



Fox Waterway Agency Chain O' Lakes Watershed-Based Plan

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Brian Valleskey



Agenda

- Introductions
- Objective
- Definition, Description & Benefits
- Stakeholders
- Project Examples
- Next Steps

Introduction

- Speakers
 - Joe Keller Executive Director
 - Rob Bowman Superintendent
- Contributors
 - Brian Vallesky Manhard Consultant
 - Randy Sweet Chairman FWA Advisory Committee
 - Pat Smarto FWA Advisory Committee

Why are we here?

- We are all here today as stewards of the waterway.
- In that light we need to to create a plan for the improvement and long term preservation of the water bodies (Lakes, rivers, creeks, etc).
- The livelihood of businesses and continued economic growth is dependent on this waterway resource, e.g. property values, tax revenues, etc
- That plan does not exist today.
- More can be done as partners than any one of us individually



To be accomplished...

Establish a Watershed Based Plan approved by the EPA to facilitate access to 319 funding and bring communities & entities together for a common goal of water quality and water management best practices.

9 Elements for Watershed Based Plans EPA Nonpoint Source (Section 319) Program



- Identify cause and sources of pollution
- Estimate pollutant loading into the watershed and the expected load reductions
- Describe management measures that will achieve load reductions and target critical areas
- Estimate amounts of technical and financial assistance and the relevant authorities needed to implement the plan
- Develop an information/education component
- Develop a project schedule
- Describe the interim measurable milestones
- Identify indicators to measure progress
- Develop a monitoring component



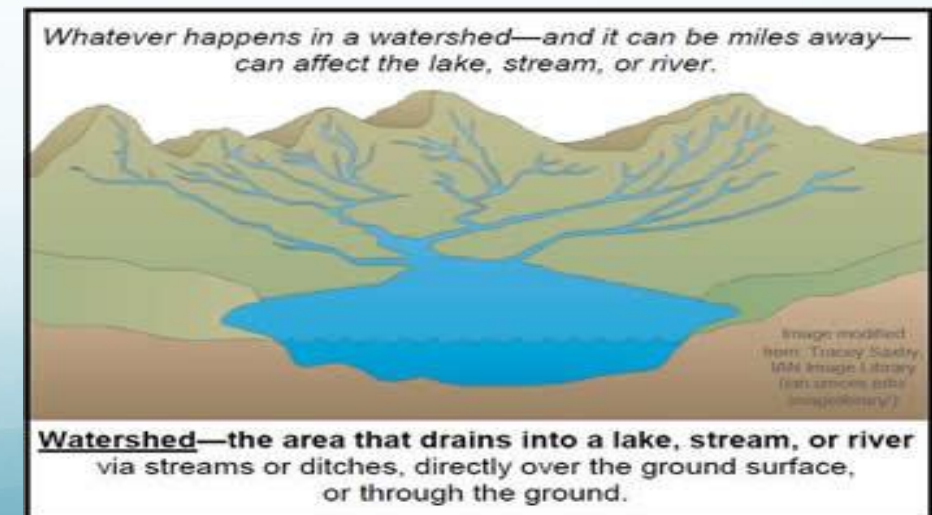
What is Watershed Planning?

Watershed planning and management comprise an approach:

- to protecting water quality for the whole watershed
- manage polluted runoff
- pollution is caused by a variety of land use activities including development, transportation, and agriculture

Watershed planning and management involves a number of activities including:

- targeting priority problems in the watershed;
- promoting a high level of involvement by interested and affected parties;
- developing solutions to problems through the use of the expertise and authority of multiple agencies and organizations;
- measuring success through monitoring





Major Benefits

- Improves water quality through project implementation
- Opens door to additional funding mechanisms
- Comprehensive plan to effectively prevent/limit the sediment and material loading from reaching our system thus reducing dredging needs
- Mechanism to help further promote proactive stewardship vs. reactive through sound science instead of crisis management
- Identify stakeholders and work as a cohesive unit towards common goal
- Provide forum for betterment of the system while prioritizing appropriate projects
- Educate the public and promote community involvement



