

Jackson Creek Watershed Advisory Committee (WAC)
Meeting Notes
January 8, 2008 — 3:00 PM

Attendees:

Jeffrey Tepp, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; Kay Whitlock, Christopher B. Burke Engineering; Tim Good, Forest Preserve District of Will County; Ders Anderson (filling in for Mary Pat Holtschlag of Prairie Streams Initiative); William McCollum (agency?); Jesse Elam, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP); Hala Ahmed, CMAP

1. Development of Plan Goals: Jesse shared a detailed list of the Potential Goal Language for Jackson Creek Watershed Plan and the committee discussed the various items.

Water Quality:

Recreation: Committee members suggested that recreation be a separate goal that includes Open Space and Education components. The Forest Preserve District of Will County received support for the Open Space Plan from the various agencies pertaining to land preservation. The plan covers the entire Jackson Creek Watershed and the next step is to insure the involvement of partners in the watershed planning process to form unified goals and criteria in the identification of the natural resource plan.

Current and Potential Future Damage: the committee suggested adding dams and weirs in the language as examples of stormwater management infrastructure. The possibility of getting data on drain tiles should also be considered and Jeff Tepp will contact an NRCS employee who might be able to help.

Flooding: FEMA mapping will be utilized for locating buildings within floodplain

Regionally and Locally Valuable Natural Resources: to insure sustainability of the watershed in the event that the army facility (?) is sold, the plan should emphasize the high quality of the stream in the area surrounding the site. Regarding recharge areas, USGS and ISGS have data (not always readily accessible) that can be used in the plan. The Stormwater Committee would be interested in seeing that information due to the many complaints they have been receiving.

2. Water Resources Inventory: Jesse presented a first draft of the inventory and mentioned that there are no state standards on nutrient loading (the IEPA identified causes of pollution.) Committee members suggested utilizing the anti-degradation laws as an alternative standard for nutrients in Jackson Creek watershed. Committee members also suggested that Site Clearance be addressed in the goals since it was identified by IEPA as a frequent source for pollutants. More data needs to be collected on location of outfalls, hardness standards to estimate whether Copper and Zinc loadings are in excessive amounts, and IBI recordings. Committee members suggested obtaining information on number of septic tanks in the area to assess alternative sources of pollutant. The 1990 census should have that data.
3. Next Meeting: The meeting adjourned just after 4:00 pm. There will be no meeting in February to allow the refinement of the WRI. Next meeting will be on March 11, 2008 following the Will County Stormwater Committee meeting.