

## **Education, Outreach, Partnering**

Improve the role of education-1) Awareness 2) Knowledge 3) Resources to implement

Introduce construction companies to green design

Promote recycling and use of reusable bags

Educate the community about the value of water

Enforce trash clean up

More clean up events more often

Improve education about LID options

Educate urban landowners about lawn fertilizers, pesticides and animal wastes

Encourage individuals to pick up animal waste

Create trail markers or walkways with historical and ecological information

Increase education for schools by improving environmental awareness

Provide on-the-water educational opportunities - pontoons, canoe/kayak tours, etc.

Highlight important/concerning sites through watershed/river tour

Provide wildlife and botanical education

Educate citizens through interaction with river ecosystem dos and don'ts

Provide various education options along the River highlighting river historic and ecology. Use interpretive signage and education

Provide training/education about the advantages of some of the less popular animals/rodents and/or vegetation species

Post names of streams at road intersections - I would feel much more connected if I knew the name of the waterbody over which

Create ordinances which require developments to improve, or at a minimum, protect the quality of natural runoff

Promote Adopt-A-River opportunities

Provide economic incentive for private landowners to maintain their streambanks

Educate private landowners that it is their duty to clean snags from streams

Track and reduce waste dumping (include cities and county)

Continue trash pick-up efforts on the Wabash River, its tributaries, and adjacent parks

Stop litter

Increase public awareness

Instill a sense of ownership in Lafayette/West Lafayette residents

Increase awareness of program

Increase public/community support through RiverFest, etc.

Increase community awareness

Increase public awareness of the river and recreational opportunities

Improve public awareness of water and land conservation efforts

Improve monitoring efforts

Monitor the cleanliness of the river regularly

Involve local schools in water quality testing to improve stewardship

Use high school water quality monitors to instill lifelong connection

Highlight river/tributary quality through local media

Highlight efforts of counties/communities upstream to improve water quality and/or change land/water management practices

Emphasize that all of us (urban and agriculture, here and upstream) can improve the river ecology

Education and participation are keys for being successful

Educate people that the Wabash River is a drinking water source

The river scares the tourists away

Get help from SWCD

Include the industrial sector

Partner with Master Gardeners/Tree Lafayette

Incorporate field trips in steering committee meetings

Work with Ducks Unlimited

Incorporate existing groups (ie Niches)

Incorporate other stakeholders-Lilly, Alcoa, Cat, SIA

Involve of community leaders-commissioners, city mayors, etc

Partner with other conservation groups to help with stewardship

Involve streamside farmers/agricultural users in water quality decisions

### **Recreation, Accessibility**

Recreational use (fishing and hiking) available and attained  
More recreation-get people on the river (hold an event)  
Get visitors excited about the experience

More natural corridor connections along the river/with Niches properties and parks

Improve parking picnic areas, seating, hiking, watercraft access  
Improve the scenic by-way (SR 43) with trails and picnic areas

Improve lack of access to the river

Increase access and usage of the river without destroying the natural ecology

Access to the river - currently don't use because of washouts

Concerned about low water levels during drought

Make river more hospitable as it is difficult for boaters. Too much current when high, to little when low

Improve/provide more sites for recreation/access to the River

Increase rowing and boating access

Create boating facilities

Encourage outdoor businesses (canoe livery, etc.)

Create a public livery along the river

Increase canoeing opportunities

Increase trail development

Install fishing piers to increase access to stream and river fish

Enhance natural areas and access for people

Create unimproved or natural areas for recreation (walking, biking)

## **Water Quality Improvement, Best Management Practice Identification**

Improve water quality of Elliot Ditch

Improve water quality

Identify pollutants and reduce them

Reduce nutrient inputs

Clarity-I want to see my toes at the bottom of the river

Reduce amount of medications/pharmaceutical concentrations entering the water

Improve water quality of the river and its tributaries as they flow through the county

Improve water quality and control runoff

Improve water quality and utilize the water better

Work with cities to the north to provide clean water

Team with everyone along the Wabash River to improve water quality

Look at other pollution sources

Reduction in soil erosion (no till, BMP education)

Reduce sediment levels that goes into streams.

Decrease soil erosion and sedimentation

Increase BMP implementation

Create a detailed implementation plan

Use demonstration sites to highlight options for individuals to improve water quality

Mediate drainage water going into the river to create enhanced clean water

Control runoff and drainage and filter water before it reaches a waterbody

Create prairie to tree transition zone plantings to provide historically correct water quality improvements

Maintain the natural, riparian buffer to prevent erosion

Add buffers along all waterways in the watershed

Protect the river banks and improve tree diversity

Require mandatory buffers as building too close to the river/streams causes erosion

Restore/stabilize streambanks naturally and reinforce as necessary, but make it look as natural as possible

Stabilize eroding river banks

Require riparian buffers on all streams; increase width where present

Improve the county drains and require buffers adjacent to all of them

Stabilize streambanks

Help the Heritage Trail - we're losing it to erosion

Clean-up riverbank to reduce unsightliness and reduce erosion

Restore and maintain wooded streambanks.

