

Blackberry Creek
Watershed Action Planning – 15th Meeting
Tuesday, December 20, 2011 ♦ 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Hosted by:
Waubonsee Community College,
Bodie Hall Room 150, Rt. 47, Sugar Grove

Meeting Notes

Attendees

Holly Hudson	- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Tara Neff	- The Conservation Foundation (TCF)
Jerad Chipman	- Village of Montgomery
Fred Houdek	- Sierra Club/ Homeowner
Candice Jacobs	- Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District
Dan Larsen	- Waubonsee Community College
Dan Lobbes	- TCF
Jim Michels	- Blackberry Township
Karen Ann Miller	- Kane County Development Dept.
Dan Nagel	- Sugar Grove Township
Mary Ochenschlager	- Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District
Don Pfeffer	- Sugar Grove Water Authority
Michelle Piotrowski	- Engineering Enterprises, Inc.
Maggie Soliz	- Pizzo & Associates
Dale Willerth	- Waubonsee Community College
Lori Wolf	- The Conservation Foundation/ Homeowner
Angela Zubko	- Kendall County Dept. of Planning, Building & Zoning

1. Welcome & Introductions

Tara Neff welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Waubonsee Community College for hosting the meeting. Introductions by participants followed.

2. Review of November Meeting

At our last meeting, we reviewed and discussed the draft plan. Stakeholder comments and additional information have been incorporated in the plan we will review today.

3. Revised Plan – Review, Discussion & Input

Holly Hudson reviewed the changes to the draft plan with stakeholders for discussion and input. The plan will be formatted in landscape orientation on 8 ½ x 11 inch paper. The table of contents will be fully populated with section headings and their associated page numbers. It was noted that page numbers in the plan reviewed today sometimes were not consecutive, and some page references did not coordinate with the draft stakeholders received prior to the meeting. All tables will be formatted by the CMAP graphics designer and be consistent in style in the final plan.

Main points of the plan review and discussion follow:

Chapter 1: Introduction

- Both counties and townships are now identified in the Blackberry Creek Watershed map.
- Action items found in the 1999 plan will be listed in one table instead of split between a list and a table.
- The Conservation Design Forum completed a Zoning Code Analysis in 2004 for the local governments in the watershed. Responses received from Montgomery and Elburn will be added. Kendall County will provide Holly with more complete update language.

Chapter 2: Water Resource Inventory

- Maps were updated, including the addition of county and township labels and the complete stream network.
- A table was added for land use categories. pg 17
- Open space still needs calculations (preserves, easements, etc.). Though there is not much in Kendall County, might open space be split by counties? pg 20
- Hydrologic soil group definitions need to be added for the A/D and C/D groups in the table. pg 23
- In response to the livestock and equestrian land use map question from our last meeting, 2.5 acres was smallest parcel size that NIPC staff delineated using the 2005 aerial photographs. Figure 2-13 pg27
- Several paragraphs were added discussing biosolids. Agricultural landowners who use biosolids typically do so as part of their nutrient management plan. There are two classes of biosolids: Class A (highly processed, no detectable level of pathogens) and Class B (can contain pathogens; within 24-48 hours of application, must be incorporated into the soil -pathogens do not persist. Generators and applicators must have permits. Field buffers are required and there are crop harvest restrictions. So there is a potential for fecal coliform bacteria runoff from Class B biosolids, but it is unlikely due to the application requirements. No specific biosolids application numbers are available at a county level, but a statewide number is referenced. Metals also can be found in biosolids. Groundwater supplies that contain radium go through a treatment process that may concentrate the radium in the sludge and thus in the biosolids. The soil is tested every year and if there is an exceedance of metals or radium standards, biosolids can no longer be applied to that field. pgs 33-35
- Wetlands: Kane completed an ADID study; Kendall County is interested in completing one. A paragraph on the stream corridor study in the Yorkville area, in which several fens were identified, will be added. pg 37
- Regional Groundwater Investigations: paragraphs added regarding regional water supply planning, Kane County groundwater investigations, aquifer sensitivity, and well capture zones. It was noted that the Illinois State Water Survey and Geological Survey have not yet completed their groundwater investigation reports for Kendall County so that data could not be summarized nor depicted in the watershed maps. pgs 41-46
- Figure 2-23 caption should read "20 year" not "10-year" capture zones. pg 47
- Clarification on Leaking Underground Storage Tanks from last meeting: There are 30 sites but many are concentrated in the ~17 dots visible on Figure 2-24. The dots seem to run together at some sites due to the scale of map. pg 48
- Dam section – the incomplete figure was removed and is described in text only. pg 49
- There are 4 NPDES permittees in the watershed. Yorkville-Bristol Sanitary District is categorized as a major contributor, two others are minor, and one is not currently operating. pg 50

