



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Project Name: **Nippersink Creek Conservation Engineer**

Grant Recipient: The Nature Conservancy

Location: Ringwood, Illinois

Project Summary: A Nippersink Creek Watershed Conservation Engineer was hired to provide direct technical assistance covering a diverse range of activities in the Nippersink Watershed including:

- On-the-ground conservation-concept and -project development, including non-point source issues and riparian corridor restoration and management.
- Increased awareness among landowners, municipalities, and developers of the value of Nippersink Creek and potential threats and impacts.
- Education of the watershed community in the protection, management, and actions to improve water quality and habitat protection in the creek corridor.
- Coordination and enhancement of the capacity of conservation partners working in the watershed.

The successful role of the conservation engineer was to reach out to the watershed community and increase the awareness of the natural resources and the threats to maintaining the existing water quality. Much was learned and the efforts to date revealed that the program is a very valuable tool in the protection of resources from non-point source pollution. The goals for the project were far reaching and the perspectives gained from the project were incorporated into future efforts and focus for the Nippersink Collaboration Group, Nippersink Creek Planning Committee, and other groups. Several on-the-ground project concepts and action plans were initiated through the efforts of this program, which will have a long-lasting and positive effect on water quality.

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