



Thursday, August 29, 2019

Greetings from FREP

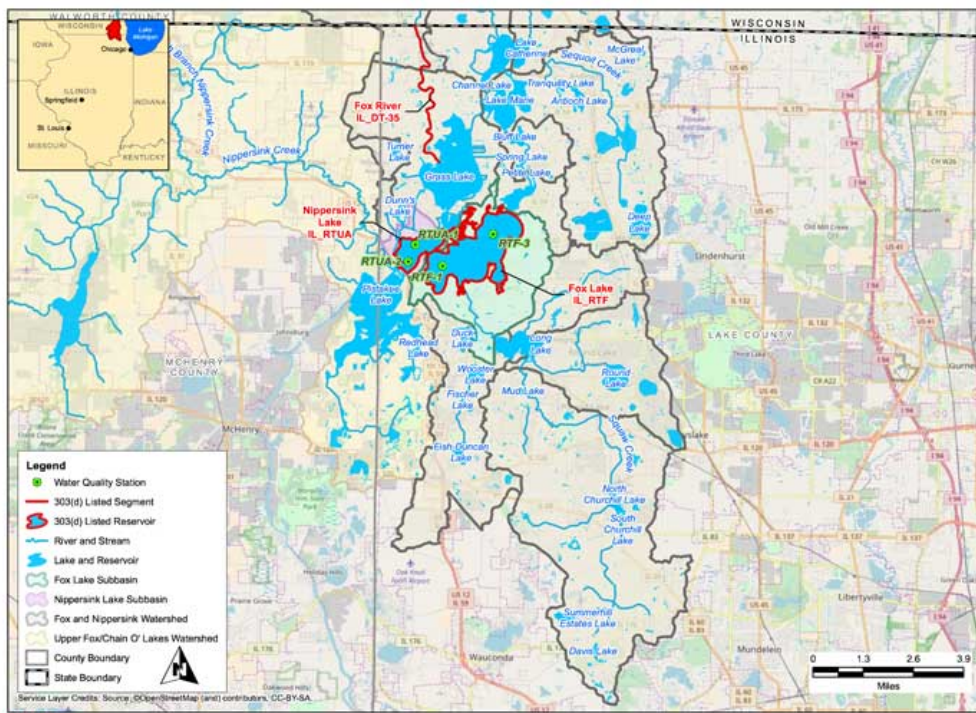
Please visit our [Website](#) for additional information and updates on activities shared in this newsletter

Have you paid your 2019-20 FREP Dues yet? Scroll down to see if you are on the Membership Roll!

Our Next Activity

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 Membership Meeting 1 PM

Program: Upper Fox River/Flint Creek & Chain O'Lakes Watershed Stage 3 TMDL Report
Presenter: Abel Haile, IEPA
Location: Port Barrington Village Hall
75 South Circle Avenue, Port Barrington, IL 60010



Upper Fox/Chain O' Lakes Fox Lake and Nippersink Lake Subbasins FIGURE 1-12

Abel Haile of the Illinois EPA's Watershed Management Section, Planning Unit will discuss the Total Maximum Daily Loads that have been developed for over 40 lakes located in the Fox River Watershed in Lake County. The TMDLs also include stretches of the Fox River in Lake and McHenry counties. TMDLs set pollution reduction goals that are necessary to improve the quality of impaired waters.

Read more about the TMDLs: at this site, search for Upper Fox-Chain O' Lakes Watershed and Upper Fox River-Flint Creek Watershed.

FREP Executive Committee will meet at 11 AM

Upcoming FREP Noon Networks & Membership Meetings

Wednesday, October 9, 2019 FREP Noon Network Noon - 1:30 PM

Program: Batavia High School Wilson Street Pond - Natural Area Enhancement Project
Presenter: Daniel Renz, Batavia High School Environmental Science & Biology Teacher
Location: Batavia High School, 1201 Main St, Batavia, IL 60510
Directions for parking will be in next month's Downstream and also on the FREP website.
Meet at east end of the student parking lot on West Wilson Street
Tent provided, if raining



Tour the project created on Batavia High School property with Batavia High School teacher Dan Renz, students, and a large group of community partners.

