

# The Water Drop

Winter/Spring 2023



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.*

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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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## White River Clean Up 2023

It is that time of year again!

Every year the Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality hosts the White River Clean Up. This annual event is a great way for you to help the White River and Morgan County. Become part of this event by signing up and sharing the information with your friends and family! This year the White River Clean Up date is set for **Saturday, March 11, 2023.**

We have had great turn outs with volunteer participation the last few years, we are eager to see numbers continue to grow. If you want to volunteer, sign up! You will receive a FREE T-Shirt AND a FREE Lunch! Be sure to sign up so we can order enough t-shirts.

In 2022, we had to reschedule the White River Clean Up. On the original date there was flooding and it was not safe to be near the river. We had a new date in April. We still had a great turn out! In 2022 the volunteers filled a 15 yard dumpster with litter and debris. A trailer FULL of tires was collected and taken to Big O' Tires in Mooresville for proper disposal.

With a great number of community members, we also had several school groups show up!! The students that participated were able to obtain our signatures for volunteer hours required for their club. If you or your school group need volunteer hours – Let me know! We can make it happen!

We start out at Three Rivers S.R.A. for a brief meeting and groups are then dispatched to stay at Three Rivers, go to Paragon Access Site or Henderson Ford Access Site. This year we are happy to announce we are adding the NEW boat ramp at Waverly Park! We will have four

areas to focus on cleaning up around the White River in Morgan County. The areas we normally focus on are Three Rivers, Paragon Boat Ramp, and Henderson Ford Public Access. This year we are able to add in the NEW Waverly Park Boat Ramp!

***The White River Clean Up has a date - March 11, 2023 at 9:00am. Meet us at the Three Rivers S.R.A. just off State Road 67 (4715 IN-67, Martinsville, IN).***

Once you get to Three River S.R.A. we ask that you sign in. At 9:00a we will have a brief meeting before dividing into 4 groups. One group will go to the Paragon Access Point, one group will go to the Henderson Ford Access Point, one group will go to Waverly Park Boat Ramp, and the other group will stay at Three Rivers.

Like the past years, the Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality is treating the volunteers to a free lunch after the clean up! Lunch will be at Gatti's Pizza in Martinsville on the 39 bypass. We are looking forward to this year's clean up. This is a great opportunity to come out and help your local river!

Please visit our website: [mcpwq.org](http://mcpwq.org) to sign up to volunteer at the clean up! Or click [here](#) to go directly to the registration page. By signing up early this allows supplies ready for our volunteers. Looking forward to seeing you all at White River!



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Some photos from previous White River Clean Ups



Pictures of Previous  
White River Clean  
Ups

Thank you  
Volunteers!!!





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**SATURDAY,  
MARCH 11, 2022  
9AM-12NOON**

**Four Sites to Clean:**  
*Three Rivers, Henderson Ford,  
Old Town Waverly Park  
& Paragon Public Access Sites*



## WHITE RIVER CLEAN - UP

**Meet at THREE RIVERS S.R.A.  
(4715 IN-67, Martinsville, IN 46151)**

Lunch is provided following the clean up at  
**Gatti's Pizza** in Martinsville, IN

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
[SWED@MORGANCOUNTY.IN.GOV](mailto:SWED@MORGANCOUNTY.IN.GOV)

**PLEASE REGISTER BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE:**  
[HTTPS://MCPWQ.ORG](https://MCPWQ.ORG)



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## A Look Back at 2022

Happy New Year from the Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality! We wanted to share what we participated in this last year and we are looking forward to good 2023!

2022 was a good year as the Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality's public educator. With that said we are hopeful that 2023 will be even more engaging.

In 2022 we were able to venture out and talk to campers, kids, and adults about rain gardens. Our annual event is the White River Clean Up. Originally scheduled to take place in March, we changed the date due to flooding and unsafe conditions for volunteers. The White River Clean Up took place in April. I had two (2) young ladies help me with the clean-up. They were part of the National Junior Honor Society. Many Thanks to Michaela and Allyson! We had over 50 volunteers show up and help clean up the White River public access points. This was a great way to help keep our watersheds clean.

4-H mini-camp was a fun and engaging time with the mini-campers. A lesson about rain gardens was taught to some eager kiddos. This was a fun and a little messy hands on project for the 4-H mini campers. They were given a plastic water bottle (recycled) cut in half. We talked about the different layers in a rain garden and how those different layers help filter out pollutants. I also had two (2) youth helpers and Lisa from Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District help in this lesson.

Lisa from Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District invited me to join her at the Mooresville Public Library to present the Rain Garden in a Bottle lesson to the Public. We had great turn out and the project was a fun hit!

We joined Morgan County Recycling and Morgan County Soil & Water Conservation District at the Morgan County Fair. We had a display in the merchants building. We were able to talk with many local people about watersheds. Some folks found where they lived on our map to see what watershed they lived in.

October brought the opportunity to be part of the Farmers' Day. Working with Purdue Extension and Morgan County Soil were able to set up the ever-popular Duck Derby. During this fun time, we were able to teach about keeping our waters clean. I also spent an afternoon with Community Corrections, Morgan County Soil & Water Conservation District and MCNIPP (Morgan County Native & Invasive Partnership) working on Bush Honeysuckle along the White River at Old Town Waverly Park.

Twice a year we join Morgan County Recycle and participate in Tox Away Day. Morgan County residents are able to bring hazardous household chemicals, tires, appliances, amongst many other items. During this time, we are able to collect prescription drugs and dispose of them safely and properly.

We at Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality are looking forward for more opportunities to engage with the community. Please contact Rachel at: [swed@morgancounty.in.gov](mailto:swed@morgancounty.in.gov) to learn more.



