

Stream Team Meeting Minutes  
7:30 PM Wednesday, October 5, 2005

Present: Kelley Curran, Roger Edwards, Gene Fox, and Frank Stillinger

1. The minutes of the September meeting were approved without amendment.
2. Kelley provided the meeting attendees with a second draft of the first-ever Stream Team Vision, Mission, and Goals for the water quality program at GSWA. Minor changes were made to the first draft following suggestions proposed by GSWA board members. Content is based on information contained in the newly drafted GSWA Strategic Plan. A suggestion was made to provide the Ten Towns Committee with a copy of the document.
3. Team members discussed ideas for future GSWA newsletter article submissions. The following topics were proposed:
  - Highlights on each separate stream/sub-watershed
  - Macroinvertebrates in the watershed
  - Contaminated sites in the watershed
  - Hydrology
  - Nutrients
  - TDS and components
  - Sewage Treatment Plants
  - Canada Geese

Other comments included the submission of more scientific/technical articles and a suggestion that any article printed in the newsletter should also be submitted to the local newspapers for inclusion. Kelley welcomes help writing future articles from Team members and the GSWA Science and Technology Committee.

4. Ideas for several potential new projects were discussed by the team members including:
  - Flow volume comparison study: Above and below the Woodland Sewage Treatment Plant (Kelley will research low-flow sampling procedures and forward findings to Roger and Gene)
  - Determination of the miles of roads in watershed
  - Comparison of Woodland STP and Chatham Township STPs (permit limits, discharge quantities, # of people served, etc.)

It may be possible for future GSWA interns to work on these projects as well as interested Stream Team members.

5. Field Work Update

? TTC

A baseflow sampling round was conducted on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Results have been received. This completes the baseflow sampling for the year under the direction of Princeton Hydro. Two stormflow sampling rounds have yet to be completed to finish out the year.

? Adopt Loantaka Brook

A round of LB sampling took place on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Results have been received. See #6 below for further details. The next round is scheduled for November.

? Visual Assessments

The next round of visual assessments is being scheduled for Nov. 15 thru Dec. 15. Kelley will try to secure a training session to be conducted by the new Americorps Watershed Ambassador prior to this.

? MIV

Lee Pollock conducted macroinvertebrate sampling throughout the watershed in June. There are no results to report yet.

6. Roger provided collective results from the Adopt Loantaka Brook sampling. Highlights include:

- The August data shows that at 3 or the 4 sampling sites, the sum-of-constituent-ions is in less agreement with TDS than found in the earlier samples (~80% or less vs. 90-112%). Possible explanations include instrument error or missing component??
- The sulfate at LB6 in August looks way out of line with previous sampling results from this location. Lab error?? Other??
- There is a significant rise in nitrates and total P at LB6 – possibly fertilizer run-off from Turtle Basin. There is also a rise in Kjeldahl N at all four sites in August when compared with earlier results. Seasonal affect??
- Chloride is continuing its downward trend since the winter, but sodium seems to have leveled off.
- There is a significant rise in TSS above the Woodland plant outfall.
- High nitrate and reactive phosphate numbers at LB4 in August (just below Woodland plant) are similar to the plant's data on its effluent.

7. Gene found an article from the Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Star-Ledger newspaper entitled Salt, chemicals used on Northeast roads tainting water supply. Kelley made copies of the article and provided them to meeting attendees. This article just confirms what we have been seeing in Loantaka Brook.....sodium and chloride are the major components of TDS in our samples.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelley Curran