	AGEND	A ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	Agenda Item number: 3.b
	Title:	Active River Project Update – In	formation Only
ST. CHARLES	Presenter:	Chris Adesso	
Meeting: Governm	nent Services	S Committee Date: November	r 26, 2018
Proposed Cost: \$1	N/A	Budgeted Amount: \$ N/A	Not Budgeted:
<b>Executive Summa</b>	<b>ry</b> (if not bu	dgeted please explain):	
Committee. A men	mber of the 7	Project/Concept. The Task Force offers Task Force will be available at each of the last to any questions or comments that the	ne Government Services
Attachments (plea	usa list)•		
_			
* October, 2018 –	Task Force	Meeting Minutes	
Recommendation	/Suggested A	Action (briefly explain):	
None – For inform	ation only.		

# MINUTES ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING ST. CHARLES JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN OCTOBER 1, 2018

Members Present: Chair John Rabchuk, Trish Beckjord, Rick Brems, Holly Cabel, Jim Enck,

Members Absent: Chris Adesso, Monica Meyers, John Wessel,

Others Present: Tom Anderson, Jon Hull, Tony Zehnder, Isabel Soderlind

### 1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was convened by John Rabchuk at 8:04 a.m.

### 2. Minutes Review and Approval

Motion was made by Trish Beckjord and seconded by Jim Enck to accept and place on file the minutes of the August 6, 2018 Active River Task Force meeting as revised.

A voice vote was taken. Ayes – unanimous; Nays – none; Absent – C. Adesso, M. Meyers, J. Wessel

The motion carried at 8:06 a.m.

### 3. ARP Funding Issues & Discussions

a) 2018 City of St. Charles Budget

Demographic Studies: Holly Cabel updated the committee on the professional consultant interviews for the Economic Impact and Cost Benefit Analysis for the Fox River Corridor Master Plan conducted by the City of St. Charles (hereinafter referred to as "City").

The City staff just finished interviewing three consultant companies last week. The companies covered the following items during their interviews:

- > the economic impact that may occur due to the development
- > the fiscal impact or total impact including "softer" costs
- > their process conducting the study
- ➤ the time line of the process which would take up to approximately 12 weeks to complete

The interviewing team will review all the information from the presentations and a final recommendation will be made. The recommendation will then be presented at one of the City's committee meetings and then presented at a City Council meeting for final approval.

Active River Project Task Force members asked specific questions regarding the interviews:

- Have the consulting companies conducted studies on similar projects and were their projections accurate?
  They did indicate that these projects have moved forward but some of these projects have not been completed yet. Their projections therefore are still uncertain.
- ➤ How many companies responded to the Request for Quote (RFQ)? The City did have 4-5 companies that responded to the RFQ, but only three were interviewed.
- Were the economic and demographic information from the Master Plan used for the RFQ?
   Holly Cabel indicated the information for the RFQ was reference from the Master Plan.

John Rabchuk indicated everything will be on "hold", including budget monies allocated to the project, until the results of this study is completed. Since the study will take approximately 3 months to complete, the results of the study will not be completed until after the new calendar year. Depending on the results of the study, the City will make decisions on next steps, which may include preliminary drilling/engineering studies of the river.

The City is funding the entire study, but they have the St. Charles Park District involved in the process. The City appears to be making these types of decisions with the assistance of the Park District; the Active River Project Task Force will not be involved.

b) Update on constructing Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) between City and Park District

Per Holly Cabel, the City of St. Charles and St. Charles Park District have no update on this at this time. The organizations will continue to discuss the intergovernmental agreement in order to outline roles: the IGA is one of the next steps of the plan.

### 4. Marketing, Publicity and Community Outreach

- a) River Corridor and Active River websites were not discussed.
- b) Other: none.

### 5. Member organization updates

a) Park District

Holly Cabel informed the group that the Golf Shore Stabilization Project has been postponed. Bids were opened approximately two weeks ago and all of them were well over the estimate. The Park District rejected all bids. They do plan to rebid the project come the beginning of the year; they however will not start the project until October / November of 2019 when it will impact golf operations less. Holly Cabel reminded everyone that this is scheduled to be a four stage project and this is only the first stage.

