

RIVER talk

NEXT BROWN BAG BRIEFING:

WINTER 2006-07

Road Salt and Water Quality

Brown Bag Briefings are casual lunchtime get-togethers featuring interesting speakers on timely topics, updates on UDPREP activities, and news from across the watershed.

At our next briefing in January, we'll learn how rock salt impacts our local waterways and explore the financial and environmental advantages of using alternative techniques to de-ice winter roads.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Shaina Keseley

Lake County Health Department, Lakes Management Unit
The Lakes Management Unit monitors water quality in lakes throughout the county and provides local authorities with management recommendations. Ms. Keseley will present the Unit's findings on water quality trends related to road salt. She will also give examples of plant damage and salt tolerance levels of aquatic life.



Mark DeVries

Maintenance Superintendent
McHenry County Division of Transportation
McHenry County is using cutting edge techniques to manage winter road conditions. Their effective, low-cost, liquid de-icing mixture won honors from the American Public Works Association and the National Association of Counties. One of the special ingredients of this award-winning concoction is beet juice! Mr. DeVries will provide an overview of road salt alternatives and talk about how McHenry County is using a combination of best practices and liquid mixtures to manage winter roads.

An open session of UDPREP's Planning Committee will follow the briefing. Everyone is welcome to sit-in on this meeting of advisors who help in planning UDPREP's activities.

Bonus: The Brown Bag Briefing will take place across the hall from the College of Lake County's brand new green roof. Installed in November 2006, it is reported to be the first green roof in Lake County. We'll have a chance to take a peek!

DATE:
Thurs., Jan. 25, 2007
TIME:
Noon to 1:00 pm
COST:
Free
LOCATION:
Room V338-340, 3rd floor, College of Lake County's Southlake Educational Center. 1120 S. Milwaukee Ave., Vernon Hills.
RSVP:
upperdesplainesriver@yahoo.com
REMEMBER:
You bring your lunch, and we'll bring good speakers – plus dessert!

Proposal Writing Assistance

Municipalities, individuals, businesses, and nonprofits are eligible to apply for a natural resource protection grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Conservation 2000 Program (C2000). Since its inception, C2000 has awarded over \$34.2 million in grants for habitat restoration, land acquisition, planning, research, and outreach projects across Illinois.

Back by popular demand, UDPREP will be offering its free C2000 pre-proposal review service in 2007. Applicants are invited to email their draft proposals to upperdesplainesriver@yahoo.com by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2007. UDPREP will convene a panel of experts to review the pre-proposals and meet with applicants individually to offer helpful suggestions and feedback. The panel will be meeting on Monday, January 29, 2007, and each applicant will be assigned a time slot. Applicants are strongly encouraged to include a draft budget and near-final narrative in the pre-proposal submission.

C2000 funding guidelines and application information are online at www.upperdesplainesriver.org/C2000.htm This web page also offers helpful proposal writing tips for beginners.



Evelyn Tyner sits next to the Skokie Public Library's green roof – one of four stops on UDPREP's 2006 watershed tour featuring green building and landscaping projects.

Learn more about UDPREP's 2006 watershed tour and other recent events on reverse.

RAIN GARDENS ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY

Soggy swales and pesky "wet spots" in the landscape are perfect locations for a rain garden! UDPREP will be hosting a seminar in February on how to use native plants to transform damp places into beautiful, thriving flower gardens.

Come learn how both municipalities and homeowners alike can use rain gardens and other landscaping techniques as attractive, effective ways to manage rain water. This event will offer step by step instructions on how to choose a location, prepare the site, install plants, and maintain the new garden. We will also discuss how rain gardens can help reduce flooding and pollution in our river.

We will post event details on our web site as they become available. Stay tuned to www.upperdesplainesriver.org

Fall Events Roundup



GREEN DESIGN IN ACTION: STORMWATER SOLUTIONS

On October 17, UDPREP's annual guided tour of the watershed featured a series of fascinating projects showcasing watershed-friendly approaches to developing land and managing stormwater. With project managers guiding the way, nearly 50 participants explored a green roof at the Skokie Public Library, a naturalized detention pond at the Vernon Hills Village Hall, a mature rain garden at Cumberland School in Des Plaines, and a green building and water-absorbing asphalt at Ryerson Woods in Deerfield. Visit www.upperdesplainsriver.org/2006_tour_highlights.htm to learn more.

Tour participants Ed Lebbos, Village of Lake Zurich, and Mea Blauer, Soil and Water Conservation District of Lake Co.

YOUTH LABOR: WIN-WIN OPPORTUNITIES

UDPREP's inaugural Brown Bag Briefing took place on September 7. Participants of this lunchtime gathering learned about the many opportunities to hire young people for conservation and beautification projects in our watershed. Four speakers from the Youth Conservation Corps and the Lake Co. Workforce Development Department talked about their programs which help train and place young workers. Visit www.upperdesplainsriver.org/bbb_youthlabor.htm for photos, highlights, and more information about these youth placement programs.

BRINGING BACK THE FISH!

On September 16, UDPREP and water resource specialists Jim and Pat Bland conducted a series of hands-on fish and insect monitoring workshops on the shores of Sanctuary Pond in Grayslake. Over 45 participants learned how scientists use these monitoring techniques to track the progress of the "Des Plaines River Fish Sanctuary Project" — an important effort to breed and re-introduce fish species that have nearly disappeared from our river system. Banded killifish, blackchin shiners, Iowa darters, and other fish are making a comeback thanks to this special breeding program. Visit www.upperdesplainsriver.org/IORD.htm for photos and highlights.

Workshop participants examine fish caught in Sanctuary Pond.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- Joe Chiczewski, K-Plus Engineering
- Doug DeWitt
- William Eyring, Center for Neighborhood Technology
- Mike Fitzpatrick, Tallgrass Restoration LLC
- Indian Creek Watershed Project Ltd.
- Village of Lincolnshire
- Nancy Williamson

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2007

Deadline to submit C2000 pre-proposals to UDPREP's review panel. See related story for details.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2007

Second meeting of the Marathon Outreach Committee. Everyone welcome. Visit www.upperdesplainsriver.org/marathon.htm for more information.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2007

UDPREP's Brown Bag Briefing. Topic: Road salt and water quality. Noon. See related story for details.

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2007

C2000 pre-applicants meet with UDPREP's review panel. 9:30 a.m. See related story for details.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2007:

Deadline to submit final applications for funding from C2000 Grant Program. 5 p.m. See related story for details.

Additional events and deadlines are posted on our web site at www.upperdesplainsriver.org/calendar.htm

THANK YOU!

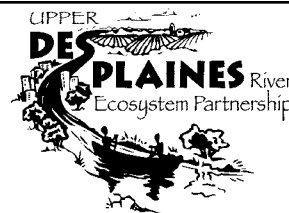
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Carolyn Anthony, Skokie Public Library
 Jim and Pat Bland
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 Nan Buckardt, Lake Co. Forest Preserves
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 Bill Eyring, Center for Neighborhood Technology
 Jennifer Filipiak, Lake Co. Forest Preserves
 Rob Flood, North Shore Sanitary District
 Tom Ganfield, Baxter & Woodman
 Buddy Hargett, Lake Co. Workforce Development

Demar Harris, Lake Co. Workforce Development
 Gillie Kilner, Whole Foods Market
 Andrew Kimmel, Lake Co. Forest Preserves
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 Nancy Williamson, IDNR, C2000

Upper Des Plaines River
 Ecosystem Partnership
www.upperdesplainsriver.org



UDPREP works to preserve, protect, and enhance the Upper Des Plaines River watershed through stakeholder education, collaboration, and technical assistance.