

# The Bull Creek Stakeholders Association

cordially invites you to...

**Saturday, October 20, 2001**  
**9:30 am – 3:00 pm**

- 9:30 am: Registration, Beach Park Village Hall  
11270 W. Wadsworth Road
- 10:00 am – noon: North Watershed Tour
- Noon – 1:00 pm: Lunch and Speakers, Beach Park Village Hall  
Featured guest: Randy Stowe, Natural Areas Ecosystem Management
- 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm: South Watershed Tour



The BCSA Dead River Watershed Tour will bring together local stakeholders to learn about their watershed and share perspectives on water resource issues facing local government, businesses, and riparian landowners within the watershed community for Bull Creek, Glen Flora Tributary and the Dead River. Each leg of the tour will visit selected locations in the northern (Bull Creek) and southern (Glen Flora Tributary/Dead River) portion of the watershed. Tour stops will illustrate interrelationships between upstream and downstream sites in Zion, Beach Park and Waukegan and highlight key issues such as drainage, flooding, erosion, and sedimentation. Technical and natural resource experts will be on-hand at various stops to offer site-specific information and answer questions. The lunch hour will feature a speaker and an opportunity to discuss possibilities for cooperative projects to improve the water resources of the Dead River watershed.

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Who should attend: Public officials, municipal planners, engineers, business owners, land owners, and other interested stakeholders

Cost: \$10.<sup>00</sup> cost for all or part of the day includes tour transportation and box lunch and is payable by cash or check the day of the event.

Participants may attend the tour of their choice and are encouraged to attend the entire day. The lunch session is highly recommended for all. **To RSVP, fax this form to 847-244-5164 or email [bullcreek4@home.com](mailto:bullcreek4@home.com) with this info:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to attend the (check one or more):  Morning (north) tour  Lunch session  Afternoon (south) tour

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This event and the Bull Creek Stakeholders Association (BCSA) are supported by a generous Watershed Assistance Grant from the River Network. BCSA's mission is to protect and enhance the water resources of the Dead River watershed in an environmentally responsible and economically efficient manner, while respecting the interests of stakeholders throughout the watershed.

# Bull Creek Stakeholders Association

## Dead River Watershed Tour Program Saturday, October 20, 2001

**9:30am–9:45am** Registration at Beach Park Village Hall

**9:45am–10:00am** Welcome, Introductions and Tour Overview

Welcome: Ben Barber, Watershed Coordinator  
Bull Creek Stakeholders Association

Issues Overview: Patty Werner, Watershed Planner  
Lake County Stormwater Management Commission

**10:00am–12:30pm** Morning Tour – Bull Creek / Dead River  
Sites 1 through 7

**12:30pm–1:30pm** Lunch and Feature Presentation

Introduction: Joe Hughes, Bull Creek Stakeholders Association

Featured Speaker: Randy Stowe, Natural Areas Ecosystem Management

**1:30pm–3:00pm** Afternoon Tour – Glen Flora Tributary  
Sites 8 - 12

**3:00pm** Closing Comments

### Site Experts

Chris Tanner, Tanner Environmental  
John Moore, City of Waukegan  
Patty Werner, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission  
Joe Hughes, Bull Creek Stakeholders Association  
Randy Stowe, Natural Areas Ecosystem Management  
Deb Nelson, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Don Wilson, Illinois Beach State Park

# Tour Notes

## Morning Tour: Bull Creek / Dead River

**Site #1: Greenshire Golf Course**

**Issues: Channelization, erosion, water quality, streambank stabilization**

Several hundred feet downstream of its source at the Waukegan Regional Airport, the South Branch of Bull Creek flows through Greenshire Golf Course – a 9 hole, par 3 golf course managed by the Waukegan Park District. The channelized portion of the creek along the northern edge of the golf course illustrates the way streams are often modified to suit local land uses rather than integrated into landscape design. Channelization – the straightening of a stream channel to increase water flow – increases the potential for downstream erosion. Moderate streambank erosion can be observed even in this headwater reach of Bull Creek. Grounds maintenance staff have expressed interest in exploring streambank stabilization options for the creek.

