

Miami Conservancy District's Stormwater Activities

2005 GMR Watershed Network Meetings

Great Miami River Watershed Network meets to strategize and share resources

Activity Title: Great Miami River Watershed Network Meetings

Activity Description: The Great Miami River Watershed Network met four times in 2005 to facilitate resource-sharing and limit duplication of effort.

Start Date: 3/3/2005 **End Date:** 3/3/2005

Result Statement: Approximately 40 people attended the meeting which included: MCD water quality credit trading progress report, US EPA targeted watershed grant update, an update from MVRPC on Air Quality Advisory Committee and Area-wide Facility Planning Sub Committee and a presentation by Greenways of Greater Dayton. See below for meeting minutes.

**Great Miami River Watershed Network
Meeting Notes**

Cox Arboretum & Gardens MetroPark

Thursday, March 3, 2005; 1 to 3 p.m.

Attendance

Cindy	Bach	Montgomery County Solid Waste		Matt	Lindsay	Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission
Jerry	Ballard	ODNR, Scenic Rivers		Fred	Lutt	Meisner & Associates
Brian	Bohl	Hamilton SWCD		Angela	Manuszak	Miami Conservancy District (MCD)
Trish	Brechlin	League of Women Voters		Ken	McCashland	Three Valley Conservation Trust
Roberta	Broerman	Darke County Health Dept.		Jim	McGarry	Miami County Sanitary Engineers
Terry	Dalrymple	Montgomery County Engineers		Theresa	McGeady	MCD
Janet	Dean	Janet Dean Consulting		Michael	Miller	Friends of the Great Miami
Jim	Foster	Greenways of Greater Dayton		Bob	Munch	City of Urbana
Mark	Fritsch	Friends of the Great Miami		Richard	Robertson	Norton Engineering
Jennifer	Ganson	Mad River Watershed		Tom	Schommer	City of Dayton
Dusty	Hall	MCD		Michele	Simmons	City of Dayton
George	Hardebeck	Ohio Society for Ecological Restoration		Bob	Sowers	City of Fairborn
Joe	Harmon			Hugh	Trimble	Ohio EPA
Barbara	Hensley	W-H Greenways		Greg	Vreeland	Erosion Runner
Jerry	Hirt	Bethel Twp - Miami Co.		Jack	Webb	Indian Lake WP
Corrie	Holthaus	Darke County Health Dept.		David	Wehrauch	City of Oxford

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Dan	Jackson	Montgomery SWCD		Mary Lou	Wilson	Monroe Twp - Miami County
Rob	James	City of Centerville		Carol	Wilson	Veolia Water NA (Tri-cities)
Kristen	Lauer	Honey Creek Watershed Association		Donna	Winchester	City of Dayton
Paul	Lauer	Preble SWCD		Steve	Yaney	Miami Twp - Montgomery Co.

Network meeting agenda

Agenda Item	Person Responsible	Time allocated
1 – Introductions and December meeting notes	Angela Manuszak	15 minutes
2 – 2005 events planned	Participants	10 minutes
3 – Committee reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Data Inventory • Network Expansion & Diversification • Education 	Committee Chairs	15 minutes
4 – MCD water quality credit trading progress report & US EPA targeted watershed grant update	Angela Manuszak	10 minutes
5 – MVRPC Air Quality Advisory Committee & Areawide Facility Planning Subcommittee	Matthew Lindsay	10 minutes
6 – Greenways of Greater Dayton: Arthur Morgan's emerald necklace around the city	Jim Foster President, Greenways of Greater Dayton; and Director of Planning, Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority (RTA)	45 minutes
7 - Next steps and next meeting	Angela Manuszak	10 minutes

At the request of the guest speaker, we rearranged the agenda to accommodate a scheduling conflict.

Introductions

Jay Woodhull, Director of Cox Arboretum & Gardens MetroPark, welcomed the group to the Fifth Third Conference Room. This new facility was funded privately on the publicly owned MetroPark property.

