



Dix River Watershed Stakeholder Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2019, 5:30PM-7:30PM

I. Introductions/Attendees:

Malissa McAlister (University of Kentucky), Carole Lang, Preston Miles (CREEC), Paige Hackney (Hustonville Elementary), Margo Smith (Hustonville City Council), Bill Payne (Lincoln Co Sanitation District), Angie Muncy (Boyle Co Solid Waste), Randall Carrier (Lincoln Co Health Department), Peggy Bagwell (NRCS), John Scarpa (NRCS), Jane Vanhook (KRWW), Jim Adams (Lincoln Co Judge Executive), Jennifer Kirchner (CVB), John Cassel (City of Danville), Brett Werner (Centre/CREEC), Brent Blevins (Boyle Co Health Department), Jim Porter (KFTC), Linda Porter (KFTC), Shannon Scott (KFTC/Culligan), Alain Mills (KRWW), Ezra Lynn (KRWW), Jamie Hester (BCHS/ CREEC), Duane Campbell (Boyle Co Public Works), Deb Larkin (BGGs), Lindsie Nicholas (BGGs)

II. Watershed Plan Development and Past Projects in Dix River watershed (Malissa McAlister)

- a. Dix River Watershed is 424 sq mi, public water supply and major recreational resource
- b. Dix River Watershed Council established 2006
- c. 2006-2007 water quality sampling completed by Third Rock Consultants
- d. Clarks Run and Hanging Fork Watershed Based Plans approved in 2009
- e. Recommendations to address high bacteria levels: educate homeowners on septic systems, repair and replace septic systems or expand sanitary sewer coverage, reduce fecal inputs from livestock
- f. Recommendations to address inadequate riparian buffers: encourage private landowners to reduce streambank mowing, plant trees, work with Ag agencies to promote livestock exclusion fencing
- g. 2010 USEPA 319(h) grant to City of Danville for stream enhancement project and educational outreach
- h. 2011 USEPA 319(h) grant to Lincoln Co Conservation District for Agriculture best management practices including livestock exclusion fencing and offsite watering
- i. Herrington Lake Conservation League and NEW Volunteer Lake Sampling Program sample 10 sites on Herrington Lake every 2 weeks between May-October; looking for blue-green algae

III. Septic and riparian buffer projects in Clarks Run and Hanging Fork (Lindsie Nicholas)

- a. 2013-2016 USEPA 319(h) grant for septic system repairs in Dix River Watershed (33 septic system repairs and 23 septic tank pumpouts)
- b. 2017-2019 USEPA 319(h) grant to implement portions of the Clarks Run and Hanging Fork Watershed Based Plans
- c. Septic Care workshops and cost-share grants; Free septic tank pumpouts and riser installation and 80/20 cost-share grants for septic system repairs
- d. 13 of 17 pumpouts completed in Clarks Run and Hanging Fork watersheds
- e. 4 of 5 completed septic repairs and installations in straight pipe conditions

