Indian Creek Watershed Management Authority

COOPERATION • FLOOD MANAGEMENT • CLEAN WATER

Summer 2019 Edition

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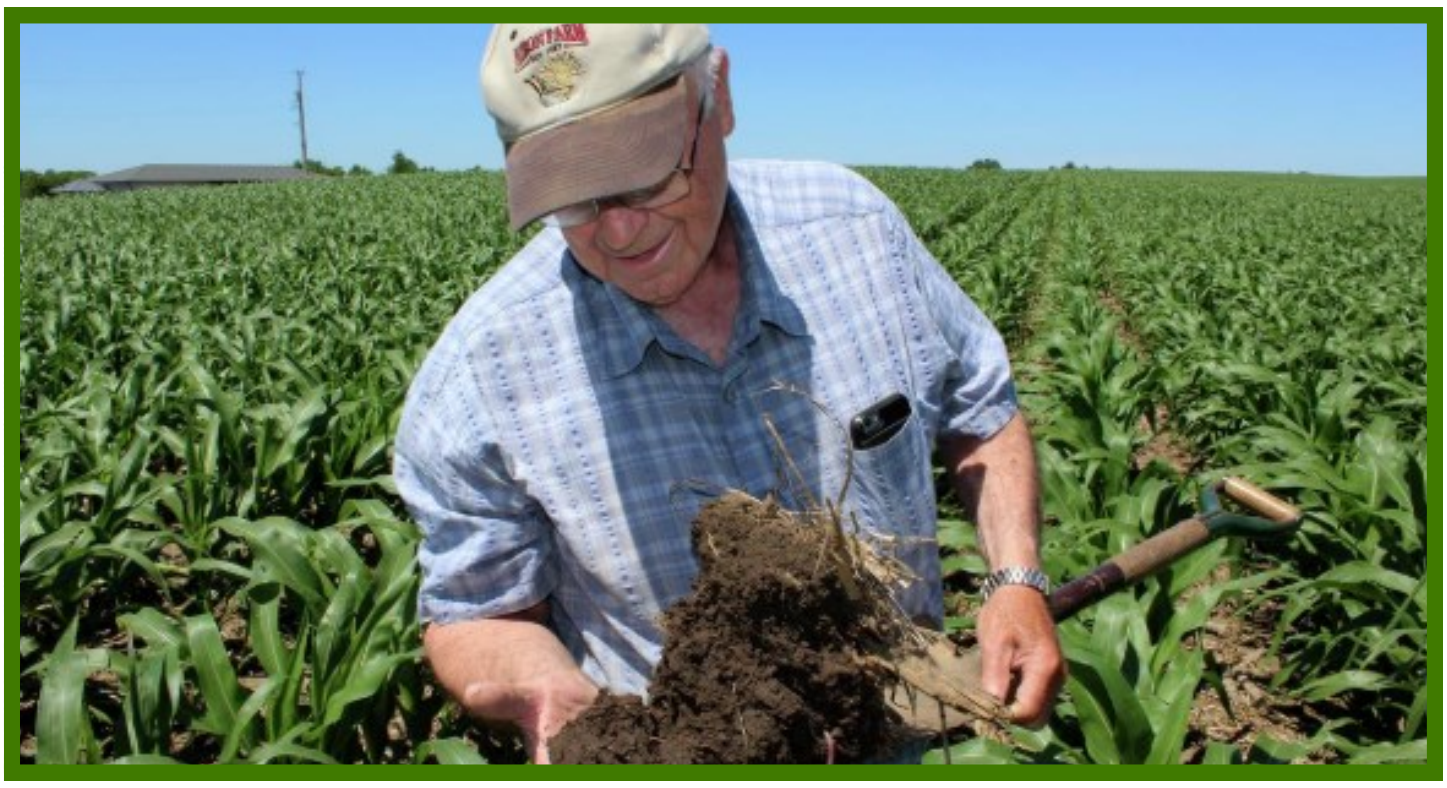
Indian Creek Soil Health Partnership

You may have heard the term "Soil Health" recently at a field day or in a magazine. This might mean different things to different people. A simple definition of soil health is the ability for a soil to function. A high functioning soil is productive, it's stable (without issues of compaction or erosion), and it infiltrates water and has moisture available for crops.

The Indian Creek Soil Health Partnership will be working with farmers and landowners to improve soil health on cropland within the Indian Creek Watershed. This will help operations be more profitable and stable while at the same time continue to improve water quality. The Indian Creek Soil Health Project will be holding informational field days and workshops, providing updates on cost share opportunities, and provide technical assistance through our Soil Health Coordinator, Emery Davis.



Digging a shovel full of soil is the easiest and fastest way to get an idea of the health of your soil.

Cover Crops

Fall is just around the corner and with that comes the busy season of harvesting and moving grain. Fall is also the time to start investing in our soils for the next growing season by planting cover crops. Cover Crops have many benefits including holding nutrients in the crop field, weed suppression, erosion and grazing.

Upcoming Events

Cover Crop Field Day
August 14th at 5:30pm
Marion Airport
Includes a complementary Meal– Please RSVP
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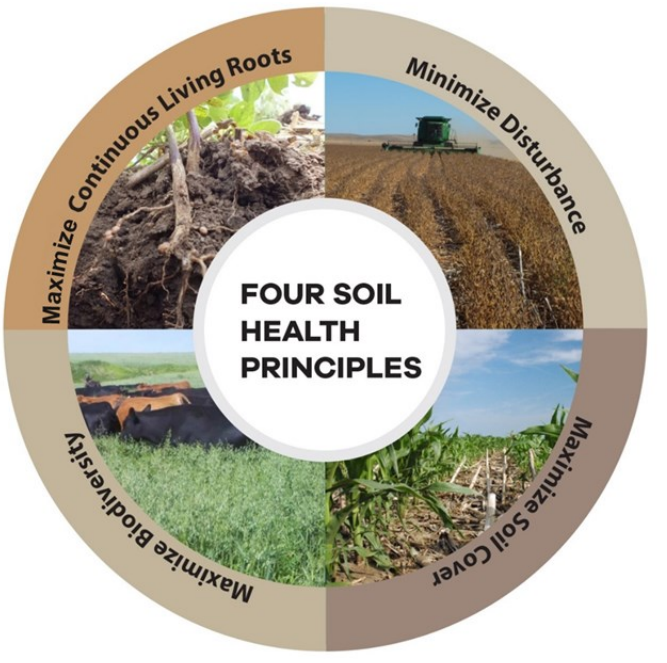
Linn Landowner Forum
September 29th beginning at noon
Monarch Research Station, Marion, IA
More info at: monarchresearch.org



The Four Soil Health Principles courtesy: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Indian Creek Watershed drains 93 square miles of agricultural land and suburban and urban development within Linn County. Local governments within the watershed have come together to work with their communities and create long-term solutions to help the quality of water and minimize the costs of flood damage within the watershed.

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