

The Water Drop

Volume 1

September & October 2021



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Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality

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The Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality is a group of five local governments working together to meet our National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Permit. Our mission is to bring stormwater pollution awareness, preventions and solutions for the residents of Morgan County through public education and community involvement.

Did you know that The Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality has a new website, Facebook page and Instagram?

<https://mcpwq.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/Morgan-County-Partnership-for-Water-Quality-106226147941275>

<https://www.instagram.com/mcpwq46151/>



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Do You Live in a Watershed?

How do you know if you live in a watershed?

Have you ever been asked if you live in a watershed?
What was your answer? How do you know if you live in a watershed?

First ... what is a watershed?

Project WET is a water education program. The definition for a watershed, used in this program is – an area of land drained by a river and its tributaries to a common outlet. Streams and creeks drain into rivers. Smaller rivers drain into larger river that eventually drain into the oceans.

Not all water in a watershed can be seen! After a rain or snow event where does water go? Some water goes straight into the rivers, streams, creeks, and the storm drain system. Some water infiltrates into the ground. The water that is absorbed into the ground is stored in to the underground aquifers.

You may live in an area that you can't see flowing water but you still live in a watershed! Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. Watersheds crisscross across the country. Smaller, local watersheds are part of bigger watersheds.

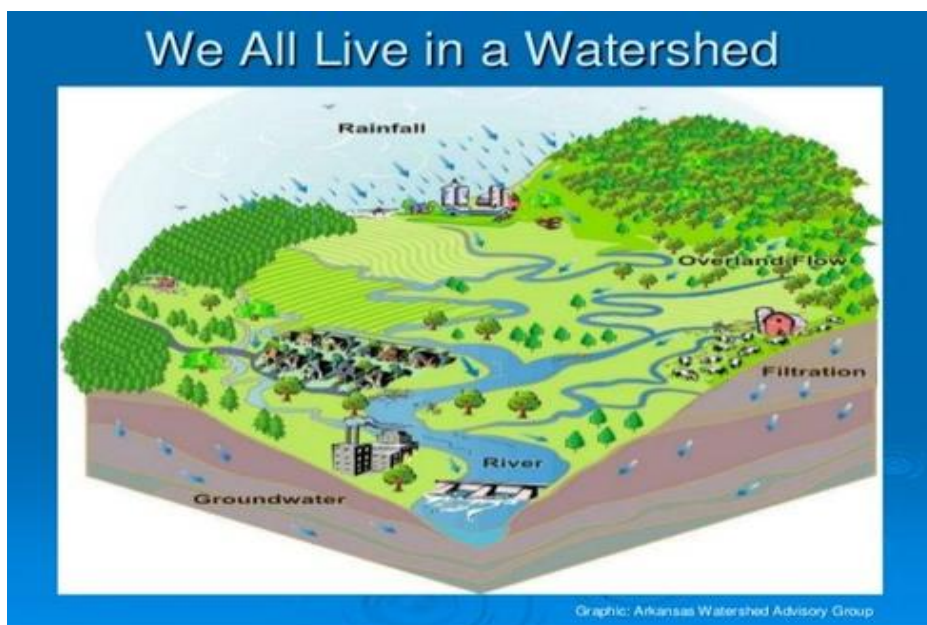
Inside of a watershed you will find everything. Water, land, deserts, air, cities, farms, plants, animals, people, mountains, etc. Everything is affected by the watershed.

We do live in a watershed! Everywhere on this planet is part of a watershed!

It is important to understand watersheds. Watershed are all around us – EVERYWHERE! That means we need to pay attention and take care of our watersheds.