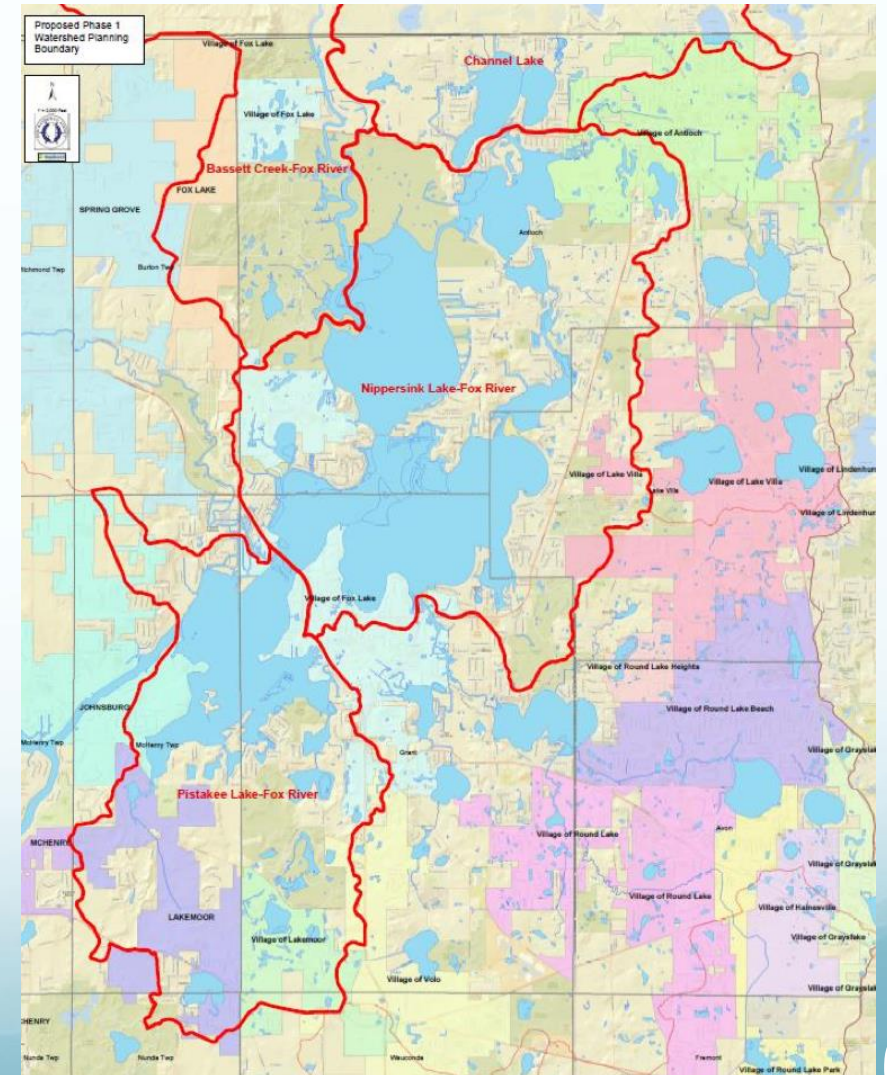
What a watershed based plan does

-
- Identifies stakeholder projects for 319 grant funding (FWA implemented and other)
- Identifies projects for prioritization and the subsequent implementation to address impairments
- Helps to identify sources of water pollution
- Roadmap to sustainable maintenance of the waterway and done in a way to improve water quality

