

Stream Team Meeting Minutes
7:30 PM Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Present: Bill Allen, Neil Borman, Lou Caprioglio, Kelley Curran, Roger Edwards, Todd Hayes, Lee Pollock, Bill Marshall, Robin Timmons, and Jackie Weigand

1. New volunteer, Jackie Weigand, was introduced to the group. Jackie will be helping out with visual assessments of stream reaches in the watershed.
2. Neil conducted a training session on the operation of the ISCO sampling unit on Saturday, April 17 at the Passaic River station location. Details on the set-up for storm sample collections were discussed.
3. Following the ISCO training session on April 17, Neil made repairs at the Primrose Brook station location. He successfully moved stones and buried the cables/tubing that had become exposed. Upon later observation, the cables/tubing appeared to be staying in place.
4. Re: Rain gauge at Black Brook – Neil observed petals that had fallen into the gauge and cleaned them out. Kelley will check in with Gene (upon his return from vacation) regarding the trimming of the tree branches that hang over the gauge.
5. Neil and Gene (with a copy to Kelley) received an email correspondence from Shandor regarding sampling procedures. This correspondence included additional procedural details regarding the F.X.Browne laboratory and QA/QC procedures. Kelley will forward this email to the Stream Team for their records.
6. Neil advised the team that two storm flow samples had been collected since the last month's Stream Team meeting. He also observed that oftentimes some portions of the watershed receive more precipitation than others and also at different times.
7. Kelley provided the group with "Do the Swamp Thing" brochures. DTST runs the entire month of May and there are several events/activities planned. Kelley encouraged everyone to check it out!
8. Lou inquired if anyone had any ideas or examples regarding conservation elements written into municipal Master Plans. Lou is working on this task for Chatham Township. Kelley will look into finding examples for Lou.
9. Robin made a presentation of all the data collected through 2003. The Team received a crash course in Statistics! She fully explained the tables and graphs of data handed out at last month's Stream Team meeting. All data represented in the handout represent baseflow conditions only as no stormflow samples had been collected since the creation of the previous set of tables/graphs. Robin let the group know that additional graphs and Excel pivot tables can be found on the Ten Towns Committee website (<http://www.tentowns.org/10t/>). The following are highlights from the discussion:

- ⇒ The standard deviation is more variable due to more transient events (e.g. seasonal – snow melt and fertilizer application)
- ⇒ No major changes – Loantaka Brook continues to be the most impaired of all the streams in the watershed
- ⇒ Magnitude of the difference from the reference value was discussed; the size of this difference is what is important (i.e. 0.5 is a large difference while 0.3 is a moderate difference); in this representation, one can compare ‘apples to oranges’ in a simple manner
- ⇒ Based on the data analysis, Robin indicated that a couple of the standards developed by the Ten Towns Committee may need to be revisited with the new consultant
- ⇒ Statistical concepts of significance and correlation were discussed
- ⇒ The Swamp is changing inorganic nitrogen into organic nitrogen through natural processes
- ⇒ Neil asked Robin about the Swamp sampling data. Robin has not conducted an analysis of this data but she will look into it.

Robin will send an email out to the Team once she puts the new graphs onto the website. Thanks to Robin for the great presentation!

10. High concentrations of total dissolved solids (TDS) in the upper Loantaka Brook were discussed. Ion exchange as a result of road salt runoff is a possible cause. Roger has done an analysis of the data. Lee suggested that George Van Orden, Hanover Township Health Officer, be contacted for additional information regarding TDS based on a study conducted in the Whippany River watershed.
11. Neil gave Jackie a brief overview of what the Stream Team does.
12. The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 2, 2004.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelley Curran