The Wilson Street Pond Restoration Project started as an idea shared by students and teachers Dan Renz and Donna Detrick to introduce some biodiversity into the campus of BHS. They wanted an area like this that could be used by classes to study and enjoy. It started towards the end of spring 2018, where students assisted in writing the grant and designing a baseline plan for the pond.

Through various community partners, listed below, the Wilson Street Pond has started to flourish. In the Fall of 2018, there was a school work day where every Bio and AP Environmental Science student helped out by planting plugs, weeding, spreading mulch, and/or spreading seed. Later, there were a couple community days to assist in maintaining the site. Students continued to assist in the spring with AP Environmental Students planting even more aquatic placed plugs. The site is a work in progress, but it is an exciting work in progress.

#### Community Partners

ILDNR Schoolyard Habitat Grant  
 Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District  
 Applied Ecological Services  
 The Conservation Foundation  
 Midwest Groundcovers  
 Kramer Tree Specialists  
 Natural Communities Native Plants

Anna Bakker and Super Bulldog  
 Fermilab Natural Areas  
 Batavia Mother's Club Foundation Grant  
 The City of Batavia, Public Works for "No Mow" Signs  
 Julia Dauskurdas, BHS student, graphics

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 FREP Membership Meeting 1 PM

**Program:** Fox River Corridor Plan

**Presenter:** Kate Evasic and Kelsey Pudlock, CMAP

**Location:** Cary Village Hall, Board Room, 655 Village Hall Dr., Cary, IL 60013

FREP Executive Committee will meet at 11 AM

Check our [Website News Page](#) for information about additional upcoming Noon Networks & Meeting Programs

All FREP Membership Meetings & Programs, and FREP Noon Networks are free and open to the public. Reservations are not required. Most Noon Networks accommodate us bringing our lunch to eat during the program.

Many of our past **Noon Network & Membership Meeting presentations** are available in pdf form [HERE](#)

FREP is happy to offer Professional Development Hour (PDH) certificates for our Noon Networks and Membership programs. There is a place on our sign-in sheet to request one, or, just ask!

#### President's Message

You probably did not know that this week (August 25-30) is **World Water Week**. I wouldn't have known either but for



MWRD Commissioner Debra Shore's recent newsletter (always very interesting and thought provoking). World Water Week is organized by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) and is a large annual focal point and gathering for global water issues.

SIWI strongly believes that water is key to future prosperity and that together, we can achieve a water wise world. They focus on the global issue of clean water for all. And with advancing climate change, we know that water shortages for large populations are a reality, not just a future prediction.

Here in the Fox Valley, we tend to take our abundant and relatively clean water for granted. FREP has been about improving our water quality for more than 20 years.

**How have we done?** *Is both our river water and our groundwater as clean as it could be?*

**Will it sustain our suburban society?** *How do we tackle the issues of chloride and nutrients in our runoff?*

**How can we make sure** *all (people and nature) in our watershed have access to enough clean water, and that all who are downstream of us do as well (all the way to the Gulf)?*

Bringing it down to some specifics for our watershed is partly the goal of a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load). And this will be the topic of our September meeting hosted at the Lake Barrington Village Hall. Come with your questions. We all need to be better informed and take the actions that we can to help improve the sustainability and water quality of our watershed.

**Jeff Mengler, Hey and Associates, FREP President**

**Watershed Partners/Links**

- Illinois: [Friends of the Fox River](#) [Fox River Study Group](#) [Fox Valley Sustainability Network](#)
- Wisconsin: [Southeast Fox River Partnership](#) [Southeastern Wisc Fox River Commission](#) [Illinois Fox River Group](#)

*my part of the watershed*

Send us a photo from your part of the Fox River Watershed and we'll feature it in a future *Downstream*

**Monthly feature in the *Downstream***

**Help us share the beauty and activities in our Fox River Watershed**

**We want a photo from YOU!**

Email your jpg to Becky Hoag at [foxriverinfo@comcast.net](mailto:foxriverinfo@comcast.net)  
Please provide your name, photographer's name (if different), and the location & county, and in what season it was taken

