

WHITE RIVER

RESOURCE

CONSERVATION

& DEVELOPMENT

PROVIDING LOCAL SOLUTIONS FOR LOCAL CONCERNS



conserving natural resources



RC&D councils partner with government agencies and non-profit organizations to help landowners find solutions to natural resource issues that will position land managers as global leaders addressing conservation and climate change and enhancing water resources for the future.

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

White River RC&D has a history of assisting landowners with nutrient management practices. From 2001—2007, the White River RC&D Nutrient Management Committee installed twenty-two **livestock Heavy Use Area Protection pads** within the four county area. Additionally, the committee has supported the agricultural community with outreach materials and annual events to address nutrient management needs. White River RC&D's newest project is to assist Lawrence County SWCD with their grid-sampling cost-share program.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Realizing that most people love trees and forested areas but often take those resources for granted, the Forestry Committee is dedicated to helping educate the citizens of the 4-county area. Our volunteers feel that by knowing and understanding the effects that trees and woodlands have on their lives, a person will become more involved in protecting those assets. The Forestry Committee holds several annual events that address **Forestry Best Management Practices** including Timber Stand Improvement, forested buffers and tree establishment.

COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT

Invasive species are drastically altering natural habitats throughout the U.S. by displacing native species and reducing species diversity. Fish and wildlife populations and native plant communities are degraded when invasive species dominate habitats such as forests, grasslands and wetlands. Invasive species cost the U.S. economy more than \$120 billion annually in damages to agriculture, industry, recreation, forestry, and human health. Because they often lack natural controls and have high reproductive abilities, invasive species are often very difficult to control. The **Southern Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area** (SICWMA) covers 37 Indiana counties within the Interior Low Plateau Eco-region. The mission of the SICWMA is to protect, restore and enhance southern Indiana's landscapes by coordinating efforts to identify, prevent, and control invasive species. SICWMA was formed by the Forestry Committee and is now its own no-profit dedicated organization.