

URBANWATERS

A Partnership for Restoring Urban Waterways and Revitalizing Communities

Mark your Calendar! Next Urban Waters January 25th, 2019

The next NWI Urban Waters Partnership meeting will be held January 25th at 9:30 am at [NIRPC](#) in Portage.

This meeting will focus on gathering partner needs, projects, and priorities to guide the 2019 work plan. Be sure to attend to ensure your organization is represented!



Thanks for another Great Year of Canoemobile!

Congratulations to our partners, led by Dunes Learning Center and LaPorte County Soil and Water Conservation District, on getting thousands of youth and community members out on waterways throughout NWI as part of Canoemobile 2018!



Students paddle on Lake George. In addition to paddling with Wilderness Inquiry, students participated in environmental education stations and hands-



Students paddle on Trail Creek. For more photos visit [Dunes Learning Center](#) and the [Trail Creek Watershed Partnership](#) on Facebook.



USFS and the SCA Tree Team help students plant a tree at Marquette Park.



Peg Donnelly of USEPA helps students perform water quality testing at Trail Creek.

Army Corps wraps up dredging in ship canal; decision on disposal of most contaminated sediments still in limbo

From the NWITimes

EAST CHICAGO - The Army Corps of Engineers has completed another season of dredging in the Indiana Harbor Ship Canal, though a decision on where to store the most toxic sediments remains in limbo. Contractors working for the Army Corps finished dredging about 250,000 cubic yards of sediment from the federal and nonfederal channel Sept. 21, spokeswoman Vanessa Villarreal said. In total, the Army Corps has now removed an estimated 1.4 million cubic yards of sediment from the canal and placed it in a previously permitted confined disposal facility at 3500 Indianapolis Blvd. in East Chicago. Read the full [NWITimes article](#).

Featured Learning Opportunity

INTRODUCING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR COASTAL RESILIENCE TRAINING

November 2, 8:30-4:00 pm, Hobart IN

Cost: \$27

This interactive one-day training course will introduce participants to the fundamental green infrastructure concepts and practices that can play a critical role in making coastal communities more resilient to natural hazards. Through presentations featuring green infrastructure projects from Indiana, group discussions, and activities, participants will learn what they can do to support green infrastructure implementation in their communities.



NOAA Green Infrastructure diagram

Registration is required by **October 31** at: <http://www.cvent.com/d/wbqply>

Resources and Items of Interest

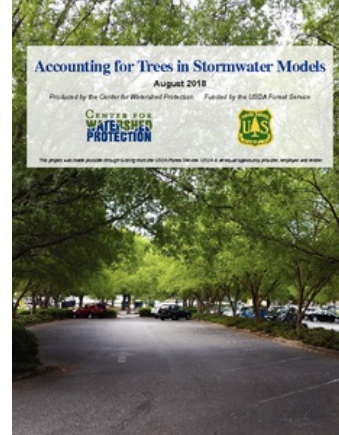
Accounting for Trees in Stormwater Models

This paper is intended to help the stormwater engineering community more easily account for trees in runoff and pollutant load calculations and incorporate them into stormwater management strategies. It summarizes existing hydrologic and hydraulic models that can be applied at the site and small watershed scales to account for the stormwater benefits of conserving existing trees and/or planting new trees. The paper also includes examples of specific techniques to modify stormwater models to account for urban tree benefits, as well as associated

resources and tools for estimating the hydrologic benefits of trees in the urban landscape.

[**Making Your Community Forest-Friendly: A Worksheet for Review of Municipal Codes and Ordinances**](#)

This publication was designed to help communities review and revise their development regulations so future projects conserve valuable trees and woodlands and encourage new plantings. It provides a set of questions to help determine whether existing local codes require, allow or prohibit "forest-friendly" development practices. The worksheet can be used by municipal staff, non-governmental organizations and others to identify specific approaches to improve codes.



[**Report: Creative Placemaking and Community Safety: Synthesizing Cross-Cutting Themes**](#)

The Urban Institute released a report using four case studies to examine how stakeholders use creative placemaking to improve community safety. These studies show how creative placemaking can be used to improve safety by promoting empathy and understanding, influencing law and policy, providing career opportunities, supporting well-being, and advancing quality of place.

Funding Opportunities

The Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Partnership may be able to provide assistance to further your initiatives by exploring grant opportunities, building partnerships, and helping you to developing competitive proposals. Contact [Jen Birchfield](#) to discuss your projects and ways we can help.

[**Conservation Alliance Public Lands Defense Fund**](#)

Grants will be awarded in support of projects that seek to secure quantifiable and permanent protection of a specific wildland or waterway.

*Nominations due November 1, 2018

[**DHS FEMA FY 2018 Pre-Disaster Mitigation**](#)

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program makes available Federal funds to State, Local and Tribal Governments to implement and sustain cost-effective measures designed to reduce the risk to individuals and property from natural hazards, while also reducing reliance on Federal funding from future disasters.

*Applications due January 31, 2019

[**DHS FEMA FY 2018 Flood Mitigation Assistance**](#)

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program makes available Federal

funds to State, Local and Tribal Governments to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

*Applications Due: January 31, 2019

[2019 Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program RFP](#)

The primary focus for applicants should be protection and stewardship of land in the watershed, not restoration of degraded habitats or projects with a strictly water quality improvement outcome.

*Award Range \$50,000 - \$250,000

***Webinar**- Wednesday, October 24, at 2 p.m. EST

*Applications due February 1, 2019

Upcoming Events and Webinars

[River Rally 2019](#)

June 21-24, 2019

Cleveland, OH

[Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy](#)

January to May, 2019

Enrollment deadline: November 3, 2018

[NIRPC Complete Streets Policy Workshop](#)

December 7, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm CST

Portage, IN

[One Water Action Forum](#)

December 11-13, 2018

Indianapolis, Indiana

[The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Great Lakes Public Forum](#)

June 17-19, 2019

Milwaukee, WI

[River Rally 2019](#)

June 21-24, 2019

Cleveland, OH

The Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Partnership focuses on the Lake Michigan watershed in Lake, LaPorte and Porter Counties, Indiana.

Urban Waters works to connect urban communities, particularly those that are overburdened or economically distressed, with their waterways by improving coordination among federal agencies and state and local partners. The goals are to improve the Nation's water systems and to promote their economic, environmental and social benefits.

