

The Whitewater River Watershed Newsletter

WELCOME AND THANKS FOR READING

For those of us living in the Whitewater River Watershed we know that it is a beautiful, peaceful, serene place to relax, and raise a family. From kayaking, canoeing, camping, fishing, to simply enjoying the gorgeous views we all have a stake in protecting our very own precious resource. Recently, the Whitewater River Watershed Project received funding from a grant funded by the Environmental Protection Agency's 319 program. This program supplies grant money for local groups and organizations to address non-point source pollution. After hiring an outreach coordinator, Chelsea Tooley, and hiring a technical coordinator, Heather Wirth, the project began planning and moving forward. The Whitewater River Watershed Project has hosted two public meetings and two steering committee meetings. The project is still looking for interested citizens who would like to be involved in the project. For more information contact Heather Wirth at 1-812-926-2406 Ext. 3 or Chelsea Tooley at 1-812-689-4107 for more information about our upcoming events and meetings.



About the Whitewater River Watershed

The Whitewater Watershed (HUC 0508000308) includes approximately 159,884 acres. The watershed lies in Dearborn and Franklin counties in Indiana, and Butler and Hamilton counties in Ohio. The acreage in each county is as follows: Dearborn 24,903, Franklin 87,239, Butler 20,679, and Hamilton 27,063 acres. The majority of the watershed is rural, which is made up of farm fields, pastureland, woodland, and sporadic large lot housing developments. Larger urbanized areas within the watershed include St. Leon, West Harrison Bright, and Harrison. There are many other smaller rural communities located throughout the watershed. Whitewater's headwaters start in Franklin County just south of the town Old Bath and flows southeast to Hamilton County in Ohio where it reaches its confluence with the Great Miami River.



Facebook: Whitewater River Watershed Project
Website: <http://www.dearborncountywatersheds.org>

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SWCD

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Upcoming Events

The Whitewater River Watershed Project and its partners are always planning and hosting new and exciting events.

Franklin County Fish Orders Due: April 14th
765) 647-2651 ext. 3

Whitewater River Watershed Project Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: April 17th
TIME: 6:00pm
LOCATION: Harrison Library

Franklin County SWCD Tree Giveaway (for Franklin County Residents)

DATE: April 24th
TIME: 7 am – 4 pm
LOCATION: Franklin Co. SWCD Office

Dearborn County SWCD Tree Giveaway (for Dearborn County Residents)

DATE: May 2nd
TIME: 7 am – 4 pm
LOCATION: Dearborn Co. SWCD Office

Pond Workshop

DATE: May 17th
TIME: 8 am – 12 pm
LOCATION: Gladys Russell Wildlife Refuge

Get Involved

The Whitewater River Watershed Project is looking for concerned citizens and volunteers of all ages to help with this project. This is a great way to get up close and personal with your own watershed in your own backyard. You can be a part of clean ups, field days, and other events. For more information on how to get involved in the watershed projects events contact Chelsea Tooley, outreach coordinator, at 1-812-689-4107

In addition, the project is seeking citizen leaders to participate in our steering committee. The steering committee is the governing body of the project and will make important decisions for the project that will influence the community, citizens, and the future of the project. The next Steering Committee meeting is **Thursday April 17th** at 6pm at the Harrison Public Library. For more information contact Heather Wirth, technical coordinator, at 1-812-926-2406 ext. 3

Monitoring Efforts

Currently, the Whitewater River Watershed Project is conducting monthly water monitoring. Each month, the technical coordinator, Heather Wirth, collects water samples that are then sent to a professional quality lab and analyzed. Some of the parameters included are temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, phosphorus, E. coli, and nitrates. Historically, many of the streams in the watershed have had E. coli levels that exceed the state standards and segments impaired for dissolved oxygen. For more information contact Heather Wirth at 1-812-926-2406 Ext. 3 or by email at heather.wirth@in.nacdn.net