

**Watershed Based Plan Development for Aux Sable Creek**  
 Agreement Number: 3190613  
 July 1, 2008 to September 30, 2008

Scope of Work Agreement - Description	Contract Completion Date	Status
<b>AUX SABLE WATERSHED BASED PLAN</b>		
1. Complete Draft Watershed Based Plan	June 15, 2008	An entire draft was available for review by the Advisory Committee on August 21, 2008. After discussion & minor revisions on September 4 <sup>th</sup> , the plan was made publicly available on September 19, 2008. A draft of the entire plan was submitted to IEPA, via e-mail, on August 21, 2008. The draft plan was posted on the watershed website September 19, 2008. Not yet due. The final draft may be submitted after this date, given that a public information meeting has not been scheduled by IEPA, at this time. The plan will be finalized after public meeting and subsequent Advisory Committee input.
Submit Draft Watershed Based Plan	August 30, 2008	
Submit Final Watershed Based Plan	October 15, 2008	
<b>INFORMATION AND OUTREACH</b>		
2. Draft Information and Outreach Strategy	October 1, 2007	Completed.
Final Information and Outreach Strategy	December 1, 2007	Completed.
Complete Implementation of Approved Information and Outreach Strategy	June 30, 2009	Not yet due. Some activities are occurring. See below for more information.
<b>PROJECT EVALUATION AND REPORT</b>		
4. Project Draft Report Submitted	May 1, 2009	Not yet due.
Project Final Report Submitted	June 30, 2009	Not yet due.

## **Additional Comments on Description**

### **1. Complete Draft Watershed Based Plan**

The watershed advisory committee has had thirteen meetings. The committee focused on the following topics during the July 1, 2008 to September 30, 2008 timeframe:

- July advisory committee meeting:
  - Split into small groups to discuss comments on Chapters 6, 7 & 8. (Facilitated by several technical review members.)
  - Talked in large group format about top comments from the small group and other thoughts. (Facilitated by Jonathan Proulx.)
  - Opened to general discussion from committee and any other meeting attendees.
  - Requested the committee forward any additional comments on Chapters 6, 7 & 8 by July 17, 2008.
- September advisory committee meeting:
  - Discussed in large group format, changes to the draft plan per comments provided by the committee.
  - Focused on the Prioritized Action Plan and discussed how this might be presented in a format that is easier to digest.
  - Agreed the Kendall SWCD will be the repository for the plan and is willing to help coordinate yearly meetings to review plan implementation progress by all stakeholders.
  - Expressed interest in meeting after public information meeting to discuss any information coming out of those meetings or needed revisions to the plan.

A second part of the watershed plan included a watershed-wide open space plan, recognizing the importance of green infrastructure in restoring and protecting water quality. The Kendall portion of the watershed was mapped in 2005-2006 through an initiative called Protect Kendall Now! The Grundy and Will portions have not been mapped in a coordinated watershed context. The Will County portion appears to be under development or already built-out. Therefore, the effort focused on the Grundy County portion. Attached to the April 15<sup>th</sup> report was a listing of the publicity and outreach efforts completed in drafting this open space plan. The July 15<sup>th</sup> report noted some difficulty obtaining mailing information from Grundy County in order to complete the final outreach effort for the plan. We were able to execute an agreement with Grundy County and obtained the needed mailing information on September 19<sup>th</sup>. The Conservation Foundation anticipates sending a letter to landowners in the Grundy portion of the watershed during the next quarter, with areas identified as open space opportunities or additional open space opportunities, as shown on the open space map. A draft letter is attached.

### **2. Draft Information and Outreach Strategy**

In this quarter the Aux Sable Creek Watershed website [www.auxsablecreekwatershed.org](http://www.auxsablecreekwatershed.org) has been updated to include:

- All items handed out at committee meetings.
- Correspondence with the advisory committee.

- Copy of the draft plan. (Due to the size and number of appendix items, they have not yet been posted. We are working through those issues and hope to post them soon. Appendix items are available with copies at the following local libraries: Yorkville, Oswego, Minooka, Channahon.)

Other activities aimed at continuing education and outreach on this project, outside of committee meetings and events coordinated/subscribed to by The Conservation Foundation, that consider water quality issues and have been passed on to the committee include:

- Beyond the Basics: Integrating Conservation Design and Best Management Practices into New Developments, a seminar hosted by The Conservation Foundation on September 10, 2008. (A seminar brochure and a Resource Manual, which all seminar attendees received, are enclosed).

A final information and outreach strategy was submitted April 4, 2008. Activities are categorized into several main areas: Publicity, Conferences, Landowner Contact, and Resources. It includes activities occurring now and others we anticipate upon completion of the watershed plan. Time and funding are reserved for additional ideas that are not included in the current strategy, but may be part of the watershed plan. All planned activities, except those in the landowner contact category, are intended to be open to all interested persons. Below is the list of strategy activities, along with a status update.