Restore native plants to help create a stable river

Revegetate or create wetlands within the floodplain

Return the golf course to wetland habitat and move the course out of the floodplain.

Restore wetlands

Use floodplains to filter runoff to clean water

Increase constructed wetlands

Improve the smell (stinky)

Eliminate the odors - factory smells, sewage plant, etc.

Improve aesthetics-odor and water color and clarity

Remove debris-boats, old cars, farm equipment

Have edible fish

Fish consumption advisories-should we eat fish from the river

## **Water Quality Improvement, Best Management Practice Identification (continued)**

### Rural/Agricultural Focus

Reduce chemical pollution from agricultural  
Reduce sedimentation from agriculture  
Reduce sedimentation from silt and gravel roads  
Reduce agricultural tile drainage; hold water back or filter it before it enters the river  
Identify agricultural practices to be implemented and praise those who are already doing this  
Promote no-till farming options  
Find opportunities to work with agricultural landowners and farmers to improve farming practices  
Reduce/restrict livestock access to the Wabash River and its tributaries

### Urban Focus

Reduce the use of lawn fertilizers and pesticides in urban areas  
Stormwater runoff-improve quality and reduce quantity  
Enforcement of animal waste clean up

Develop a stormwater program for individuals  
Improve storm drain system

Reduce sedimentation from new developments  
Limit construction and impervious surfaces which change flow and increase fluctuation of water levels  
Reduce chemical pollution from industrial inputs  
Road salts-identify where these are a problem and reduce concentrations

#### Reduce CSOs

Cap all combined sewer outfalls  
Correct CSO issues  
Develop constructed wetlands along the river to treat stormwater and reduce CSO issues  
Address blockage issues including lodged trees, bridge blockage, access infringements  
Address areas of suspected wetland and floodplain filling  
Show progress on improve CSO issues now, we can't wait any longer  
New sewer systems are needed in both cities to separate storm water and wastewater.

#### Identify appropriate handling of municipal waste

##### Increase green infrastructure

If we're going to be sustainable, we should have several LEED certified buildings  
Use green roofs where possible in new and refab buildings

Maintain what stands of trees remain within the cities.  
Plant many more trees in both cities  
Reduce impervious surfaces (i.e. brick streets/pathways)  
Require pervious pavement for all new roads and/or parking lots  
Increase implementation rate for rain barrel and rain garden usage  
Use wetlands for bioremediation as necessary to treat industrial runoff

## **Land Use, Land Maintenance, Development**

### Reduce flooding

Limit development within the 100 year floodplain

Limit redevelopment or rebuilding within the floodplain

Protect the floodplain--give the river room to meander

Flood control projects are needed

Acquire flood prone areas - developed or undeveloped - and restore them to wetland or forest.

Flooding and erosion are causing us to lose our trees - many are leaning or already lost

Correct flooding issues created by INDOT's construction of the Brannigan Bridge (US 231)

Change the elevation of the floodplain adjacent to SR 43 through relocation and/or refoiation

Investigate whether additional bridge span is available at US231 to allow for floodwater to move southwest

Reutilize and repurpose runoff from various sources to improve aquifer regeneration

Create predictable water levels

Build a low head dam to maintain water levels in the Wabash River during the summer

Partially dam the river or tributaries to flood farm land

Do not install dams along the river

Dredge the river

### Investigate alternative energy options

Harness electric power from the river

Develop a facility to grow biofuels from algae in conjunction with wastewater treatment facilities

Build a hydro-dam at US 231

### Reduce/limit development along the river

Do not intensely develop current agricultural or non-commercial areas

Remove land from agricultural production and restore it to natural systems (wetland, forest, prairie)

### Reduce urban sprawl

Appropriate development-economically and environmentally sustainable

Keep high density development north of Wea Creek in sewer serviced areas

Identify/understand and reduce large landowner impacts-specifically Purdue, Harrison Steel, Cat, Alcoa, TatlLyle

Subdivisions and developments are concerning

### Increase septic setback away from all streams

Improve efficiency of septic systems

Septic field locations, quality, and lack of inspections

More quality neighborhoods would result from higher quality water

Fix septic system issues

### Grass carp are reproducing in the river

Remove invasive fish species

Catalog and reduce invasive species spread-trees, plants, animals

Eliminate invasive species including Japanese honeysuckle and garlic mustard

### Improve ecological health of the watershed

Create a world-class (or at least nationally-recognized) river ecology

Create a solid ecosystem

Better management of habitats

Retain natural feeling (wilderness/forest)

Support wildlife-native species, eagle habitat, etc.

Wildlife habitat improvement

Protect the natural habitat along the river

Improve bird habitat

Increase habitat diversity

Inventory birds, mammals, insects, plants in Wabash area

Plant only native plants

Respect river floodplain vegetation and maintain continuity

Create birding and natural areas which are more hospitable to native plants and animals

Ensure good habitat diversity for wildlife

**Unsure of fit/focus**

Focus on the river

Unpredictability

Deal with draw down of wells

Native tours

Create community gardens

Improve air quality