

## **Aux Sable Creek Watershed Landowner Bill of Rights**

Precept: We believe in private property and individual rights as a standard provided by the US Constitution. Private property includes all land, timber or other valuable considerations associated with land ownership. (Illinois Farm Bureau 2007 Policy Resolutions, Chapter 52)

The Aux Sable Creek watershed planning committee is a group of individuals representing widely varied backgrounds, opinions and motivations who have come together in mutual interest and respect to develop a watershed plan to improve water quality, without requiring additional regulation. In working on this voluntary watershed plan the committee members pledge to act as ordinary prudent persons and work diligently to respect:

- the right of any landowner in the watershed to farm, rent land to another, pass operations/land to children, and to sell land to another individual, investor, developer, hobbyist, forest preserve district or other governmental body, as the landowner and appropriate laws deem fit;
- methods of farming that result in: a profit for the farm operator, a clean environment, production of a safe food supply, and an adequate supply of high quality food (IFB 2007 PR, Chapter 23);
- farming operations, drainage and tiling, creek maintenance, and farm conservation methods encouraged by the Farm Bureau, Soil & Water Conservation District, Natural Resource Conservation District and the US Department of Agriculture (partially taken from IFB 2007 PR, Chapters 20, 25 & 42);
- activities undertaken to conserve, maintain and improve soil, water and other natural resources within Kendall County (partially taken from SWCD & NRCS mission statements);
- the right of any landowner to deny access to their private property, in accordance with the law;
- development of new and enhancement of existing incentives for adopting voluntary stormwater best management practices on all private land to improve water quality and wildlife habitat (IFB 2007 PR, Chapter 40);
- the economic and societal benefits of floodplains (partially taken from IFB 2007 PR, Chapter 48);
- that wetlands provide certain benefits and that reasonable efforts to discourage their conversion are appropriate, keeping in mind rights of all parties involved in such efforts (IFB 2007 PR, Chapter 44);
- voluntary ecosystem and wildlife preservation methods that avoid negative impacts and nuisances to farming operations (partially taken from IFB 2007 PR, Chapters 39 & 45);
- pesticide and fertilizer use, if desired by the landowner and known not to be harmful if properly used, in agricultural and non-agricultural areas throughout the watershed (partially taken from IFB 2007 PR, Chapter 32);
- voluntary participation by residents in watershed-wide open space or greenway plans (IFB 2007 PR, Chapter 51);
- voluntary preservation of appropriate lands for agriculture, open space uses, and/or other stormwater best management practices (partially taken from IFB 2007 PR, Chapter 51);

We believe care for the creek is possible by planning for its preservation and enhancement. Such care can be accomplished while respecting private property rights and can result in economic and life enhancement for all those involved.

The following is a list of advisory committee members who regularly attended meetings and support the landowner bill of rights:

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Megan Andrews, Resource Conservationist  
Representing: Kendall County SWCD

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Cameron Bettin, Superintendent of Planning  
Representing: Plainfield Park District

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Edward Block  
Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Willa Bretthauer  
Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Suzanne Casey  
Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Jerry Dudgeon, Director of Planning, Building & Zoning  
Representing: Kendall County Planning, Building, & Zoning

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Cindy Ellis  
Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Don Fisher, Director of Planning  
Representing: City of Joliet

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Scott Gapsevich, Supervisor Engineer, P.E.  
Representing: City of Joliet

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Jean Homerding  
Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Sharon Homerding  
Representing: Kendall County Farm Bureau representative & watershed resident

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Debra Jo Kinsella, County Extension Director  
Representing: University of Illinois Extension, Grundy Unit & watershed resident, Grundy County

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Fran Klaas, County Engineer  
Representing: Kendall County Highway Dept

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Natalie Mahler, Resource Conservationist  
Representing: Grundy County SWCD

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Jake Melrose, Planner  
Representing: Village of Channahon

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Heidi Miller, Director of Planning, Building, Zoning & Solid Waste  
Representing: Grundy County

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Travis Miller, Director of Community Development  
Representing: United City of Yorkville

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Todd Milliron  
Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Robert Munson  
Representing: Kendall County landowner

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Charles Perino  
Representing: Illinois Department of Transportation

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Allen Persons, Director of Public Works  
Representing: Village of Plainfield

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Jason Pettit, Executive Director  
Representing: Kendall County Forest Preserve District

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Jonathan Proulx, Planner II  
Representing: Village of Plainfield

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Bill Pry  
Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Greg Ruddy, Public Works Administrator  
Representing: City of Joliet - Department of Public Works & Utilities

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Joan Soltwisch

Representing: Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition & watershed resident Kendall County

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Deb Steffes

Representing: watershed resident, Grundy County

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Carla Taylor

Representing: Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition & watershed resident Kendall County

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Anne Vickery

Representing: watershed resident & Kendall County Board member

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Chrisi Vineyard

Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Pam Wynne

Representing: Kendall County Farm Bureau & watershed resident

The following is a list of others invited to participate on the advisory committee who may have attended a meeting and support the landowner bill of rights:

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Roger Barrowman, Public Works Supervisor  
Representing: Village of Shorewood

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Lenore Beyer-Clow, Openlands Policy Director  
Representing: Openlands

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Julie Buck, Executive Director  
Representing: Morris Community Foundation

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Grant Casleton, Superintendent of Planning  
Representing: Oswegoland Park District

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Craig Cassem  
Representing: Grundy County Highway Department

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Colin Duesing, Long Range Planner  
Representing: Will County Land Use Department

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Daniel Duffy, County Administrator  
Representing: Grundy County

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Dominic Egizio, Executive Director  
Representing: Joliet Park District

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Jerry Friel, Mayor  
Representing: Village of Plattville

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Gary Fruland, Village President  
Representing: Village of Newark

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Tim Good, Planning Program Supervisor  
Representing: Will County Forest Preserve District

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James Grabowski, Village Administrator  
Representing: Village of Minooka

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Jo Hollbrook  
Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Karen James, Planner  
Representing: Village of Shorewood

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Tasha Jordan-Bunting, Manager  
Representing: Grundy County Farm Bureau

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Donald Kinzler, Engineering Project Manager  
Representing: Village of Channahon

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Dick Kopczick, Mayor  
Representing: City of Morris

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Jim Martin

Representing: watershed resident, Kendall County

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Ralph Pfister, Executive Director

Representing: Yorkville-Bristol Sanitary District

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Nicole Roedl, Engineer

Representing: Will County Land Use Department

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Jerry Weaver, Public Works Director

Representing: Village of Oswego

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Joe Wywrot, Engineer

Representing: City of Yorkville

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Rod Zenner, Director of Community Development

Representing: Village of Oswego