Simple things you can do to help our watersheds:

- Put litter in its proper place
- Make sure your vehicles are not leaking fluids
- Do not put hazardous materials in storm drain inlets
- Future issues will go look at more ways you can help watersheds



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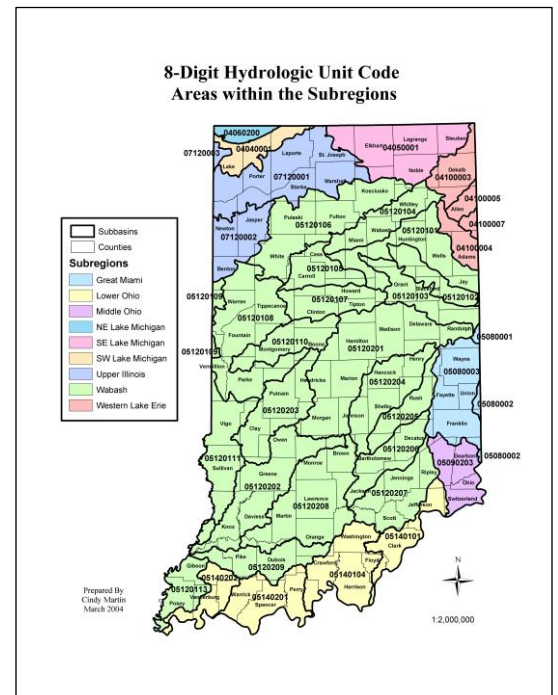
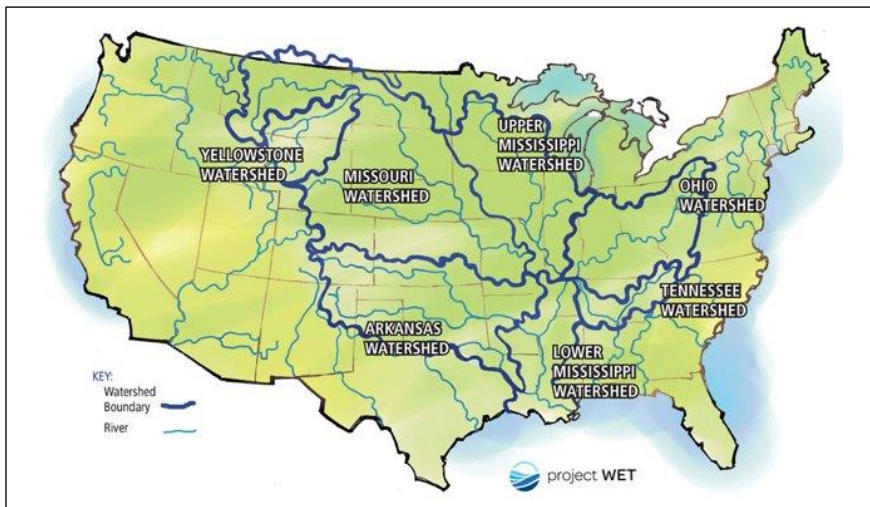
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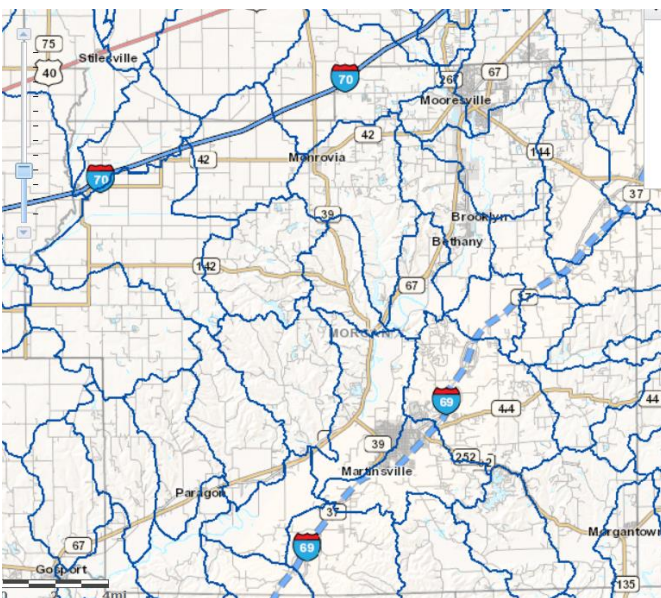
Watersheds in Indiana and Morgan County

As we learned in the last article we learned – we all live in a watershed. Everywhere on this planet is part of a watershed. Boundaries of watersheds can be very large on a global scale. As we zoom in on an area we discover that within the larger watershed are groups of smaller water sheds.

In the United States, there are 7 watersheds. Most of Indiana is in the Ohio Watershed. Indiana is part of the Ohio Watershed. Within Indiana, there are 9 smaller watersheds.



