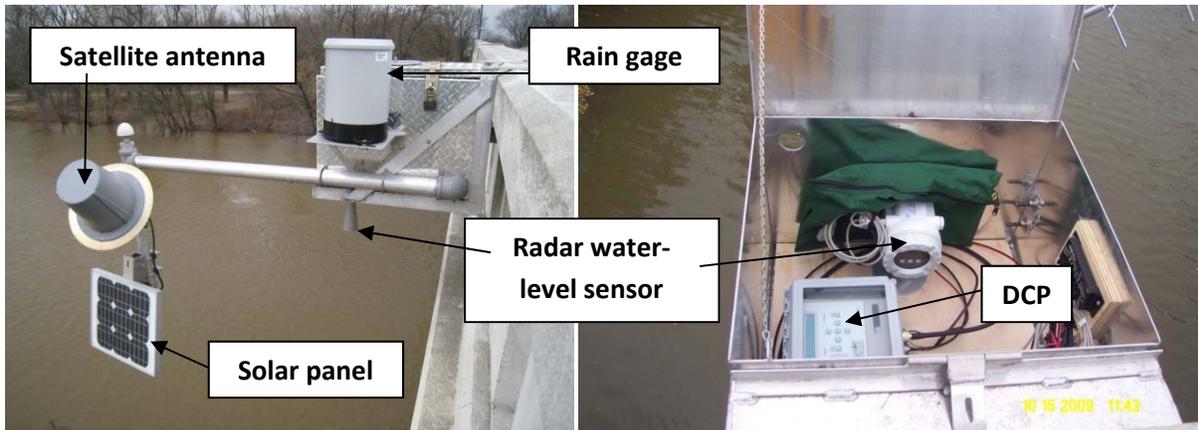




U.S. Geological Survey Streamgage Information

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) operates and maintains a network of about 200 streamgages across Indiana. A typical streamgage consists of a water-level sensor, data collection platform (DCP) that records water-level data and transmits the data through satellite telemetry, and a 12-volt solar-charged power system. Some streamgages are equipped with rain gages to record and transmit rainfall amounts.



Streamgage Features

- Rugged, flood-hardened and vandal-resistant infrastructure.
- Stream water levels are measured to an accuracy of 0.02 feet.
- Water levels are recorded every 15 minutes and transmitted via satellite 24/7/365.
- Streamflow (volume of water passing the gage every second) data are computed for each river level reading. Streamflow is critical for National Weather Service flood forecasting and important for other activities such as: flood plain mapping and studies, bridge design, and water quality studies.
- All data are available 24/7/365 through the Internet: <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/in/nwis/rt>
- All data are quality assured and stored long term for historical data purposes.
- Gage information can be text messaged or emailed to emergency management if certain level thresholds are reached for flood warnings through the USGS WaterAlert system: <http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/>

Streamgage Funding

- Gage installation cost is typically \$12,000 to \$15,000.
- Gage operation and maintenance (O&M) is \$14,000 per year for a full streamflow gage:
 - A stage-only gage (no streamflow) has a \$4,500 per year O&M cost
 - USGS matching funds may be available for annual O&M of a full streamflow gage

For more information regarding USGS streamgages in Indiana, contact Jeff Woods: 317-600-2762, jwoods@usgs.gov.