**Site #2: Eagle Ridge Apartment Complex**

**Issues: Urban runoff, stormwater detention, sediment retention, water quality, habitat protection**

The small wetland at this recently constructed apartment complex illustrates a common approach to managing urban runoff and stormwater drainage. Wetlands reduce the rate at which runoff enters the stream, provide valuable natural habitat, and act as natural filters, capturing sediments and improving water quality. The stormwater detention pond located further south demonstrates another effective, yet less desirable approach to managing stormwater runoff.

**Site #3: Waukegan Regional Airport**

**Issues: Urban runoff, stormwater detention, water quality**

Waukegan Regional Airport is the headwater source for the South Branch of Bull Creek. Runways, taxiways and hangars create a high proportion of impervious surface on this property. All the airport's stormwater runoff flows through tributaries and into Lake Michigan. Approximately half drains directly into Bull Creek through a network of storm sewers, open ditches and detention areas flowing toward the northeast corner of the property. Future runway expansion and hangar development will place additional pressure on on-site drainage systems and Bull Creek.

**Site #4: James Creek Residential Development**

**Issues: Development impacts, sediment control, stormwater detention**

This 22-unit housing development is typical of developments still occurring in the Bull Creek drainage basin. Ideally, new developments should attempt to maintain predevelopment runoff volumes by using structural controls and pollution prevention strategies. For this development, a small detention pond has been built for the temporary storage of storm water runoff. During and after major rain events, water and unsettled pollutants are released directly into Bull Creek to prevent flooding. Construction impacts may include increased sediment runoff, compacted soils,

improper disposal of construction wastes and excavated material, disposal of wastewater from foundation and other construction areas, and diversion of water flows. Post-construction concerns include water pollution resulting from the use of lawn care chemicals, automotive fluid runoff, and improper disposal of household hazardous wastes.

**Site #5: Storm Sewer Expansion Project (Coolidge Ave.)**

**Issues: Flooding and flood damage, stormwater discharge, erosion control, landowner concerns and public perceptions**

Storm sewers were recently expanded to address chronic flooding problems along several blocks of Coolidge Avenue. A recent proposal to further increase storm water inflows at this location reflects a strong desire to move more water faster through the system. It also raises important issues concerning the need to balance flood damage reduction with increased stream flows and erosion control.

**Site #6: Paxton Drive / Bull Creek Ravine**

**Issues: Erosion, streambank stabilization, habitat protection**

The downstream reaches of Bull Creek flow through ravines such as the one illustrated at this site. The impacts of erosion and sedimentation resulting from increased runoff and more concentrated upstream discharges are easily observed. The potential for serious property loss or damage resulting from streambank erosion is also obvious at this site. A restoration plan has been proposed for this reach that employs bioengineering techniques such as riffle / pool construction and use of riparian vegetation to stabilize the stream channel and banks.

**Site #7: Illinois Beach State Park**

**Issues: habitat protection**

Bull Creek eventually enters the wetland complex located along the western edge of Illinois Beach State Park. Sedimentation and pollution from upstream sources are threatening wetlands and other sensitive riparian habitats within the park. Construction of a new access road in 1996 resulted in significant hydrological modifications to Bull Creek and the wetland complex that feed the Dead River. A storm sewer installation project is planned for the north portion of the park that may also impact Bull Creek.

# Tour Notes

## Afternoon Tour: Glen Flora Tributary

**Site #8: Shopping Center / Parking Lot**  
**Issues: Commercial development, urban runoff, water quality**

The shopping center located at Lewis Avenue and Yorkhouse Road is the origin of a system of storm sewers and drainage ditches that become the Glen Flora Tributary. Runoff from the Target / Jewel-Osco parking lot drains into a series of large storage pipes that lie beneath this raised parking lot. The pipes act as a temporary detention structure as water passes through a restrictor pipe and into a storm sewer located at the southeast corner of the lot.

