

# ST. JOSEPH RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE



## **Cedar Creek Watershed Management Plan Development**

### **Steering Committee**

**July 26, 2023 @ 4:30**

### **Teams Meeting**

### **Meeting Notes**

- In Attendance:
  - Mike Watson – DeKalb County Commissioner
  - Jim Shiffler – St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative (SJRWI) Board member
  - Therese Shiffler – SJRWI Board member
  - Greg Lake – Allen County SWCD District Coordinator
  - Gabe – Allen County SWCD
  - Ben Taylor – ACREs Land Trust
  - Bruce Bell – DeKalb County Drainage Board Chairman
  - Chad Shaw – Allen County SWCD Board Chair; Fort Wayne Parks and Rec
  - David VanGilder – Friends of Cedar Creek Board Chairman; Attorney
  - Bob Gillespie – SJRWI board advisor; Purdue FW Environmental Resource Center
  - Kyle Quandt – Quandt Consulting Services; SJRWI contractor
  
- Overview of first quarter deliverables/accomplishments
  - Kyle submitted first draft of WMP containing elements 1-3 to IDEM. IDEM approved the draft.
  - Submitted two press releases/news articles
  - Hosted two rain barrel workshops. 20 people in attendance with 21 rain barrels going home
  - Hoosier Riverwatch training was postponed until August/September
  - Water quality sampling Quality Assurance Project Plans submitted to IDEM for approval. Water sampling began in May at 12 sites bi-weekly. Greg and Gabe reported that they found some anomaly in Walter Smith Ditch where a discoloration of water was occurring. After further analysis it was found that it was leaching from upstream muck/peat soils.
  
- Overview of second quarter deliverables and needed assistance from Committee

- Public meeting and water quality workshop discussed. This meeting was held on July 26 at 6pm and 6:30pm, respectively at Well Grounded Café in Huntertown. Everyone was encouraged to attend.
- Draft WMP requirements include elements 4 – 14. Due Oct 22.
- Kyle mentioned that she will reach out to representatives from the three counties in the project area for assistance gathering GIS data specific to the county and is not available at other sites.
  - Gabe suggested reaching out to the health department as when he worked there he helped to map all tiles drains in the county.
- Kyle mentioned that one requirement of the next draft WMP is a windshield survey of the watershed. Kyle will reach out to the steering committee for assistance doing the windshield survey as two people are necessary.
- Set regular quarterly SC meetings
  - Kyle is unable to attend the next quarterly steering committee meeting. This meeting will be important as there will be land use data to present and discuss.
  - Kyle created a Doodle Poll to determine the best date to meet at 4:30 for the next SC meeting. <https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/ep2lYY2b>
  - Schedule as follows:
    - TBD
    - January 24, 2024
    - April 24, 2024
    - July 24, 2024
    - October 23, 2024
    - January 22, 2024

Next Meeting:

TBD: Please take the Doodle Poll to determine best date.

Adjourn: 5pm