Presentation: Greenways of Greater Dayton

Jim Foster made a presentation on the issue of sprawl in the Dayton metro region. He detailed some of the reasons behind the sprawl phenomenon. He also described the goals of the fledgling organization he resides over, Greenways of Greater Dayton: to preserve and promote natural corridors and habitats; protect ground and surface water; encourage sustainable agriculture; provide education and technical assistance; and promote sustainability and responsibility in development.

2005 Events

Participants contributed the following upcoming events:

Indian Lake Boat Show

Friday, March 4 to Sunday, March 6

Flier submitted by Jack Webb, Indian Lake Watershed Project

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Meet the New Ohio EPA Director

Tuesday, March 15

Flier submitted by Amy Schrimpf, Dayton Chamber of Commerce

Greater Dayton Area Green Team Training

Wednesday, March 23

Flier submitted by Angela Manuszak, MCD

Great Miami River Days Festival

Friday, September 9 to Sunday, September 11

Submitted by Mark Fritsch, Friends of the Great Miami

<http://www.greatmiamiriverdays.org>

Honey Creek Watershed Festival

Saturday, April 23

Submitted by Kristen Lauer, Honey Creek Watershed Association

Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River: Indian Lake to Ohio River

Friday, July 22 and Saturday, July 23

Submitted by Mark Fritsch, Friends of the Great Miami

Great Ohio River Paddle: Portsmouth to Louisville

Sunday, June 19 to Saturday, July 2

Submitted by Rich Cogen, Ohio River Foundation

www.ohioriverfdn.org

Committee Reports

Resource data inventory

Michele Simmons reported that committee chair Caroline McColloch was eager to recruit additional network participants to serve on this committee. She has assembled the responses from December's survey into a summary that will guide the committee in creating an inventory of water data that is available.

Network expansion & diversification

Scott Hammond chaired this group before his resignation, so new leadership is needed. No report was provided.

Education

Janet Dean presented a draft of the online quarterly newsletter that the education committee is creating. Submissions are needed for the newsletter to be useful and successful. Angela will send an e-mail notice to the network mailing list when the newsletter is updated. The first edition should be live on MCD's new website in the spring. To submit information about upcoming events, trainings, funding opportunities, great web resources, and personnel information, send an e-mail to Janet at jdeancon@woh.rr.com.

Miami Conservancy District Update

Water quality credit trading

Dusty Hall described MCD's process of developing a water quality credit trading program and its current status. Water quality credit trades will occur between agriculture and publicly owned wastewater treatment plants. Pending program approval by Ohio EPA and US EPA, MCD hopes to be in position to request agricultural best management practice proposals sometime in the fall, with the first agricultural projects implemented in the spring of 2006.

Targeted Watershed Grant update

The projects funded by this grant had been delayed by Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) review and approval by US EPA. Those approvals have now been achieved, and projects are

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being implemented. Several local organizations are receiving funds and putting projects in place through this funding.

Stillwater River access map

Angela Manuszak announced that MCD has received funding from ODNR Division of Watercraft to create a river access map for the Stillwater River similar to the one MCD produced in 2004 for the Great Miami River. The map will include river access points, hazards such as low dams, and safety information.

Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission Update

Areawide Facility Planning Committee (AFPSC)

Matt Lindsay asked for participants? in the Areawide Facility Planning Committee (AFPSC). The AFPSC is an advisory panel for MVRPC's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) tasked with reviewing updates to waste water treatment plan Facility Plans (FP) and Facility Planning Area (FPA) Maps. These projects are part of an overall update to the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan.

FPs and FPAs are required long-range planning documents for treatment plants. They are intended to look 20 years into the future and assess the plant's service area and the required resources (capacity, technology, personnel, etc.) needed to adequately treat the projected volumes. Most of the treatment plants in MVRPC counties last put together a plan in the early 1980s, so the 20-year horizon has passed and new plans need to be developed.