In addition, Holly Cabel mentioned the St. Charles Park District has found a very hearty native species hedge that has survived well in the heat and in flooding conditions. A few weeks ago, several volunteers transplanted some of these in non-playing areas of the golf-course. This is believed to be a cost savings measure as the areas will no longer need to be reseeded every time the area floods.

### b) Boy Scout Parking Lot

The bid for this project was approved at the last board meeting with the permitting completed. Holly Cabel explained that this will be an expansion and traffic flow improvement of the Boy Scout Parking lot and it is scheduled to begin in a couple of weeks. The project includes additional boat parking and a few more standing areas. The expansion will be just to the north of the current site.

In addition the St. Charles Park District has discussed various other projects in the Boy Scout Island area, e.g., a marsh, floating gardens, etc. but there are no additional plans at this time.

### c) City of St. Charles

Chris Adesso was not present at the meeting. No discussion.

### d) River Corridor Foundation

The River Corridor Foundation (RCF) has begun the process of identifying and evaluating a variety of new river front enhancement projects that would be affordable and have a high impact on the area. The focus has been on smaller project elements that could be designed and completed within a year. One of the areas identified has been Route 25 from the Lift Station to the Prairie Street Bridge, the south gateway of St. Charles where you have a full view of the river and the downtown area. The following elements are some examples of various projects being considered:

i. Creating a bio-swale on the east side of Route 25, at the base of Langum Park that tends to flood frequently. The RCF does not have the funds to do the entire stretch, but instead are considering creating test areas.

The Task Force discussed the long term maintenance of the project. Trish Beckjord mentioned this type of project would need to be managed as a "natural" area and recommended looking at writing management

guidelines. If this project were to move forward, Holly Cabel indicated the lease agreement would need to be reviewed i.e., who would manage this area.

The Task Force discussed the effectiveness of "burns" in these naturalized area. The City could consider paying the Park District for these services. Overall, it would be more effective than mowing the existing property.

ii. Rock out cropping west of Route 25 just north of the Lift Station. This project would create steps down to the water front for those fishing in the area. This project would also include restoring the eroded area around the existing bench. This project would be similar to the Bob Leonard Walk, located on the west side of the river, but as in any project along the river, it would require permits from the state, IDNR. If the estimate for this project was too high, the RCF will consider installing a bench pad and re-seeding or placing rock around the bench area. A perennial bed similar to the one across the street, at the Jones Law Office, could also be designed near the bench, bringing some color to the area.

If these small projects are successful and there is positive feedback from the community, the RFC can plan for another project just further north in the future.

Jim Enck has been out looking at this area to create a base map. At this point, the RCF is looking at getting an estimate from WBK on the bioswale and a fishing area down by the river.

Trish Beckjord again mentioned the importance to plan for the proper support and maintenance of these natural, native plantings and bio-swales.

- iii. Separate or isolating cycling traffic from pedestrian traffic along Route 25.
- iv. Creating a new crosswalk across on Route 25 north of the Lift Station, where the pedestrian/bicyclist would be more visible instead of being hidden by the Lift Station. Another option would be installing flashing signs as people are approaching the crosswalk to cross Route 25.

Another alternative project idea by First Street was also discussed. Trish Beckjord recommended looking at a small contained project on the east side of First Street in the new plaza area. It would be the perfect strategic place to manage storm water off the roof of the buildings. Discussion.

At the moment, the River Corridor Foundation is still brainstorming potential projects. John Rabchuk added they will create some sketches identifying all these potential project areas and present it to the RCF. Once the RCF makes a decision on a project, they will approach the City.

Trish Beckjord offered to gather the data on the long-term cost savings on the maintenance of natural areas versus mowing. These areas however still need to be maintained.

### 6. New business

### A. Water Trail Conference on October 15 in Channahon, Illinois

John Rabchuk distributed a flyer of the Water Trail Conference being held on October 15, in Channahon, Illinois. The registration fee is \$40-\$50. A few people on the Task Force expressed some interest in attending. They will be discussing some of the trails and projects around the city that are being proposed. One of them is the Kankakee River Water Trail that Hitchcock has worked on with the City of Kankakee. This is a major economic development improvement plan running through the middle of the downtown, costing \$100,000,000. (See attached handout.)

