

Watershed Management Planning (WMP)

–An Overview –

What is a Watershed?

- *Defined as:* An area of land in which all the water contained within its boundaries, such as groundwater, rivers & streams, flows into one point. Watershed boundaries occur naturally and are determined by the elevation of the surrounding area. Your watershed includes the following communities: Brackley, York, Union Road, Suffolk, Pleasant Grove, Millcove, Grand Tracadie, Donaldston, Corran Ban, Ten Mile House, Tracadie Cross and Blooming Point.

Watershed Management Planning

A watershed management plan provides actions to:

- ✓ Protect a watershed or prevent damage to it.
- ✓ Mitigate the effects of land use to an acceptable level.
- ✓ Restore degraded environments
- ✓ Optimize the availability of water resources

Goal of the Plan

The goal of a watershed management plan is to work toward an environmentally and economically healthy watershed that benefits all who have a stake in it. The management plan should encompass an easy to follow and understandable process, based on an overall objective broken down into measurable pieces or stages. The following example of stages to be accomplished provides a systematic approach.

Stage-by-stage

- The first stage includes uncovering concerns, gathering and analyzing information and data, defining challenges and opportunities, developing objectives, and documenting data and decisions.
- The second stage includes developing a game plan for addressing the objectives, selecting the best watershed management alternative(s), listing ways (strategies) for implementing the selected alternative(s), and determining how to measure progress
- The third stage includes implementing and evaluating efforts.

Questions to Consider

- 1) What do you think are the needs, problems, and assets of your watershed?
- 2) Do you have any concerns about the health of your watershed?
- 3) Do you have any concerns about your drinking water?
- 4) Do you have any concerns about increased development in your watershed?
- 5) Do you have any concerns about pollution, nitrates, runoff, or pesticides getting into your water supply?
- 6) Do you have any concerns about land use in your watershed (i.e. golf courses, agricultural use, development)?
- 7) Have you noticed big changes in the biodiversity of your watershed?
- 8) What directions do you think the watershed groups should be moving toward?
- 9) Are you interested in taking an active role during the planning process to make your watershed the best it can be?
- 10) Do you want to learn more about your watershed?

“When the well’s dry, we know the worth of water”

- Benjamin Franklin

Public Watershed Information Session

Host: Winter River - Tracadie Bay Watershed Association

“Water is essential to our health, our spiritual needs, our comfort, our livelihoods and our ecosystems. Yet everywhere water quality is declining. We are convinced that we can act, and we must”.

-Margaret Catley-Carlson



The session will be held on (3) evenings from 7pm– 8pm on the following dates & locations:

Tue, Oct. 20th
Brackley Commons
Community Center

Wed, Oct. 21st
York Community Center

Thurs, Oct. 22nd
Corran Ban Hall

You are invited to a **Public Information Session** that will highlight various activities and work taking place within your watershed! Topics to be covered include:

- Origins of the Winter River - Tracadie Bay Watershed Association
- About your watershed and the importance of a Watershed Management Plan
- Capacity building and sharing knowledge
- Updates on the summer work completed in Brackley and Union Road
- Updates on the work at Corran Ban Bridge and Suffolk Road
- Mobilizing financial resources *and*
- Future projects – an opportunity where you can help lead watershed development!!

Hope to see you all there!!!!