AFPSC will be comprised of interested participants in the Little Miami Basin Council and the Great Miami River Watershed Network, who also represent or reside in one of MVRPC's member counties (Preble, Darke, Miami, Montgomery, Greene). Matt passed around a signup sheet; 16 people signed up.

Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC)

Matt also requested that the Great Miami River Watershed Network send a representative to the Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC). The AQAC is also an advisory committee to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for issues concerning the upcoming Clean Air Act State Implementation Plan (SIP) requirements related to ozone and fine particulate pollution in the Dayton/Springfield area.

By June 2007, the Ohio EPA must finalize a plan to reduce ozone air pollution in 33 counties. June 2008 is the deadline for particle pollution. Ohio EPA seeks input from metropolitan planning organizations, such as MVRPC, on the types of measures communities would like to see employed to improve air quality. The AQAC will be reviewing options over the next 18 months or so to recommend to the TAC, which will then make recommendations to the full MVRPC board. Angela Manuszak is serving as the interim representative, but feels another person would better serve that role. Please contact Angela if you're interested.

Credible Data Rules

Ohio EPA is seeking comment on Credible Data Rules. The draft Credible Data Rules are available on the Ohio EPA website, and the agency is seeking, in particular, comments and opinions from watershed groups, schools and volunteer organizations. The Watershed Group survey can be found at the following web address:

http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/rules/draft_credible_data_feb05.html

If your group is accustomed to monitoring stream waters and submitting your data to the Ohio EPA to use, you may want to check out these rules and assess how they may affect your efforts. Then fill out the survey and let OEPA know about it. The comment deadline is April 8, 2005.

Future Meeting Topics

Members of the group contributed ideas for future guest speakers:

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- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) update and impacts to watershed plans
- Sustainability of watershed efforts
- Phase II storm water updates
- Ohio budget cuts affecting watershed efforts
- Clean Ohio fund future
- 208 plans and issues of wet weather and aging infrastructure
- On-site septic systems' new regulations
- Gene Krebs and the Greater Ohio program
- Recreation trails and rail-trails – funding

Next Meeting

The topic for the next meeting will be web-based resources for water quality enhancement. Join us Thursday, June 2, from 1 to 3 p.m. at The Miami Conservancy District, 38 E. Monument Ave., Dayton, Ohio.

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Activity Title: Great Miami River Watershed Network Meetings

Activity Description: The Great Miami River Watershed Network met four times in 2005 to facilitate resource-sharing and limit duplication of effort.

Start Date: 6/2/2005 **End Date:** 6/2/2005

Result Statement: Approximately 45 people attended the meeting which included: an update on the US EPA targeted watershed grant, a report on the progress of MCD's water quality credit trading program and a presentation on Ohio Water Resource Protection by Sam Speck, Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. See below for meeting minutes.

Great Miami River Watershed Network Meeting Notes

Monroe Township Hall, Tipp City

Thursday, June 2, 2005; 1 to 3 p.m.

Attendance

Dan Amspaugh	Stillwater River	Caroline McColloch	Montgomery SWCD
Cindy Bach	Miami Co. Solid Waste	Theresa McGeady	MCD
Janet Bly	MCD	Beth Moore	Miamisburg
Sue Campbell	Concord Twp/ Middle Great Miami Watershed Alliance	John Norton	Norton Engineering
Charles Curran	Montgomery County	Linda Raterman	Miami SWCD
Janet Dean	Janet Dean Consulting	Larry Retherford	Beavercreek
Mo Eichman	Tipp City	Jim Rozelle	FMSM
Jerry Eldred	Miami Co. Park District	Michele Simmons	City of Dayton
Jim Flesher	Monroe Township	Bob Sowers	City of Fairborn
Larry Frimerman	Three Valley Conservation Trust	Sam Speck	ODNR
Mark Fritsch	Friends of the Great Miami	Bill Springer	Stillwater Aquifer Pres. Assoc.
Jennifer Ganson	Mad River Steering Committee	Jeff Thomas	ODNR-DSWC
Brenda Gibson	MCD	Hugh Trimble	Ohio EPA
Dusty Hall	MCD	Roger Van Frank	Darke Co. Park District
David Hanselman	ODNR-DSWC	Dick Wagar	Miami Co. Engineer's Office
Joe Harmon	concerned citizen	Harold Watters	OSU-E Champaign Co.
Sarah Hippensteel	MCD	Jack Webb	Indian Lake Watershed Project