- f. Saving your Streambanks workshops and 80/20 cost-share reimbursement style grants
 - g. Five riparian buffer projects installed in Clarks Run and Hanging Fork watersheds;
 - Hustonville-Ruritan Park buffer and education signage, Clarks Run Trail buffer in Danville near 2nd Street pedestrian bridge, Lawson property buffer on Alum Springs Cross Pike, Wilderness Trace Solar phased buffer project, Denham property bank stabilization and buffer project
 - h. Community outreach at local events and K-12 education efforts
 - i. Watershed stakeholder meetings-reconvening watershed council
 - j. 2020-2021 project extension approved by KDOW
- IV. Hustonville-Ruritan Park buffer and park improvements (Margo Smith/ Lindsie Nicholas)
- a. Park improvements initiated to bring water quality education and demonstrations to the area along one of the only public access points to Hanging Fork
 - b. Concept plan includes streamside plantings, pavilion and parking lot improvements, rain garden, playground updates, an outdoor classroom and more
 - c. City of Hustonville/ Bluegrass ADD submitted application for a Land Water Conservation Fund grant for improvements-still waiting to hear
 - d. KY River Authority Grant and Bluegrass Greensource grant utilized for streamside buffer improvements and educational signage in summer of 2019
 - e. Clearing invasive species brought people to the park-Grand Opening Festival July 2019
- V. City of Danville stormwater projects (John Cassel)
- a. Danville is a Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) community with a general stormwater permit geared towards water quality that requires public education and outreach, public participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, erosion prevention and sediment control, post-construction BMPs, and BMPs for municipal maintenance areas
 - b. Floodway management and stormwater quality management often married together
 - c. City sampling tributaries of Spears Creek and Clarks Run
 - d. Danville Water Treatment Plant – Source Water Protection Grant for education on local water supply and water cycle, stormwater treatment demonstrations, boardwalk, and splash play area
- VI. Clarks Run Trail improvements and educational signage initiative (Jennifer Kirchner)
- a. Clarks Run Corridor – Michael E Smith Park (2nd Street) pedestrian bridge and riparian buffer improvements
 - b. McClure Village Trailhead – paved parking with rain garden and educational signage
 - c. Educational and directional signs (passive and active) for trails, water plant, and around Danville are in the works – accepting feedback on messaging
 - d. Woven Wire Mountain Bike Park and Urban Hiking Trail
 - e. Parks and Recreation Master Plan shows connectivity of Danville Pathways and Trails
- VII. CREEC projects and current initiatives (Preston Miles)
- a. Clarks Run Environmental and Education Corporation incorporated as a non-profit in 2005 with a goal to improve Clarks Run watershed by enhancing water quality and educating the public
 - b. Website: <http://www.clarksrun.info/>
 - c. Annual Earth Day Festival; 50th Anniversary Celebration April 25, 2020

- d. CREEC mini grant in 2017 for educational signage along Clarks Run Trail, invasive plant clearing and tree planting, website improvements, Earth Day festival, etc.
- e. Spring 2019 installation of water quality sonde on Clarks Run at the Goggin Ln bridge (continuous water quality sampling for pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, conductivity, depth) – data available on website under water quality
- f. Shows long term changes in water quality, short term variations, or parameter relations on a shorter time scale
- g. Working on calibration for flow

VIII. US Highway 127 – Phase I and Phase II sewer projects (Bill Payne)

- a. Sanitary sewer project connecting Hustonville and 127 Corridor
- b. AGE Engineers – serves 600 customers, 420 connected to date
- c. 2017 USEPA 319(h) assistance program with state to help with sewer tap-on costs
- d. 4 pump stations, treated in Danville, 40 year contract, \$ to upgrade plant
- e. Hustonville Elementary package plant was failing for years and apartment complex are now connected to sanitary sewer
- f. Phase I \$7 million effort, Phase II needs support

IX. EQIP funding in Hanging Fork watershed (Peggy Bagwell and John Scarpa)

- a. Sub-watershed West Hustonville and Baughman Creek
- b. Sent out 80 letters to focus area week of 11/11/2019
- c. NRCS has about \$1 million to spend on Ag BMP projects in the area in the next 2 years
- d. Flat rate, 75% covered
- e. Need help promoting assistance program in the area
- f. Need another way to show project success, as well as additional sampling

X. Current Water Quality Data (Kentucky River Watershed Watch – KRWW)

- a. 4 active sites in Clarks Run and 2 in Hanging Fork watershed
- b. Sample 3 times/year in May, July, and September
- c. Results summarized and presented annually
- d. Training offered annually
- e. High E.coli and nitrogen at some Clarks Run locations
- f. High bacteria in Hanging Fork upstream of confluence with Baughman Creek

XI. Open Discussion

- a. 50th Anniversary of Earth Day Celebration in Danville April 25, 2020
- b. Tour of environmental practices
- c. Environmental badge with scouts
- d. Beware of meth litter, portable cooking units

XII. Questionnaire Summary Attached

XIII. Next Stakeholder Meeting – Spring/ TBD