



# Illinois Water Environment Association Watershed Management Committee Update

## IWEA Watershed Management Committee – 2010- 2011 Annual Report

IWEA's Watershed Management Committee was very active in 2010. The committee conducted the following activities:

1. Held regular monthly committee conference calls to discuss timely watershed management topics, develop future committee activities, and coordinate efforts
2. Kept abreast of WEF Watershed Management Committee efforts
3. Developed IWEA Watershed Management Committee website - dedicated to highlighting watershed group efforts and sharing information and contacts
4. Planned and conducted the 2010 IWEA Watershed Management Symposium. Highlights included:
  - Chris Urban, USEPA Region 5, presented information on watershed management at the national level. Chris covered a variety of watershed management topics including the new federal stormwater rulemaking underway, construction and development runoff guidelines, nutrient criteria development, and USEPA's System for Urban Stormwater Treatment and Analysis Integration tool (SUSTAIN), which is a decision support framework for placement of Best Management Practices (BMP) within urban watersheds
  - Scott Tomkins with IEPA's Bureau of Water provided information on watershed management at the state level. Scott presented a brief history of watershed management in Illinois as well as current efforts within the Section 319 and TMDL programs. He also provided an overview of activity related to state nutrient water quality standards and mentioned plans to develop a pilot green infrastructure grants program
  - Information on the watershed capacity building program being led by the Prairie Rivers Network was presented, including a summary of recent workshops that focused on providing training and increasing the ability for watershed organizations to improve water quality conditions
  - Debbie Fluegel with Trees Forever presented an overview of the Illinois Buffer Partnership aimed at establishing buffers of trees, shrubs and grasses along streams and in wetlands in Illinois. Debbie provided an overview of partnership achievements including the implementation of over 3,700 acres of stream buffers in Illinois over the past ten years, and results from recent landowner surveys showing that 95% of established buffers are performing as expected
  - Melissa Eaton with the Peoria area Tri-County Regional Planning Commission presented watershed management issues and efforts unique to the Peoria area. Melissa explained how local governments, citizens, and interest groups are working together on policy and programs aimed at improving local issues such as ravine stabilization



## Illinois Water Environment Association Watershed Management Committee Update

- The symposium closed with an open forum, highly interactive discussion between several Illinois watershed groups. Attendees highlighted watershed management challenges, shared informational resources, and discussed implementation issues with their peers
  - Over 40 people attended the Symposium
5. For the IWEA Clarifier, produced four “From the Shed” section articles to disseminate watershed management information. 2010 article topics included:
- 2010 Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303d List
  - USEPA’s New Guidance on CAFO Regulations
  - Green Infrastructure Plan Recommendations Submitted to Illinois General Assembly
  - IEPA TMDL Program Update
  - Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant Program for Stormwater Management
  - IWEA Watershed Management Symposium planning and results
  - IWEA Watershed Management Committee Website
6. Recruited new committee member – Rob Swanson, Water Quality Specialist, DuPage County Stormwater Management Division

### **IWEA Watershed Management Committee Mission**

Develop, recommend, and conduct activities to broaden the understanding of watershed management to more effectively preserve and enhance the Illinois water environment. Conduct workshops / symposiums, produce articles / updates for the IWEA Clarifier, and serve as a bridge to the Water Environment Federation Watershed Management Committee.

### **Current Committee Members**

Chair - Dan Bounds, CDM  
Gunilla Goulding, Malcolm Pirnie  
Rob Swanson, DuPage County Stormwater Management Commission  
Scott Banjavcic, CDM  
Scott Tomkins, IEPA  
Stephen McCracken, The Conservation Foundation

### **2010 Operating Budget**

\$1,000.00