Jim Enck, John Rabchuk and Rick Brems are interested in attending; Trish Beckjord is also interested in attending but will need to look at her schedule.

### B. Nachusa Grasslands in Forest Grove, Illinois

John Rabchuk recently visited the Nachusa Grasslands in Forest Grove, Illinois. The Nachusa Grasslands is a mix of tallgrass prairie, savanna and woodlands that covers 4,000 acres, currently owned by the Nature Conservancy. There is approximately 130 buffalo on the land and tours were being conducted. They are looking for volunteers for photography, maintenance and to "hand-heard" the buffalo for inoculation toward the end of October. They will also be restoring the oak-savannahs over the next few years. It was a very interesting place and Mr. Rabchuk hopes to go back soon.

### C. Fox River Ecosystem website.

Trish Beckjord mentioned Fox River Ecosystem homepage and suggested to those present to view the funding information on the site. The site is still posting the information from the "Show Me the Money" funding presentation. You may view the information at: <a href="http://www.foxriverecosystem.org/presentations.htm">http://www.foxriverecosystem.org/presentations.htm</a> "Show Me the Money". Trish Beckjord handed out printed version of the handouts from both the IEPA and the IDNR and they emphasize the need to have an existing watershed plan to qualify for a grant. (See attached.) According to the map, our area does not have a watershed plan.

If the St. Charles does not have a watershed plan, we will limit our eligibility to receive some funding. It this group is proposing projects shouldn't this committee be looking and applying for grants?

John Rabchuk indicated the River Corridor Foundation is the group planning the projects. This particular Task Force is comprised of representatives from the Park

Active River Project Meeting October 1, 2018 Page 6

District, River Corridor and the Forest Preserve. This group per se doesn't have any authority or a funding source to conduct any projects.

The group discussed the potential to research funding sources for the River Corridor Improvement projects and how a watershed plan could be completed cost-effectively. The Task Force discussed the funding of previous completed projects i.e., Bob Leonard Walk, North Gateway, etc.

Trish Beckjord recommended identifying alternative funding opportunities for the projects this committee is discussing. Budgets are limited, so she recommended the budgeted monies could go towards requesting matching grants for the various respective City and RFC projects. Trish Beckjord indicated she would conduct further research on which grants require watershed plans and why for the River Corridor Foundation. What is the tipping point?

### 7. Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 7, 2019.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Beckjord and seconded by Rick Brens.

A voice vote was taken. Ayes – unanimous; Nays – none; Absent— C. Adesso, M. Meyers, J. Wessel

The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

# We are grateful to our Financial Sponsors

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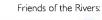
Bringing People and Nature Together

Our Lunch Sponsors:

Our Refreshment Sponsor:













We also appreciate the promotional support from the following organizations:

American Rivers - americanrivers.org Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources - dnrillinois.gov National Park Service - nps.gov River Management Society - river-management.org River Network - rivernetwork.org

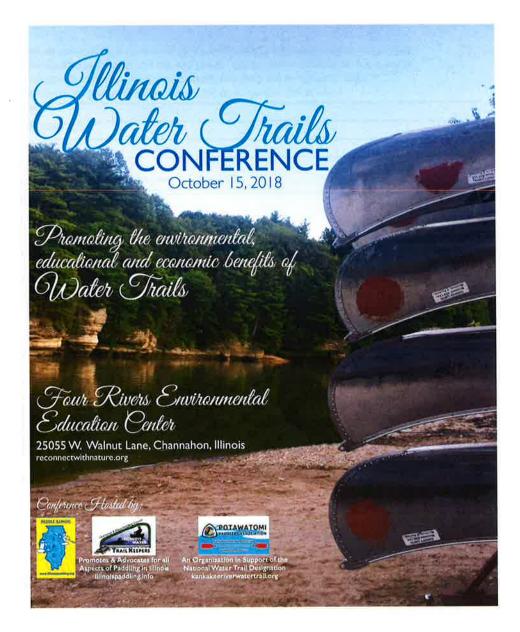


Layout, design & photos of lower Fox River Dells, shot from Ayers Landing in Aug 2018 - except dog paddlers, by Lynda Wallis, Freelancelliustrations com

Potawatomi Paddlers Association P.O. Box 503 Kankakee, IL 6090 I



Everything is better when you're paddling. Paddle more. Worry less.