**Site #9: Lyons Woods Forest Preserve**  
**Issues: Open space preservation, sediment retention, habitat protection**

Lyons Woods Forest Preserve is a 264-acre preserve of the Lake County Forest Preserve District containing low to moderately high quality mesic and wet prairies, oak woodlands, and graminoid fen communities. The western half of the Preserve is located within the Bull Creek sub basin, where water flows northwestward and then north towards Bull Creek. Although no drain tiles have been observed on the site or mapped by the Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District, a hydrologic investigation is considered a priority since portions of Lyons were once farmed. All hydrology restoration actions will retain more water on District land and reduce the volume and rate of runoff rate into adjoining properties. Water quality will be improved due to the longer storage retention.

**Site #10: Storm sewer discharge**  
**Issues: Storm sewer discharge, water quality**

This location is the origin of the channel commonly referred to as the Glen Flora Tributary. A 48" storm sewer running east along Montesano Avenue and north on Poplar Street discharges into an open channel on Glen Flora Golf Course grounds. This site reflects the integration of a vast network of storm sewers, drainage ditches, and stream channels typical throughout the watershed.

**Site #11: Bowen Park**  
**Issues: Open space preservation, recreation, habitat protection**

The natural character of this ravine offers a contrast to the one viewed previously at Paxton Drive. Dense vegetation and plenty of space for a naturally meandering stream channel help to minimize erosion. Easy access makes a short hike to explore the Glen Flora Tributary possible at this location.

**Site #12:       Johns Manville Property**  
**Issues:         Brownfield reclamation, water quality**

The 350-acre Johns Manville property is a former building and roofing materials manufacturing facility. Operations ceased in 1998. Approximately 20 buildings on the site were recently demolished as part of an industrial clean-up. The Waukegan Park District is currently in negotiations for the purchase of a 100-acre parcel to be developed as a recreational sports facility. The Johns Manville property site is the downstream receptor of all point and non-point source inputs to the Glen Flora Tributary, which enters a system of 4 lagoons through a channelized ditch that runs parallel to the Chicago and Northwestern Railway. Some water also enters the lagoons from Illinois Beach State Park. The lagoons cover approximately 100 acres of the site. Water is eventually pumped into Lake Michigan through a discharge pipe in accordance with a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

***BENJAMIN D. BARBER***

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2700 N. Hampden Ct., #12D Chicago, Illinois 60614 ■ Tel (312) 315 - 2716 ■ Email [frontline@acninc.net](mailto:frontline@acninc.net)

November 26, 2001

Joseph Hughes  
Bull Creek Stakeholders Association  
9797 Paxton Drive  
Beach Park, Illinois 60099

Dear Joe,

Congratulations on a successful Dead River Watershed Tour last month. Thanks to the generous support of the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, BCSA members, Nu-Age Charters, the Village of Beach Park, and our site experts, a larger and better informed constituency now exists for protecting and enhancing the water resources of the Dead River Watershed.

Attached is the summary report detailing results of the tour. An attendance profile, expense summary, results of the feedback survey, and participant contact list are included in the report. A copy of the report has also been provided to Patty Werner. We will be available to present the report at the BCSA annual meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Please contact me beforehand if you have questions or need additional information regarding the summary.

Thanks for the opportunity to produce this event for BCSA and citizens of the Dead River Watershed community. We look forward to continuing our work with the landowner training workshop this spring.

See you on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

Ben Barber and Emily Steadman  
Consultants

# **Summary Report**

## **Dead River Watershed Tour**

**November 26, 2001**

*Prepared for:*

**Bull Creek Stakeholders Association**

*Prepared by:*

**Benjamin D. Barber  
and  
Emily K. Steadman**

**Watershed Coordinators**

## **Executive Summary**

### **Dead River Watershed Tour**

On October 20, 2001, the Bull Creek Stakeholders Association sponsored the Dead River Watershed Tour. The two-part tour featured a total of twelve sites along the routes of Bull Creek in Beach Park, Dead River in Illinois Beach State Park, and the Glen Flora Tributary in Waukegan. Tour sites illustrated how land use, stormwater management, and natural factors influence urban watersheds.

