

Watershed Based Plan Development for Aux Sable Creek
 Agreement Number: 3190613
October 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008

Scope of Work Agreement - Description	Contract Completion Date	Status
AUX SABLE WATERSHED BASED PLAN		
1. Complete Draft Watershed Based Plan	June 15, 2008 August 21, 2008	An entire draft was available for review by the Advisory Committee on August 21, 2008. After discussion & minor revisions on September 4 th , the plan was made publicly available September 19, 2008.
Submit Draft Watershed Based Plan	August 30, 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.
Submit Final Watershed Based Plan	October 15, 2008 March 31, 2009	Given that a public information meeting has been scheduled by IEPA for January 15, 2009, a final plan has not been completed. A final plan will be submitted after the public review period ends (January 29, 2009) and a final committee meeting has been held (February 26, 2009). We are hopeful a final plan can be submitted by March 31, 2009.
INFORMATION AND OUTREACH		
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.
PROJECT EVALUATION AND REPORT		
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 not met since September 2008, when they finalized the draft plan and it was made publicly available. We anticipate a final meeting in the next quarter, after the January 15, 2009 IEPA Public Meeting with Availability Session.

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. Previous reports have explained the approach and some challenges to completing the plan and related outreach efforts. Enclosed is a watershed-wide open space plan, which was included in the draft Aux Sable Creek Watershed Management Plan that is now publicly available.

2. Draft Information and Outreach Strategy

In this quarter the Aux Sable Creek Watershed website www.auxsablecreekwatershed.org has been updated to include:

- Correspondence with the advisory committee.
- Public availability sessions information & flier.

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:

- Stream Restoration Workshop - November 19-21, 2008 at IIT-Rice Campus.
- Using Rain Gardens to Reduce Runoff -- Slow it down, spread it out, soak it in! - December 3, 2008 EPA Webcast
- CitiesGoGreen - The sustainability magazine for people in local government
http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/verde/citiesgogreen_200812/
- 2009 Siemens Sustainable Community Awards Now Accepting Nominations
<http://www.lqean.org/html/whatsnew.cfm?id=1402>

A final information and outreach strategy was submitted April 4, 2008. Activities are categorized into four 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 were reserved for additional ideas that are not part of 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. Following is the list of strategy activities, along with a status update.

Tool	Status
Publicity	
· newsletters	On-going. This quarter there were no newsletters published with Aux Sable updates.
· local paper	On-going. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly series in Kendall County Record (predominant watershed newspaper) called “Do You Know The Aux Sable Creek Watershed.” Topics this quarter included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A draft plan is available for public review. (Repeated for a number of weeks.) ○ Stormwater BMPs can be implemented with new development to prevent negative impacts (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 that occurred this quarter include posting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence with the advisory committee. • Public availability sessions information & flier. As noted below in the outreach section, we have begun drafting text for an expanded website, which was anticipated upon completing the watershed plan. The website will be updated after the plan is final.
· e-mails	On-going. This includes reminders, follow ups and other correspondence (about trainings, such as the EPA rain garden webcast) with the advisory committee. (IEPA is included on the advisory committee distribution list & has received all these, therefore attachments are not included.)
· local government/organization meetings	On-going, as requested. None during this quarter.
· one-on-one meetings	On-going, as requested. None during this quarter.
· public information meeting	A public information meeting will be hosted by IEPA fulfilling this part of the project. It has been scheduled for January 15, 2009.
Conferences	
· Kendall Growth Conference	Completed October 2007.
· Grundy County Growth Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 Conference was completed in November 2007. The topic was: “Mechanisms for Land Protection” • 2008 Conference – Topic was "road networks" therefore it was not included as a matching activity, as had been initially proposed.
· BMP Training Module	Completed September 10, 2008. See previous report for more details.

<u>Landowner Contact per Open Space Plan</u>	
· Kendall County	Completed. Follow up with interested landowners continues, as we are contacted. (See note below, under one-on-one meetings.)
· Grundy County	Letters were sent 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, in mid October 2008. We have received six (6) responses. Four (4) were not interested. One person requested additional information, which was provided on 11/21/08. One landowner stated the property was for sale and they were interested in knowing more. Follow up is pending.
· one-on-one meetings	On-going, as requested. During this quarter no meetings were requested.
<u>Resources</u>	
· website	The website continues to be updated with project information, as noted above in the publicity section. The project included a website expansion to become more of a resource than a publicity and informational avenue (the intent during the plan drafting). We have begun drafting text for an expanded website, which was anticipated upon completing the watershed plan. The website will be updated after the plan is final.
· watershed open space plan	Completed as an appendix to the draft plan. See also notes from previous reports for Grundy County mapping progress leading to a watershed-wide open space plan.
· trainings	
- L-THIA	Early April is the preliminary target to hold an L-THIA training. Purdue staff is available and eager to provide the training. Next quarter we anticipate confirming a location and beginning outreach efforts for this training.
- CPESC	This training was held on November 18, 2008. 59 attended. No advisory committee members attended.
- education on land preservation tools	On-going. No activities in this quarter.
· meetings	
- Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition	On-going. No meetings during this quarter.
- C@H	On-going. No activities in the watershed this quarter.
· The Conservation Foundation as a resource	On-going, as contacted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A landowner concerned about sludge application called and we assisted her by investigating conditions of a permit, suggesting authorities to contact, discussing her options and talking about her concerns.

Other	
· Watershed outreach pamphlet	We began working on text for a pamphlet and researching design options. A pamphlet will be completed when the plan is finalized. We have contacted Kendall County to determine whether landowner addresses can be obtained for the watershed and learned their GIS system is now able to do that. We anticipate sending the pamphlet to landowners in the watershed in Kendall and Grundy counties.