- The table of MS4 information (Table 2-6) appears on the page directly following its reference. pg 51
- Stream Inventory: Substrate stability paragraph was added, including a map (Figure 2-30). Discharge locations information still needs to be written. Holly will try to get each section's text next to its associated figure during final formatting.

Chapter 3: Water Quality

- The creek assessment map (Figure 3-1) was clarified. Lower section DTD-02 up to Lake Run tributary is impaired under the primary contact use category. Upper section DTD-03, Lake Run tributary DTDB, and lower section of East Run tributary DTDA are not impaired. pg 61
- Figure 3-2: CMAP does not have the separate GIS layers to display the diversity ratings so this is only described in the text. The lower section of Blackberry Creek below East Run is considered a biologically significant stream. pg 65
- Class B biosolids was added as a potential source of fecal coliform. pg 70
- Lake Quality section will be modeled after the one that appears in the copy Holly handed out today (which includes changes that are not found in the copy currently on the FREP website): Jericho Lake is accessible for canoes and kayaks. There is a boat ramp, but motorized boating is not allowed. Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Fox Valley Park District have a cooperative agreement for fish population surveying and management. Biologists are a little concerned with some of the fish species. Due to the nature of the lake (an old quarry), there are not too many aquatic plants, and those that are present are the invasive species Eurasian watermilfoil.
- The State defines a lake as 6 acres or greater (less is a pond). There are no minimum lake size criteria to participate in the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program.
- Regarding groundwater quality, Holly will check if any chloride concentration data is available for Kendall County wells.
- Critical Area Analysis: The critical area analysis was used to help the group target areas to concentrate efforts (e.g., where to concentrate pet owner education, where to implement a septic dye program or incentives to upgrade, etc.). County labels have been added to each map. The Livestock and Equestrian map will be revised to reflect presence/absence rather than % of livestock/equestrian land use by subbasin. Percent imperviousness by sub-basin was used to characterize stream from healthy to impacted; Table 3-15 still needs to be filled in completely. Regarding fecal coliform bacteria, because there is a lack of site-specific data, make sure the lack of data is noted here. pgs 79-92

Chapter 4: Water Resource Policy Planning Recommendations

- Text has been added to this section and there is more information to be added.
- There is a page numbering issue around pgs 89-100
- Information related to the code & ordinance worksheet is now presented as Muni A-E and County A-B. If municipalities or counties are interested in more information, or to find out which represents your community, contact Holly.
- The Natural Lawn Care & Sustainable Landscape Practices section needs to be written.
- Additional recommendations Holly has in mind (e.g., participation in the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, conducting a census of stormwater detention/retention ponds) will be included somewhere in the plan.