The purpose of the tour was to introduce participants to water resource issues and the interrelationships between upstream and downstream sites. Specific objectives were to:

- Introduce the concept of a watershed,
- Illustrate how land use, stormwater management, and natural factors influence urban streams,
- Highlight the issues facing stakeholders in the Dead River Watershed,
- Identify key inputs to local waterways and opportunities for improving drainage, water quality, and habitat of the Dead River Watershed, and
- Provide an opportunity for participants to share watershed concerns and discuss possibilities for cooperative projects to improve the water resources of the Dead River Watershed.

This report details results of the watershed tour event. Discussion of promotional strategies, participation, expenses, participant feedback, and recommended next steps are included. Highlights are summarized below:

- Over 400 landowners and 25 other stakeholders were introduced to BCSA through a direct mail promotional piece. Thousands of others were reached through a press release that appeared in a local newspaper.
- Twenty-eight landowners, public officials, and natural resources professionals attended the event. Seven natural resources professionals and landowners also served as site experts.
- More than 60% of participants were landowners (including BCSA members); 25% were natural resources professionals or local public officials.
- A total of 10 participants (including 3 couples) became BCSA members as a result of the event, approximately doubling the size of BCSA's membership list.
- Ninety-four percent (94%) of participants responded "well" or "very well" when asked to rate how well the tour accomplished its intended objectives. Nearly 80% of respondents rated the overall organization and presentation of the tour as "excellent."
- Total expenses were \$719.46. Donations in the amount of \$240.00 and in-kind services of \$2,200.00 were received to offset expenses.

The watershed tour created a larger, better informed constituency supportive of BCSA activities. Landowner participants are eager to learn more and likely to participate in future BCSA events. Several next steps are recommended to capitalize on the interest generated as a result of the tour.

## **Summary Report**

### **Dead River Watershed Tour**

#### **Introduction**

Over time, changes in surrounding land use have altered and gradually degraded Bull Creek in Beach Park, Dead River in Illinois Beach State Park, and the Glen Flora Tributary in Waukegan. Drain tiles used to improve the land for farming initially changed flow patterns and water quality in these streams. More recently, urbanization has increased flooding in the upland reaches of the watershed, worsened erosion in the downstream ravines and increased loads of sediment and pollutants to Illinois Beach State Park.

To address these concerns, Bull Creek Stakeholders Association (BCSA) was formed in 1999 to protect and enhance the water resources of the Dead River Watershed in an environmentally responsible and economically efficient manner, while respecting the interests of stakeholders throughout the watershed. BCSA's mission is being fulfilled through projects and activities that emphasize public awareness, landowner education, coordination among all stakeholder jurisdictions, and cooperative planning and restoration. Funding for these activities comes from member donations, public and private watershed assistance grants, and other in-kind contributions.

As part of the organization's public education program, a tour of the watershed was held on October 20, 2001. Twenty-eight landowners, public officials, and natural resources professionals visited twelve sites along Bull Creek, the Glen Flora Tributary, and the Dead River. Seven natural resources professionals and landowners also served as site experts. Environmental consultant Randy Stowe of Natural Areas Ecosystem Management discussed problems being encountered by riparian landowners, their causes, and possible solutions. A total of 10 new BCSA memberships resulted from the event. Direct outreach to over 400 landowners and indirect contact with thousands more throughout the watershed were also accomplished.

This report details results of the watershed tour event. Discussion of promotional strategies, participation, expenses, participant feedback, and recommended next steps are included. An event agenda, tour map, feedback survey form, and participant contact list are included as attachments.

#### **Purpose and Objectives**

The intended purpose of the watershed tour was to introduce participants to water resource issues and the interrelationships between upstream and downstream sites in the Dead River Watershed. Specific objectives were as follows:

- Introduce the concept of a watershed,
- Illustrate how land use, stormwater management, and natural factors influence urban streams,
- Highlight the issues facing stakeholders in the Dead River Watershed,

- Identify key inputs to local waterways and opportunities for improving drainage, water quality, and habitat of the Dead River Watershed, and
- Provide an opportunity for participants to share watershed concerns and discuss possibilities for cooperative projects to improve the water resources of the Dead River Watershed.