Tool	Status
<b>Publicity</b>	
· newsletters	On-going. This quarter included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Kendall SWCD included a project update in their Summer 2008 newsletter (enclosed).</li> </ul>
· local paper	On-going. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Started a weekly series in Kendall County Record (predominant watershed newspaper) called "Do You Know The Aux Sable Creek Watershed." Topics this quarter have included:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Four watersheds in Kendall, Aux Sable is largest</li> <li>○ Conservation and development can work in tandem</li> <li>○ High stream rating and link to green infrastructure</li> <li>○ Development impacts a watershed</li> <li>○ Who's on the advisory committee</li> <li>○ Update to original plan underway, to meet new EPA criteria.</li> <li>○ Stormwater BMPs can be implemented with new development to prevent negative impacts</li> <li>○ Agricultural BMPs can be implemented to continue protecting and enhancing the watershed</li> <li>○ A draft plan is available for public review.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> (A copy of each article is included with this report.)
· website	Updates with project materials/announcements will be on-going. As noted above, some of the updates

	<p>that occurred this quarter include posting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All items handed out at committee meetings.</li> <li>• Correspondence with the advisory committee.</li> <li>• CPESC training course brochure (to be held in November)</li> <li>• Copy of the draft plan.</li> </ul>
· e-mails	On-going. This includes reminders, follow ups and other correspondence (about trainings, such as CPESC) with the advisory committee. Correspondence with the advisory committee is also e-mailed to a list of "interested persons" that have requested information and given the project manager their e-mail address. (IEPA is included on the advisory committee distribution list & has received all these, therefore attachments are not included.)
· local government/organization meetings	On-going. However, none during this quarter.
· one-on-one meetings	On-going, as requested.
· public information meeting	A public information meeting will be hosted by IEPA fulfilling this part of the project. We anticipate the meeting will be in early November 2008.
<b><u>Conferences</u></b>	
· Kendall Growth Conference	Completed October 2007.
· Grundy County Growth Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2007 Conference was completed in November 2007. The topic was: "Mechanisms for Land Protection"</li> <li>• The conference sponsor has decided the 2008 topic will be "road networks." Since this is not a topic relating closely to watershed education and outreach, it will not be included as a matching activity.</li> </ul>
· BMP Training Module	<p>Completed September 10, 2008. A seminar brochure was sent in July and a reminder postcard at the end of August (attached). The target audience for the seminar included local elected officials, planning commissioners and staff in the watershed as well as Kane and Will Counties. It was also sent to developers, based on information provided by local governments and a partnership with the Northern Illinois Homebuilders Association. 170 people attended. Each attendee received a Resource Manual, complete with documents complementing each of the sessions. A Manual is included. Copies of seminar presentations, as well as the Resource Manual are posted on The Conservation Foundation's website. Following is a direct link:  <a href="http://www.theconservationfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=213&amp;Itemid=1">http://www.theconservationfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=213&amp;Itemid=1</a>          Enclosed is a copy of the compiled results of an on-line seminar evaluation attendees were asked to complete. (We had a 28% response rate, which demonstrates the high level of interest the community has in this topic.)</p>
<b><u>Landowner Contact per Open Space Plan</u></b>	

· Kendall County	Completed. Follow up with interested landowners continues, as we are contacted. (See note below, under one-on-one meetings.)
· Grundy County	We have an agreement with Grundy County and obtained the needed mailing information on September 19, 2008. The Conservation Foundation anticipates sending a letter to landowners in the Grundy portion of the watershed with areas identified as open space opportunities or additional open space opportunities, as shown on the open space map. A draft letter is attached and will be sent during the next quarter
· one-on-one meetings	On-going, as requested. During this quarter no meetings were requested.
<b><u>Resources</u></b>	
· website	The website continues to be updated with project information. Once the watershed plan is complete, it will be expanded based on information from the watershed plan. This is anticipated to occur Fall 2008 through June 2009.
· watershed open space plan	Draft complete for Grundy portion. A public information meeting was held in January 2008. The Kendall portion was completed in 2006 and is not being re-mapped with this grant project. The April report included a list of the publicity and outreach efforts completed during the Grundy County planning effort.
· trainings	Training opportunities provided during this quarter included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beyond the Basics: Integrating Conservation Design and Best Management Practices into New Developments, a seminar hosted by The Conservation Foundation on September 10, 2008.</li> </ul>
- L-THIA	TBD
- CPESC	A class to obtain certified professional status in erosion and sediment control is planned for November 18 & 19. A brochure has been completed and e-mailed to all advisory committee members (including public works officials).
- education on land preservation tools	On-going. No activities in this quarter.
· meetings	
- Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition	On-going. No meets during this quarter.
- C@H	On-going. During this quarter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rain barrel coordination meeting.</li> </ul>
· The Conservation Foundation as a resource	On-going, as contacted. None this quarter.
<b><u>Other</u></b>	
· Watershed outreach pamphlet	TBD