



POLLINATOR WORKSHOP- PHOTO: BRENDA GETTINGER

Training and Certification Program Updates and Key Achievements

2018 Year in Review

by Laura Fribley, ISDA

In 2018, the Indiana Conservation Partnership's (ICP) Training and Certification Program focused on providing key trainings selected from the 2017 employee training needs survey. Three cropland weed identification trainings, an herbaceous plant identification webinar, four invasive species trainings, and two pollinator trainings were created for ICP employees. Thank you to all who made the trainings possible! As well, the Training and Certification Program gained a new member: Josh Brosmer, Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

Cropland weed identification trainings
Purdue University led workshops for ICP employees statewide in three locations this summer: Butlerville, Lafayette, and Vincennes. Key topics included weed growth stages, problem weeds, weed life cycles, and weed identification. 61 attendees representing six ICP agencies participated in the program.

Herbaceous plant identification webinar
In March, a live webinar <https://youtu.be/Xq9nqhBhews> led by Purdue's Bill Johnson and Joe Ikley had 159 views. Topics focused on basic plant

characteristics, life cycles, plant stages, and identification resources.

Invasive Species Training sessions were offered in Clinton, Allen, Pike and Jackson counties during August. Dawn Slack of The Nature Conservancy led the sessions in conjunction with other local experts including IDNR biologists. Sessions focused on common invasive species used in urban areas and native alternatives, aquatic invasives, management techniques, and outdoor hands-on training. 37 employees representing five ICP agencies attended.

Pollinator trainings were offered in Jennings and Clinton counties. Brianne Lowe, NRCS, and other local experts led the trainings. Habitat needs, planting, and maintenance were discussed as well as field observations. 28 individuals attended from six ICP agencies.

What's planned for 2019? The ICP Training and Certification Program Team is planning pollinator trainings in the southwest and northeast. A committee is also looking into trainings focusing on soil testing & interpreting results.

Invasive Species Trainings

Attendees learned about common invasive species in the region, as well as beneficial natives. *Top photo: Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge, Laura Fribley. Bottom photo: Little River Wetlands Project, Raquel Walker.*

