

Watershed Sustainability



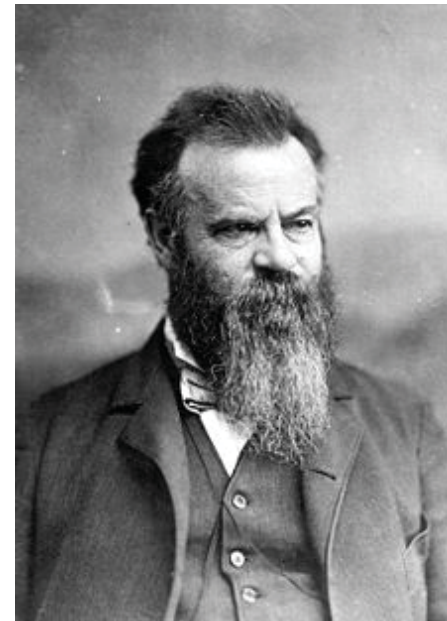
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Agenda

- History of watershed plans
- Impetus for most recent plans
- EPA requirements
- Long term sustainability challenges
- Comparison of leadership patterns
- Conclusion

History of Watershed Plans

1st watershed plan was developed in the late 1800's by John Wesley Powell for the Western States



EPA's requirements for a watershed plan

- Identify stakeholders
- Develop goals and objectives for watershed
- Take inventory of watershed resources and current conditions
- Assess waterbody/watershed problems
- Add Section 319 components for pollutant load reductions

EPA requirements cont.....

- Recommend management practices
- Estimate the amounts of technical and financial assistance required
- Develop action plan
- Develop an implementation schedule
- Develop a monitoring schedule for success and criteria for assessment of success

Challenges during and after plan is completed

- Leadership model
- Fiscal agents
- Partnership model
- Tracking success
- Finding local champions

UDPREP

Upper Des Plaines River Ecosystem Partnership

www.upperdesplainesriver.org



Flint Creek

Our Goal:

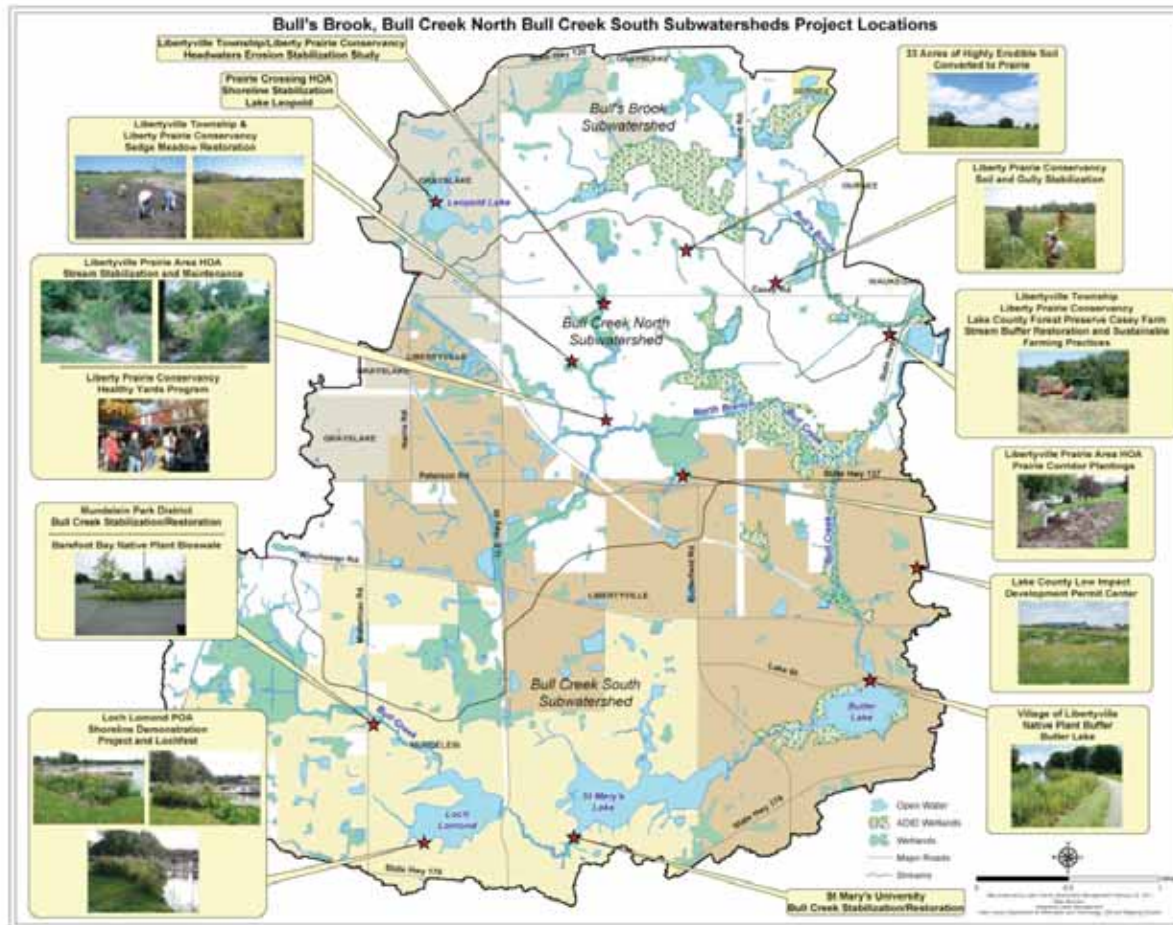
To educate while building partnerships for projects to improve water quality, reduce flooding, and to preserve and restore wetlands, prairies and other natural features for future generations.



Flint Creek Watershed Partnership

flintcreekwatershed.org

Bull Creek/Bull's Brook Watershed



Spring Creek www.springcreekwatershed.info

Committed supporters:

- Barrington Township
- The Village of Fox River Grove
- Barrington Area Council of Governments
- Citizens for Conservation
- The Village of Barrington Hills
- Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
- Dundee Township
- Flint Creek Watershed Partnership
- McHenry County Conservation District
- Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
- Friends of Spring Creek Forest Preserve
- North Cook County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Cook County Forest Preserve District

10 reasons that Watershed Plans are important:

- Plans give local stakeholders the ability to have input about local future land use according to their needs. (Grassroots decisions rather than 'top-down' or government decisions)
- An EPA approved plan can be a tool to bring financial resources to the area to accomplish water-protection goals.
- Plans clarify current and future water issues in the region.
- Plans document the intentions of the stakeholders for future leaders
- Plans can take a holistic approach to watershed issues, addressing water quality, stormwater, flooding, aquatic habitat, groundwater and water supply, depending on the priorities of the participants.

10 reasons cont.....

- Plans allow all stakeholders to express their own vision for the region and merge those with other stakeholders.
- Plans allow planning with water resource protection as the foundation, rather than land resources. This is particularly important in regions that depend upon well water.
- Plans clarify community visions
- Plans demonstrate to others that the community vision is important to preserve for future generations
- Plans identify and clarify priority protection areas

Links



- www.epa.state.il.us
- www.chicagoareaplanning.org
- www.schummconsulting.com