

Watershed Based Plan Development for Aux Sable Creek
 Agreement Number: 3190613
 January 16, 2008 – April 15, 2008

Scope of Work Agreement - Description	Contract Completion Date	Status
AUX SABLE WATERSHED BASED PLAN		
1. Complete Draft Watershed Based Plan	June 15, 2008	Not yet due. Continuing project planning with consultant & advisory committee. Nine committee meetings have been held.
Submit Draft Watershed Based Plan	August 30, 2008	Not yet due.
Submit Final Watershed Based Plan	October 15, 2008	Not yet due.
INFORMATION AND OUTREACH		
2. Draft Information and Outreach Strategy	October 1, 2007	Submitted draft. IEPA requested revised format & description. Revised strategy submitted January 15, 2008. March 21, 2008 IEPA suggested further clarification. Submitted final strategy April 4, 2008.
Final Information and Outreach Strategy	December 1, 2007	Revised strategy submitted January 15, 2008. March 21, 2008 IEPA suggested further clarification. Submitted final strategy April 4, 2008.
Complete Implementation of Approved Information and Outreach Strategy	June 30, 2009	Not yet due.
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 had nine meetings. The committee has focused on the following topics during the January 16 to April 15, 2008 timeframe:

- February advisory committee meeting:
 - Discussed the integration of NPDES Phase II and watershed-based planning. (A guest speaker attended the meeting. His presentation is attached and available on Aux Sable website: www.auxsablecreekwatershed.org.)
 - Reviewed a draft table of contents. (The attached draft was provided for discussion. It is posted on the Aux Sable website).
 - Discussed the timeline for the coming meetings, the tentative schedule was:
 - March – Seeking committee member volunteers for review of plan. Meeting will include discussion about ordinances (since questions have been raised about how watershed-based planning integrates with ordinances)
 - April – Full committee discussion of Chapters 2 & 3?
 - May – Full committee discussion of Chapters 4-7?
 - June – Full committee discussion of Chapters 8 & 9 and committee finalizes draft plan? (final committee meeting??)
 - July – committee meeting??
 - Updated full committee on the open space mapping of the Grundy portion of the watershed (A draft has been completed through the work of a Grundy subcommittee. A public information meeting was held January 30, 2008 to obtain feedback on the draft. Draft plans, as updated through the committee's work, have been accessible through the Aux Sable website since October 2007. A copy of the draft plan and an explanation sheet on the plan's formation as well as how it could be used (attached) were available at the committee meeting.)
 - Discussed a final vision statement and agreed if there were no further comments, it would be considered final.
We intend to maintain the Class A rating of the Aux Sable Creek and enhance the natural and economic health of the watershed using sound management practices, education and voluntary cooperation while respecting property owner rights.
 - A final version of the Landowner Bill of Rights was available for committee members to sign.
- March advisory committee meeting:
 - Discussed the integration of local ordinances and watershed-based planning.
 - A local attorney attended the meeting to explain the process for adopting ordinances.
 - Committee members from local units of government explained ordinances they have regulating development.
 - A list, compiled through this watershed planning effort, of local ordinances applicable in areas of the Aux Sable Creek Watershed was provided and is available on the website. (List is attached.)

- After committee questions & discussion ceased, opened discussion to questions other meeting attendees had.
- Committee agreed the vision statement was appropriate. It is considered final, as written above.
- Volunteers for a technical review committee were sought. The following volunteered:
 - Willa Bretthauer, watershed resident, Kendall County
 - Robert Munson, Kendall County landowner
 - Megan Andrews, Resource Conservationist with the Kendall County SWCD
 - Eric McTaggart, District Conservationist with NRCS
 - Heidi Miller, Director of Planning, Building, Zoning & Solid Waste for Grundy County
 - Greg Ruddy, Public Works Administrator with the City of Joliet's Department of Public Works & Utilities
 - Joan Soltwisch, Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition & watershed resident Kendall County
 - Jason Pettit, Executive Director of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District
- A volunteer to facilitate committee discussion on the draft chapters was sought. Jonathan Proulx, Village of Plainfield, agreed to help.
- The final version of the Landowner Bill of Rights was available, again, for committee members to sign.
- April advisory committee meeting:
 - Split into small groups to discuss comments on Chapters 1 & 2. (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 1 & 2 by April 10, 2008.

