



*Integrated Management Plan
for the Fox River Watershed
in Illinois*

Who created the Plan?

Members of the
Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
— FREP —

spent over a year researching and
developing the 32-page Plan



What is FREP?

FREP is an organization created to promote the long-term health of the Fox River Watershed. It is one of 33 ecosystem partnerships in the State of Illinois and is a diverse group of landowners, businesses, non-profit organizations, agencies and governments within the Fox River Watershed.

The Plan's Vision

**Our vision for the Fox River
Watershed is to balance all the uses
and demands on our natural resources
while preserving and enhancing a
healthy environment.**

**Who will benefit from the
recommendations of this Plan?**

Ultimately.....

***Everyone* who lives and
works within the
Fox River Watershed region**

How large is the Fox River Watershed region?

- **All or part of ten counties**
- **Over 90 communities**
- **Over 1,720 square miles of territory**
- **Includes over 400 lakes**

The Watershed falls within the following Counties:

- **Cook**
- **DeKalb**
- **DuPage**
- **Grundy**
- **Kane**
- **Kendall**
- **Lake**
- **LaSalle**
- **Lee**
- **McHenry**
- **Will**

Who needs to review this Plan?

The **stakeholders** — governmental leaders & key decision makers in the Fox River Watershed region who directly or indirectly affect the health of the Watershed

Who are these stakeholders?

- **County governments**
- **City governments**
- **Township governments**
- **Park Districts**
- **Any other districts or governing bodies whose decisions and actions affect the health of the Watershed**
- **Environmental organizations & agencies**

What are we asking of the stakeholders?

- **Read the Plan**
- **Adopt/Endorse it as an action plan/guideline**
- **Participate by:**
 - **Respecting the Plan**
 - **Referring to the Plan**
 - **Responding to Plan recommendations by taking action and incorporating the Plan into their local policies, whenever possible**

What does the Plan include?

- **Identification of 16 critical factors**
- **Focus on 6 elements affecting the Watershed**
- **37 recommendations**
- **Over 270 specific strategies to follow under these 37 recommendations**

Criteria for the Recommendations

- **Lasting and enduring**
- **Feasible to accomplish, given political climate and/or resources available**
- **Fair**
- **Generate support and collaboration**
- **Cost-effective**
- **Time-effective**
- **Advances the vision**

The Six Key Elements

- **Recreation**
- **Habitat**
- **Land Use**
- **Water Quality**
- **Stormwater**
- **Education**

Recreation

Strategy:

To enhance year-round land- and water-based recreation, inventory and evaluate public access to the Watershed and dam modification or removal.

Habitat

Strategy:

Develop a comprehensive program to identify, protect, and restore natural habitats to promote diversity of fish and wildlife, and restore ecosystem functions of the Fox River Watershed.

Land Use

Strategy:

Protect the Watershed through urban revitalization, innovative development standards, preservation of open space, acquisition of public lands, and voluntary preservation of agricultural lands.

Water Quality

Strategy:

Develop strategies to preserve and enhance ground and surface water quality and quantity, in order to provide for adequate drinking water supplies and natural habitat within the Fox River Watershed.

Education

Strategy:

Develop an effective education and awareness program by focusing on multiple methods of communication to reach residents of the Watershed.

**You know about
the Plan**

What's next?

Some first steps.

- Obtain a copy of
*Implementing the Plan: A Tool Kit for
Communities & Organizations within
the Fox River Watershed Region*
- Review all the materials in the
Tool Kit
- Share these materials with your Board
and/or Staff

more

Next. . .

- **Contact one of the FREP members on the Resource List if you need further information**
- **Review the sample resolution for endorsing the Plan**
- **Set a time to present the Plan to your Board or decision-making body for consideration of adopting/endorsing the Plan**

more

Finally. . .

- **Formally adopt a resolution endorsing the Plan**
- **Return a signed copy of the resolution to FREP for documentation**
- **Begin to incorporate Plan strategies and recommendations into all future actions that affect the Watershed ecosystem**
- **Use the Chart of Progress and keep FREP informed of your activities**

We need your help!

**FREP's goal is to have the
Plan endorsed and utilized
by *every stakeholder* within
the Watershed**

After you endorse the Plan...

- We need you to join **FREP**, if you aren't a member already.
- Become active in the bi-monthly meetings and FREP committees.
- Collaborate with others on activities and projects to improve & enhance our Watershed.

**Consider this an on-going,
long-term project where much
involvement is required *throughout*
the Fox River Watershed**



**Partner with FREP to make the
Fox River Watershed in Illinois
the healthiest it can be
for generations to come**