Chapter 5: Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Implementation Projects

- Figure 5-1, Short-term Project Locations, is new. pg 111
- The Geneva Park District's Hathaway Park project was moved from the short-term list (Table 5-1) to the long-term list (Table 5-3).
- Two Prestbury projects were added to the short-term list appearing as #10 and #11.
- The pollutant load reduction and cost estimates for the short-term projects are being completed by CMAP's engineer and will be added to Table 5-1. Brief paragraphs on some of the short-term projects will be added.
- For the Stuart Sports Complex BMPs project, the Fox Valley Park District (FVPD) just finished the engineering plans and will go to the Village of Montgomery's Planning Commission in January for approval. FVPD just applied for an Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant (IGIG) to help support this project. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring. FVPD could also apply for a 319 grant for permeable pavers, for which installation would occur later in the process.
- It was pointed out for long-term project Y5, Yorkville Raingarden, it states "during leasing period." Consider changing the wording as the City may be giving up their lease.

Chapter 6: Education & Outreach

- Flip-flop phone numbers for Kane-Dupage & Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation Districts.
- Project WET information, please add TCF as a provider.
- Envirothon information, please add TCF as a provider.
- Holly will get the proposed Waubensee Community College integrated curriculum development project noted somewhere in the plan (she had it in a previous project list), at the very least in Table 5-3.

Chapter 7: Plan Implementation and Monitoring

- This section still needs to be completed. For an in-stream monitoring program, data collection would best be coordinated with the Illinois State Water Survey, Fox River Study Group, and Illinois EPA to help ensure that the data can be used to better understand watershed water quality, including using the HSPF model.
- Are there any additional funding sources not identified in that table? Please let Holly know.

4. Next Steps

Final drafts of the full Plan and Executive Summary are due to Illinois EPA by Dec. 31, 2011. Both will be available to view/download on the Blackberry Creek page on the Fox River Ecosystem Partnership (FREP) website (<http://foxriverecosystem.org/blackberry.htm>). TCF will send stakeholders an e-mail notice when they are available. CMAP will be able to print 25 copies of the full Plan and 50 copies of the Executive Summary. Stakeholders who have participated regularly throughout the watershed planning process will have first opportunity at copies.

Ongoing Blackberry Creek group: Stakeholders are interested in reconvening in late March/ early April. TCF will coordinate a location and send the meeting announcement and CMAP will help facilitate the meeting and provide technical assistance. We will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of March (20th) from 2:00-4:00 PM at a watershed location to be determined. TCF will send an e-mail notice in advance.

FREP will continue to host a Blackberry Creek page on their website. If you have not already, sign up to receive "Downstream," FREP's monthly electronic newsletter, to keep abreast of watershed related news, educational workshops, project site visits, and other events (such as those listed below).

5. Announcements

- a) FREP program: Grant Writing 101
Wednesday, January 18, 2012 @ 1 PM
Algonquin Village Hall, 2200 Harnish Dr., Algonquin 60102

FREP Noon Network: Illinois EPA's 319 Grant Program
Wednesday, February 16, 2012, 12 Noon – 1: 30 PM
James "Pate" Philip State Park Auditorium, 2054 W. Stearns Rd., Bartlett 60103
<http://foxriverecosystem.org/news.htm>

The FREP Water Resource Committee will be offering their technical assistance to help get your 319 application together.

- b) Other announcements

Other grant opportunities – applications due soon (FREP website usually posts grant info):

- Chicago Community Trust: Sustainable policies and practices to promote sustainable development – due January 5, 2012 <http://www.cct.org/apply/funding-priorities>
- Metropolitan Mayors Caucus: Emerald Ash Borer – due January 20, 2012
<http://www.mayorscaucus.org/pages/Home/Opportunities.html>
- US EPA: Urban waters small grants - due January 23, 2012
<http://www.epa.gov/urbanwaters/funding/index.html>

The 9th Annual DuPage Environmental Summit on Small Scale Renewable Energy
Wednesday, January 11, 2012, 11:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Benedictine University in Lisle
The Summit is FREE but registration is requested
<http://www.theconservationfoundation.org/events/current-events/398-dupage-environmental-summit-2012.html>

6. Meeting Adjournment

Thank you to all our committed stakeholders for your dedication and hard work!

7. Post-meeting Social

We hope you will be able to join us at the Bliss Creek Golf Club and Restaurant directly following our meeting!