### **Promotion**

With assistance from senior GIS staff at Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC), a landowner contact list was prepared from a county parcel map and address database. Land parcels located within 300 feet of Bull Creek, Glen Flora Tributary and Dead River were selected from the database. Duplicate entries were removed, as well as those with non-existent postal addresses. The final list consisted of 436 landowners and 25 local stakeholders.

Landowners and other stakeholders were introduced to BCSA through a direct mail piece consisting of a cover letter, event announcement, and BCSA brochure. Thousands of others were reached through a press release that appeared in the News Sun, a local newspaper covering Beach Park, Zion and Waukegan. Event notices were also posted on announcement boards at village offices, libraries, and parks. SMC staff, one Lake County Commissioner, several BCSA members and other municipal staff promoted the event at committee meetings and other gatherings.

Media press releases and word-of-mouth promotion proved to be the two most effective strategies for generating attendance. Although few attended the tour as a result of receiving the mailer, it did serve as an effective means of making a direct first-contact with landowners throughout the watershed.

### **Participation and Attendance**

The target audience for the tour consisted of municipal planners, engineers, natural resources professionals, public officials, riparian landowners and other interested stakeholders. Twenty-eight landowners, public officials, and natural resources professionals attended the event. Seven natural resources professionals and landowners also served as site experts.

The tour was promoted as a two-part event: a morning tour covering the northern portion of the watershed, and an afternoon tour covering the southern portion of the watershed. Over half the participants attended the entire day. More than 60% of participants were landowners (including BCSA members), and 25% were natural resources professionals or local public officials. A total of 10 participants (including 3 couples) became BCSA members as a result of the event, approximately doubling BCSA's current membership.

Fewer municipal officials and technical staff attended than expected. Eight natural resources professionals indicated an interest in attending but could not due to scheduling conflicts (see participant contact list). Representatives from Zion and Beach Park were significantly underrepresented. Limited promotion and opposition from the Mayor of Beach Park are likely explanations for this turnout. Developing greater awareness and

stronger working relationships with public officials in these communities is needed to increase support for and participation in BCSA activities.

A profile of attendees is provided below.

<b>ATTENDANCE RESULTS</b>		
<b>Participation</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Attendance</b>		
Total Attendance	<b>28</b>	<b>-</b>
Attended Full Day	<b>15</b>	<b>54%</b>
Attended Morning / Lunch Only	<b>13</b>	<b>46%</b>
<b>Attendance Profile</b>		
BCSA Member	<b>3</b>	<b>11%</b>
Landowner	<b>14</b>	<b>50%</b>
Planner / Natural Resource Professional	<b>5</b>	<b>18%</b>
Public Official	<b>2</b>	<b>7%</b>
Other	<b>4</b>	<b>14%</b>

### **Event Summary**

Prior to departing for the tour, BCSA Watershed Coordinator Ben Barber welcomed participants, introduced Bull Creek Stakeholders Association, and reviewed the day's agenda. Patty Werner, Watershed Planner at Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, presented an overview of the Dead River Watershed. The tour was presented in two parts, and included twelve sites along Bull Creek, the Glen Flora Tributary, and the Dead River. A total of seven site experts answered questions and discussed stormwater management, habitat, and water quality issues at each site.

The morning tour began in the upland reaches of Bull Creek and the headwaters of its south branch at Waukegan Regional Airport. The issues of urban runoff, stormwater detention, and drainage were discussed. Further downstream, participants viewed the effects of erosion, sedimentation, and non-point source pollution along the ravines that make up the creek's lower reaches and the high quality wetlands in Illinois Beach State Park. The morning tour concluded at the Park with a 15-minute presentation and short hike led by Natural Heritage Biologist Deb Nelson and Site Steward Don Wilson.

During the lunch break between tours, BCSA President Joseph Hughes extended an invitation to join BCSA for one year at no extra cost. Featured guest Randy Stowe of Natural Areas Ecosystem Management delivered a 20-minute presentation that discussed problems being encountered by riparian landowners, their causes, and possible solutions. Mr. Stowe took several questions from landowners and offered to speak individually to those with questions specific to their own properties.