# Conference Program

9:00 am - Networking, coffee and continental breakfast provided

9:30 am - Introductions and Conference Purpose, Tom Eckels, President, Illinois Paddling Council

9:45 am - Conference Welcome, Here, Where Water Trails Meet, Ralph Schultz, Forest Preserves of Will Co.

10:00 am - What is a Water Trail and the Paddling Environment, Creeks, Rivers, Streams and Lakes Sigrid Pilgrim, Director, Illinois Paddling Council

#### 10:10 - Introduction to Illinois Water Trails

Lake Michigan Water Trail in Illinois - Dave Longo

Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Trails – Brief history and summary - Laura Barghusen

Pecatonica River Water Trail & Friends of the Pecatonica Foundation - Joe Ginger

Lincoln Heritage Water Trail - Scott Hewitt

Kankakee River Water Trail - Hitchcock Design Group

Wisconsin-Illinois Fox River Water Trail Initiative - Karen Miller

Noon - LUNCH BREAK and Networking

1:00 pm - Keynote address: Diane Banta,

### The Importance of Water Trails: Close to Home to National Water Trails PANEL DISCUSSIONS

#### 1:30 pm - How to Establish a Water Trail - from A, B, C and all the way to Z

Topics include: Planning, Access, Navigability Laws, Working with Multiple Stakeholders: State, County, Local,

Private Landowners

### 2:15pm - Making Your Water Trail Happen - Tips and Tools

Topics include: Finding Funding,

Organizing the Organization,

Publicity/Publications,

Promotion and Outreach

3:00 pm - Break

3:15 pm - The Living Water Trail

Topics Include: Attracting Volunteers, Creating Stewards, Operating Water Trail Basics; Signs, Camp Sites & Cleanup, Planning for Safety & Avoiding Pitfalls, Organizing & Holding Water Trail Events

4:00 pm - Celebrating the 50th Anniversary Wild and Scenic River Program, Carol Hays

4:15 pm – Q & A, Networking / Adjourn



Diane Banta, National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm

Laura Barghusen, Aquatic Ecologist, Openlands and author of A Field Guide to Fresh Water Mussels of Chicago Wilderness - openlands.org

loe Ginger, President, Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation, pecriver.org

Carol Hays, Executive Director, Prairie Rivers Network, prairierivers.org

Scott Hays, Secretary, Upper Sangamon River Conservancy and Commissioner Champaign County Forest Preserve District sangamonriver.org

Scott Hewitt, Vice President, Lincoln Heritage Water Trail Association & VP Director of Education and Safety, Illinois Paddling Council lincolnheritagewatertrail.org

Dave Longo, Regional Greenways & Trails Planner, Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources dnr.illinois.gov

Karen Ann Miller, Executive Planner, Kane County Development Department, Wisconsin-Illinois Fox River Water Trail Initiative foxriverecosystem.org/trail.htm

Holel Special Water Trails Conference Rate: \$95 + taxes.

Call Daniel Jacobsen: 815-216-9964 for this special rate.

If you reserve directly with the hotel, you will pay more.

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Clip here to mail.

Name	
(Print so someone other than your mother can read it.)	
Company/Organization	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Email	

Registration Fee: \$40.00 by mail or online, \$50.00 at the door day of event. Registration fee includes: Continental breakfast, box lunch and an afternoon snack. www.illinoispaddling.info/WTC - pay with PayPal - OR SEND your registration and check to: Treasurer, Illinois Paddling Council c/o Don Mueggenborg 9 E Peiffer Drive, Lemont, IL 60439

# **IDNR Suspended Grant Programs**

- Grant programs suspended until further notice:
   OSLAD, Boat Access, Bicycle Path, Off Highway
   Vehicle, PARC, Museum Capital, SNOW and STEF.
- Illinois DNR Coastal Management Program
   Though federally funded, currently paused in 2017, anticipated re-open unknown