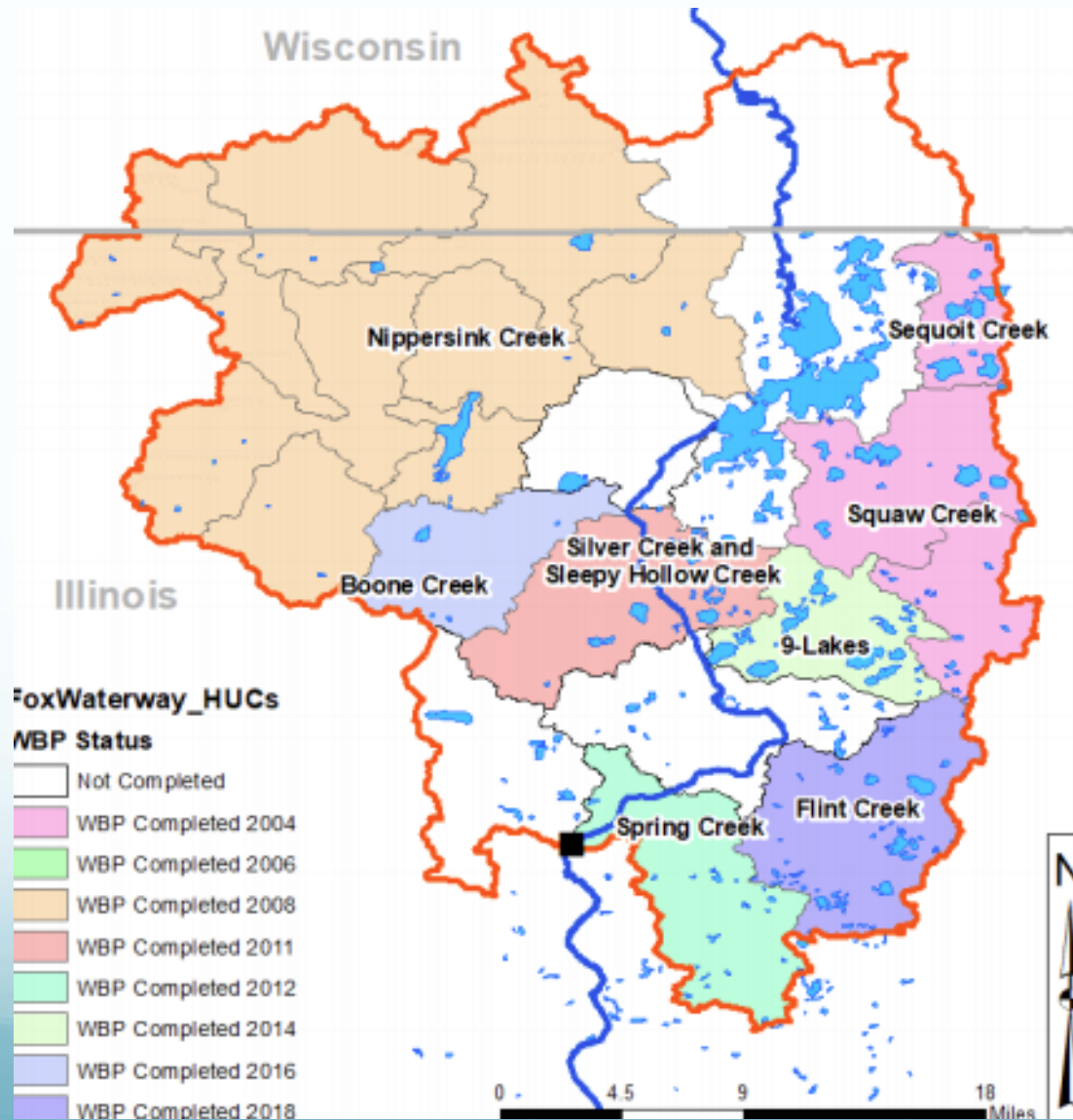
Geographical Scope



- Northern boundary: Wisconsin state line
- HUCs (Hydrologic Unit Codes)
 - Channel Lake
 - Bassett Creek-Fox River
 - Nippersink Lake-Fox River
 - Pistakee Lake Fox River



Existing Adjoining Watershed Plans





Stakeholders

- Townships (7)
 - Lake Villa
 - Wauconda
 - Grant
 - Antioch
 - Burton
 - McHenry Township
 - Nunda
- Municipalities (8)
 - McHenry
 - Ingleside
 - Lake Villa
 - Fox Lake
 - Volo
 - Lakemoor
 - Johnsburg
 - Antioch
- County (6)
 - Lake County (Stormwater, Public works, etc)
 - Lake County Forest Preserve
 - Lake County Preservation Foundation
 - McHenry County (Stormwater, Public works, Conservation, etc)
 - Lake County DOT
 - McHenry DOT
- State (4)
 - IEPA
 - IDOT
 - IDNR
 - IL Historical Preservation Assoc
- Federal (3)
 - USCG
 - USDA
 - Army Corp of Eng.
- Businesses
 - 25 HOAs (Home Owners Associations)
 - 12 Marinas
 - 17 Restaurants/Bars
 - Ancillary businesses
- Lake Associations
 - Friends of Lake Catherine
- Recreational Users
 - ~ 23,000 Sticker holders

Project example Tower Lakes

(slide from recent ILMA Conference)



The Budget

- Total Project Value ~\$260k over three years
- IL EPA Funded 319h Grant of ~\$160k
- Lake County SMC Grants of \$10k and \$12k
- Remainder funded by volunteer value matching and split between VoTL and TLIA (The community)

NONPOINT SOURCE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Tower Lakes Bioswale/Raingarden

Best management practices have been installed to improve the water quality of the Upper Fox River watershed.

Funded, in part, under Section 319 of the Federal Clean Water Act
Grant No.: C0952016

For more information, contact the Illinois EPA at 217/782-3362
FAA Number: 2191615

This Raingarden/Bioswale is a project of the Tower Lakes Improvement Association in partnership with the Village of Tower Lakes.

This project will protect water quality and manage stormwater as recommended in the 9-Lakes Watershed Plan.

Funding for this project is provided in part by grants from Lake County Stormwater Management Commission through a Watershed Management Board Grant.

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Section 319 grant funds.



What makes for a good project?

- Restoration based activities:
 - Stream restoration, stabilization, enhancement & protection
 - Shoreline restoration, stabilization, enhancement & protection
 - Wetland restoration, stabilization, enhancement & protection
 - Stormwater pond retrofits and restoration
 - Landscape based water quality protection measures such as rain gardens, bioswales, native vegetation enhancement, bioretention
 - Runoff based protections and initiatives



Next step(s)

- Acquire financial commitments from stakeholders to actively participate and fund the match requirements of the Section 319 grant.
- Apply for Section 319 grant
- Continue to gather support from additional stakeholders
- Coordinate approval of the Grant with the IEPA
- **Begin the planning process to take advantage of NEW funding for projects**



Closing Thoughts

Basis for true long term effective and notable stewardship of the waterway

“Think of not the way it is now, but rather than what it could be. A foundation and structure to build on together”



End



Addendum

9 Lakes Watershed Plan (Example)

200 projects identified by stakeholders and leadership team during planning process, many lake-centr



← Untitled

description

FID 163
Name
Describe shoreline stabilization at Bangs Lk
COMMENT
category Hydrologic
BMP_Type_C 580
NumberOfUn 0
RemEff_N 0
RemEff_TP 0
RemEff_TSS 0
Subunit Bangs Lk
Units feet
MapNumber 189
BMP_Jeff
BMP_Type Shoreline Protection
Landowner private (multiple), HOAs, Wauconda Pk Dist
Partners Vlg of Wauconda
load_reduc
POINT_X -88.137353
POINT_Y 42.266093