The afternoon tour highlighted commercial development, urban runoff, open space preservation, and brownfield reclamation in the southern part of the watershed. Tour stops included the underground origins of the Glen Flora Tributary beneath a Waukegan

parking lot, its emergence from a storm pipe at Glen Flora Golf Course, and the ravine east of Bowen Park. The tour ended at the Johns Manville industrial site.

### Feedback Results

A feedback survey was distributed to measure the success of the event. Fourteen of 28 surveys were returned, for a response rate of 50%. Half of those who responded were landowners. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Ninety-four percent responded “well” or “very well” when asked to rate how well the tour accomplished its intended objectives. All respondents rated both tours either “good” or “excellent.” Over 70% rated the value of the feature presentation as “excellent.” Nearly 80% of respondents rated the overall organization and presentation of the tour as “excellent.”

Written comments reflected respondents’ satisfaction with the quality of information shared, knowledge of site experts, and opportunity to learn more about the watershed. Participants clearly appreciated the value of field visits to watershed sites reflecting a variety of concerns.

When asked to share what they enjoyed least about the tour, most respondents indicated a desire for more detail on actions individual landowners can take to improve the watershed and more time for site visits and questions and answers. Most of these concerns will be addressed at BCSA’s landowner training workshop in the spring of 2002.

A summary of feedback survey results is provided below.

<b>FEEDBACK SURVEY RESULTS</b>										
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Very well</b>		<b>Well</b>		<b>Adequately</b>		<b>Somewhat</b>		<b>Not at all</b>	
<i><b>How well did the watershed tour . . .</b></i>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Illustrate the concept of a watershed	9	64%	4	29%	1	7%	0	0%	0	0%
Identify upstream / downstream relationships	9	64%	4	29%	1	7%	0	0%	0	0%
Highlight issues facing stakeholders	8	57%	6	43%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Identify key inputs and opportunities for improving drainage, water quality and habitat	7	50%	7	50%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Presentation / Content</b>	<b>Excellent</b>		<b>Good</b>		<b>Fair</b>		<b>Poor</b>		<b>No response</b>	
<i><b>Rate the value of each of the following . . .</b></i>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Overall organization / presentation	11	79%	3	21%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Introduction	8	57%	5	36%	0	0%	0	0%	1	7%
Morning tour	10	71%	4	29%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Feature presentation	10	71%	3	21%	0	0%	0	0%	1	7%
Afternoon tour	5	36%	3	21%	0	0%	0	0%	6	43%

**Total Participants: 28**

**Total Surveys Returned: 14**

## **FEEDBACK SURVEY RESULTS**

### ***What did you enjoy most about today's tour?***

**Responses:** the exchange of information; good information; learning so much; question/answer; content and meeting the people involved; learning about our watershed; very informative; the enthusiasm of the presenters; personal view of watershed; excellent transportation, organization, and speakers; seeing the ravines; learning about relationship between upstream and downstream sites; seeing Illinois Beach State Park.

### ***What, if anything, would you change about today's tour?***

**Responses:** more detail on how individual efforts can benefit; information for what an individual landowner can do, steps to start process; fruit with lunch, longer Q&A regarding topics; allow more time; walk more of the ravines; the timing – earlier lunch, more time at park.

## **Expenses and In-Kind Contributions**

Total expenses were \$719.46. Donations in the amount of \$240.00 and in-kind services of \$2,200.00 were received to offset expenses. In-kind services include time and expenses for seven site experts, waiver of the speaker fee for the feature presentation, and transportation services.

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Budget Category</b>
Event announcement	\$ 73.63	TOUR
Postage	\$ 158.78	OTHER
Guidebook	\$ 287.90	TOUR
Speakers	\$ -	TOUR
Transportation	\$ 50.00	TOUR
Other Travel	\$ 149.15	OTHER
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 719.46</b>	

<b>Donations and In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Budget Category</b>
Membership Donations	\$ 240.00	-
Transportation	\$ 600.00	TOUR
Speaker Fee	\$ 200.00	TOUR
Volunteer Service Hours (7 @ \$200)	\$ 1,400.00	TOUR
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 2,440.00</b>	