# **IDNR 2018 Funding Opportunities**



### **Nancy Williamson**

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Private Lands Division

# **Federally Funded Grant programs**

- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
   (2018 funding level approx 2.5M will vary yearly)
- Recreational Trails Program
   (2018 funding level approx 1.5M will vary yearly)
- Other grants:
  - Habitat/Pheasant/other grants
  - Schoolyard Habitat grants

### **Grants - Illinois DNR**



- Office of Grant Management and Assistance, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1272.
- Telephone: 217-782-7481
- email: dnr.grants@illinois.gov

### **LWCF**

- NEW LWCF Manual
- Requires GATA registration
- Cannot match other federally funded grants(e.g. IEPA 319)

# **LWCF Eligible Projects**

- Areas providing frontage on public surface waters or land for creating public water impoundments to promote water-based recreation opportunities.
- Areas of outstanding natural quality where the objective is to preserve the scenic or natural values, including areas of physical or biological importance such as pristine natural areas, sites protecting threatened or endangered species, flood plains, wetlands, geological features, wildlife habitats, or scenic waters, etc.
- Areas for general purpose, public outdoor recreation use such as neighborhood and community park areas, play fields and competitive, non-professional sports facilities, as well as public parklands for passive recreation uses.
- Additions to existing parks, wildlife areas, nature preserves, beaches, and greenways or parkways for public outdoor recreation purposes.
- Linear greenway corridors and abandoned rights-of-way for outdoor recreation purposes.

# Recreational Trails Program - \$1.5M

### **Examples of eligible project activities include:**

- Trail construction and rehabilitation
- Restoration of areas adjacent to trails damaged by unauthorized trail uses
- Construction of trail-related support facilities and amenities
- Acquisition from willing sellers of trail corridors through easements or fee simple title.

# Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) 2.5M

- Offered annually
- Provides up to 50% funding assistance
- To eligible local units of government
- For ACQUISTION public outdoor recreation/natural areas
- Current policy
  - Maximum of \$750,000 per acquisition;
  - Counties exceeding 2.0 million pop. \$1.15M;
  - Municipalities exceeding 2M pop. \$2.3M
- Applications must be received by the IDNR no sooner than May 1 and no later than July 1 of each year





# **Recreational Trails Program**

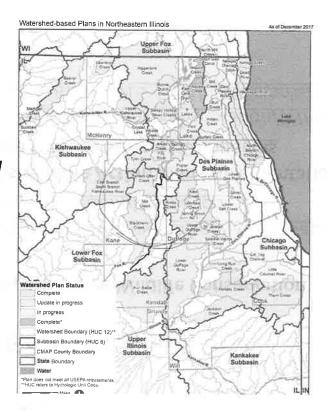
- NEW RTP Manual
- Requires GATA registration
- Cannot match other federally funded grants(e.g. - Federal Coastal grants)

# **Recreational Trails Program**

- <u>By law</u>, 30% of each states' RTP funding must be earmarked for motorized trail projects, 30% for non-motorized trail projects, and 40% for multi-use (diversified) motorized and non-motorized trails or a combination of either.
- Can provide up to 80% federal funding requires a minimum 20% nonfederal funding match.
- Maximum \$200,000 awarded per application for nonmotorized projects.
- No maximum grant award amount is set for acquisition projects and for motorized projects.
- Announcement generally 180 days following the application deadline date.

# 12

Status of Watershed Based Plans in Northeastern Illinois



# **Recreational Trails Program**

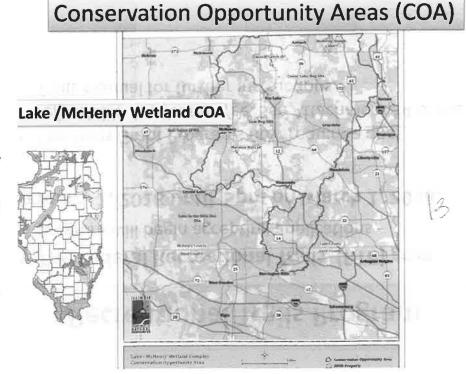
• The Federal Recreational Trails (RTP) grant program will begin accepting applications -

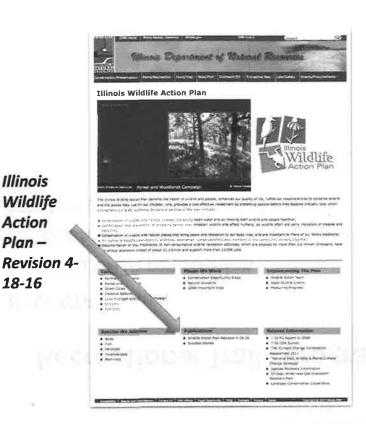
January 1, 2018 until 5pm on March 1, 2018.

