



Downstream

EXPRESS
EDITION

January 2007

Newsletter of the *Fox River Ecosystem Partnership*

"Our vision for the Fox River watershed is to balance all the uses and demands on our natural resources while preserving and enhancing a healthy environment."
Fox River Watershed Plan

FREP C2000 & EPA 319 GRANT CYCLES

The annual C2000 Grant Cycle, this time for FY08, will be wrapping up in January with a day long session on January 23 for FREP Committees to discuss proposals with each of the grant seekers. (Each has been notified of the time and location of the meeting.) Applications are due to C2000 by January 31, if sent by mail. The online application deadline is February 28.

FREP is beginning preparation of an IEPA 319 Grant package for FY08 this Month. At our meeting on January 17, Holly Hudson, of NIPC/CMAP, who will be coordinating the package, will provide preliminary information about the grant program. We will then devote our Wednesday, February 21 FREP Noon Network to providing complete information and provide grant seekers with a time to provide a 3-minute presentation about their proposed grant project. PLEASE NOTE: We had previously planned to hold this information/presentation program at our April 18th FREP Noon Network. It has been moved up to allow more time for applications to be developed. Details will be on the FREP Website.

Conversations About Conservation With Our Legislators

The FREP Government Relations Committee hosts our annual meeting with legislators in March. We are waiting to confirm the date of Friday, March 9 OR 16, 11-1 PM, at the Prisco Center of Fox Valley Park District, 150 W. Illinois Ave., Aurora. Each year FREP has enjoyed this opportunity to get to know our State representatives better and to share with them the key issues and concerns.

This year our keynote speaker is State Representative Ruth Munson of Elgin. All state representatives and senators representing the Fox River Watershed are invited and are given an opportunity to share their thoughts during the meeting. While we understand they have very busy schedules when home from Springfield, each year we've been fortunate to have several legislators participate, and often a few who hadn't been that familiar with FREP prior to the event. Jack Darin of Sierra Club will again be invited to present an update on current issues and legislation. We encourage you to personally invite those legislators with whom you have close contact. A confirmed date and details of the meeting will be sent out and posted on the Website soon.

FREP Meeting & Noon Network Schedule

Wednesday, January 17, 2007

FREP MEETING **1 PM**

Executive Committee Meets at 11 AM

Fox Metro Water Reclamation Dist.,
682 State Rt. 31, Oswego

Program: Update on the activities of the Fox River Study Group & preliminary info on FREP's IL EPA319 Grant Program for FY08
ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS - slate on page 2

Wednesday, February 21, 2007

FREP NOON NETWORK **Noon - 1:30 PM**

Algonquin Village Hall, 2222 Harnish Dr. (off Randall Rd.)
Special Meeting

We will use this meeting to present information about the IL EPA 319 Grant Program and the package of grants FREP plans to submit for FY08.

Holly Hudson of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), who is coordinating the grants for FREP/Fox River Watershed, will provide an overview of the grant program. Then, as we do for C2000 grants, those planning on submitting a 319 grant this cycle should present a 3-minute description of the proposed grant project.

Friday, March 9 or 16, 2007

Watch for a date for our annual Conversations About Conservation With Our Legislators.
Prisco Center, 150 W. Illinois Ave., Aurora

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

FREP NOON NETWORK **Noon - 1:30 PM**

The Conservation Foundation's new office in Montgomery Program: **The Role of Land Trusts in Protecting our Environment**

with Johanna Garsenstein of Land Trust Alliance

25550 Dickson Rd., Montgomery - located 1/2 mile south of Rt. 30/Baseline Road, Dickson Rd. is between Orchard & Rt. 47

The minutes of FREP membership meetings can be found on the FREP Website:

foxriverecosystem.org

Passing It On. . . interesting email we get

For the first time, the **Center for Watershed Protection** is bringing its instruction **right to your computer** through the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) online education program. Online education makes it possible for you to attend class at any time of day in any place you choose!

Introduction to Urban Watersheds (Environmental Management 360) is a 15-week, 3-credit undergraduate university course conducted entirely online! The course introduces you to the basics of watersheds and why their management is important. It will emphasize human impacts and effects on watersheds and will cover:

- an introduction to watersheds
- understanding the science of watersheds
- how the land development process impacts watersheds, and
- an introduction to managing urban watersheds.

Class begins **January 24th**, so register now online:

<https://www.umuc.edu/myumuc/prospective.shtml>

Website: www.cwp.org

Around the Watershed

Friends of the Fox River has scheduled a number of **Sream Monitoring Workshops**. Get details at this link:

<http://www.friendsofthefoxriver.org/workshops.htm>

Friends of the Fox River sponsors its spring **Fox River Rescue on Saturday, May 19th**. Plan early to get involved with cleaning up the river. To set up a cleanup site in your area or to get more information about river cleanups, please contact Jessi DeMartini at 630-871-7548 or email her at: jdemartini@dupageforest.com

CHECK OUT OUR JOB POSTINGS PAGE ON THE FREP WEBSITE: foxriverecosystem.org

If you would like us to post an environmental-related job opening, please email the information to Becky Hoag at: foxriverinfo@aol.com

Land Trust Alliance's Workshop *Tax Incentives for Private Land Protection*

January 26, 2007

9am to 2pm CST

Benedictine University, Lisle, IL

Registration deadline January 17th

http://www.lta.org/training/lct_mw.htm

Gary Swick has asked us to pass on the word about an **Institute Day Workshop for Kane County**

Teachers on February 16. Teachers can register at the Kane County ROE site

<http://www.kane.k12.il.us/>

Go to workshops & registration, scroll to institute, type in 936-07

The spring **Fish & Tree Sales** are underway at your soil & water conservation districts. Get fish to stock ponds or bareroot evergreen tree seedlings, deciduous tree seedlings and shrubs, and prairie plant plugs for conservation use.

Get more information about sales now (or soon) at the following links:

Kane-DuPage kanedupageswcd.org

Lake County lakeswcd.org

McHenry County mchenryswcd.org

FREP SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2007 Election at the January 17 Meeting

President Ksenia Rudensiuk
The Conservation Foundation

Vice President Karen Miller
Kane County Development Dept.

Secretary Cindy Skrukud
Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter

Treasurer Jason Pettit
Kendall County Forest Preserve District

If you would like to nominate a person for an officer position, please contact Nominating Chair Bill Donnell at 630-897-0516, or present the name when nominations are invited from the floor at the January 17th meeting.

If you have an idea/request for a future FREP Noon Network or FREP Meeting program - please contact Becky Hoag, FREP Communications Manager, at 630-482-9157 or Email: foxriverinfo@aol.com
ALSO -- if you have a suggestion for a future FREP meeting site, please let Becky know. We try to hold meetings throughout the watershed and are always looking for good locations where FREP can meet, at no charge.