

Oct. 10, 2006 Opequon Project Team meeting notes 6:00-8:00 p.m. Action items in RED

James Rumsey Technical Institute's Conference Room

(Times noted are approximate)

Facilitator: Alana Hartman, WV Department of Environmental Protection

Also present: Jared Bartley, Mary Beth Bennett, Sandra Bernardi, Randy Creller, Richard Demoske, Ron Gunderson, Jim Lawrence, Sharon Lee, Mary Palmer, George Snider, Bonnie Stubblefield,

Handouts: Alternative Energy Odyssey information, T.O.W.'s Abrams Cleanup information, Natural Stream Concepts workshop Oct. 13+14

6:00 –Introductions: heard from Jim Lawrence, the newly-hired Opequon Watershed Coordinator under the Targeted Watershed Grant. Several innovative BMP projects have begun to be monitored under the grant protocol, and currently they are just taking advantage of projects that were already in the works so they can get started and learn the process. There might be opportunities to do this in WV and we can think about projects already in the works or try to plan some. In VA they want to use “integrated wetland filters,” i.e. scrub ponds. Also a Ducks Unlimited/local landowner pocket wetland/storm drain out of development. Did a planting Friday. Monitoring devices will soon be installed above and below these practices.

-Also a comprehensive monitoring plan is in the works with DEQ, USGS, FW Service Auth., Friends of Shen. River, and TOW. OCPT could get involved in that, too.

-Richard mentioned carp in ponds, with Steve Catlett as contact.

6:15 – no new financial report but not much has changed since last month

6:20 - Upcoming activities: reviewed these and added CVI's Natural Stream Concepts workshop Oct. 13-14.

Jared Bartley, CVI: Step #2 of Subwatershed Prioritization

-Jared showed slides of data he and Tanya had compiled to try show by subwatershed:

- 1) level of tributary impairment for many pollutants, and
- 2) amount of information available for each subwatershed

There are many gaps in the data. Jared will be able to get some by next month, but there will still be many gaps because not all of our delineated subwatersheds were monitored extensively. He will continue to try to get DEP/TetraTech's TMDL data for next month so we can finish this process.

Comment: maybe snow control is putting nitrogen into Eagle Run?

Comment: concern about DO levels at the War Memorial Park natural stream restoration site on Tuscarora Creek – hopefully the same number of riffles as before, to stir up the water and increase DO.

6:30 Project Updates

1. Rain Barrel workshop – **for next time, consider Coca Cola plant in Hagerstown. Randy says they had barrels to give away, about a year ago.** (airport exit) Richard willing to drive truck if no CDL license required. After the Storm brochures given out at the event were nice, but if the title could be printed on left half of the front, it could be folded in half lengthwise and placed in brochure holders at the County gov't complex.

2. Tuscarora Creek tree planting site needs to be weeded. We proposed Oct. 23rd or 24th as workdays, but later learned Creekside Anglers had already chosen Nov. 4th.
3. logo/brochure/tabletop display: Sandra, George, and Tanya have been working on it. George and Alana attended EPCD meeting and received \$100 of support. Brochure will be on recycled paper; no extra cost. Sandra accepted comments on the logo colors/design.
4. . Judicial Center rain garden – City excavated week of 9/18. Soil delivered that week and City filled it in. Master Gardeners planted that weekend and the next week, added mulch. All was ready for Grand Opening Oct. 6. Rain Garden will be dedicated at a separate event later.
5. War Memorial Park – OCPT members could use a primer on natural stream design so they can talk with neighbors about why the changes here are good changes. Maybe Parks Dept. can pay for the shrubs in the spring instead of us. **Could try to get a speaker on this topic for a winter meeting.**
6. rain garden at Orchard View Intermediate – Mary Beth and Nancy of Master Gardeners have come up with a plant list. On hold until spring. People are still donating plants for it and it's on Nancy's plan of work.
7. Opequon Creek Assessment (by kayak, using TEAM method) 2 reaches left (ended up doing one on Oct. 23rd).
8. Opequon Watershed (VA and WV) Targeted Watershed Grant update – see Jim's update above. Also discussed working with local developer or engineering firm to install innovative BMPs in a new development, then monitor their effectiveness. Folks had some ideas. OCPT could offer to publicize the good work that's being done by the company.
9. Greystone development's "Backyard Conservation Tour. Rebecca conducted on 9/25; seemed successful
10. no update on landowner mailing to Jefferson County creekside residents
11. Monitoring: fecal coliform monthly monitoring has begun – Ron and Alana chose 4 sites and tried it today. Upstream and downstream of Scrabble Road WWTP effluent, and upstream and downstream of where Tuscarora Creek enters Opequon. That one was a dangerous streambank, though. Sandra will try to do by kayak next month.
-invertebrates: **contact Sherry Evasic and ask for a date for her to come help us with Opequon, then let the whole group and VA group know.**
12. Dupont Soccer Fields green parking lot – get Spring Mills Middle School's science club involved in spring.
13. NEW: Tour of Berkeley Co. PSSD Wastewater Treatment Plants – **suggest dates of 11/13 or 11/14 to Clifton and get back to the group**

=Adjourn 8:00
