



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

**Project Name:** **Stream Inventory**

**Grant Recipient:** Fox River Ecosystem Partnership in partnership with the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission

**Project Location:** Fox River Watershed

**Project Summary:** In cooperation with the Fox River Ecosystem Partnership (FREP), the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC) in 2002 began work on a Stream Inventory Project within the Fox River watershed which provides important information for the preparation of a Fox River Watershed-Based Plan (WBP). The Stream Inventory Project supports the scope of work laid out within a "Fox River Watershed Restoration Action Strategy - Phase 1" Section 319 grant received by NIPC that called for the compilation and evaluation of resource inventory data, formulation of water quality objectives, and selection and prioritization of nonpoint source control practices.

In brief, the stream inventory utilized the same field data form developed by the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission. Inventory elements included the following:

- channel conditions including bank erosion, channel dimensions, and bank vegetation;
- types, sizes, and locations of hydraulic structures (e.g., bridges, culverts) within the stream;
- types, sizes, and locations of all point discharges (e.g., pipes, ditches) into the stream;
- substrate composition (e.g., gravel, sand, clay) and water quality indicators (e.g., filamentous algae, oil and grease);
- instream fish habitat and other observations of aquatic plants and animals; and
- land use/land cover and vegetation types within the stream corridor.

The streams to be inventoried were chosen based on a prioritized list developed by FREP's Water Quality Committee. In all, the interns inventoried about 56 stream miles between Boone, North Branch Nippersink, and Slough Creeks in McHenry County; Poplar Creek in Cook and Kane Counties; and Blackberry Creek and its tributary Lake Run in Kane County. At the end of the summer, the interns were asked to write a brief summary of each stream's data and suggest rehabilitation and/or protection projects.

\* Note, the entire inventoried stream is represented as a point on the 319 Project location map.