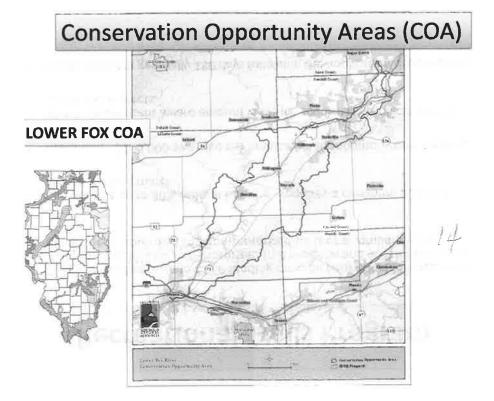
 The Trails Grant Programs now require a <u>non-</u> <u>refundable Application fee</u>. See Attachment #4 of the Trails manual for further instructions.

# Google following:

- Illinois Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan 2005
- https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/iwap/d ocuments/wildlifeactionplanfinal.pdf
- 2015 Illinois Wildlife Action Plan Implementation Guide: Green Cities & Streams Campaigns
- https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/IWAP/ Documents/FinalDraft2015 FINAL Revision%204 -18-16.pdf









Illinois Wildlife Action Plan -

18-16

# **Grants - Illinois DNR**

LLINOIS



NATURAL RESOURCES  Office of Grant Management and Assistance, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1272.

• Telephone: 217-782-7481

• email: dnr.grants@illinois.gov





NATURAL RESOURCES Nancy Williamson

Nancy.Williamson@illinois.gov

815-263-9857

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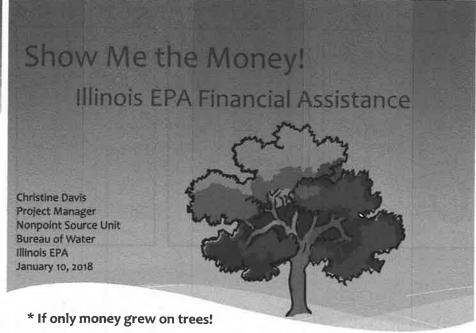
Stormwater-related (WPCLP) projects that benefit water quality

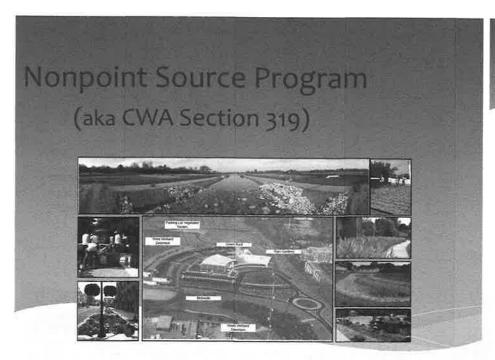


- \* Normal recipient is local government
  - \* own, operate & maintain the assets
- \* Projects (design and construction services)
  - \* Green infrastructure (to date: rain gardens, streambank stabilization, permeable pavement & bioretention)
  - \* Water and energy efficiency improvements
  - Other environmentally innovative activities as directed by federal law (check out 33 U.S. Code 1274 – Watershed pilot projects)

First Step ~ Talk to Illinois EPA Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section Next Step ~ Project Plan (environmental sign-offs) and Funding Nomination Form

http://www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/index





# The Loan Program

(State Revolving Fund)

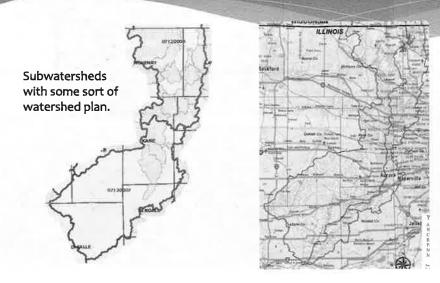


- \* Water Pollution Control Loans (WCPLC)
  - \* Wastewater/Stormwater\* Projects
- \* Public Water Supply Loans (PWSLP)
  - \* Drinking Water Projects

Design and construction of a wide variety of projects for water quality in terms of human health and failing water infrastructure.

