

Urban Stormwater Working Group



Meeting Notes

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 2:00 – 3:00 pm

In attendance: Eliana Brown, Illinois Extension; Kate Gardiner, Illinois Extension; Layne Knoche, Illinois Extension; Christine Davis, Illinois EPA; Trevor Sample Illinois EPA; Anna Marshall, University of Illinois Sociology and Law; Lisa Krause, IDNR Coastal Management; Kelly Thompson Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group; Mila Marshall, IL Sierra Club; Scott Marlow, IDOT; Holly Hudson, CMAP; Gina Cassidy, Graduate Student, Extension; Mary Mitros, DuPage County Stormwater; Mary Beth Falsey, DuPage County Stormwater; John Sloan, National Great Rivers Research & Education Center; Betsy Liggett, University of Illinois Safety and Compliance; Sally McConkey, Illinois State Water Survey; Austin Omer, Illinois Farm Bureau, Reid Christianson, University of Illinois; and Donna Twickler.

Meeting Summary

Welcome and Member Updates

Eliana Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting. Gina Cassidy, Holly Hudson, Lisa Krause, Mary Beth Falsey, and Mila Marshall shared updates with the group.

NLRS Biennial Report Eliana Brown, Illinois Extension

Eliana Brown reviewed the last Biennial Report contents and outlined the procedure for this year's report production. For inclusion in the Biennial Report, please send your organization's Resource and Outreach spreadsheet, narrative project updates, and any photos to Kate by Friday, January 29, 2021.

The Steering Committee is hoping to have a report first draft to the Policy Working Group by April 15 and will share it with USWG members at that time as well for comments and feedback.

Next Steps

USWG members are to send their organization's Resource and Outreach spreadsheet, narrative project updates, and any photos to Kate (kgardin2@illinois.edu) by Friday, January 29, 2021.

The USWG was able to meet monthly in 2020 thanks to Zoom. To allow ample time for biennial report production this year, USWG will meet every other month with interim meetings as needed.

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Member Updates

Eliana Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and encouraged members to share their updates.

Gina Cassidy, a graduate student working with University of Illinois Extension, is interested in green infrastructure and stormwater and has been working on a watershed plan for the Salt Creek watershed primarily in Effingham county. She is working on factsheets and wants to highlight different places that are using green infrastructure for stormwater management, targeted towards decision-makers to fund these projects. She is looking for examples of great green infrastructure work. To reach out, her email is rcassidy@illinois.edu.

Holly Hudson shared that CMAP is continuing with their local technical assistance program and have helped several communities so far. In the past, they had a great example in south Elgin that used the center for watershed protection's ordinance worksheet, and they used some of their recommendations. They will be working with Midlothian on a stormwater fee feasibility study and are continuing with watershed-based plan development in the Fox River Watershed split between Kane and DuPage counties.

- Eliana Brown: prior to Midlothian, had you done any for other communities?
- Holly Hudson: Stormwater plans but this is the first having to do with a fee study. They did a guidance document on creating a stormwater utility fee but this is the first study. Holly will check with others at CMAP.
- Eliana Brown: Gina, you may want to reach out to Holly for some examples on GI work.
- Sally McConkey: as I recall, Kane and DuPage counties have a stormwater ordinance. Is there a chance of scaling up the plans county-wide?
- Holly Hudson: That's a good question, we should look into that.

Mary Beth Falsey shared that DuPage County Stormwater created a green infrastructure inventory tool and will be sharing it with their municipal partners – they have 41 municipalities that they work with frequently. They will add their projects then they will share it on their website and the general public can add their projects as well. They are continuing with the webinar series and are hosting the Environmental Summit on Jan 28, a more technical half-day webinar called Beyond the Basics on Feb 28, and additional residential and technical webinars. There is one next week on critters in the streams and many others. You can sign up for any of the webinars I listed at The Conservation Foundation website: <https://www.theconservationfoundation.org/>.

Lisa Krause shared that Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC)'s green infrastructure baseline inventory for the Calumet area has launched this week. They need people to enter their projects! https://www.metroplanning.org/work/project/23/subpage/6?utm_source=%2fgibi&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=redirect. For background information, visit: https://www.metroplanning.org/work/project/23/subpage/6?utm_source=%2fgibi&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=redirect.

Mila Marshall shared an opportunity for organizations to brainstorm outreach for Black History Month: <https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000001kiF2AAI>. If you have any questions, please free to contact Mila Marshall at mila.marshall@sierraclub.org.

NLRS Biennial Report Eliana Brown, Illinois Extension

Eliana Brown reviewed the last Biennial Report contents and outlined the procedure for this year's report production. We would appreciate any photos of stormwater, green infrastructure practices, etc. taken in Illinois as well.

Dr. Anna Marshall, who helps with the Illinois NLRS in analyzing the outreach efforts, shared that there have been discussions internally on which efforts from this group should be counted towards the NLRS. We want to know how much work is happening in the stormwater sector that addresses nutrient loss. If your efforts are mostly dedicated to the broader issues, we leave it to your judgment.

Next Steps

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We are hoping to have a report first draft to the Policy Working Group by April 15 and will share it with you at that time as well for comments and feedback.

The USWG was able to meet monthly in 2020 thanks to Zoom. To allow ample time for biennial report production this year, USWG will meet less frequently.