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Paul Lauer	Preble SWCD	Melinda White	Three Valley Conservation Trust
Kristen Lauer	Honey Cr. Watershed Assoc.	Mary Lou Wilson	Monroe Township
Matt Lindsay	MVRPC	Donna Winchester	City of Dayton
Angela Manuszak	MCD	Jane Wittke	OKI
		Aaron Zonin	City of Centerville

Network goal progress: Angela Manuszak distributed a matrix updating the Network's progress on its goals. Every committee needs additional assistance. The education committee asks participants to look for a new edition of the Great Miami River Watershed Network *Currents* online in June at

http://www.miamiconservancy.org/Great_Miami_River_Watershed/GMRW_Partnership/Default.htm.

US EPA Targeted Watershed Grant: Sarah Hippensteel shared that the local projects are underway, starting with pre-installation monitoring. For further information, contact shippensteel@miamiconservancy.org.

Watershed organization map: Sarah distributed an updated map and contact list for all the community-based watershed groups in the Great Miami River Watershed. Some groups are new and others have re-drawn their boundaries since the previous map was published in 2003. If you're interested in receiving a copy of the map, please contact shippensteel@miamiconservancy.org.

Stillwater recreation map: Sarah also shared copies of a new river recreation map "The Stillwater River: Play It Safe." This is part of a river safety campaign that The Miami Conservancy District is implementing this summer with funding from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Division of Watercraft. TV and radio advertisements are also part of the campaign. A similar campaign and map were produced for the Great Miami River in 2004. To request a Stillwater map, go to

http://www.miamiconservancy.org/Great_Miami_River_Watershed/Play_It_Safe_Request_Form.htm.

Water Quality Credit Trading: Dusty Hall reported on the current status of the nutrient credit trading program being initiated by The Miami Conservancy District. Ohio EPA Director Joe Koncelik is enthusiastic about the prospects of improved water quality resulting from the program – so much so that he has supported the agency beginning the rule-making process right away for a statewide trading program. Local and state partners are opposing this move, believing that the state does not yet possess sufficient experience with actual trades to create well-informed rules. Some are writing letters requesting that the Great Miami River's program be grandfathered and allowed to begin without final rules in place. For further information, contact dhall@miamiconservancy.org.

MVRPC Areawide Facility Planning Sub Committee: Matt Lindsay reported on this area of MVRPC's responsibilities. MVRPC has established a subcommittee of interested parties to serve as the primary body to receive and review updates to wastewater treatment facility plans and facility planning area maps. These documents, critical to the grant funding process established under the Clean Water Act for constructing a wastewater treatment infrastructure, fell into disuse over the years as funding dried up and plans were not kept up to date. Now, after the Blacklick Creek decision, Ohio EPA needs these Water Quality Plans updated, especially the wastewater treatment portions in order to process permits (both PTI and NPDES). MVRPC invites all

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interested parties from the Watershed Network to get involved in the Wastewater Planning Subcommittee by contacting Matt at 223-6323 or mlindsay@mvrpc.org.

604(b) funding: 604(b) dollars refers to Federal pass through dollars for water quality planning that are divided up between Ohio EPA and the six Areawide planning agencies, of which MVRPC and OKI are the two in the Great Miami Watershed. These dollars are dropping and may be as low as \$40K next year and \$27K the year after that. This will greatly diminish the diversity of projects MVRPC will be involved with under this budget. It has been decided to curtail participation within watershed groups to only the Network and the Little Miami Basin Council.