Through June 30, 2018 – Rate is 1.76 % Simple Interest 2

# Show Me the Watershed-Based Plans!



# Section 319 Grant Program

Applications due by COB on August 1, 2018

Statewide/Priority Watersheds Location Watershed-Based Planning Areas \$100,000 - \$1.2 Million **Grant Range** Maximum Grant \$1.5 Million (~\$3.6 available for projects statewide) Minimum Match 40% Normally 24 Months Project Length **Eligible Projects** Watershed-Based Planning (WBP) or WBP Implementation (TMDLs Too!) **NPS Pollution Control BMPs Practices** 

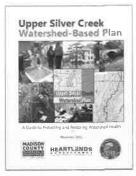


# Administration & Planning Design & Engineering Construction/Planting Construction Oversight Education/Outreach Monitoring

# Watershed-Based Plans...

#### Include:

- 1. Identification of WQ impairments (point and nonpoint source)
- 2. Critical areas to protect and the BMPs needed to protect them
- 3. Estimate of BMP's load reduction
- 4. Technical/financial assistance needed
- 5. Information and education component
- 6. Implementation schedule
- 7. Interim measurable milestones
- 8. Criteria to measure accomplishments
- 9. Monitoring component



### Illinois EPA Section 319 Watershed Priorities

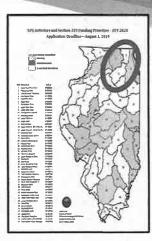
FY 19

(not required by state or federal law)

FY 21

#### **PLANNING**





NYLAmbier and horizon \$17 Facility Processor—FYT 2813 Application Deadline—August 1, 2329



http://www.epa.illinois.gov/Assets/iepa/water-quality/watershed-management/Priority%20Watersheds%202016.pdf

Illinois Office of Management and Budget Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA).

Applicants may not apply for a grant until the applicant has pre-qualified through the GATA portal!

grants.illinois.gov

Five pre-award requirements

- 1. Authentication
- **Grantee Registration**
- Grantee Pre-qualification
- Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment (ICQ)
- Programmatic Risk Assessment

















# Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance & Uniform Budget Template

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- \* Uniform Application requires
  - \* Federal Employee Identification Number
  - \* Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number
  - \* SAM Cage Code
- \* Uniform Budget Template
  - \* New Budget Expenditure Categories
  - \* Broken out by year & grant vs. match
  - \* Indirect Costs (negotiated federal IDC, negotiate a rate, or 10% de minimis rate, if qualified)

### Streambank Cleanup And Lakeshore Enhancement

# SCALE

### SCALE's mission...

Support local community and citizen-organized lake and river litter collection events for water quality.

### Administrative Changes:

- **GATA** compliant
- Two year contracts
- Two applicant levels

### Application Deadline - TBD









http://www.epa.lllinois.gov/topics/water-quality/surface-water/scale/index





# Questions?

# Thank You!

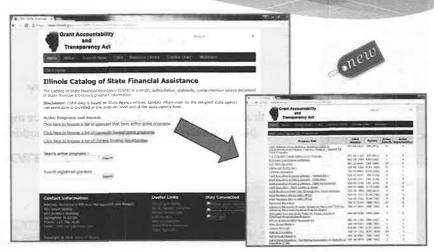




Christine Davis Nonpoint Source Unit Illinois EPA, Bureau of Water

217.782.3362 christine.davis@illinois.gov www.epa.illinois.gov Illinois Office of Management and Budget Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA).

GATA Can Show You the Money; or at least where it is!



### OTHER Potential Sources of Funding



- \* State & federal organizations
- \* Local government and organizations
- \* Utility companies
- \* Private foundations
- \* Private companies
- \* Stormwater utilities
- \* Special service area
- \* Big box stores
- \* Watershed Stakeholders

Consider In-kind service and partnerships

10

14