

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM TASK FORCE
McHenry County Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock IL 60098
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2008 MEETING NOTES

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

The meeting began at 2:00 p.m. Attendees and participants included representatives from municipalities, townships, various organizations/agencies and interested public. Ms. McKinney began the meeting by welcoming participants and thanking them for their continued support. She informed attendees that if each person in the United States would take two minutes less time in the shower it would save 1 gallon of water that would save two times the amount of freshwater withdrawn from the Great Lakes daily.

The Mining Industry: Ms. McKinney introduced Randi Wille, Risk Manager, Meyer Material Company and Co-chair of the McHenry County Gravel Advisory Council (MCGAC). Meyer Material is one of the largest mine producers in the County with a total of 22 active mining operations in the County. For every miner employed, 39 other jobs are created. McHenry County mining operations employ more than 200 miners which equates to a total of 7,800 jobs in the county. The mining industry is a highly regulated industry. Mine operators are required to apply for permits from various federal, state and local agencies. McHenry County's regulations are some of the most stringent in the nation. Mr. Wille highlighted compliance and industry challenges for the mining industry. Dust Control and noise reductions strategies were outlined for the attendees. The McHenry County Gravel Advisory Council was established to provide a forum for local units of government and mining companies to address mine related issues impacting their communities. Mr. Wille noted that questions, comments and concerns regarding gravel mining questions may be addressed to Council Co-Chairs John Henriksen from the Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers or Steve Warnke from Meyer Material Company.

Regional Matrix for Water Resources Planning: Mr. Jeffrey Edstrom, Senior Project Planner, Geosyntec Consultants and delegate on the Regional Water Supply Planning Group and Kevin Dick from the Delta Institute joined committee members and provided a Water Conservation and Protection Matrix as prepared for the Northern Illinois Regional Water Supply Planning Group. The group was formed by executive order but because of the economic issues of the State, the third year funding has been pulled. Mr. Edstrom is a Senior Project Planner, Geosyntec Consultants and delegate on the Regional Water Supply Planning Group. He provided a presentation on water resources planning with the issue and general message involving Stormwater Management, Planning and Zoning, Sourcewater Protection, Demand Side Water Conservation, Water Reuse/Gray Water Use, and Public Education. The areas consists of Urban Areas – retrofitting, Older Suburban retrofitting, Mid-Age Suburban combined with retrofitting with proactive activities/practices and New Development proactive practices.

Project Updates: Observation Well Network – Ms. McKinney reported that it is hopeful that drilling of the wells will start this month. Getting all of the agreements signed has taken longer than expected. As well as drilling of the wells they will be installing data loggers into the well.

3-D Geological Mapping - Ms. McKinney reported that the 3-D Geological Mapping project has begun on schedule. The mapping schedule was reviewed.

Tammy Valentine-Garza: Intergovernmental Liaison: Ms. Valentine-Garza noted there is nothing available at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

Algonquin will be holding a "It's our River day event". This event will be held on September 20th from 1:00p.m.-4:00p.m. and involves river clean-up, kayak presentations and well as other events for those interested in attending.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Roger Bannerman from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on Rain Gardens and Water Conservation and Mark Phipps, McHenry County Planning and Development, Stormwater as a Resource will be speakers at the next meeting.

Upcoming Regional and Statewide Water Events:

Ms. McKinney noted that new reports are updated on the webpage regularly and requested task force member' review this information often. She requested the group to plug ahead and plan for the future. McHenry County is ahead of the curve

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on this issue and links are available for various information. There are a number of other reports as well and are under the announcements and publications. Updates for the Regional Water Supply Planning Group are available for review as well.

Other events not posted with today's agenda include the 2008 Groundwater Protection Policy Forum Groundwater Degradation and Sustainability, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, on September 24, 2008, 8:00a.m.-4:00p.m. at the Hotel Pere Marquette in Peoria IL. Another upcoming event includes the Source Water Protection Workshop, Illinois Section American Water Works Association (ISAWWA) and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency(IEPA) on October 29th from 8:30a.m.-3:30p.m. at the Hickory Grove Conference Center in Rochelle IL. McHenry County is has been invited to be the Keynote Presentation at the last two mentioned events. Information regarding these and other upcoming events are posted on the webpage as well.

September 10, 2pm – Northern Regional Groundwater Protection Planning Committee at the Boone County Health Department

September 10 – Conservation Design Seminar, Sugar Grove IL.

For information: <http://www.theconservationfoundation.org/>

September 17, 11am-3:30pm – Recycling, Reusing and Managing Stormwater at the University Center in Grayslake

September 23, 9:30 am-1 pm – Regional Water Supply Planning Group at the CMAP Offices, Sears Tower

October 8-9 – Illinois Water Conference at the Hilton Garden Inn in Champaign

For information: <http://www.iisgcp.org/ilwater/>

October 24 – Sustainable Cities Symposium – Lisle, IL

For information: <http://www.greensolutions.il.gov>

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting concluded at 3:28 p.m.