Sustainability Film Festival

Earth Week 2014 • Spurlock Museum’s Knight Auditorium • Hosted by ISTC

Free and open to the public. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Seating is first come, first served. Films followed by discussions, Q&A with expert guests.

**Living Downstream**
Tuesday, April 22nd, 6-7:30 PM

Based on the acclaimed book by ecologist and cancer survivor Sandra Steingraber, Ph.D., this poetic film follows Sandra during one pivotal year as she travels across North America, working to break the silence about cancer and its environmental links. After a routine cancer screening, Sandra receives some worrying results and is thrust into a period of medical uncertainty. Thus, we begin two journeys with Sandra: her private struggles with cancer and her public quest to bring attention to the urgent human rights issue of cancer prevention. At once Sandra's personal journey and her scientific exploration, *Living Downstream* is a powerful reminder of the intimate connection between the health of our bodies and the health of our air, land, and water.


**Terra Blight**
Wednesday, April 23rd, 6-7:30 PM

This 55-minute documentary explores America’s consumption of computers and the hazardous waste we create in pursuit of the latest technology. *Terra Blight* traces the life cycle of computers from creation to disposal and juxtaposes the disparate worlds that have computers as their center. From a 13-year-old Ghanaian who smashes obsolete monitors to salvage copper to a 3,000-person video game party in Texas, *Terra Blight* examines the unseen realities of one of the most ubiquitous toxic wastes on our planet. By the film’s end, the audience will never look at their computer the same way again.


**Waste = Food**
Thursday, April 24th, 6-7:30 PM

*Waste = Food* explores the revolutionary "cradle to cradle" (as opposed to "cradle to grave") design concept through interviews with its leading proponents, American architect William McDonough and German ecological chemist Michael Braungart, coauthors of *Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things*. Their ideas are increasingly being embraced by major corporations and governments worldwide, unleashing a new, ecologically-inspired industrial revolution.


The Institute Library is in the Forbes building at 1816 S. Oak St. Champaign, IL 61820.

DVDs of the documentaries will be made available after the film series at the [Prairie Research Institute Library](http://library.uiuc.edu) for professors, students, and members of the general public to check out for use in classes, meetings, and for personal enrichment. The DVDs will have downloadable activities and resource lists associated with them to enhance the educational impact of the films.

The Spurlock Museum is at 600 S. Gregory St., Urbana, IL 61801.

For more information, contact Joy Scrogum, ISTC, 217-333-8948 or jscrogum@illinois.edu.
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center

Advancing sustainable practices, reducing pollution, enhancing human and environmental health in the manufacturing and industrial space
Welcome to Today’s Seminar

The Illinois Coastal Management Program: Enhancing Sustainability of Illinois’ Lake Michigan Coast

Presented by

Diane Tecic

Illinois Coastal Program Director, Illinois Department of Natural Resources
The Illinois Coastal Management Program:

Enhancing the Sustainability of Illinois’ Lake Michigan Coast

April 4, 2014

Diane Tecic
Coastal Program Director
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Overview

1. Planning for Sustainability
   - Illinois Coastal Program beginnings
   - Illinois Lake Michigan Implementation Plan
   - Community Assistance

2. Promoting Sustainability
   - Grant Program
   - Green Infrastructure and Non point Source pollution

3. Sustainability in Practice
   - Millennium Reserve

4. Wrap-up: Integrating Sustainability
Illinois was officially approved as a Coastal Management Program on Jan 31, 2012

Purpose:

1. Support partnerships among governmental agencies and organizations;
2. Strengthen local stakeholder capacity;
3. Initiate and continue effective coastal management.
National Coastal Zone Management Program

To ensure the conservation and responsible use of our nation’s coastal and ocean resources

In 1972, Congress recognized the need to balance coastal development with resource conservation by passing the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), establishing the National Coastal Zone Management Program. At the Federal level, responsibility for implementing the CZMA rests largely with NOAA’s Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management.