Mad River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL): Hugh Trimble reported on the status of this Ohio EPA program. The Mad River TMDL is currently being modeled by USGS under contract from Ohio EPA. The report on the sampling has been compiled into a report titled "Biological and Water Quality Study of the Mad River and Selected Tributaries 2003" that should be posted on the agency website within a few weeks. See http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/document_index/psdindx.html. Aquatic Life use attainment in the watershed is generally good with the main-stem in full attainment except for a few areas of partial attainment. Within the City of Dayton the Mad River is in full attainment of its aquatic life use. Recreational use is impaired for all of the sites sampled for bacteria and will have to be accounted for in the TMDL report. Public involvement in the TMDL will follow completion of the modeling.

Great Miami River Watershed Success Stories:

Honey Creek Watershed Association: Kristen Lauer from the Honey Creek Watershed Association reported on recent accomplishments of the HCWA. The Stream Team, a volunteer group that monitors stream life as a test of the health of the stream, was one highlight. Kristen passed around a fact sheet about the Stream Team, and invited all to attend the training to be held July 16th, starting at the Sullivan office. Other items included the Watershed Festival, success with the Water Resource Restoration Sponsorship Program, and an Ohio Environmental Education Fund Grant that has funded a Watershed Wide Education program this last year and will next year also. Brochures and a schedule of events were also passed to all interested. To contact HCWA, honeycreekws@aol.com.

Mad River Steering Committee: Jennifer Ganson from the Mad River Steering Committee reported on the successes of her group. Through her office at the Ohio State University Extension in Champaign County, she is currently administering a 319 project that has been reducing the amount of nitrogen being applied to agricultural fields in the watershed. Her group also works with local partners to educate school children and restore in-stream aquatic habitat. For further information, contact Jennifer at ganson.6@osu.edu.

Confluence/Watershed Enhancement Project: Donna Winchester shared the growing support for a whitewater recreation passage being created around the low dam just downstream of RiverScape MetroPark. She exhibited concept drawings of the park and invited interested parties to participate in the group's efforts. To learn more, contact Donna at donna.winchester@cityofdayton.org.

Three Valley Conservation Trust: Larry Frimerman presented the accomplishments of his organization, a highly successful land trust working in the Indian, Seven-Mile/Ten-Mile, and Twin Creek Watersheds. He introduced watershed coordinator Lindy White who has recently accepted the position and has begun the consensus-building process to develop a watershed action plan for Twin Creek. Lindy can be reached at lindy_white@hotmail.com.

Ohio Water Resource Protection: Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Dr. Sam Speck shared his vision for Ohio water resource protection, pointing frequently to the

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international efforts being spearheaded in the Lake Erie watershed as a model for the rest of the state. He discussed current policy issues affecting the Great Miami such as mining remediation, Clean Ohio Fund re-authorization, and the Scenic Rivers program. He praised local efforts and confirmed his commitment to the protection of this vital resource.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 1, 2005, our annual Best Management Practices Tour, hosted by the Mad River Steering Committee in Champaign County.

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Activity Title: Great Miami River Watershed Network Meetings

Activity Description: The Great Miami River Watershed Network met four times in 2005 to facilitate resource-sharing and limit duplication of effort.

Start Date: 9/1/2005 **End Date:** 9/1/2005

Result Statement: Approximately 22 people attended the meeting which included a Best Management Tour of projects in the Upper Mad River Watershed. The projects on the tour included: innovative water treatment processes, agricultural projects reducing nitrate application, in-stream habitat improvements and Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Game Farm demonstrating a wetland and warm season grasses. See below for meeting minutes.

