NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Pecatonica River Watershed

(Jo Daviess, Carroll, Ogle, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties)

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Bureau of Water will hold **TWO** public meetings on

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

3:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

at the

Stephenson County Farm Bureau 210 West Spring Street Freeport, Illinois

The purpose of this meeting is to provide an opportunity for the public to receive information and comment on the draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) concerning impairments to seven water body segments within the Pecatonica River Watershed. The potential causes of impairment for these segments of the watershed are Fecal Coliform, Total Ammonia, and Total Phosphorus.

This report includes watershed characterization, data analysis and selection of potential models that will be used to determine the pollutant loading capacity and reductions necessary to meet designated uses and water quality standards.

The IEPA implements the TMDL program in accordance with Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable amounts of a single pollutant (phosphorus, metals, etc.) that a waterbody can receive from all contributing sources and still meet water quality standards or designated uses.

Stakeholders and participants will also be asked for input and ideas to be applied to the draft Stage 1 report. An additional public meeting will be held in the future to discuss the next stage of the TMDL.

The draft stage one report for the Pecatonica River Watershed will be available on-line at www.epa.state.il.us/public-notices. A hard copy of the draft report will be available for viewing at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau during business hours. Questions about the TMDL should be directed to the project manager, Abel Haile (see contact information below).

Closure of the Meeting Record

The meeting record will close as of midnight, April 18, 2014. Written comments need not be notarized but must be postmarked before midnight and mailed to:

Abel Haile, Manager, Planning (TMDL) Unit Watershed Management Section, Bureau of Water Illinois Environmental Protection Agency 1021 North Grand Avenue East P. O. Box 19276 Springfield, IL 62794-9276 Phone 217-782-3362

TDD (Hearing impaired) 217-782-9143

E-mail: Abel.Haile@illinois.gov

Fax: 217-785-1225