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. A subcommittee of the full committee, comprised of the Grundy County representatives, worked to complete this portion. It was completed in February 2008, following a public information meeting soliciting community input on the draft plan. See page six for a listing of the publicity and outreach efforts completed in drafting this open space plan. One additional outreach effort is hoped. The Conservation Foundation would like to send a letter to Grundy landowners in the watershed that own areas identified as potential open space opportunities. We have had difficulty accessing this information from Grundy County, despite initial indications it would be possible. We are hopeful Grundy County will be able to provide that information in the near future. A watershed-wide open space plan will be compiled by combining the already-existing Kendall and the recently-compiled Grundy open space data into one source of information for the watershed. It will be an appendix to the watershed plan.

2. Draft Information and Outreach Strategy

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

- All items handed out at committee meetings.
- Correspondence with the advisory committee.
- Agendas and information related to the Grundy sub-committee work on that portion of the open space plan.
- Watershed-related educational opportunities, outside regular committee meetings:
 - Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition meeting January 24 where the NRCS presented on Agricultural Best Management Practices and SWCD presented on the Web Soil Survey that's now available for Kendall County (documents attached).
 - Link to the US EPA 02-06-2008 seminar on BMP performance.
 - *Protecting Watersheds in Developing Communities*, a Lormann Education Series Presentation documents (attached).
 - Link to a Chaddick Institute Workshop on 3/19/2008 called *Rising Tide: Best Management Practices for Stormwater Management*

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:

- A US EPA seminar on BMP performance, held on 2/6/2008.
- A Chaddick Institute Workshop on 3/19/2008 called *Rising Tide: Best Management Practices for Stormwater Management*
- A Delta Institute training on 4/9/2008 on Stormwater Best Management Practices. (Held in Will County.)
- The 4/22/2008 Linking Watersheds Conference.

A final information and outreach strategy has been submitted. Activities are categorized into several main areas: Publicity, Conferences, Landowner Contact, and Resources. It includes activities occurring now and others we anticipated 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
<p>Publicity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · newsletters 	<p>On-going. This quarter included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Conservation Foundation's Winter 2008 newsletter project update. • The Conservation Foundation's Spring 2008 newsletter project update and articles about the Kendall and Grundy Growth Conferences.

	<p>Contact has been made with the Kendall and Grundy SWCD offices and they are planning to include project update information in their Spring or Summer 2008 newsletters.</p> <p>Contact has been made with several local units of government regarding a summer article in their newsletters to announce a draft plan will be available by July-August 2008 and should be available in area libraries and on the project website.</p>
· local paper	<p>On-going. Articles in the paper included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article on Aux Sable Watershed project “in the works” (Kendall County Record, Plano Record, Oswego Ledger-Sentinel published 1/24/08. Also sent to: Aurora Beacon, Joliet Herald, Morris Daily Herald, Chanooka Weekly, Plainfield Enterprise) • Article on Plainfield’s “Green Village” program and guest speaker Jim Klienwachter of The Conservation Foundation who talked about the virtues of prairie and rain gardens and their link to water conservation (2/1/08). • Reminder of the Aux Sable Watershed planning effort including how to get more information and announcing Lorman Education Services teleconference on watersheds. (Kendall County Record, Plano Record, Oswego Ledger-Sentinel published 3/6/08. Also sent to: Aurora Beacon, Joliet Herald, Morris Daily Herald, Chanooka Weekly, Plainfield Enterprise) • Farm Bureau withdrew a committee member (Kendall County Record published 3/13/08) • Letter to Editor (written by Ron & Pam Wynne, Suzanne Schlapp, and Chuck & Sally Robinson) in Kendall County Record (3/27/08) regarding salaries for The Conservation Foundation staff involved in the watershed planning project.
· website	<p>Updates with project materials/announcements will be on-going. As noted above, some of the updates that occurred this quarter include posting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All items handed out at committee meetings. • Correspondence with the advisory committee. • Agendas and information related to the Grundy sub-committee work on that portion of the open space plan. • Watershed-related educational opportunities, outside regular committee meetings. (See listing above.)
· e-mails	<p>On-going. This includes reminders, follow ups and other correspondence 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.</p>
· local government/organization meetings	<p>On-going. During this quarter, the project manager attended the following meetings to give updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grundy County U of I Extension Board Meeting 1/29/2008 • Kendall County Regional Planning Commission’s Annual Meeting 2/2/2008

