

# Oct. 20 Dead River watershed tour set

■ **Two parts:** Preservation group sponsors event for landowners and municipal officials

NEWS SUN STAFF REPORT

BEACH PARK — A tour of the Dead River watershed for landowners, municipal officials and others is scheduled for Oct. 20.

The tour is being sponsored by the Bull Creek Stakeholders Association, an organization of local landowners dedicated to protecting and enhancing the water resources of the Dead River watershed.

The two-part tour traces the routes of Bull Creek in Beach Park, Dead River in Illinois Beach State Park and the Glen Flora Tributary in Waukegan. Collectively, these streams drain 18 square miles of land in Zion, Beach Park and Waukegan, making up the Dead River watershed.

The Bull Creek/Dead River tour runs from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The Glen Flora Tributary tour runs from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The cost for all or part of the tour is \$10, and includes tour transportation and lunch. Reservations are required. Call the association at

872-4943 or e-mail bullcreek4@home.com.

Tour stops will illustrate relationships between upstream and downstream sites and highlight key issues such as drainage, flooding, erosion and sedimentation.

Lunch will feature a presentation by environmental planner Randy Stowe, of Natural Areas Ecosystem Management, and an opportunity for landowners and other stakeholders to discuss cooperative projects to improve the water resources of the Dead River watershed.

Over time, changes in surrounding land use have altered and gradually degraded streams in the watershed. Drain tiles used to improve the land for farming initially changed flow patterns and water quality.

More recently, urbanization has increased flooding in upland reaches of the watershed, worsened erosion in downstream ravines, and increased loads of sediment and pollutants to Illinois Beach State Park.

To address these concerns, Bull Creek Stakeholders Association was formed in 1999.

"We are just beginning to understand the needs of the watershed in our own back yards," said Joe Hughes, director of the group. "We hope to share what we've learned so far for the benefit of other landowners in the watershed."

## Thirteen County groups, organizations awarded Illinois Arts Grants

NEWS SUN STAFF REPORT

State Sen. Terry Link, D-Vernon Hills, has announced that numerous groups and organizations in the 30th Senate District will be receiving Illinois Arts Grants.

Those groups and organizations include:

Arvs Viva in Lake Forest will receive \$21,000 for general operating support.

Barat College in Lake Forest will receive \$8,400 for Shakespeare on the Grene operating support.

Lake Forest Symphony Association will receive \$41,000 for general operating support.

Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, will receive \$21,000 for general operating support.

Attic Playhouse, Highland Park, will receive \$4,450 for general operating support.

Ballet Entre Nous, Winnetka, will receive \$4,180 for general operating support.

Eileen Boevers Performing Arts workshop, Highland Park, will receive \$21,000 for general

operating support.

Highland Park Cultural Arts Commission will receive \$7,190 for general operating support.

Highland Park Cultural Arts Commission will receive \$10,000 for the Community Arts Access Program.

North Suburban Library Foundation will receive \$10,780 for Literary circle project support.

Opera Studio of Highland Park will receive \$4,650 for general operating support.

Skokie Valley Youth Symphony will receive \$21,000 for general operating support.

Suburban Fine Arts Center will receive \$18,000 for Exhibition Program project support.

"I think this shows not only the strength of our arts community, but more importantly the depth of our dedication to the arts," Link said. "These grants are proof positive that the arts exist in the collar counties and that you do not need to go into a large metropolitan city to find those who practice and perfect their artistic abilities."