Great Miami River Watershed Network

Annual BMP Tour

Thursday, September 1, 2005

Minutes

Attendance

Sue	Campbell	Concord Twp	Theresa	McGeady	MCD
Susan	Couser	OSU Ext-Miami Co.	Robert	Munch	City of Urbana
Mike	Cross	City of Dayton	Tom	Nisonger	Mad R. Steering Cmte
		OSU Ext. – Champaign/	Jim	Rozelle	FMSM
Jennifer	Ganson	Mad R. Steering Cmte	Jim	Shoemaker	City of Dayton
Dusty	Hall	MCD	Dick	Wagar	Miami Co. Engineer's
Sarah	Hippensteel	MCD	Harold	Watters	OSU Ext-Champaign Co.
Bruce	Koehler	OKI	Jack	Webb	Indian Lake WP
Barb	Kuck	Logan SWCD	Dick	Whitehead	Mad R. Steering Cmte
Matt	Lindsay	MVRPC	Mary Lou	Wilson	Monroe Twp-Miami Co.
Angela	Manuszak	MCD	John	Wolary	ODNR-Scenic Rivers
Caroline	McColloch	Montgomery SWCD			

Introduction and Announcements

Angela Manuszak welcomed the group and pointed out several hand-outs and events upcoming:

September 7: Septic system workshop in Champaign County (see OSU Extension)

September 10: Great Miami River Days in Hamilton (see www.greatmiamiriverdays.org)

September 15: Clean Water Act training in Dayton (see MCD)

September 17: Stillwater Stewardship Conference in Dayton (see Five Rivers MetroPark)

September 23: Manure Management Program (see Mad River Steering Committee)

October 15: Little Miami River Watershed Festival at Caesar's Creek (see Greene SWCD)

November 17: Low Impact Development Workshop (see MCD)

December 1: Regional Issues Forum with Colombia's presidential candidate and former mayor of Bogotá, Enrique Peñalosa, at Sinclair Community College (see MCD)

Conservation Innovation Grant

Dusty Hall announced that The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has awarded a \$937,806 grant to The Miami Conservancy District (MCD) to implement a watershed-wide water quality credit trading program to enhance water resources. This project will jump-start the trading program that has been in development. For additional information, contact Dusty at dhall@miamiconservancy.org.

Upper Mad River BMP Tour

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Jennifer Ganson, coordinator for the Mad River Steering Committee hosted the group on a tour of BMPs and water resource sites in Champaign County.

- Barb Kuck, Education Specialist with Logan Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) described her strategies for successful student stream monitoring, stating that this activity has been successfully imbedded in local school curricula. For additional information on Logan SWCD, go to <http://www.co.logan.oh.us/soilandwater/>.
- Harold Watters of OSU Extension – Champaign County provided results of the Nitrate Reduction Program that has consistently shown little to no decrease in corn yields with 40 pounds less nitrogen applied per acre. American Farmland Trust is a partner as well as a US EPA 319 water quality grant. For information, go to <http://www.agflex.com/>.
- Tom Allen of the Mad Men of Trout Unlimited took the group on a riparian tour of some instream habitat improvement projects his group continues to work on. Within the straightened and dredged Mad River, they have successfully been creating deeper pools, riffles, and some limited meandering. For current information go to: <http://www.tumadmen.org/>.
- Freshwater Farms is a successful tank-based trout farm, providing fresh trout to wholesalers and restaurants in the area. They also have a small store and are planning a "Fish and Shrimp Festival" for September 17. For additional information, go to: http://www.fwfarms.com/fish_shrimp_festival_ohio.html.
- Cedar Bog, an Ohio Historical Society natural area, is a unique fen area teeming with threatened and rare plant and wildlife. Robert C. Glotzhober, Curator, Natural History for the Ohio Historical Society led a quick tour, stating that this is a small remnant of a much larger area that was once nearby. <http://www.cedarbog.org/>
- Bob Munch of the City of Urbana provided the group with a tour of its Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) water treatment facility. This plant was mandated by the Ohio EPA after they found unacceptable levels of volatile organic compounds at the city wellfield. For more information, contact Bob at rwunch@ctcn.net.

The next meeting of the Great Miami River Watershed Network will focus on septic systems and will feature Jean Caudill of the Ohio Department of Health.