*my part of the watershed*

*Winter is coming. . .*





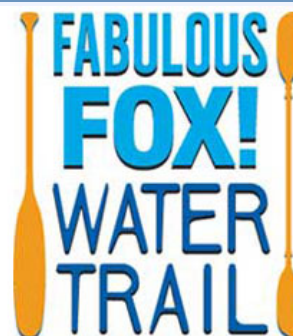
An Oak Tree in Northern DeKalb County - August, October, November, December  
Photos by Tom Robbins

See his wonderful collection of photographs from around the state and country [HERE](#)

#### WI-IL Fox River Water Trail Initiative



*Wisconsin  
and Illinois  
partners  
working with  
the National Park  
Service  
to create the:*



FREP has joined with the Southeast Wisconsin Fox River Partnership and the Village of Waterford, Wisconsin, to pursue the designation of all or portions of the Fox River in Wisconsin and Illinois as a National Water Trail through the National Park Services' National Water Trail System. Technical assistance from the NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program has been awarded and planning is now proceeding.

#### **Core Development Team (CDT)**

**Co-Chairs:** Karen Miller, FREP, for Illinois

Barb Messick, Village of Waterford, WI, for Wisconsin

Angie Tornes, National Park Service; Greg Farnham, Rock River Trail Initiative; Brian Daly, CMAP; Tom Slawski, Southeast Wisconsin Fox River Partnership; Rick Kania, SEWRPC; Jaki Berggren, Visit McHenry Convention & Visitors Bureau; and Dave Blank, Real Racine Convention & Visitors Bureau. Sigrid Pilgrim and Jodie Auliff, Illinois Paddling Council, ad hoc members.

The Core Development Team met at the Department of Public Works in Burlington, Wisconsin on August 7th. The Team reviewed the written and map comments received at the five open houses held in June. Members from Wisconsin and Illinois discussed the comments and will investigate their feasibility and edit the map and website where appropriate.

The team also performed a gap analysis along the Fox River. This analysis included identifying areas along the River where distances between existing access sites exceeds five miles. Five miles is the maximum distance recommended by the National Park Service. The Team will look for public lands where needed access sites may be recommended.

FREP Membership Roll 2019-20 We are at 65% of our goal

Thank you to our members listed below who have already responded to our Membership Drive  
You are helping to keep FREP strong.

(showing dues received as of 8/29/19)

Dues statements for 2019-20 were sent out to current members in June

TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES/TO JOIN FREP:

Use the online membership form and link to make your payment through PayPal [HERE](#)

A printable/mailable form [HERE](#)

Links to member websites are provided, when available

Michael Ander, Friend, Sleepy Hollow  
Paul Anderson, Friend, Geneva  
Barrington Area Council of Governments  
Batavia Park District  
Thomas Berres, Friend, DeKalb  
Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LTD  
City of Aurora  
City of Batavia  
City of Elgin  
City of Geneva  
Linda Cole, Friend, Aurora  
Nancy Cox, Friend, St. Charles  
Crystal Lake Park District  
DeKalb County Forest Preserve District  
Deuchler Engineering Corporation  
Bill Donnell, Friend, Aurora  
Dundee Township  
Sarah Duple, Friend, East Dundee  
Engineering Enterprises, Inc. - EEI  
Environmental Defenders of McHenry County  
Fox Metro Water Reclamation District, Oswego  
Fox River Water Reclamation District, South Elgin  
Geneva Park District  
Hey and Associates  
Holly Hudson, Friend, Elgin

Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District  
Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District  
June Keibler, Friend, Dundee  
Living Waters Consultants  
McHenry County  
McHenry County Conservation District  
McHenry County Conservation Foundation  
North Cook County Soil & Water Conservation Dist  
Oswegoland Park District  
Jason Pettit, Friend, Aurora  
Larry Rakunus, Friend, St. Charles  
St. Charles Park District  
Jack Shouba, Friend, St. Charles  
Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter & Valley of the Fox  
Cindy Skrukud, Friend, Richmond  
The Conservation Foundation  
Tyler Creek Watershed Coalition  
United City of Yorkville  
Village of Algonquin  
Village of Millbrook  
Village of Oakwood Hills  
Village of Port Barrington  
Village of Round Lake  
Village of Sleepy Hollow

The membership roll is also posted on our website [HERE](#).  
Links are provided for those members who have websites

We share this list in each issue so that readers of Downstream can easily find links to our members,  
to promote communication and collaboration on Fox River watershed issues.

