

# Streambank Cleanup And Lakeshore Enhancement (SCALE) Program

**February 2007**

**Section 319 ~ Project 0404**

Calendar Years 2005 - 2006



Valley of the Fox/Sierra Club ~ 2005

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This report was prepared using US Environmental Protection Agency funds under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The findings and recommendations contained herein are not necessarily those of the US Environmental Protection Agency.

The Streambank Cleanup And Lakeshore Enhancement (SCALE) program was started by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) in 2003. The Illinois EPA continued support of the SCALE program by providing financial assistance to selected applicants to conduct lakeshore and streambank cleanup events in 2005 and 2006. The program, funded through Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, provides up to \$3,500 to each group to help with their cleanup efforts. The funds are typically used for safety attire, dumpster rentals, landfill tipping fees and promotional materials. SCALE funds are available only to organizations that have already established a recurring streambank or lakeshore cleanup.

### Program Goal

This program was designed to sustain and improve citizen organized lake and river litter collection events to maintain or improve water quality and wildlife habitat. Citizen cleanup events provide hands on activity for adults and students to connect with our local rivers, streams and lakes. Many of those that participate in a clean up event reevaluate their day-to-day activities as they help to clean up their local water resources. Example, recycling and proper household waste disposal make more sense to this audience when they have chosen to spend time cleaning up after others. Many of the SCALE funded events have diversified and now local participants are implementing invasive species removal workdays and storm drain stenciling programs.

### Program Implementation

This project ran from September 1, 2004 through January 31, 2007. Program implementation began in October 2004, when Illinois EPA announced the 2005 SCALE program and application deadline. An identical implementation process was carried out for the 2006 SCALE program starting in October 2005.

An application package was sent to approximately 100 civic and environmental groups. The mailing list included past SCALE recipients, Section 319 applicants, regional planning commissions and local government offices throughout the state.

The application package included a brochure and an application to be returned to Illinois EPA by November 30th. The application asked for a history of the organization's past three clean-up events, including:

- the year it was held,
- the waterbody involved,
- the number of participants, and
- the size of area that had been cleaned in acres or miles.

The information submitted by the applicants to Illinois EPA was entered into an Excel spreadsheet. Illinois EPA staff reviewed the data range for the number of participants, area covered and whether the waterbody was listed as an impaired water body (303d list). Using the Excel spreadsheet, a ranking criterion was developed that gave points according to the numbers reported. There was a maximum of 105 points. Point scores were totaled and a grant dollar amount of \$3,500, \$1,750, \$1,000, or \$500 was applied to the ranked projects. In 2005, the maximum grant amount was increased from \$2,000 to \$3,500 to help provide additional funds for the largest cleanup events.

Point summary for the ranking criteria used in 2005 and 2006.

- Applications with a point score of 80 points or more qualified for \$3,500.
- Applications with a point score of 50 – 79 points qualified for \$2,000.
- Applicants with a point score between 40 and 49 qualified for \$1,000.
- Applicants that scored between 20 and 39 points qualified for \$500.
- Applications that did not score at least 20 points did not qualify to receive SCALE funds.

See the Table 1 for the Recipients and Grant Amounts and data reported.

Illinois EPA sent out approval letters and Grant Acceptance Forms to the approved applicants. The Recipients were given 30 days to complete and return the Grant Acceptance Form. Once Illinois EPA received the form, the Illinois EPA staff processed an invoice for the Recipient. In most cases, the Recipients received their SCALE grant prior to conducting their cleanup event.

Illinois EPA staff forwarded a copy of an Event Reporting Form to each of the grant recipients. Recipients were required to submit the following information within 60 days of the event date:

- Date the event was held
- Size of Clean-up Area (miles or acres)
- the Most Interesting Items Found
- Number of Participants
- Estimate of Tons Collected\*
- Photos of the Event

\* In most cases, the actual tons of litter collected were not weighed. Getting the citizen organizations to estimate the number of tons collected was difficult at best. Questions such as “wet weight” and “dry weight” came up. Large items like refrigerators and tires also threw off the system.

