

2023 Drainage School

Speaker Biography

Jan Crider

Big Blue River Conservancy District

Mr. Jan Crider is the Contracting Officer for the Big Blue River Conservancy District and Property Manager of Westwood Park in New Castle Indiana. In his 43+ year career he has overseen the maintenance of nine earthen dams and is responsible for keeping 33 miles of the Big Blue River free and flowing.

The Big Blue River Conservancy District was established in 1965 and operates under the Indiana Conservancy Act. The District's watershed is approximately 135 square miles of the Upper Big Blue River and is one of the largest watershed districts in the state.

Jan and the District have worked closely with both the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service in the installation of the District's improvements. Jan is the past president of the Indiana Association of Conservancy Districts.

He is a native of New Castle and a graduate of New Castle Chrysler High School, receiving his BA from Indiana University in 1976 and master's degree in biology from Michigan Tech in 1978.

Jan and his wife enjoy exercising, trips to Lake Michigan and pickleball.