### Watershed Planning

A number of Fox River subwatershed groups are in various stages of developing, completing, and implementing plans for their watersheds. They are listed below, with links to their webpages/websites.

FREP continues to be a central source of information for these activities and will post meeting dates and information, and news of new planning here in the **Downstream** and on our website [HERE](#).

#### Mill Creek Watershed Planning

CMAP, in collaboration with Kane County, is coordinating the development of a watershed-based plan for the Mill Creek Watershed in east-central Kane County. FREP is assisting with communications for this effort and will be posting updates in the Downstream e-Newsletter and on the Mill Creek Watershed Plan page on the FREP website.

**Mill Creek Contact:** Holly Hudson, CMAP Project Manager, [hhudson@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:hhudson@cmap.illinois.gov), 312-836-8700

[CMAP page on Mill Creek](#) [FREP's Mill Creek page](#)

Photo of Mill Creek at Rt. 31 by Mooseheart, by Ken Gortowski



**UPDATE:** Outreach to communities and organizations with a stake in the Mill Creek watershed was wrapped up during August to identify opportunities for planning, policy, education, monitoring, and on-the-ground best management practices (BMPs) to help project and improve water and habitat quality. During the past month, CMAP staff met with the Friends of the Fox River, Lake Charlotte HOA, Fox River Study Group, Forest Preserve District of Kane County Environmental Education Department, and Kane County Planning Division. CMAP staff has mapped the site-specific BMPs submitted by stakeholders in preparation for the next step of estimating pollutant load reductions for applicable BMPs. Additionally, CMAP and Kane County staff developed "watershed-wide BMP scenarios" to account for common BMP types – including infiltration trenches, vegetated swales, rain gardens, permeable pavements, green roofs – that could potentially be implemented throughout the Mill Creek watershed but are not associated with a site-specific location at this time. Pollutant load reductions and planning level costs for both the site-specific and watershed-wide BMP scenarios will be included in the final plan which continues to be developed.

The Mill Creek Watershed Planning Steering Committee met on August 27 to review the list and mapped locations of the site-specific BMP submittals and learn about the assumptions made in developing the watershed-wide BMP scenarios. The committee also provided input on interim milestones for documenting progress as well as pollutant load reduction targets toward meeting plan goals of protecting and improving water quality in the Mill Creek watershed and downstream Fox River.

A final draft of the plan is due to Illinois EPA in early September and will be available on FREP's [Mill Creek webpage](#). If you have any questions about the project, comments on the draft plan, or would like to be added to the contact list for Mill Creek Watershed-based Planning news and events, please contact Holly Hudson at CMAP: [hhudson@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:hhudson@cmap.illinois.gov) or 312-386-8700.

The first draft of the Mill Creek Watershed-based Plan is posted to the FREP website [Mill Creek page](#) [HERE](#)

**9 Lakes Watershed Plan** [Webpage](#)

**Blackberry Creek Watershed** [Webpage](#)

**Boone-Dutch Creek Watershed** [Webpage](#)  
Contact Holly Hudson at CMAP: 312-386-8700,  
[hudson@cmmap.illinois.gov](mailto:hudson@cmmap.illinois.gov)

**Ferson-Otter Creek Watershed** [Webpage](#)

**Flint Creek Spring Creek Watershed Partnership**

The group was recently notified that:  
2018 Flint Creek Watershed Plan Update – 2018 meets the threshold of the required USEPA minimum requirements for the development of a watershed-based plan.  
[Website](#)

**Jelkes Creek-Fox River Watershed Coalition** [Webpage](#)  
**Newsletter**

Next meeting: **Monday, Nov. 18, 6 PM**  
Schweitzer Environmental Center (SEC), the brick house on the top of the hill located at Schweitzer Woods Forest Preserve, 16N690 Sleepy Hollow Road in West Dundee.