The data submitted was entered into the Excel spreadsheet and the photos were scanned and saved on CD.

A total of 65 applications were received for the 2005 SCALE program. Forty-four applications were approved for funding for a total cost of \$43,250. Nineteen applications were not recommended for funding for the following reasons:

- The nineteen applicants had project areas that overlapped with at least one other SCALE application area and the same event date. The applicant with the higher point total (according to the modified criteria) was approved for the SCALE funds. Most of these projects were located within the Illinois River Sweep Project.

A total of 33 applications were received for the 2006 SCALE program. Thirty applications were approved for funding for a total cost of \$35,250. Three applications were not recommended for funding for the following reasons:

- Out of a possible 105 points, each of the three denied applications scored less than 20 points.

A number of past SCALE recipients have identified that the area that they clean up, is not in need of a cleanup every year. Most of these groups have identified that they have plans to conduct their cleanup events on alternating years.

## Program Schedule

The program period ran from September 1, 2004 through January 31, 2007.

### **Year One ~ 2005**

Program Announcement	October 2004
Application Deadline	November 30, 2004
Project Selection	February 2005
Hold Events	March – October, 2005
Event Reporting	May – December, 2005

### **Year Two ~ 2006**

Program Announcement	September 2005
Application Deadline	November 30, 2005
Project Selection	February 2006
Hold Events	March – October 2006
Event Reporting	May – December 2006

Project Report	February 2007
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## Program Budget

A total of \$100,000 was originally committed to project 3190404. One hundred percent of the project funds (\$78,500) that were distributed to organizations were used for the implementation of cleanup events. No matching funds were documented for this program.

2005 Grant \$ Expended	43,250.00
2006 Grant \$ Expended	35,250.00
Total	78,500.00

## Results

The Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) collected the most litter at 1,000 tons (2005). The Friends of the Chicago River had the greatest number of participants 3,700 (2005) and also covered the largest area – 157 miles (2005). The Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders Inc. removed an entire kitchen (including the sink) from their river.

Overall in 2005 and 2006, SCALE participants removed over 1,700 tons of trash from more than 1,500 miles of streams, and 2,000 acres of lakes in Illinois. Over 25,000 people participated overall!

## 2005 and 2006 SCALE Program Results

SCALE Recipients	2005					2006				
	Grant Amount	People	Miles	Acres	Tons	Grant Amount	People	Miles	Acres	Tons
Alliance for the Great Lakes (LMF)	1,750.00	1,526	30	0	3.6	1,750.00	1,742	31	0	3
Boone County Conservation Distrt	500.00	11	.5	0	.5	500.00	29	7	0	1
Chicago Cares	1,750.00	83	10	0	3	0.00	-	-	-	-
Dixon Park District	500.00	30	2.5	0	1	0.00	-	-	-	-
Flora Chamber/BSA Troop 282	500.00	12	.25	0	.25	0.00	-	-	-	-
Forest Preserve District of Cook County	1,000.00	*	*	*	*	0.00**	-	-	-	-
Fox Waterway Agency	1,750.00	178	57	0	3.5	500.00	124	45	0	7
Friends of Clinton Lake	500.00	28	10	0	13	0.00	-	-	-	-
Friends of Morton Grove Forest Preserve	1,000.00	80	2	0	1	0.00	-	-	-	-
Friends of the Chicago River	3,500.00	3,700	157	0	41	3,500.00	3,200	100	0	41
Friends of the Fox River	1,750.00	408	25.5	0	11.5	1,750.00	410	17	0	8
Friends of the Illinois River	3,500.00	1,406	124	0	20	3,500.00	1,664	132	0	30
Friends of the Parks	0.00	-	-	-	-	1,750.00	3,000	0	500	1
Friends of Sangamon Valley	500.00	25	0	9	5	0.00	-	-	-	-
Friends of Tyler Creek	500.00	25	1	640	6	0.00	-	-	-	-
Great Rivers Land Trust	500.00	5	3	0	.5	0.00	-	-	-	-
Hegewisch Chamber of Commerce	500.00	129	3	0	2	500.00	100	4	0	1
Illinois Smallmouth Alliance	500.00	20	6	0	.5	500.00	25	15	0	3
Izaak Walton League of America	0.00	-	-	-	-	500.00	22	1	0	1
JoDaviess Conservation Foundation	1,000.00	60	2	0	4	1,000.00	30	4	0	3
Keep Salem Beautiful	500.00	200	2	0	1	500.00	214	2	0	1
Keep Vermilion County Beautiful	500.00	135	0	17	1	500.00	186	11	0	15
Kennedy Canoe Club	500.00	8	0	30	0.5	0.00	-	-	-	-
Living Lands & Waters	1,750.00	32	1.5	13	4	1,750.00	511	18	0	17
Long Lake Improvement & Sanitation Assoc.	500.00	30	0	375	1	500.00	15	0	375	1
Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders, Inc.	1,000.00	38	12	0	5	1,000.00	25	18	0	1
Loyola Academy	500.00	41	1	0	1.5	0.00	-	-	-	-
Mackinaw Canoe Club	500.00	14	20	0	2	0.00	-	-	-	-
Macon County Conservation District	500.00	70	7.5	0	2	500.00	60	8	0	2
Medinah Homeowners Association	500.00	57	2	2	1	0.00	-	-	-	-
Northern Illinois Anglers Association	1,750.00	550	80	0	80	1,750.00	450	100	0	50
ORSANCO	3,500.00	1,001	133	0	250	3,500.00	963	133	0	1,000
Piasa Creek Watershed Education Team	1,000.00	300	20	0	2	1,000.00	200	20	0	1

