

# WORKSHOP FOR **RIPARIAN** LANDOWNERS

**Saturday, June 15, 2002**  
**8:30am – 1:30pm**

**Lilac Cottage in Bowen Park**  
**1911 N. Sheridan Road, Waukegan**

As a riparian, or streamside, property owner, you have a unique opportunity to impact flooding, erosion, water quality, and other factors affecting your watershed community by how you manage the riparian corridor and stream channel where it flows adjacent to your property. So where do you start, what do you do, and how much does it cost? What are the options, and where can you find help? This workshop will provide you with the information you need to evaluate common riparian issues and consider a range of environmentally-sound and cost-effective management practices.

The workshop will be largely based on a locally-produced publication by the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, *Restoring and Managing Stream Greenways: a landowner's handbook*. A hands-on, relevant introduction to riparian land management, the workshop is designed specifically for property owners on Bull Creek, Glen Flora Tributary, and Kellogg Creek. It will provide a valuable opportunity to learn directly from technical professionals how to implement watershed best management practices on your property.

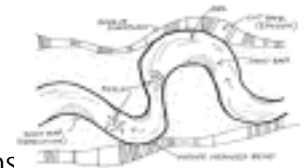
## ***Learn how to...***

Manage vegetation  
Curb erosion  
Reduce flooding  
Stabilize streambanks  
Improve stream habitat  
Minimize debris accumulation  
Prevent pollution



## ***Get the facts about...***

Stream dynamics  
Technical assistance programs  
Cost share opportunities  
Conservation easements  
Landowner rights & responsibilities



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- Who should attend: Homeowners, Business Owners, and other Riparian Landowners;  
Public Officials, Municipal Planners and Engineers; Other Interested Stakeholders
- Cost: \$15.00 includes box lunch, handbook, and transportation to/from field site;  
payable by cash or check the day of the event
- Location: Lilac Cottage, 1911 N. Sheridan Rd., is located within Bowen Park in Waukegan, IL;  
accessible through the park's southern entrance
- What to bring: Come prepared for both indoor and outdoor activities; we will be traveling (by  
bus) to a nearby field site. A box lunch will be provided if you RSVP by June 12.
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The Workshop for Riparian Landowners is co-sponsored by the Bull Creek Stakeholders Association (BCSA), the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, and the

Waukegan Park District. This event and 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.

----- Please RSVP by June 12. -----

To RSVP, fax this form to 847-244-5164, mail to Bull Creek Stakeholders Association, 9797 Paxton Drive, Beach Park, IL 60099, or email [bullcreek4@attbi.com](mailto:bullcreek4@attbi.com) with the following information:

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

Address (incl. City & Zip Code): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please check here if you would like a *vegetarian* box lunch.

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## Bull Creek Stakeholders Association

invites you to attend a

Saturday, June 15, 2002

8:30am – 1:30pm

**WORKSHOP FOR  
RIPARIAN  
LANDOWNERS**

Co-sponsored by:



Lake County  
Stormwater  
Management  
Commission



# Bull Creek Stakeholders Association

## Workshop for Riparian Landowners Saturday, June 15, 2002

- 8:30am–8:45am**    **Registration at Lilac Cottage in Bowen Park, Waukegan**
- 8:45am–9:00am**    **Welcome, Introductions, and Workshop Overview**
- Welcome:        *Ben Barber, Watershed Coordinator, Bull Creek Stakeholders Association*
- Introductions: *Joe Hughes, President, Bull Creek Stakeholders Association*  
                      *Cameron Bettin, Manager of Planning Services, Waukegan Park District*  
                      *Patty Werner, Watershed Planner, Lake Cty. Stormwater Mgmt. Commission*  
                      *Randy Stowe, Environmental Planner, Natural Areas Ecosystem Management*  
                      *Christie Deloria-Sheffield, Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*
- Overview:        *Emily Steadman, Watershed Coordinator, Bull Creek Stakeholders Association*
- 9:00am–9:30am**    **Introduction to Urban Stream Management**  
                          Stream Processes  
                          Traditional Stream Management Approaches and Consequences  
                          Natural Stream Management Philosophies & Practices
- 9:30am–9:40am**    **Break**
- 9:40am–10:30am**   **Visit Field Site #1: Glen Flora Tributary at Bowen Park, Waukegan**
- 10:30am–11:30am** **Visit Field Site #2: Bull Creek (main branch) at Paxton Drive, Beach Park**
- 11:30am–12:00pm** **Visit Field Site #3: Bull Creek (south branch) at Leland Ave., Beach Park**
- 12:00pm–1:00pm**   **Lunch and Presentations at Lilac Cottage**  
                          Floodplains and Permit Requirements  
                          Opportunities for Monitoring Stream Health
- 1:00pm–1:45pm**    **Special Site Visit to Washington Park, Waukegan**  
                          Waukegan River Restoration Project  
                          *Steve Wikner, Landscape Architect, Waukegan Park District*
- 1:45pm–2:00pm**    **Workshop Conclusion**

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# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

