

## **2015 Activity Summary Report Waukesha County Storm Water Education Program**

As part of the agreements Waukesha County has with 25 participating communities, and as required in our storm water discharge permits from DNR, an annual report of storm water education activities is required. This report represents a summary of the activities Waukesha County has been involved with during 2015, sorted by the target audience.

### **Target Audience: Contractors, Developers, Consultants and Municipal officials**

- Held annual storm water workshop in April, focused on storm water regulations, planning and BMP updates. Workshop was filled with 104 people and received very positive ratings in evaluations.
- Presented to 25 municipal planners on soils, groundwater and basement flooding information.

### **Target Audience: General Public**

- Three groups in three different communities stenciled storm drains with “dump no waste” message.
- Produced and released 11 different news articles or ads on various topics such as rain gardens, rain barrels, lawn care and water conservation.
- Distributed over 100,000 newsletters with recycling and storm water information
- Presented hands-on programs on storm water runoff and pollution prevention actions to 560 county residents at 20 different events/locations.
- Toured the display boards to 30 different community events/locations with an estimated audience of over 15,000 people. The display covers basic storm drain and runoff information as well as specific information on rain gardens, rain barrels, shoreland restoration, pet waste, car washing, fertilizer, chemical use and more.
- Gave 5 presentations on rain gardens and rain barrels to 76 people.
- Sold 47 rain barrels in promotional 1 day sale.
- Sold and distributed 3400 rain garden plants to 59 people through the Graham Martin Foundation grant program.
- Provided equipment and maintained 34 stream monitoring sites throughout the county. Of these, 26 sites were monitored at level 1 and 8 sites were monitored at level 2. Twelve new volunteers were trained this year at level 1 and 6 returning volunteers were trained at level 2. .
- Taught 4 yard care/composting classes to 84 people.
- Sold 51 compost bins through special sales.
- Composted over 4000 tons of community yard waste at the Waukesha County Yard Waste Composting site in the Town of Genesee.
- Collected over 214,000 pounds of household and agricultural hazardous waste from 4 permanent county collection points and several seasonal sites with a total of nearly 5200 participants.
- Taught 7 Green Cleaning classes to 134 people.

### **Teachers and Students**

- Trained 17 local teachers through a bus tour of local sites. Sites included the new Materials Recycling Facility, Payne and Dolan gravel pit, the old County Compost site being reclaimed, and a wetlands restoration project.
- Trained 14 teachers/naturalists in Project WET (Water Education for Teachers), a hands-on supplement of water related educational activities.
- Presented at 16 schools to over 1150 students information on runoff pollution and how to prevent it.
- Provided field experience in water testing for 9 schools and over 600 students.
- Funded three water projects through the Green Schools program. Through this program, the county offers technical and financial assistance in recycling, waste reduction, water conservation and water pollution control activities. Projects included expanding a rain garden at Merton Elementary, rain barrels at Prairie Hill Waldorf School, and water testing equipment at Eagleville Elementary.