

# SAVING TOMORROW'S AGRICULTURE RESOURCES

STARFREETOOL.COM



## Get Ahead with Your S.T.A.R. Field

The S.T.A.R. initiative features an innovative tool to help farm operators and landowners embrace practices to reduce nutrient and soil losses on their fields. The results put your farm ahead: better for the environment, better for your bottom line, better for our future.



### How It Works

S.T.A.R.'s evaluation system is simple to use and understand yet detailed enough to give you meaningful results. S.T.A.R. assigns points for each activity on an individual field: cropping, tillage, nutrient application and more. The Science Committee – made up of agriculture experts and university researchers – regularly update the practices included, the points, and ranking system.

Those with conservation practices best aligned with the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy receive the highest point values. You will receive a S.T.A.R. rating between 1 and 5 stars for your field, with a 5 marking the highest score.

### Why It Works

Conservation-minded farming is a perfect marriage of goals. When we protect our farmland from runoff and erosion, we are investing in a better future:



- Decrease nutrient loss
- Improve water quality
- Show your stewardship
- Increase farm resilience
- Position your farm for future market opportunities



Champaign County Soil & Water Conservation District is your local contact. Get S.T.A.R.ted today: visit [starfreetool.com](http://starfreetool.com) to learn more and complete your free S.T.A.R. field forms! Contact Champaign County SWCD at: 217-352-3536, ext 3.