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**TO:** All Media; Dan Moran, Charles Selle-News Sun, John Flink-Chicago Tribune,  
Daily Herald Metro Desk, Laura Stewart  
**FROM:** María Cecilia Arza, Manager - Communications & Marketing  
Phone: 847-360-4726 Fax: 847-244-7904 Cell: 815-347-4772  
**CONTACT:** Ben Barber, Watershed Coordinator, Bull Creek Stakeholders Association  
(312) 335-0041 / frontline@acninc.net  
**DATE:** June 10, 2002 page 1 of 3  
**RELEASE:** Immediate

**Workshop for Home Owners along Streams Offered this Week**

**WAUKEGAN, IL ---** Local media are invited to attend Bull Creek Stakeholders Association's "Workshop for Riparian Landowners" on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Co-sponsors include Waukegan Park District and the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission.

In a recent survey of riparian landowners, nearly 80% of respondents said they experience moderate to extreme erosion on their property. Erosion control and streambank stabilization are central workshop topics. The workshop includes visits to properties on Bull Creek in Beach Park and the Waukegan River and Glen Flora Tributary in Waukegan. Field presentations by Waukegan Park District, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission and Natural Areas Ecosystem Management present excellent opportunities for photos and/or interviews with participating landowners.

A timeline and directions to field sites are attached. Recommended photo opportunities include the Glen Flora Tributary at Bowen Park (9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.), Bull Creek near Greenshire Golf Course (11:45 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.) and Waukegan River at Washington Park (1:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.).

*Contacts on the day of the event are Joe Hughes at (847) 872-4943 or Emily Steadman at (773) 968-9368. A copy of our original media announcement is also attached. If time and space allow, a brief printed notice this week would be very much appreciated.*

## ***FIELD SITE DIRECTIONS and TIMELINE***

Field Site #1: Bowen Park, then – Sheridan Road north to Paxton Drive -- Paxton Drive east to Field

Site #2: 9797 Paxton Drive – Paxton Drive west to Sheridan Road – Sheridan Road north to

**Wadsworth Road – Wadsworth Road west to Lewis Avenue – Lewis Avenue south to Leland Drive –**

**Leland Drive east to** Field Site #3: 11357 W. Leland – Leland Drive west to Lewis Avenue – Lewis

**Avenue south to Beach Road – Beach Road east to Sheridan Road – Sheridan Road south to Bowen**

**Park, Waukegan – < lunch / indoor session > – Sheridan Road south to Grand Avenue – Grand**

**Avenue west to Utica Street – Utica Street south to Water Street – Water Street west to Field Site #4:**

Washington Park – Water Street east to Utica Street – Utica Street north to Grand Avenue – Grand

**Avenue east to Sheridan Road – Sheridan Road north to Bowen Park.**

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. **Introduction: Stream Dynamics and Watershed Basics**

9:30 – 9:45 a.m. **Walk to Field Site #1**

9:45 – 10:30 a.m. **Field Presentation: Glen Flora Tributary at Bowen Park**

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. **Travel to Field Site #2**

10:45 – 11:30 a.m. **Field Presentation: Bull Creek at 9797 Paxton Drive**

11:30 – 11:45 a.m. **Travel to Field Site #3**

11:45 – 12:05 p.m. **Field Presentation: Bull Creek at 11357 W. Leland**

12:05 – 12:15 p.m. **Travel to Bowen Park**

12:15 – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch / Discussion: Permitting, Landowner Rights and Responsibilities,  
Local Resource Contacts, Q&A and Wrap-up**

### **Optional Site Visit**

1:00 – 1:15 p.m. **Travel to Field Site #4 (optional)**

1:15 – 1:45 p.m. **Field Presentation: Washington Park**

1:45 – 2:00 p.m. **Return travel to Bowen Park**

Streamside landowners, municipal officials, and others in the Dead River and Kellogg Creek watersheds are invited to attend a Workshop for Riparian Landowners on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. The event is being co-sponsored by Bull Creek Stakeholders Association, Waukegan Park District, and Lake County Stormwater Management Commission.

“Landowners who attended our watershed tour last fall wanted to know more about what they could do to maintain the stream as it flowed through their own properties,” said Joe Hughes, president of Bull Creek Stakeholders Association. “This workshop is one of the ways we’re working to reduce erosion and improve habitat and water quality as the creek flows into Illinois Beach State Park.”

Participants will visit local properties along Bull Creek and the Glen Flora Tributary, where local natural resources experts will demonstrate best practices for managing streamside vegetation, reducing erosion, and minimizing debris accumulation. The workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Lilac Cottage in Bowen Park, 1911 N. Sheridan Road in Waukegan. The cost is \$15.00 and includes a box lunch, landowner handbook, and transportation to and from several local field sites. RSVP is required by June 11 – contact BCSA at (847) 872-4943 or [bullcreek4@attbi.com](mailto:bullcreek4@attbi.com).

Bull Creek Stakeholders Association is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing the water resources of the Dead River Watershed. The event is made possible through a Watershed Assistance Grant from River Network, a national river advocacy organization.

