Environmental Profile: Howard County, Indiana

Information & County Contacts

Howard County Visitor’s Center:
(765) 457-6802

Howard County Soil & Water Conservation District:
(765) 457-2114 ext. 3

Local Clean Energy Initiatives:

Northwestern School Corporation Wind Project

Located in north central Indiana, Northwestern School Corporation and Howard County boasts natural wind resources. The community wind project includes one 322-foot high, three-blade 900 kW wind turbine that will directly power the school through a net metering installation with Duke Energy.

Northwestern utilized a $2.3 million Clean Renewable Energy Bond to help finance the project. The revenue generated will benefit the school budget by offsetting approximately 70 percent of current utility operating costs and generate $7 million in energy savings over the 25-year project life.¹

¹ http://www.performanceservices.com/project/northwestern-school-corporation-wind-project
Endangered Species:

Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*)

The Indiana bat was listed as endangered in 1967 due to episodes of people disturbing hibernating bats in caves during winter, resulting in the death of large numbers of bats. Indiana bats are vulnerable to disturbance because they hibernate in large numbers in only a few caves (the largest hibernation caves support from 20,000 to 50,000 bats). Other threats that have contributed to the Indiana bat's decline include commercialization of caves, loss of summer habitat, pesticides and other contaminants, and most recently, the disease white-nose syndrome.²