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Activity Title: Great Miami River Watershed Network Meetings

Activity Description: The Great Miami River Watershed Network met four times in 2005 to facilitate resource-sharing and limit duplication of effort.

Start Date: 12/1/2005 **End Date:** 12/1/2005

Result Statement: Approximately 34 people attended the meeting which included: a US EPA targeted watershed grant update, a progress report on MCD's water quality credit trading program, an update on the MVRPC Area-wide Facility Planning Sub Committee, Darke County Health Department's septic system project, Miami County's Health Department septic system project and Ohio's new septic system rules. See below for meeting minutes.

Great Miami River Watershed Network

Thursday, December 1, 2005

Brixx Ice Company, Dayton

Minutes

Attendance

Cindy	Bach	Miami Co. Sanitary Engineering	Caroline	McColloch	Montgomery SWCD
Ginger	Bernholt	Darke Co. Health Dept.	Jim	McGarry	Miami Co. Sanitary Engineering
Brian	Bohl	Hamilton SWCD	Theresa	McGeady	MCD
Roberta	Broerman	Darke Co. Health Dept.	Joe	Miller	Ohio EPA
Liz	Cline	ODNR-DSWC	Beth	Moore	City of Miamisburg
Susan	Couser	OSUE-Miami Co.	George	Mote	Union Twp (Miami Co)
Charles	Curran	Montgomery Co. Wolf Creek Watershed	Robert	Munch	City of Urbana
Chris	D'Amico	Partners Wolf Creek Watershed	Linda	Raterman	Miami SWCD
Mike	D'Amico	Partners	Linda G.	Rogers	WPAFB
Jennifer	Deaton	Butler SWCD	Michele	Simmons	City of Dayton
Rebecca	Fugitt	Ohio Dept of Health	Kim	Smith	Stillwater Watershed Project
Lisa	Gardner	Honey Creek Watershed	Gerry	Tipton	Miami Co. Health Dept
Joe	Harmon		Terry	Tonovitz	Stillwater Basin Council
Ron	Jackson	Miami Co. Health Dept	Hugh	Trimble	Ohio EPA
		Butler Co. Storm Water District	Dick	Wagar	Miami Co. Engineers
Bob	Lentz	District	Larry	Whitaker	Miami Valley RC&D
Matt	Lindsay	MVRPC	Mary Lou	Wilson	MonroeTwp (Miami Co)
Angela	Manuszak	MCD			

Introductions

Matt Lindsay welcomed the group and had everyone introduce themselves.

News from the Watershed

Linda Raterman reported that the Middle Great Miami Watershed Alliance (MGMWA), supported by OSU-Extension-Miami County (OSUE), Miami Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), Miami County Farm Bureau, Miami County Health Department, Miami County Engineer's Office and Sanitary Engineers, has been trying to keep their organization's name in the public's mind by attaching themselves to existing, larger events. To that end, the MGMWA has co-sponsored events like a Homebuilders and Developers Workshop and the Great Miami River Clean-Up. They have also advertised the MGMWA through the Strawberry Festival Parade, radio broadcasts and cable TV programs. During the Miami County Fair, they invited township trustees and commissioners from the watershed to come to the

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Conservation Education Area where they were given a canvas bag with the watershed map on it and told of our efforts so far, and a request for support. The canvas bags were purchased through a WAWA grant through ODNR. The MCD, specifically Sarah Hippensteel, has been very helpful by helping the group create a Strategic Plan. Hugh Trimble with OEPA has been very helpful, as well. Susan Couser, with OSUE, has entered the Watershed Academy, and we hope her assigned tasks will help us gain the information we need to use toward creating an action plan. For more information, contact Linda at Linda-raterman@oh.nacdnet.org.

Hugh Trimble told the group that the Ohio EPA hosted a TMDL meeting for the Mad River watershed in Urbana. He is seeking input on whether or not the agency should host another meeting in the lower reaches of the watershed. Hugh can be reached at hugh.trimble@epa.state.oh.us.

