



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Project Name: Boone Creek Watershed Restoration Action Strategy

Grant Recipient: Boone Creek Watershed Alliance

Project Location: McHenry, Illinois

Project Summary: Boone Creek is a watershed of 23.4 square miles in east-central McHenry County. It flows 13 miles from headwaters in Bull Valley, Woodstock, and unincorporated McHenry County before discharging to the Fox River in the City of McHenry. The watershed is largely in agricultural and low density residential uses along with substantial natural areas. Nearer its mouth are higher density residential and commercial uses.

The Boone Creek Watershed Alliance (BCWA) is a member of the broader Fox River Ecosystem Partnership. The BCWA's board of directors includes seven watershed landowners and agency representatives.

The mission of the BCWA is: *"to protect the integrity and biodiversity of the Boone Creek watershed ecosystem through partnerships that promote conservation, restoration, education and wise land-use planning."* One of the primary goals of the BCWA is to work with a wide range of individuals and agencies within the defined watershed boundaries to develop an integrated baseline data set describing the distribution and abundance of existing fauna and flora of the Boone Creek watershed and to assess the quality of the communities in which they are found. This goal led to the initial support for a watershed planning process that is described in this report, as well as the various inventories associated with the watershed plan.

In the early stages of the ongoing watershed planning process, the Boone Creek Watershed Alliance and stakeholders identified and prioritized issues in the watershed. This process led to the identification of the following principal goals.

- Protect Groundwater Recharge Zones and Groundwater Supplies
- Protect and Improve Fish and Wildlife Habitat
- Protect and Enhance Water Quality
- Protect and Restore the Stream Corridor
- Protect Open Space and Greenways
- Reduce/Prevent Flood Damages

For more information about this Alliance, please visit: <http://www.boonecreekwatershed.org/>

* Note, this project is not identified on the 319 Project location map.