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A quick  
look  
back on  
2022

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## Youth in Action

Martinsville youth, Maddie MacPhee, is busy working on her Gold Award for Girl Scouts!

Please consider supporting her project

As an Ambassador Girl Scout and a 7-year member, it was time for me to decide what project I would like to complete for my Gold Award project in 2021. A good Gold Award project should have a link to a global or national issue, be sustainable, take at least 80 hours of my time, and address an issue that I am passionate about. This is the highest award that a Girl Scout can achieve and I wanted it to succeed. My future plans are to attend college and earn a degree in wildlife biology. Preserving nature and the ecosystem are important to me. It didn't take very long for me to find a project that I knew I could be passionate about that affects wildlife worldwide.



When you look around Morgan County, you see the beautiful features of Indiana. To help keep these amazing places safe and clean, I have decided to build and install monofilament fishing line collection tubes at some of the more popular fishing spots along the White River. I first noticed a need for them while attending the White River clean-ups that were hosted by the Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality. I saw first-hand the damage that the fishing line could do to our environment. After some research, I found out that it is very hard for monofilament fishing line to break down and that it must be recycled in order to keep it from our landfills, rivers, ponds, and lakes. There were also

several different types of collection tubes that were available to build or buy. In 2022, I built my first collection tube! The style I decided on would hold quite

a bit of line, be easy and safe to use, and has a hinged door to prevent birds from trying to nest in it. It was on display at the River Clean-Up this year and at the Morgan County Fair. I want to educate people how dangerous the fishing line can be to wildlife. It can get tangled around their bodies and end up in their stomachs. Often times, it debilitates the animal or they die.



With help from the Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality and donations from citizens, I will be able to construct several of these collection tubes and install them throughout the county. The MCPWQ has also agreed to help keep the collection tubes emptied and the line recycled so that the project will go on even after I move on to college. Look for the collection tubes at the Henderson Ford, Three Rivers, and Paragon River access sites. If you would like to help in any way, please contact me through our troop email at [POPTroop60151@gmail.com](mailto:POPTroop60151@gmail.com). Hopefully, we can add a few more locations! Thank You!



Maddie MacPhee  
Girl Scout Troop #60151



# The Water Drop

GET INVOLVED!

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*You and your guests are cordially invited to attend!*

## Morgan County SWCD 2023 Annual Meeting and Dinner



Meeting is open to the public!

**FEBRUARY 15, 2023  
6:00 PM**

Morgan County  
Administration Building  
Lucille Sadler Room  
180 S. Main Street,  
Martinsville, IN 46151

Please kindly RSVP by  
February 5, 2023  
by calling 765-349-2060  
or email  
[SWCDOffice@morgancounty.in.gov](mailto:SWCDOffice@morgancounty.in.gov)

**Local Conservation Awards will be presented, District Annual Financial Reports will be given, updates on SWCD Grant Programs will be given, and there will be a District Supervisors election.**

**Dawn Slack, Program Coordinator with the Indiana Invasives Initiative and State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management , will be our guest speaker and you will have the opportunity to meet our supervisory board!**

**Admission includes three course meal catered by: Heavenly Helpings  
Donations for attendance will gladly be accepted.**



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## GET INVOLVED!

MORGAN COUNTY SWCD PRESENTS:

### *Edible Wild Plants*

WITH DAVID MOW

*March 4, 2023*

This program will be FREE to the  
public and includes a hike at  
Burkhart Creek Park

**For more information and RSVP**

<https://tinyurl.com/indianawildedibles>  
[invasivesmorgancounty@gmail.com](mailto:invasivesmorgancounty@gmail.com)  
765-349-2060

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GET INVOLVED!

## Community Event Calendar

<i>Date</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Additional Info</i>
2/8/2023	Morgan County Soil & Water Conservation District Monthly Meeting	6:30p	Sadler Room – County Admin Building
2/7/2022	Morgan County Native & Invasive Plant Partnership Monthly Meeting	6:00p	Sadler Room – County Admin Building
2/15/2023	Morgan County Soil & Water Conservation District ANNUAL Meeting	6:00p	Please contact Morgan County Soil & Water Conservation District for more information <a href="https://www.morgancountyswcd.org/">https://www.morgancountyswcd.org/</a>
2/20/2022	President's Day		
3/7/2023	Morgan County Native & Invasive Plant Partnership Monthly Meeting	6:00p	Sadler Room – County Admin Building
3/9/2023	Morgan County Soil & Water Conservation District Monthly Meeting	6:30p	Sadler Room – County Admin Building
3/4/2023	Wild Edible Plants David Mow _ Morgan County Native & Invasive Plant Partnership	9:00a – 3:00p	We will have a program in the Lucille Sadler room at the Morgan County Administration Building from 9 am to 11 am, then we will meet at Burkhart Creek Park at 1 pm to take a short hike. Transportation to the park will not be provided. You can bring your own lunch or purchase at one of the many local eateries in Martinsville. For more info email: <a href="mailto:Invasivesmorgancounty@gmail.com">Invasivesmorgancounty@gmail.com</a>
3/11/2023	<b>Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality – WHITE RIVER CLEAN UP</b>	9:00a	Three Rivers SRA – visit our website for more details – <a href="http://mcpwq.org">mcpwq.org</a>
3/12/2023	DAYLIGHTS SAVINGS TIME		
4/8/2023	Morgan County Native & Invasive Plant Partnership- WEED WRANGLE	9a- NOON	Burkhart Creek
4/11/2023	Morgan County Soil & Water Conservation District Monthly Meeting	6:30p	Sadler Room – County Admin Building



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## CONTACT US

Morgan County Partnership for Water Quality

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<https://mcpwq.org>

