

Concerns List (as of 10/6/09):

Education and Outreach Concerns:

- The public does not feel a sense of ownership for the river or its watershed.
- The public lacks knowledge about the river and its tributaries' water quality.
- Partnerships between existing organizations are under-utilized.

Conservation Practices:

- There are too many locations where animals have access to watershed streams.
- Agricultural best management practice methods should be utilized more within the watershed.
- Individuals use too much fertilizer and pesticide.
- Too much physical waste is entering the river and its tributaries.
- Too much medication and too high of pharmaceutical concentrations are entering the river.
- Individuals are unaware of implementation options; demonstration sites should be available for education and outreach opportunities and to include management practice implementation.
- Private landowners are unaware of their obligations related to streams running through their property (snag clearing, who to contact for permit assistance, etc.)
- Nutrient and algae concentrations are too high within the Wabash River and its tributaries.
- Sediment and erosion control is needed.
- Buffers and transitional natural areas are needed along the Wabash River and its tributaries.
- Green or low impact development (LID) practices and LEED certification possibilities are underutilized.
- Invasive and exotic species are present throughout the watershed and we do not have a plan to eliminate or reduce their presence or spreading.

Recreation:

- Density and diversity of fish in the Wabash River is lower than historical levels.
- Natural and wildlife areas should be created.
- There are not enough trails along the Wabash River.
- Access to the Wabash River is limited by lack of parking, publicly-available boats, and boat ramps or access sites.

Regulatory:

- Industrial permit requirements are not enforced thus industrial inputs are too high.
- Combined sewer overflows (CSOs) within Lafayette and West Lafayette need to be corrected.
- The regional plan should be revised and/or re-evaluated to address development in the watershed.
- Too much untreated stormwater enters the Wabash River.
- Septic systems are not efficient enough or maintained correctly and regulations relating to them are not enforced.