MUKWONAGO RIVER CULVERT REMOVAL PROJECT

April 2016

Prepared by: Benjamin Heussner

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Project Funding Source: Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission

Project Sponsor: Kettle Moraine Natural History Association

PROJECT REVIEW

- General Overview
- Accomplishments
- Partner Acknowledgement
- Future Plans
- Discussion

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Improve navigability
- Provide Bank Stabilization
- Enhance Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat
- Protect and Enhance Water Quality

Rainbow Springs Golf Course

Undersized & improperly placed culverts used for seven golf cart path crossings.

The planned solution, working in the dry.

“Working in the Dry”
Culvert #1 Upstream View

Downstream view of the dewatered worksite.

Digging in the dry enable us to capture soil and stabilize banks.

Aqua barrier placement and culvert numbering.

CAT
318C

Aqua barrier placement and culvert numbering.

CASE

Building Partnerships

- Local Government
- Trout Unlimited
- Friends Groups
- Educational Institutions
- WDNR

PARTNERSHIPS

- Dean Falkner & the City of Mukwonago Public Works Department
- Ron Eifler & the City of Brookfield Public Works Department
- Scott Kloskowski & the City of Muskego Public Works Department

TROUT UNLIMITED - SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN & GARY BORGER CHAPTERS

- Work day removing brush and trees from culvert areas.

NATURE'S CLASSROOM INSTITUTE

- Stream mapping.
- Buckthorn removal.
- Brush bundling.
- Mussel relocation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- *SEWFRC* – Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission
- *WDNR* - Geri Radermacher, Brian Hartsook, Will Wawrzyn, John Lyons, Lisie Kitchel, Jim Ritchie, Jim D'Antuono, Susan Beyler, Brian Glenzinski, Heidi Nelson, Steve Gospodarek, Chad Loomis, Josh Krall, Jim Taylor, Andrew Notbohm
- *SEWRPC* - Dr. Tom Slawski, Dr. Jeffrey Thornton
- *ACOE* - Marie Kopka
- *WAUKESHA COUNTY* - Alan Barrows, Amy Barrows

THE MUKWONAGO RIVER WATERSHED

Preserving the Waters of Wisconsin's Legacy

The Mukwonago River weaves through a mosaic of forests, savannahs, lakes and wetlands to form the most diverse aquatic ecosystem in southeastern Wisconsin.

This natural treasure and its tributaries connect critical wildlife corridors that harbor many rare plants and animals.

Without protection and collaboration, the exceptional natural character of this watershed will vanish.

The watershed supports many rare and endangered species including:

1 — Wild rice
2 — Rainbow (Bell) mussel
3 — Swamp metalmark
4 — Fassett's water milfoil
5 — Acadian flycatcher
6 — Eagle (orfish)
7 — Longear sunfish
8 — Blanding's turtle
9 — Bullfrog
10 — Rainbow darter (male)
11 — Rainbow darter (female)
12 — Starhead topminnow

PROTECT WATER AND WILDLIFE

preserve groundwater recharge

- Groundwater recharge sustains the entire river system.
- Prevent contamination from stormwater access points.
- Practice water conservation.

PROMOTE AWARENESS

minimize impacts and threats

- Learn to identify invasive species.
- Plant a rain garden, landscape naturally.
- Maintain natural vegetation along the shores of lakes and rivers.

BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

work together to preserve the watershed

- Join a citizen science group or participate in local cleanup efforts.
- Monitor water quality and control invasive species.
- Experience the water. Get outside. Introduce a friend to fishing and wildlife watching.

Friends of the Mukwonago River