## **Next Steps**

The watershed tour created a larger, better informed constituency supportive of BCSA activities. The majority of landowner participants are eager to learn more and likely to participate in future BCSA events. Potential also exists for increasing support for BCSA among public officials and municipal staff in Zion and Beach Park. Recommended next steps include:

- Follow-up with all participants to gather additional input for the landowner training workshop. Many are likely to participate in this event.
- Remain in contact with natural resources professionals and landowners unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts. Sponsor a 3-4 hour tour on a weekday for those interested in learning more about the watershed to generate additional support for BCSA plans. Endorsement of BCSA projects by several of these individuals will be valuable in securing funding from the State of Illinois, Chicago Wilderness, and other funding sources.
- Increase efforts to engage local public officials, municipal staff, and landowners in Zion and Beach Park. Stakeholder interviews, local press releases highlighting positive developments, and networking through existing contacts are possible strategies in this area.
- Co-sponsor with Illinois Department of Natural Resources an additional education event at Illinois Beach State Park that highlights the impacts of continued degradation. Several landowners specifically expressed interest in spending more time in the park and would likely attend an event that reveals the risks these sensitive natural areas face from additional sedimentation and water quality degradation.
- As membership grows and participation in BCSA events increases, consider establishing a quarterly or semi-annual newsletter to keep landowners and other stakeholders informed of educational opportunities, watershed developments, and restoration activities.

Landowner follow-up to gather input on landowner training workshop content is already underway. Additional stakeholder interviews also will be scheduled with stakeholders in the Zion and Beach Park communities.

***Attachments:***

Event Notice

Pre- and Post-Tour Press Releases

Watershed Tour Agenda

Watershed Tour Map

Participant Contact List

Landowner Contact List

Feedback Survey Form

## EVENT EVALUATION SUMMARY

### Dead River Watershed Tour — October 20, 2001

# of attendees: 28

# of respondents: 14

I am a: **7** Landowner **2** Planner / Natural Resource Professional **2** Public Official **3** Other:  
Engineer, IBSP, not specified

I attended (check all that apply): **8** Full Day **5** Morning Tour **4** Lunch **0** Afternoon Tour **1** not marked

#### How well did today's tour:

1. Illustrate the concept of a watershed?

**9** *Very well*      **4** *Well*      **1** *Adequately*      **0** *Somewhat*      **0** *Not at all*

2. Identify the interrelationships between upstream and downstream sites?

**9** *Very well*      **4** *Well*      **1** *Adequately*      **0** *Somewhat*      **0** *Not at all*

3. Highlight the issues facing stakeholders in the Dead River Watershed?

**8** *Very well*      **6** *Well*      **0** *Adequately*      **0** *Somewhat*      **0** *Not at all*

4. Identify key inputs to local waterways and opportunities for improving drainage, water quality and habitat of the Dead River Watershed?

**7** *Very well*      **7** *Well*      **0** *Adequately*      **0** *Somewhat*      **0** *Not at all*

#### In each of the following areas, how would you rate the value of today's tour?

Overall Organization and Presentation      **11** Excellent      **3** Good      **0** Fair      **0** Poor

#### Content

Introduction      **8** Excellent      **5** Good      **0** Fair      **0** Poor      **1** not marked

Morning Tour      **10** Excellent      **4** Good      **0** Fair      **0** Poor

Feature Presentation      **10** Excellent      **3** Good      **0** Fair      **0** Poor      **1** not marked

Afternoon Tour      **5** Excellent      **3** Good      **0** Fair      **0** Poor      **6** not marked

What did you enjoy most about today's tour? the exchange of information; good information; learning so much; question/answer; content and meeting the people involved; I enjoyed learning about our watershed; very informative; the enthusiasm of the presenters; personal view of watershed; excellent transportation, organization, and speakers; seeing the ravines; learning about relationship between upstream and downstream sites; seeing Illinois Beach State Park; [1 no response]

What, if anything, would you change about today's tour? more detail on how individual efforts can benefit; info for what an individual landowner can do, steps to start process; fruit with lunch, longer Q&A re: topics; allow more time; walk more of the ravines; the timing - earlier lunch, more time at park; [8 no response]

Additional comments: I thought it was a wonderful tour. Thank you.; It's just right.