Morgan County has several watersheds within its boundaries.



Helpful links for Watershed information

- <https://www.epa.gov/watershedacademy>
- <https://mywaterway.epa.gov/>
- [Learn about Water Discover Water Project WET](#)
- <https://river-runner.samlearner.com/?fbclid=IwAR2J-PGUw5crYNIZEcD8hoY1vd2sShwEpGI3tIFxnTuSbgkzL3fFXeBHQlo>
- <https://www.usgs.gov/special-topic/water-science-school/science/water-basics>
- <https://fws.gov/wetlands/>
- <https://streamstats.usgs.gov/ss/>
- https://pbskids.org/plumlanding/educators/activities/build_a_watershed_ed.html
- <https://indiana.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/ket09.sci.ess.water.wshed/what-is-a-watershed/>



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What Can I Do With My Leaves? - No leaves in the street!

Fall Yard care

What do you do with leaves from your yard in the fall of the year?

- Sweep it into the street and forget about it?
- Mulch it up and let it decompose?
- Leave it alone in your yard??

Autumn is the time of year when some folks like to rake up the leaves in their yard. This makes yards look nice and kept. But what is the best action for disposal of leaves and debris from your lawn? Could moving your lawn debris to the streets cause a problem?

Per the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): "Stormwater runoff is generated from rain and snowmelt that flows over land or impervious surfaces, such as paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops, and does not soak into the ground." Stormwater runoff can cause problems, such as pollution and flooding. Any debris in the stormwaters' path can pollute waters and cause flooding.

Leaves that are not left in yards to decompose often get moved to the street. Once the leaves and debris make it to the street, it becomes harmful to the environment. After a rain event the storm water runoff sweeps the leaf debris into the storm drain system. The storm water runoff carrying the leaf debris makes its way to a nearby water source (lakes, streams, creeks, ponds, etc). After the leaf debris is dumped into the water, then it starts to decompose. As the leaves decompose it releases phosphorus into the water. Phosphorus is a nutrient that encourages algae growth in water

ways. The growth of the algae is sped up due to the extra nutrients in the water. As the algae grows the bodies of water usually turns green and uses up oxygen that aquatic life needs to survive.

Besides the environmental impact, there is the flooding impact caused by leaves being put in the street. The leaves that don't make it to the waterways can cause flooding! The leaves and debris block the storm drain inlet, preventing proper flow of water into the storm drain system. This causes flooding in the streets.

So...what can I do with my leaves and debris from my yard?

Let the leaves decompose in the yard. This brings nutrients to your lawn.

Put the leaves in a compost pile. This helps put more nutrients into your compost.

Please **DO NOT** put leaves and debris in the street! This is not a helpful practice.



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News from our friends at: Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District



We Need You

TO ATTEND THE LOCALLY LED WORKING GROUP MEETING!

It is an opportunity to discuss environmental resource concerns within Morgan County and determine their priority in local and federal conservation programs

MORGAN COUNTY, INDIANA LOCALLY LED WORKING GROUP MEETING HOW DO YOU WANT TO HELP?

TAKE THE ONLINE SURVEY:

WWW.MORGANCOUNTYSWCD.ORG OR [HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/WGCYMYBAIQNMRRZ7A](https://forms.gle/WGCYMYBAIQNMRRZ7A)

Surveys are being collected in order to assist the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Morgan County SWCD to identify and prioritize local resource concerns and consider efforts to impact change locally. The results of this survey directly impact scoring on applications for programs such as EQIP and CSP. WE ASK THAT YOU ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ACCORDING TO YOUR OWN OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIENCES. Please take a moment to fill out this short survey before September 14th so that results can be accumulated and presented at the locally led working group meeting for consideration.

ATTEND THE IN-PERSON MEETING:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021 - 6:00 PM

MORGAN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS - LIVESTOCK SHOW ARENA

There will be a Locally Led Working Group Meeting held on September 15, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Morgan County Fairgrounds-Livestock Show Arena. This meeting is open to the public and you are welcome to join in person or virtually. The SWCD board, along with conservation partners, will review the responses from this survey and discuss major conservation concerns in Morgan County.

