

# Guidelines for Collaboration with the Transforming Drainage Project

Approved: Jan. 11, 2016

The goal of this 5-year USDA-NIFA project is to transform our approach to designing and implementing agricultural drainage so that water retention, through controlled tile drainage, drainage water recycling, and saturated buffers, are considered as management approaches across the Corn Belt. **Collaborators** are defined as individuals or organizations who advance project goals and strengthen the network without direct grant funding from the Transforming Drainage Project. Various types of collaboration are welcome; three examples are described below, and others could be developed as needed.

1. Collaboration in education and/or extension
2. Collaborating experimental sites without shared data
3. Collaborating experimental sites with shared data

All types of collaboration will provide opportunities to network with and work alongside other leading researchers in agricultural drainage topics, and provide access to a wider network of stakeholders.

## Collaboration Roles and Responsibilities

### 1. Collaboration in education and/or extension

#### **The Transforming Drainage Project will...**

- Include Collaborators in project communication and updates
- Promote Collaborator-led Extension and education activities
- Include Collaborator as co-author on Extension and education products, as appropriate
- Provide a Letter of Support to leverage funds to support collaborating activities (*Subject to Executive Committee approval*)
- Invite Collaborators to the Transforming Drainage Annual Meeting

#### **Collaborators will...**

- Work with the Transforming Drainage Team on Extension publications, educational modules, events, workshops, and field days.
- Coordinate with the Transforming Drainage Team to ensure a consistent message in Extension and education materials regarding agricultural water management practices and recommendations
- Share information on leveraged funding secured to support collaboration activities. This information is used in our USDA-NIFA reporting to document impact and outcomes.
- Participate in monthly Transforming Drainage Team web meetings when possible, and provide occasional updates.

### 2. Collaborating Experimental Sites without Shared Data

#### **The Transforming Drainage Project will...**

- Include Collaborators in project communication and updates
- Work with Collaborators on Extension workshops, publications, and field days
- Include Collaborators in decision support tool development, as appropriate based on site
- Provide a Letter of Support to leverage funds to support collaborating activities (*Subject to Executive Committee approval*)
- Invite Collaborators to the Transforming Drainage Annual Meeting

#### **Collaborators will...**

- Coordinate with the Transforming Drainage Team to ensure a consistent message in Extension and education materials regarding agricultural water storage practices and management recommendations
- Share information on leveraged funding secured to support activities at Collaborator Sites. This information is used in our USDA-NIFA reporting to document impact and outcomes.
- Participate in monthly Transforming Drainage Team web meetings when possible, and provide occasional updates.

### 3. Collaborating Experimental Sites with Shared Data

#### The Transforming Drainage Project will...

- Provide Collaborator access to the research database
- Include Collaborator as co-author on technical and research publications, as described in the Publication Guidelines
- Work with Collaborators on Extension workshops, publications, and field days
- Include Collaborators in decision support tool development, as appropriate based on site
- Include Collaborators in project communication and updates
- Provide a Letter of Support to leverage funds to support collaborating activities (*Subject to Executive Committee approval*)
- Invite Collaborators to the Transforming Drainage Annual Meeting

#### Collaborators will...

- Do all above plus....
- Collect data, as feasible, to ensure alignment with the larger TD research network. They should submit a thorough summary of the existing dataset and/or data capabilities with the Letter of Support. This summary will be used to determine feasibility and contribution potential to the TD database.
- Upload cleaned data to the database in a timely fashion and work with data team to enable full incorporation of site data into database
- Agree that if they use any data from the database other than their own, they will communicate with primary data owners and follow project Publication Guidelines.
- Retain full right to any data which they have collected or produced, referred to here as “data owners”. Please note, approximately one year after the end of the Transforming Drainage project, data collected during the project will be transferred as an aggregated dataset to the National Agricultural Library – Ag Data Commons. Funding sources outside USDA-NIFA which supported data collection will be noted. Any use of the dataset by secondary users will carry with it a citation noting the data owners, dataset title, source, and DOI. It will be encouraged that secondary users of the dataset work with data owners during data analysis and include data owners as co-authors on publications.

### To Develop Collaboration

Please submit a signed Letter of Support describing your interest in the Transforming Drainage Project and list of collaborative activities. Letters of Support will be reviewed by the Transforming Drainage Team. If any questions arise regarding participation or role, Collaborators should contact Jane Frankenberger, Project Director, or Ben Reinhart, Project Manager.

### Transforming Drainage Project

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