

MAY 2015 Watershed E-News

From the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission

Bull Creek Bull's Brook Watershed Council - June 18

This will be a lunch meeting held at St. Mary of the Lake University/Mundelein Seminary. Featured speaker will be Jason Navota, a Principal with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP). Jason will present the **Route 53/120 Land Use Corridor Plan**.

Thursday, June 18, 12:30 - 3 p.m.

St. Mary of the Lake University/Mundelein Seminary

Please RVSP to **Darcy Hertel**.

Watch **BCBB** for more information.



Tower Lakes Drain Watershed Partnership

Meetings held on the 4th Monday of each month.

The TLDWP covers the entire 9 Lakes Watershed planning area including the Villages of Lake Barrington, Tower Lakes, North Barrington, Port Barrington, Hawthorn Woods and Fox River Grove. See **TLDWP** for more information.

9 Lakes Management Plan

Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup General Membership Meeting - May 15

Brad Holcomb and Dean Kurth, from the City of Rockford's Stormwater and Environmental Program, will present the City's wet weather sampling program. Mike Adam, Senior Biologist for the Lake County Health Department's Lake Management Unit and DRWW Lakes Committee Chair, will present preliminary monitoring data that the County collected from spring runoff events to capture chloride concentrations. See **DRWW** for more information.

2 - 4 p.m., North Shore Water Reclamation District, 14770 W William Koepsel Drive, Gurnee

North Branch Planning Committee

The May 13th quarterly meeting is canceled, but please consider participating in the river clean-up day in lieu of attending the regularly scheduled meeting. Link to the **Chicago River Day clean-up** and pick a site to help clean up the river! Please watch your email for a brief survey seeking your input on the annual meeting, meeting topics and the future meeting schedule.

Chicago River Day in Lake County

Saturday, May 9, 9 a.m. - 12 noon

How to participate: (1) Register as a site captain or sign up as a volunteer at a clean-up site.

(2) Organize a clean-up at your 319 project site. Thanks for helping to improve water quality and wildlife habitat!



The McHenry-Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District is Requesting Your Attendance at Long Range Plan Workshop - May 13 in Libertyville

The Directors of the SWCD are asking for public input in helping us develop a long range plan which will span the next 10 years. Long Range Plans are an important tool to help guide present and future programs of the SWCD and public input is the key to developing relevant programs that will have a long term, positive impact on our environment. We will provide an overview of our existing programs and activities then ask for public input and ideas on programs and emerging issues. A light snack and refreshments will be provided. We look forward to your valued opinions and input for the future of the SWCD.

Wednesday, May 13, 2 p.m.

Libertyville Township Office, 359 Merrill Court, Libertyville

Please RSVP to ed.weskerna@mchenryswcd.org or call 815-338-0099.



ILMA Creating Tool for Mapping Fish Kills

The Illinois Lakes Management Association (ILMA) is developing an interactive method of posting fish kill locations (approximate to water body), species, and approximate number (of various species) along with recorded date. The Association is in the data gathering phase at the moment and soliciting information from its membership, lake communities, and service professionals. The moment sufficient data has been gathered and a viable map can be compiled ILMA will provide notice through its Facebook page, Twitter @saverh2o, and newsletter. To be added to the email distribution list or to submit information email ilma@ilma-lakes.org.

Free Workshop on Maintaining Your HOA Ponds, Swales and Natural Areas - May 19

Sponsored by the College of Lake County and SMC, this workshop is ideal for HOA board members and property owners responsible for maintaining stormwater Best Management Practices. Topics include typical maintenance activities, budgeting for maintenance, legal responsibilities, and an HOA case study. **Come early and visit with vendors who design, install and maintain stormwater management systems.**

Tuesday, May 19, College of Lake County, Wing C, Grayslake
Vendor exhibit starts at 6:00 p.m., workshop 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Workshop flyer



Lake County Green Conference: Creating a Resilient Economy - May 27

Come hear about the 2014 National Climate Assessment and the regional implications predicted for the Midwest. In our keynote, Mary Gade will identify regional implications from the 2014 **National Climate Assessment** and John Weiss from **Ceres** will lead the plenary session about building resilience with conservation strategies and supporting workforce education. Join with Lake County-based businesses and institutions to explore strategies for resource conservation and enhanced workforce education. At the end of the day we will take what we've learned and brainstorm what Lake County could look like 25 years from now, before taking part in the ground-breaking of the College of Lake County's geothermal field and a microbrew reception!

College of Lake County's conference website is now live: <http://www.clcillinois.edu/events/lake-county-green> with links for registration and sponsorship. Please share this link with your networks and encourage folks to register and to consider co-sponsoring the conference! Contact **David Husemoller**, LEED AP O+M Sustainability Manager, (847) 543-2643.

Breakouts 1: Smart Meter and Smart Grid Stormwater Mgmt. High School Outreach Programs
Breakouts 2: Efficiency & Renewables Water Conservation Higher Education/Advancing STEM Careers
Breakouts 3: Supply Chain Management Composting, Waste Mgmt. Attracting a Green Savvy Workforce

Be a Champion of Trees!

Beyond Arbor Day raise awareness of trees in your community by using tree tags from The Morton Arboretum. These free tags are available in two styles and come with instructions and other educational information.

Register for kits on-line. Choose to pick-up kits at The Morton Arboretum or have them mailed for a fee.



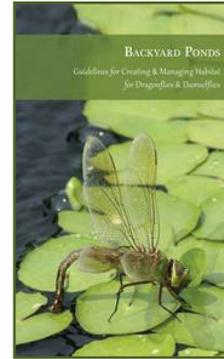
(Above) Option 1: Awareness tags come in sets of five as shown. These tags are ready to hang on trees in your community.

(Left) Option 2: Educational Tags provide a deeper explanation of the environmental benefits by each tree. Simply identify the tree, measure the diameter and use the on-line tool to complete the blanks. Hang the tag and educate passerbys.

Kits come with lesson plans based on curriculum standards.

Backyard Ponds: Guidelines for Creating and Managing Habitat for Dragonflies and Damselflies

This publication from the Migratory Dragonfly Partnership provides guidelines for landowners to help them create, manage, and maintain backyard ponds to attract dragonflies and damselflies. **Download your copy here!**



Reminders!

Barrel, Bin, Plant Sale - May 9

SMC, Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO), and the Lake County Forest Preserves' annual barrel, bin and plant sale.

- A rain barrel will save most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months, diverts water from storm drains also decreases the impact of runoff to streams, and collects water and stores it for use in your garden or yard.
- A compost bin turns kitchen and yard waste into a nutrient-rich soil amendment to grow bigger, healthier vegetables and plants.
- Native plants decrease the amount of water needed for landscape maintenance, produce long root systems to hold soil in place, and provide food and habitat for native wildlife.

Barrel and bin sale: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 9 only.

Native plant sale: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 9, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 10.

Independence Grove Forest Preserve's North Bay Pavilion, Libertyville.

50-gallon barrel \$60, and compost bins cost \$50.

More details.

- **Conserve Lake County's native plant sale - onsite sales start May 14, Grayslake.**
- **U of I Extension Service - Master Gardeners native plant sale - May 16, Grayslake.**
- **Lake Forest Open Lands native plant sale - May 16, Lake Forest. Check out the speaker presentations, too.**
- **Buffalo Grove's Rylko Park/Buffalo Creek stream clean-up - May 16**
- **Illinois River Watch Citizen Scientist Training - May 16. For more information: Matt Young, 618-468-2784 or email mpyoung@lc.edu.**