Angela Manuszak invited interested parties to register to be trained as Ohio Environmental Education Fund Peer Reviewers. OEEF staff will be training peer reviewers at MCD Headquarters on Tuesday, December 6. She also asked interested parties to save the date of March 9 for a morning-long media and PR training to be conducted at MCD by herself and Brenda Gibson, MCD PR Manager. Participants should also save the date of Thursday, September 7 for the annual BMP Tour. The Network and other interested parties will be touring the Northern Kentucky Sanitary District One's Public Service Park where many Low Impact Development techniques have been installed as a demonstration. This tour is a follow-up to MCD's November Low Impact Development workshop attended by 68 local stormwater managers, engineers, planners, and landscape architects. Angela can be reached at amanuszak@miamiconservancy.org.

USEPA Targeted Watershed Grant

The Miami Conservancy District's Theresa McGeady provided a status report of the project:

- 1) The two stage ditch that is co-sponsored by The Loramie Valley Alliance in Shelby County is under construction and should be complete in the next few weeks. After completion, water quality data will be collected to show the effects of how the two-stage ditch reduces nutrients and sediment runoff.
- 2) In the lower Great Miami River Watershed, along with the Friends of the Great Miami and OKI regional council of governments, the permeable parking and rain gardens have been installed at the new Colerain Township Park and are available to visit.
- 3) The City of Dayton installed an oil separator at their Ottawa Yards facility. It is now functioning and is preventing oil, gas and other pollutants from entering the Mad River. Post water quality data is being collected and will show the effectiveness of the oil separator.
- 4) MCD is promoting and protecting waters through development and will begin talking with Planning and Zoning professionals around the watershed to encourage them to incorporate these protection efforts.

Theresa can be contacted at tmcgeady@miamiconservancy.org.

Trading Program

Theresa McGeady reported that things are moving forward with the Trading program. MCD is in the process of partnering with ODNR-Division of Soil & Water Conservation to provide training to Soil and Water Conservation District staff. We expect to have nearly \$1.2 million over 3 years for projects that reduce nutrient discharges. The first round of funding is expected to be announced later this month. Contact your local SWCD if you have a project proposal and it's within the Great Miami River Watershed.

MVRPC - Areawide Facility Planning Subcommittee

The Subcommittee has not met since the last Network meeting. However, the MVRPC board did approve the final versions of the Facility Planning Policies and the Facility Plan/Facility Planning Area Update Guidelines. It is now incumbent upon MVRPC to urge on the Designated (wastewater) Management Agencies to review and update these plans and maps.

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MVRPC (internally, so far) is brainstorming ideas for watershed-level or county-level update processes.

Darke County Health Department septic system project

Ginger Bernholt made a PowerPoint presentation to the group about what a 319-grant funded project is accomplishing in Darke County. The file of her presentation will be posted at the Network website at http://www.miamiconservancy.org/water/gmrw_network.asp. To contact Ginger, e-mail her at gbernhol@odh.ohio.gov.

Miami County Health Department septic system project

Ron Jackson made a PowerPoint presentation to the group about what their 319-grant project has been accomplishing in Miami County. The file of Ron's presentation will be posted at the Network website, http://www.miamiconservancy.org/water/gmrw_network.asp. To contact Rob, e-mail him at rjackson@miamicountyhealth.net.

Ohio's new septic system rules

Rebecca Fugitt of the Ohio Department of Health presented an in-depth look at the updates being made to Ohio's Household Sewage Treatment System rules. Comments on these rules will be accepted through December 16, after which time the rules will go to JCARR and then be finalized this winter. The new rules will become effective between May 2006 and January 2007. Rebecca's presentation will be posted at the Network website, http://www.miamiconservancy.org/water/gmrw_network.asp.

Discussion followed about what level of support the state would be providing to the local health departments regarding education and awareness, funding, etc. There was also discussion about how the new septic system rules interfaces with Areawide Facility (208) Planning

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Great Miami River Watershed Network will be held Thursday, March 2, 2006.