

# Illinois River Watershed Study Group

Lisa Merrifield



**Illinois Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Photo Credit: Layne Knoche, University of Illinois Extension

# Mission

The mission of the Illinois River Watershed Study Group (IRWSG) is to facilitate **improvement in long-term water quality** in the Illinois River watershed, with an initial focus on **phosphorous loads and eutrophication**.

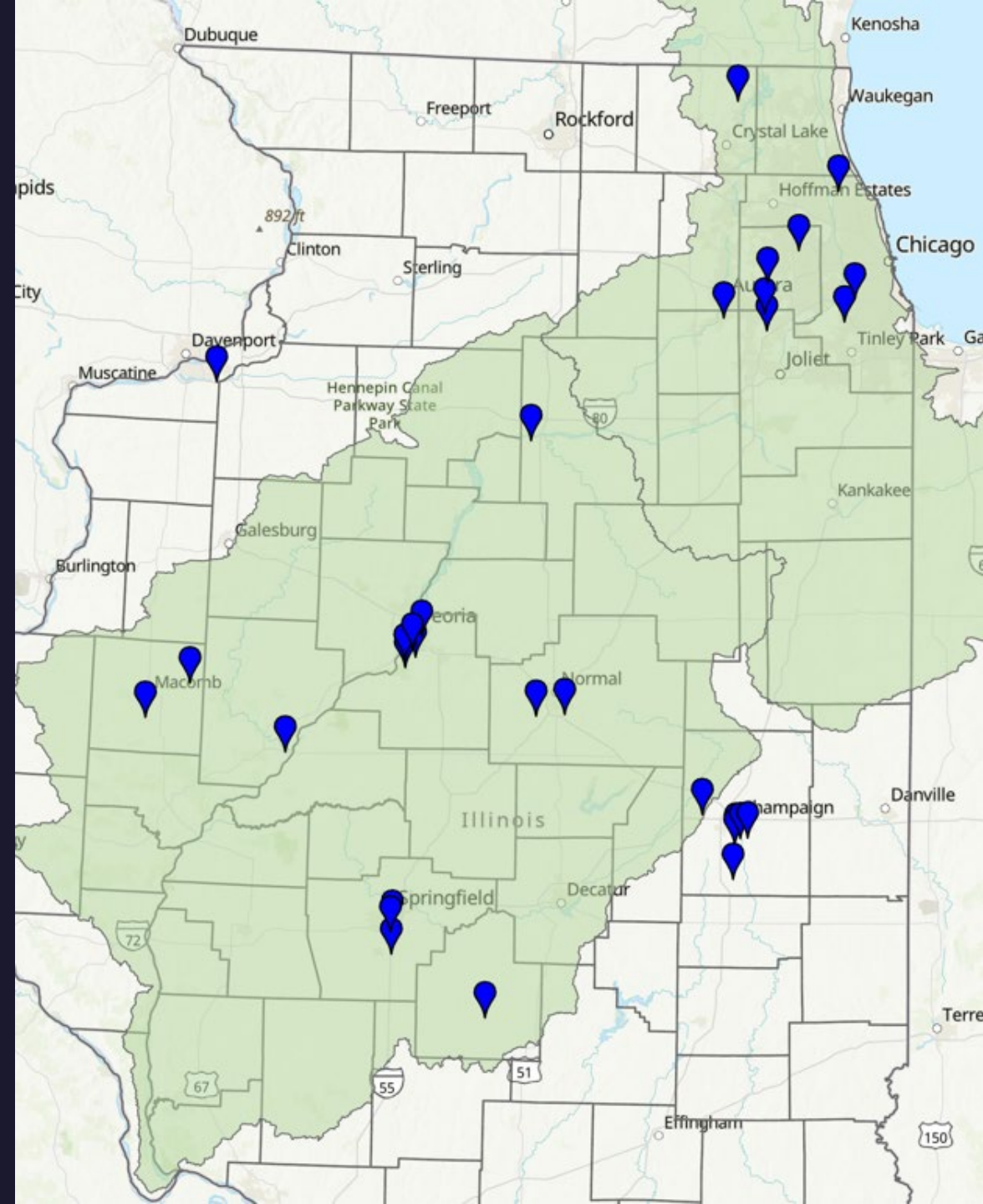
IRWSG's near-term goals include

- Monitoring data collection efforts,
- Connect with upstream watershed groups, and
- Identifying where data gaps exist that may require additional research and possible funding.



# Operating Framework

- Start up funding from Illinois EPA
- Facilitation from University of Illinois Extension
- Led by a Steering Committee representing stakeholder sectors
- Full stakeholder meeting twice per year in November and May



# Steering Committee

- Fredric Andes, Barnes & Thornburg LLP
- Shelby Best, American Farmland Trust
- Elliot Clay, Illinois Environmental Council
- Andrea Cline, HDR Inc.
- Kent Cox, Illinois Rural Water Association
- Ashley Curran, Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Albert Ettinger, Illinois Chapter Sierra Club and Mississippi River Collaborative
- Brandon Janes, Deerfield Water Reclamation Facility
- Brian Johnson, Greater Peoria Sanitary District
- Lauren Lurkins, Illinois Farm Bureau
- Adrienne Marino, The Nature Conservancy
- Rebecca Maddox, Constellation Nuclear
- Adrienne Nemura, Geosyntec
- Karoline Qasem, Geosyntec
- Nicole Vidales, Illinois EPA

# Meeting November 9

Peoria with a remote option

<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Welcome and overview of mission and implantation plan</b> <b>Lisa Merrifield, Illinois Extension</b>
<b>1:15 pm</b>	Illinois EPA overview of monitoring efforts Nicole Vidales, Surface Water Section Manager, Illinois EPA
<b>2:00 pm</b>	Overview of recent research on variations in phosphorous loads in the Illinois River Basin Greg McIsaac, Professor Emeritus, University of Illinois (Remote) Timothy Hodson, Hydrologist US Geological Survey (Remote)
<b>2:45 pm</b>	BREAK
<b>3:00 pm</b>	A potential overlooked source of non-point phosphorus: streambank erosion Andrew Margenot, Assistant Professor, Crop Sciences, University of Illinois (Remote)
<b>3:45 pm</b>	Next steps and subcommittee formation
<b>4:00 pm</b>	Adjourn

# More information

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To Register  
<https://go.illinois.edu/IRVWSG>

