

Ferson-Otter Creek Watershed Planning Meeting
Tuesday, January 25, 2011; 2:00 p.m.
St. Charles City Hall

1. Attendance/Introductions

Amy Talbot	-CMAP
Erin Tuttle	-TCF
Alice Cairo	-Landowner
Nancy Cox	-St. Charles Park District/TCF
Rolf Fredrick	-Village of Campton Hills
Sean Glowacz	-Kane County
Jayne Holley	-Lake Campton Property Owners' Association
Rob Linke	-FREP/FRSG/Deer Run Creek Unit II HOA
Dan Lobbes	-TCF
Julie Long	-Wildrose Subdivision/TCF
Marc McLaughlin	-Village of South Elgin
Kelsey Musich	-Kane-DuPage SWCD
Jack Shouba	-Campton Township
Maggie Soliz	-Pizzo & Associates
Peter Vargulich	-Landowner

2. **Update on Resource Inventory**—Sean Glowacz of Kane County offered an update on the information he is gathering on septic systems in Kane County. Amy Talbot informed stakeholders on the remaining data collected in order to create the Resource Inventory.

3. **Groundwater Update** –

- a. Amy reviewed the issues surrounding groundwater that were shared at the December Meeting and reviewed some potential plan recommendation concerning groundwater quality:
 - i. Model water conservation ordinance (CMAP)
 - ii. Wellhead protection programs
 - iii. Sensible salting
 - iv. Private water softeners
 - v. Conservation Design principles
- b. Amy also introduced stakeholders to the WaterSense Partnership as a potential plan recommendation to address groundwater protection through reduced water demand. This promotional partnership, aimed at water utilities and municipalities, promotes water conservation and efficiency. A WaterSense partnership provides an opportunity for unity among municipal stakeholders. The program is free and easy and offers public information and outreach templates.

4. **Ordinance Review** – In accordance with the Regional Criteria for watershed planning, we need to perform an ordinance review of the municipalities in the Ferson-Otter Creek Watershed. Amy suggested that we used a worksheet created by the Center for Watershed Protection and will provide this to any individual willing to tackle this project for their municipality. Stakeholders noted that Kane County’s Stormwater Management Ordinance has been adopted by most municipalities, which will streamline certain sections of the worksheet. The worksheet results will be included in our watershed plan.

As a result of this discussion, stakeholders observed that our plan should include a system for measuring progress in the future. Yearly meetings might serve to assure that recommendations are carried out. From the plan’s recommendations, a “scorecard” could be developed for review at these meetings.

5. **Open Space Discussion:** Stakeholders held a discussion on the definition of this term. Is open space a protected parcel of land? Does the parcel have to be of a certain quality or designated for a certain use? As we proceed in this process, it will be important to understand why open space is important for our watershed, how we protect it, and how it should be included in our plan.

Amy explained the process of creating an “open space reserve.” This system will guide how the watershed plan addresses open space and what (protective, conservation, and restoration) measures are appropriate for the different classes of open space. This will also include an exercise of overlaying shape files (of certain characteristics such as the 100 year flood plain, protected open space, etc.) on a GIS map to create a tiered classification system for open space. Stakeholders were shown the below system for discussion:

- a. Class I: (Protection measures for this class would be conservation easements)
 - i. stream systems
 - ii. 100-year flood plains
 - iii. Threatened or endangered sites
 - iv. Buffers connecting stream system with conservation areas
 - v. Hydric soil locations
 - vi. Others? (unique sites, already protected open space)
- b. Class II: (Conservation measures for this class would be conservation development)
 - i. Undeveloped space within watershed
 - ii. Existing , proposed, potential greenways and trails
 - iii. USGS Recharge areas
- c. Class III: (Restoration measures for this class would be stormwater retrofitting)
 - i. All other developed sites within watershed

Each classification will have associated recommendations. After gathering stakeholder feedback, a revised tier system will be provided at the February meeting. Continued discussion will be needed as this topic develops for the plan.

Regarding Class II (iii.), it was noted that Lily Lake holds the watershed’s only recharge area as designated by the USGS. Stakeholders suggested that a representative from Lily Lake should be contacted for participation in this watershed process. Perhaps our plan can address a targeted education and outreach campaign to Lily Lake regarding the protection of this recharge area.

6. **Meeting Adjournment** – The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 22, at the South Elgin Village Hall (10 N. Water Street, South Elgin, IL).