

**NORTH MILL CREEK/DUTCH GAP CANAL
WATERSHED PLANNING MEETING
OCTOBER 27, 2:00 TO 4:00 PM**

This meeting summary and all meeting materials can be found at www.lakecountyil.gov/Stormwater/LakeCountyWatersheds/NorthMill.htm

1. Introductions & Announcements

2. Watershed Tour Recap

Thank you to all site hosts and attendees! Jodi McCarthy provided a brief recap of the tour through pictures. The presentation can be found at www.lakecountyil.gov/Stormwater/LakeCountyWatersheds/NorthMill.htm

3. Review and accept August 26th meeting summary

Minutes were accepted by consensus

4. "Get To Know" Illinois Environmental Protection Agency – Scott Tomkins

Scott provided the stakeholders with an overview and history of Illinois EPA's role in the watershed planning process. He also provided detail about the IEPA's grant programs; the Illinois EPA Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Reduction Program and the Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant. Nonpoint source pollution refers to pollutants that accumulate in waterbodies from a variety of sources including runoff from the land, impervious surfaces, the drainage system and deposition of air pollutants. The goal of the 319 program is to work cooperatively with local units of government, other organizations and private landowners toward our mutual goal of protecting the quality of water in the state of Illinois by controlling nonpoint source (NPS) pollution. Information pertaining to this program can be found at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/watershed/nonpoint-source.html>. The Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant is a pilot program that was created through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to target water quality impairments due to stormwater and/or CSOs (combined sewer overflows). The IEPA's definition of green infrastructure is "any stormwater management technique or practice employed with the primary goal of preserving, restoring, mimicking, or enhancing natural hydrology. Green infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, methods of using soil and vegetation to promote soil percolation, evapotranspiration, and filtering or the harvesting and reuse of precipitation." Information pertaining to this program can be found at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/financial-assistance/igig.html>. A full copy of Scott's powerpoint presentation can be found at www.lakecountyil.gov/Stormwater/LakeCountyWatersheds/NorthMill.htm.

5. **Finalization of Goal Statements**

There was discussion regarding the goal statements and minor modifications were made. The final goal statements and outcomes approved by consensus are as listed below:

- 1) Improve and protect water quality (physical, biological, and chemical health), eliminate impairments and non-point source pollution, and implement land development and management practices to prevent pollution.

Outcome: Water bodies are not impaired and future pollution is prevented, have healthy lakes, streams, and wetlands

- 2) Protect, enhance & restore natural resources (soil, water, plant communities, and fish and wildlife) through the expansion of green infrastructure reserves and environmental corridors, maintaining hydrology and buffers for high quality areas, and employing good natural resource management practices.

Outcome: Natural resources are protected, enhanced, or restored

- 3) Prevent flood damage from worsening in the watershed and reduce existing flood damage to structures, infrastructure and the increasing crop loss due to flooding.

Outcome: Reduction in flood damage to structures and infrastructure and reduction in excessive farmland flooding.

- 4) Use a system of both site level stormwater green infrastructure practices and regional greenways and trails to protect and connect natural resource areas and to provide recreational opportunities.

Outcome: Site level and regional green infrastructure system is established

- 5) Guide new development design and practices to protect or enhance existing water resources, natural areas and open space (working and natural lands).

Outcome: New development occurs without impairing water resources, natural resources, and open space

- 6) Provide watershed stakeholders with knowledge, skills and motivation needed to implement the watershed plan. Watershed stakeholders include (but are not limited to) residents, property owners, property owner associations, government agencies and jurisdictions, and developers.

Outcome: Stakeholders have adequate information and knowledge of resources and are motivated to implement the watershed plan

- 7) Encourage watershed stakeholder participation in farmland preservation programs and implementation of sustainable agricultural practices that meet the watershed goals .

Outcome: The plan encourages farmland preservation and sustainable agriculture practices that meet the watershed goals

6. Discussion of Vision statements

The stakeholder group was able to discuss the three draft vision statements and took elements of the three to generate the following draft vision statement:

Our vision for the North Mill Creek and Dutch Gap Canal watershed is to have clean water, diverse ecosystems, fish and wildlife supported by land use and development plans that promote the effective use, preservation and enhancement of working, recreational, and natural open space; a community that is well-informed of watershed issues; and to maintain the existing rural or “small town” community aesthetics and quality of life.

7. Development of Green Infrastructure Prioritization

Continued to next meeting

October 27, 2010 Meeting Attendees

Last Name	First Name	Company
Burt	Randy	NeuHaven HOA Beautification Committee
Chefalo	Thomas J.	Lake County Planning, Bldg. & Dev.
DeGrave	Chuck	Lake County Dept. of Public Works
Francis	Sandy	31st Senatorial District
Funk	Ken	Lindenhurst Lakes Commission
Grant	Peter	Antioch
Johannesen	David R.	James Anderson Company, Inc.
Kolar	Jerry	
Lindberg	John	
McCarthy	Jodi	Lake County Stormwater Mgmt.
Prusila	Michael E.	Lake County Stormwater Mgmt.
Tomkins	Scott	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Warner	Michael D.	Lake County Stormwater Mgmt.
Welsh	Wesley	Village of Lindenhurst
Werner	Patricia	Lake County Stormwater Mgmt.
Wilson	Don	The Nature Conservancy