Prairie State Canoeists	0.00	-	-	-	-	500.00	70	8	0	2
River Forest Park District	500.00	125	2.5	0	1	500.00	70	2	0	1
Round Lake Management Commission	500.00	22	3.2	0	3	500.00	20	4	0	2
Salt Fork River Partners	1,000.00	190	15	0	7	1,750.00	11	15	0	1.5
Springfield Lake Shore Improvement Assoc.	500.00	45	10	0	1	0.00	-	-	-	-
The Conservation Foundation	1,750.00	300	36	0	8	1,750.00	300	27	0	5
Thorn Creek Restoration Coalition	1,000.00	206	2.5	2	6.75	1,000.00	102	2	0	3
Valley of the Fox Group/Sierra Club	500.00	92	2	0	1.5	500.00	45	1	0	2
Vermilion County SWCD	0.00	-	-	-	-	500.00	19	10	0	2
Vermilion River Beautification Project	500.00	12	0	4	1.5	0.00	-	-	-	-
Village of Antioch	500.00	37	.8	0	5	0.00	-	-	-	-
Village of Northbrook	500.00	78	4	0	1.5	1,000.00	85	4.5	0	.5
Waukegan Harbor/Hyde Elementary School	500.00	23	1	0	0.5	0.00	-	-	-	-
Wildwood Nature Center	500.00	18	1	0	1	0.00	-	-	-	-
Wooster Lake Conservation & Control Assoc.	500.00	19	0	100	1	0.00	-	-	-	-
Youth Conservation Corp.	0.00	59	3	0	1	500.00	50	6	0	1
	43,250.00					35,250.00				
Embarras River Mgmt. Assoc. 2004 Funds)	0.00	22	1	1	1		-	-	-	-
Vermilion County SWCD (2004 Funds)	0.00	17	10	0	2		-	-	-	-
		11,467	804.75	1,193	509.85		13,742	739	875	1,205.5

\* The Forest Preserve District never submitted report documentation for the 2005 SCALE event. It was confirmed by outside sources that an event was held.

\*\* Due to the lack of documentation in 2005, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County is no longer eligible to receive SCALE funds.



Embarras River Management Association ~ 2005



Friends of the Chicago River ~ 2005



Boone County Conservation District ~ 2005



Alliance for Great Lakes. L. Degrane ~ 2005



Friends of the Chicago River ~ 2005



Friends of the Parks ~ 2006



Salt Fork River Partners ~ 2005