



SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN WATERSHEDS TRUST, INC.

*Sweet Water*

**Menomonee River Watershed Action Team**

Date: November 16, 2010  
Time: 4 PM to 6 PM  
Location: GRAEF Offices  
125 S 84th St, Milwaukee

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions – Jeff
2. Sweet Water Report-Out – Jeff
  - Sweet Water submitted a grant application to EPA to help fund a watershed-based permitting pilot project in the Menomonee River watershed
  - Sweet Water is writing a grant application for MMSD to NOAA for help funding removal of five small fish barriers above Miller Brewing on the Menomonee River
  - Wisconsin Coastal Management Program grants due back on November 2: Sweet Water wrote and submitted four
3. Meeting Purpose – Gail
  - Feedback from WAT members on the priorities we're setting out for 2011 and 2012
  - Share draft implementation plan with WAT members
4. Feedback on Mapping Sessions – Gail
  - Not every watershed community was involved in the planning meetings, due in part to the fact that we focused in five hot spot areas; that doesn't mean we don't want to work with those others—we'll just get to that later
  - Great to have specific local knowledge from a key person or two at each table at each of the mapping sessions—but not every meeting had those local people
  - We did not have staff from all of the communities plug in on summer WAT meetings, and in some cases (e.g., Butler—Cindi DeBruine), staff plugged in but not as many community members as would have been ideal
5. Review & Discussion of Draft Implementation Plan – Co-Chairs
  - Timeline: document goes to Sweet Water Executive Steering Council for final approval in early December
  - Need comments from WATs no later than November 29
  - Want document to be usable, understandable, and full of well-thought-out ideas on what should be done to implement watershed restoration
  - Doesn't mean that we can't take on things that are outside of the priority recommendations in the plan—always open to input on things that should/shouldn't be made part of Sweet Water's priority work plan and be expanded upon in Section IV
  - Appendices contain lots of information, including all ideas that came out of summer mapping meetings

- Cheryl and Gail led a discussion of the table of watershed projects in Section III and the project scope plans in Section IV

Discussion:

- Change “summary of 2010 WRP staging timetable” to “...implementation plan creation timetable” or the like
- Something in the plan that indicates where citizens and other kinds of groups can plug in would be helpful
- Make sure assessment point areas not referred to as sub-watersheds (inaccurate)
- If you don’t see yourself or someone you see as key on there, please let us know
- This is all draft, so feel free to help us flesh things out
- Gail will be working a lot on the Areas of Concern (AOC) area, which encompasses a lot of the Menomonee River watershed—great to focus as much of this effort on meeting the objectives for that area
- We’ll be doing additional forums on how to target areas for green infrastructure practices
- Ongoing projects that people are active on should be in the mix in the implementation plans
- Adding a geographic column in the priority spreadsheet might help people to focus on specific geographic areas they’re interested in

Actions:

Reach out to the business community (e.g., Alterra adopting an outfall, etc.)
Sweet Water “staff” to come back with a list of the highlighted projects that offer a role for WAT members
Staff to highlight projects fitting best with WAT implementation to help establish smaller groups
Form a group to birddog advocating for Sweet Water that county and municipalities spend money wisely
Identify local/regional group leaders we should educate on what we’re doing

6. Next Steps & Other Issues – Co-Chairs

- Next Meeting: December meeting will be rescheduled to January 20
- Next Agenda:
  - Go over what changed in the plan since this (November) meeting
  - Adopt a rough calendar for 2011
  - Review and discuss proposed list of projects with role for WAT members, and establishing smaller implementation groups
  - Discuss forming a small group to focus on communication/outreach to the broader community