**An Overview of**  
***Restoring and Managing Stream Greenways: A Landowner's Handbook***  
by Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission

**Overall goal:** Provide alternatives to streamside property owners that will allow them to evaluate common stream management problems and opportunities from an ecologically-sensitive perspective.

**Main topics:** streamside landscaping, channel maintenance, streambank stabilization, stream greenways

**Guiding principals:**

- Effective management must address the stream and its riparian corridor as an integrated whole. The resultant stream *greenway*, a linear corridor of open land, can provide multiple, mutually-supportive functions, including habitat protection, water quality enhancement, flood storage and conveyance, and recreation.
- Techniques used for stream and river management systems must be *multi-objective*. Techniques designed for a single purpose, without full consideration of their effects on other functions, are destined to cause or aggravate stream use conflicts.
- Techniques used for stream protection or mitigation should be *sustainable*, that is, they should address identified problems without the need for excessive or costly future maintenance, and with minimal adverse effects on the surrounding environment.
- Stream corridor management should rely on *natural* techniques, wherever feasible. Natural techniques are derived from systems and materials that have evolved in nature over thousands of years. The techniques recommended in this handbook, such as soil bioengineering methods for channel stabilization or landscaping with native vegetation, often deviate substantially from conventional landscaping and engineering strategies.
- Recommended stream management techniques must be *cost-effective*. Considering the large network of stream channels in northeastern Illinois, the region generally can not afford expensive solutions. Low-cost techniques are more likely to be implemented by a higher percentage of streamside landowners.

**Overview:**

Stream ecosystem dynamics (pp. 5-9)– The handbook describes some of the important natural functions of stream corridor ecosystems. Included are descriptions of watershed relationships, hydrology, channel morphology, water chemistry, aquatic habitat, and riparian buffer systems.

Traditional management approaches and their consequences (pp. 10-12)– The handbook briefly describes the impacts of watershed development and traditional single-purpose, “engineered” approaches to stream management. It addresses some of the adverse consequences to natural habitats and stream functions of practices that physically alter the stream channel or floodplain.

Natural management concepts (pp. 12-13)– The rationale for the use of native vegetation and natural materials is described, with suggested references, to serve as the basis for discussions of specific management techniques that incorporate a “design with nature” philosophy based on the guiding principals stated above.

Recommended management techniques (pp. 15-45)– Appropriate, ecologically-sensitive management techniques for addressing stream problems and for restoring natural functions are presented. These techniques include: streamside landscape buffers, stream channel maintenance, bank stabilization, instream habitat restoration, and accommodating trail access. For each management technique, appropriate implementation and management considerations are addressed. Information on suggested plant lists, materials, relevant cost factors, and maintenance is provided, where available. Suggested references and local project example(s) with contact person/organization are provided also.

Plant species (p. 23): Lists of suggested plants species mixes to be used on the lower bank during streambank stabilization, on the upper bank, in the riparian zone, or as cover crops. Also lists undesirable plant species.

Resource agencies (p. 47): One-page listing of local, regional, and state agencies that can provide information and/or support.

## **HOMEOWNER TIPS FOR STREAM MAINTENANCE**

### **STREAM “DO’S”**

Establish a 30 to 50 foot buffer and plant with “Native Vegetation”. These deep-rooted plants hold the soil while providing habitat for a variety of birds, butterflies and other little creatures.

Do not fertilize lawns or vegetation within 30 to 50 feet of the stream. Lawn care fertilizers, herbicides and insecticides are deadly to our urban streams.

Keep pet wastes from washing into the stream.

Leave “log jams” in the stream that do not cause bank erosion for in stream habitat.

Remove “log jams” in the stream that cause bank erosion. At a minimum, only remove debris that deflects stream flow into the bank and leave the rest alone.

Remove all non-indigenous trees, plants and shrubs on the stream bank and buffer (buchthorn, garlic mustard, etc).

Do not use the stream as a landfill. Lawn clippings kill stream-stabilizing vegetation.

Remove accumulated trash. Perhaps organize a “Stream Clean-up” Day.

Establish a “Storm Drain Stenciling” program in your neighborhood. Stencils usually read “no dumping, drains to creek” and have an outline of a fish.

Know your local soil erosion & sediment control ordinances and how they are enforced. Untreated construction site runoff is a major pollutant source in urban waterways.

### **STREAM “Don’ts”**

Do not attempt “home remedies” for streambank stabilization. Filling streams is not legal and homemade practices usually cause more harm than good.

Don’t add berms to the back of your property to prevent flooding or stormwater detention. These are not legal and could cause water disputes with neighbors.

Do not “level out” your backyard by eliminating depressions or drainage swales. These depression and swales are important areas for stormwater detention that may have been designed as part of the overall stormwater management plan for your neighborhood. Filling these areas could cause water disputes with neighbors.

Do not use stream water for irrigation or watering systems.

Don’t run sump pumps or wastewater pumps directly to a stream or creek. This often causes significant gully erosion.