ATTEND THE MEETING ONLINE:

ONLINE MEETING AVAILABLE ON ZOOM DURING THE IN-PERSON MEETING

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/8629260346](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8629260346)

Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting

Zoom is the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, chat, and webinars across mobile, desktop, and room systems. Zoom Rooms is the original software-based conference room solution used around the world in board, conference, huddle, and training rooms, as well as executive offices and classrooms. Founded in 2011, Zoom helps businesses and organizations bring their teams together in a frictionless environment to get more done. Zoom is a publicly traded company headquartered in San Jose, CA.



180 S. Main Street, Suite 002
Martinsville, IN 46151

MORGAN COUNTY, INDIANA LOCALLY LED WORKING GROUP MEETING

HOW DO YOU WANT TO ATTEND?

IN PERSON:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021
MORGAN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
LIVESTOCK SHOW ARENA
6:00 PM



ONLINE MEETING AVAILABLE ON ZOOM:

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/8629260346](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8629260346)



TAKE THE ONLINE SURVEY:
WWW.MORGANCOUNTYSWCD.ORG

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News from our friends at: Morgan County Solid Waste Management District

FALL TOX AWAY DAY **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23rd, 2021** **MARTINSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL**

8:00 am – 1:00 pm (rain or shine)

MORGAN COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY

*Businesses are not included (due to the volume of material);
they may call **NuGenesis** at 800-487-1010 to make other arrangements.*

What You Can Dispose of for Free: Prescription Medications & Sharps, Oil fuels, Antifreeze, Motor Oil/Filters, Adhesives, Driveway Sealers, Stain, Pesticides, Herbicides, Fertilizers, Pool Chemicals, Varnish, Auto Batteries, Oil Base and Latex Paints, Paint Tubes/PCB, Ballasts, Acids & Bases, Household Cleaning Agents, Rechargeable Batteries and Weed Killers.

We Accept All Appliances (CFC & non-CFC) for Free: Refrigerators, Freezers, Air Conditioners, Stoves, Washers, Dryers, Water Heaters, Microwaves, Humidifiers, and De-Humidifiers. **FEES for TELEVISIONS and MONITORS: \$20.00 each**

FEES for TIRES are as follows:

Car/Light Truck Tires: First 6 free-----\$2.00 per each additional tire (12 max)

Heavy/Truck Tires: First 2 free-----\$5.00 per each additional tire (6 max)

Farm tractor Tires (54" diameter & greater): intact, \$75.00 each; if fully

Quartered (No Halves & No Thirds): first two quartered tires for free;

\$15.00 for each additional quartered tire (6 max)

Tires on rims are an additional \$1.00 each

WE WILL NOT ACCEPT: Asbestos, Lab Chemicals, Large Propane Tanks, Explosives, Ammunition or Firearms, Medical or Infectious Waste, Radioactive Materials.

Conducted by:

Morgan County Solid Waste Management District; 765-342-2533

www.morgancountysolidwaste.org

With the support of:

The Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality

The Indiana American Water Company

Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District The Healthier Morgan County Initiative

Morgan County Substance Abuse Council

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Community Event Calendar

<i>Date</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Meeting Time</i>	<i>Additional Info</i>
September 7, 2021	Morgan County Native & Invasive Plant Partnership MC NIPP Meeting	6p	Sadler Room in the County Administration Building
September 8, 2021	Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting	6p	
September 15, 2021	MCSWCD – Local Working Group Meeting Location: Morgan County Fairgrounds	6p	Open to the Public For more details and to take the survey visit: www.morgancountyswcd.org
September 18, 2021	WEED WRANGLE MC NIPPS – Ravania Woods		Sponsored by Duke Energy
October 6, 2021	Farmers Day Location: Morgan County Fairgrounds		All AGES welcome!
October 7, 2021	Morgan County Fall Foliage Festival		
October 8, 2021	Morgan County Fall Foliage Festival		
October 9, 2021	Morgan County Fall Foliage Festival		
October 10, 2021	Morgan County Fall Foliage Festival		
October 23, 2021	Tox A Way Day	8a – 1p	Martinsville High School

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Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality

765-342-1064

swed@morgancounty.in.gov

<https://mcpwq.org>

CONTACT US