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saratoga Township Board Meeting 2/12/2008 				
· one-on-one meetings	On-going, as requested. In this quarter the project manager met with a new Kendall County Farm Bureau representative (Suzanne Schlapp) and the Farm Bureau Manager (Dan Reedy) to discuss the project background and facilitate Suzanne's transition onto the advisory committee as a collaborative participant.				
· public information meeting	Two public information meetings (one in Kendall County and one in Grundy County) are anticipated when the draft watershed plan is complete. This may occur in Summer-Fall 2008.				
<u>Conferences</u>					
· Kendall Growth Conference	2007 Conference was completed in October 2007.				
· Grundy County Growth Conference	2007 Conference was completed in November 2007. The topic was: "Mechanisms for Land Protection" Planning for the 2008 Conference begins late summer 2008.				
· BMP Training Module	Anticipated Fall 2008. Planning is underway.				
<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	We are working with the Grundy County information technology department to obtain mailing information for landowners in the watershed where open space opportunities were identified through the open space mapping effort. Grundy County has not provided the information to enable landowner contact to occur. We hope this activity can be completed in the next quarter.				
· one-on-one meetings	On-going, as requested. During this quarter there was one meeting with a landowner in the watershed (Plainfield area) regarding land preservation options.				
<u>Resources</u>					
· 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. Following is a list of the publicity and outreach efforts completed during the Grundy County planning effort: <table border="1" data-bbox="751 1333 1881 1396" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <thead> <tr> <th>EVENT</th> <th>DATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Draft plan posted on Aux Sable Creek Watershed website.</td> <td>Available since</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	EVENT	DATE	Draft plan posted on Aux Sable Creek Watershed website.	Available since
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		October 2007
	Grundy County Growth Conference	November 16, 2007
	Press release on public information meeting in Grundy County sent to: Joliet Herald, Morris Daily Herald, Chanooka Weekly	January 11, 2008
	Postcards notifying about the public information meeting in Grundy County distributed in the following public buildings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Channahon Village Hall ▪ Minooka Village Hall ▪ City of Morris ▪ Grundy County Planning office ▪ Grundy County SWCD/NRCS office ▪ Libraries: Morris, Minooka, Channahon Other community agency offices with postcards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grundy U of I Extension office ▪ Morris Community Foundation office ▪ Grundy County Farm Bureau office 	January 11, 2008
	Sent public information meeting postcard to Aux Sable and Saratoga Township Board Members	January 15, 2008
	Press release on public information meeting in Grundy County sent to: Joliet Herald, Morris Daily Herald, Chanooka Weekly	January 17, 2008
	Grundy County U of I Extension Board Meeting	January 29, 2008
	Public Information Meeting	January 30, 2008
	Saratoga Township Board Meeting	February 12, 2008
	Grundy Environmental Fair	March 1, 2008
· trainings	Several training opportunities provided during this quarter included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A US EPA seminar on BMP performance, held on 2/6/2008. • The Lormann Education Series called <i>Protecting Watersheds in Developing Communities</i> held on 2/21/2008. The cost was covered through this Section 319 grant and it was offered locally, enabling interested persons to conveniently attend at no cost. Approximately 20 people attended, of which about 8 were advisory committee members. • A Chaddick Institute Workshop on 3/19/2008 called <i>Rising Tide: Best Management Practices for Stormwater Management</i> • A Delta Institute training on 4/9/2008 on Stormwater Best Management Practices. 	
- L-THIA	TBD	
- CPESC	TBD	
- education on land preservation tools	On-going. No activities in this quarter.	
· meetings		

- Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition	On-going. Meeting topics during this quarter: <table border="1" data-bbox="758 240 1856 363"> <tr> <td data-bbox="758 240 1003 302">January 24, 2008</td> <td data-bbox="1003 240 1856 302">Local SWCD/NRCS presentation on internet soil mapping resources and agricultural best management practices</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="758 302 1003 363">March 27, 2008</td> <td data-bbox="1003 302 1856 363">Village of Shorewood discussed their comprehensive plan and development in the watershed.</td> </tr> </table>	January 24, 2008	Local SWCD/NRCS presentation on internet soil mapping resources and agricultural best management practices	March 27, 2008	Village of Shorewood discussed their comprehensive plan and development in the watershed.
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- C@H	On-going. During this quarter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C@H presentation - Morris 				
· The Conservation Foundation as a resource	On-going, as contacted.				
<u>Other</u>					
· Watershed outreach pamphlet	TBD				