox, Farm Credit videoed. 8/17
 - Editing in progress. One video complete. Two more in process

Upcoming / Work in Progress

- Sept 7 - AGRY 560 Soil Physics field lab on Soil Health and Soil Penetration Resistance (A)
- Dec 7-8 – Buffet-SARE National Conference on Cover Crops, Indianapolis
 - On planning committee
 - Along with Hoosier Chapter SWCS, organizing farm tours

Train-the-Trainer Workshops (trainings for ICP staff, ag professionals, farmer-mentors and others who work one-on-one with farmers)

Past

- August 8th and 9th Building Resiliency to Extreme Weather Indianapolis
 - Dr. Jerry Hatfield, Dan DeSutter, Blake Vince presenting
 - Partner w/ Hoosier Chapter SWCS, IFB for promotion
 - Target demographic – ICP staff, ag professionals
 - Approximately 120 attendees

Upcoming

- Sept 25 (Greensburg) and Sept 26 (Vincennes) Advanced Cover Crops – Commodity Crop Track
- Nov 16 – Soil Health-Beneficials Insects and Pollinators (with Hoosier Chapter SWCS)

General / Partner Events

Past

- Aug 3 – Red Gold Field Day (A)
- Aug 14 – Pathway to Water Quality volunteers (A, PM, CM)
- Aug 16 - River Friendly Farmer (PM, CM)
- Aug 17th – IDEA Conference Planning (PM)

Upcoming

- Sept 5-6 – CTIC Conservation in Action Tour
- Sept 7 – Purdue Agronomy Field Day
- Sept 28 - NRCS Soil Health Team Meeting
- Sept 29-30 – Beginning Farmer Veteran tour (A)

Research

Past

- First *Interim* Individual Farmer Report Complete

Upcoming

- Remaining farmer, VUJC, and Wabash Individual Reports in process – ETA September
- Summary Initial findings in process – ETA end of September
- Webinar on initial findings - October

Organization

Past

- Aug 14 – Oversight Committee, Terre Haute
 - Mission, Vision, Values Statements Completed
 - Memorandum of Understanding between IASWCD, ISDA, SSCB, USDA-NRCS, and Purdue updated (final revision 9/7; being forwarded for execution)
 - By-laws reviewed and edited (adopted as amended 9/7)
- Strategic Plan, Action Plan Drafts completed, reviewed, in edit

Upcoming

- Sept 7 – CCSI Oversight Committee, Lafayette

Funding

- USDA-NRCS presented Collaborative Agreement opportunity to fund two new positions. Focus on providing assistance to local level partnerships by providing training and technical direction and facilitating events; Serve as an advocate for CCSI to SWCD's, and assist them to engage in outreach / education activities. Duration: 3 years. Match required: \$0.00