

Dr. Ray Weil is a Professor of Soil Science at the University of Maryland. He is best known for his ecological approach to soil science. He is a leader in researching and promoting the adoption of more sustainable agricultural systems in both industrial and developing countries. His research focuses on soil organic matter management for enhanced soil ecosystem functions and nutrient cycling for water quality and agricultural sustainability.

Brought to you by the
Indiana Conservation Cropping
Systems Initiative and the Soil and
Water Conservation Districts of Parke,
Vermillion, Warren and Fountain
Counties along with Clean Water
Indiana.

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# Conservation Cropping Systems: YOUR Choice, Not Theirs

August 18



A cover crop mix plays a central role in building healthier, more resilient soils. Photo: Extension.org

#### **Event Partners**



Warren County SWCD Parke County SWCD Vermillion County SWCD Fountain County SWCD









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# Conservation Cropping Systems: YOUR Choice, Not Theirs

## Clean Water Indiana

Please see your local SWCD about Cover Crop Cost Share Programs!



The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs. The CWI Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

For more information please contact your local SWCD:

VERMILLION COUNTY SWCD 765-492-3705
PARKE COUNTY SWCD 765-569-3551
FOUNTAIN COUNTY SWCD 765-762-6844
WARREN COUNTY SWCD 765-762-2443

# August 18

Beef House 16501 IN 63, Covington, IN

Register on Eventbrite
www.RayWeilAug18BeefHouse.eventbrite.com
Event fee of \$20 includes lunch.
CEUs for CCAs have been requested.

- 8:30 Registration Begins
- 9:30 Lessons Learned from Chesapeake Bay:
  Soil Organic Matter Management for
  Nutrient Cycling and Agricultural
  Sustainability
  Dr. Ray Weil, University of Maryland
- 11:00 Break
- 11:15 Resiliency and Water Quality:

  A Win-Win School Branch Studies Impacts of Soil Health Systems
  Dr. Bob Barr, IUPUI
  Mike Starkey, Starkey Farms
  Jack Maloney, Little Ireland Farms
- 12:15 Lunch
- 1:15 Soil Health Systems:

  A Way Forward Improving Soil Health Can We Avoid Regulation?
  Barry Fisher, USDA-NRCS
- 2:15 Panel of All Speakers/ Q & A
- 3:15 Informal Networking
- 3:30 Conclude

Join us to learn what we can do to increase the regenerative properties of soils on our farms while we reduce our exposure to future regulations.

## **Featured Speakers**

Mike Starkey is a lifelong resident of Brownsburg. His family farm is now in its sixth generation. He has been a no-tiller for 15 years and hosts frequent workshops at his farm promoting notill and cover crops. He has been a supervisor for the Hendricks County SWCD for over 16 years and a regional director for 6 years. He currently serves as the president of the IASWCD. He is passionate about being a responsible steward of the land.

Robert Barr is a hydrologist and fluvial geomorphologist at the Center for Earth and Environmental Science (CEES), Department of Earth Sciences, IUPUI. Bob has been a research scientist at CEES since 1997. His research and teaching focuses broadly on understanding and mitigating the impact of hydrologic modification with an emphasis on stream and wetland restoration. Bob has been involved with interdisciplinary ecological restoration in urban and agricultural settings in both the glaciated Midwest and the Great Basin.

Jack Maloney is a lifelong resident of Brownsburg and has been farming since 1978. He farms 2700 acres of corn and soybeans. He has been 100% notill since the late 80s. He focuses on using notill, cover crops and soil amendments all the while keeping fertility and yields high. By extensively soil sampling the whole farm every two years and taking care of the soil, he is making the soil work for him instead of him working it.

Barry Fisher is the Indiana State Soil Health Specialist, serves on the Technology Staff for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Indiana where he provides technical direction for Indiana Soil Health Strategy implementation and agronomic training and assistance to NRCS Field Offices. He has a B.S. degree in Agronomy from Western Kentucky University and is a native of French Lick, Indiana. Fisher was also awarded Indiana Certified Crop Advisor of the Year at the December 2014 CCA Conference.