**Nippersink Creek Watershed** [Website](#)

**Silver & Sleepy Hollow Creeks Watershed Coalition** [Webpage](#)

**Tyler Creek Watershed** [Webpages](#)

**Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month**  
4:30 p.m. at the Riverside Water Treatment Plant,  
375 W. River Road, Elgin IL

**Woods Creek Watershed Study Stakeholders** [Website](#)

#### Other Activities & News of Interest

**If you have an activity or event you'd like FREP to share on our Website or in the Downstream, please email the information to Becky at:**  
[foxriverinfo@comcast.net](mailto:foxriverinfo@comcast.net)

<b>Wednesday September 4 9:30 - 11 AM or 5:30 - 7 PM</b>	<b>EnviroScape Training - Friends of the Fox River</b> Schweitzer Environmental Center 16N690 Sleepy Hollow Rd, West Dundee IL 60118 Offered for municipalities and educators in the Fox River watershed. Friends of the Fox River has received 5 new enviroscape models through grant funding and would like to make these available to loan. <a href="#">FLYER</a> Please RSVP to Gary Swick at: <a href="mailto:greenswick@gmail.com">greenswick@gmail.com</a>
<b>Tuesday September 17 3-6 PM</b>	<b>CMAP Small Plans, Big Ideas Forum - Harnessing technology for a safer future</b> Wauboonsee Community College Downtown Campus How can municipalities in the Chicago region best approach technology changes? Hear from a panel about responsibly sharing data and leveraging CMAP's research and innovation services to help communities prosper, improve safety, and bolster inclusive growth. Panel of local leaders includes Elizabeth Irvin, Transportation Director at the Center for Neighborhood Technology, Michael Pegues, Chief Information Officer of the City of Aurora, and Mayor Joe Gallo of the City of Rolling Meadows. <a href="#">Info/Register</a>
<b>Wednesday September 25 10 - Noon</b>	<b>Fox Valley Sustainability Network Plastics Pollution: Tackling a Global Issue Locally</b> The Centre, Elgin <a href="#">Please Register - Space Limited</a>
<b>September 30, October 1 or 2</b>	<b>Lake County Stormwater Management Annual Deicing Workshops</b> September 30: Parking Lots & Sidewalks; October 1 and 2: Roadways Online pre-registration is required by September 25 <a href="#">More information and Register Here</a>
<b>Tuesday October 29</b>	<b>VETO Session Clean Energy Lobby Day, Springfield Illinois Environmental Council</b> <a href="#">Info/Register</a>
<b>April 14-20, 2020</b>	<b>2020 National Watershed and Stormwater Conference</b> , Center for Watershed Protection Austin, Texas <a href="#">Info/Registration</a>

Suburban Illinois Regional Conservation Message Survey prepared for The Conservation Foundation August 2019

#### EPA Announces 2019 Campus RainWorks Challenge

EPA is pleased to announce the rules for the 8th annual Campus RainWorks Challenge, a green infrastructure design competition for United States institutions of higher education that seeks to engage with the next generation of environmental professionals, foster a dialogue about the need for innovative stormwater management techniques, and showcase the environmental, economic, and social benefits of green infrastructure practices. Stormwater pollution is a problem that impacts public health and water quality in communities across the country. The Campus RainWorks Challenge invites today's students to become part of the solution.

To learn more about Campus RainWorks visit <https://www.epa.gov/campusrainworks> and check out the official 2019 Campus RainWorks Challenge Competition Brief. The brief contains details on the challenge's design categories, submission requirements, and rules for participation. Submission deadline December 17, 2019

**Tips on how to properly recycle:** [Video](#) prepared by the Illinois Task Force for Recycling Contamination, shared by Kane County Recycling.

#### Illinois Environmental Council's

Environmental Executive Report: Recommendations for the Illinois Governor - 2019-2022

**Prairie Rivers Network:** [RiverWeb News](#)

FREP members -- please remember the Downstream when you wish to share information about an activity, job listing, or achievement. Email your information to Becky Hoag, generally by the 20th of the month, to make the next issue that comes out at the end of the month.

**Becky Hoag, Communications Manager, Fox River Ecosystem Partnership** 630-482-9157 [foxriverinfo@comcast.net](mailto:foxriverinfo@comcast.net)

Please email me if you have an email to add to our mailing list.

**FREP WEBSITE:** [foxriverecosystem.org](http://foxriverecosystem.org)

 **FREP on Facebook**

This newsletter is posted on the FREP Website on the [Downstream Newsletter Archives Page](#)