The National Coastal Zone Management Program is a unique and voluntary federal-state partnership that provides a basis for protecting, restoring and responsibly developing our nation’s diverse coastal communities and resources. The Program takes a comprehensive approach to problem solving—balancing the often competing and occasionally conflicting demands of coastal resource use, economic development and conservation.

One critical objective of the National Coastal Zone Management Program is to address national interests. This includes, for instance, giving priority consideration to coastal dependent uses. It requires establishing an orderly process for siting facilities related to national defense, energy, aquaculture, recreation, ports and transportation. Effectively achieving goals under this objective requires that we work closely with our state and local partners.

Partnerships in Action

The National Coastal Zone Management Program fosters an effective partnership among federal, state and local governments. By leveraging federal and state matching funds, the Program strengthens the capabilities of each partner to address coastal issues. The Program also gives states the flexibility to design a program that accommodates their unique coastal challenges as well as their respective legal frameworks.

Coastal Zone Facts

The coastal area—17% of the U.S. land mass—is home to more than 52% of our population.

In addition, the U.S. coast:
- Supports 66 million jobs.
- Accounts for $70 billion in tourism and recreation revenue.
- Houses 190 sea ports, handling $1.9 trillion in imports per year.
- Provides nursery and spawning grounds for more than 50% of our nation’s commercial fisheries.

How ICMP defines sustainability

Sustainability is:
Balancing Environmental, Economic and Community Values
ICMP – The Big Picture
Implementing the new Coastal Program

How does the program:

• Choose from many possible priorities?
• Allocate staff time?
• Decide which projects to pursue?
• Allocate funding?
• Develop a strategy for an Annual Grant Program?
ICMP Priorities

- Persistent Toxins
- Habitat & Natural Areas
- Invasive Species
- Economic Development
- Nonpoint Source Pollution
- Sustainable Development
- Priority Waterways
- Access & Recreation
- Climate Change
Illinois Lake Michigan Implementation Plan (ILMIP)

• Goals:
  • Guide program direction and set funding priorities for the Coastal Grant program.
  • Increase the number and diversity of stakeholders participating in Lakewide Management Plan priorities.
  • Create a template for re-calibrating Illinois’ coastal priorities every 3 – 5 years.
Potential Objectives

Survey

Wiki

Previous Plans

Prioritization Process: MindMixer

Priorities: Whole Coast

Priorities: Lake County

Priorities: Chicago

Priorities: Calumet
Illinois Lake Michigan Implementation Plan (ILMIP)
Top Priorities
Throughout the Coastal Zone

Throughout:
- Wetland & riparian habitat restoration
- Green infrastructure to reduce stormwater
- Improve invasive species control
Top Priorities
North Shore

North Shore:
• Improve connections among natural areas
• Increase recreational access to waterways, beaches
• Link water and land-based trails
**Top Priorities**

**South & Calumet**

- Improve hydrology to more natural conditions
- Restore riparian areas for wildlife habitat
- Protect, increase open space
- Support brownfield rehabilitation
Community Assistance: Recreation

Goals:

1. To increase recreational access and opportunities throughout the Illinois Coastal Area.

2. To better connect land based trails and water trails with their coastal communities and amenities.

Opportunities:

1. Lake Michigan Water Trail

2. Lake shore trails where feasible.

3. Connections between trails and communities.

4. Amenities for trail users

5. Awareness and publicity of trails.

Photo by Kathy Siegrist, CASKA
Community Assistance: Climate Adaptation

Historically low water levels...

High Intensity Storms...
Community Assistance: Sustainable Coastal Planning

Planning assistance for:

- Coordination among coastal communities
- Biking, hiking, water trails
- Compatible economic development
- Coastal Programming
- Resource management
- Coastal connectivity
- Finding resources for projects
Promoting Coastal Sustainability
ICMP Grant Program

- Complicated process to begin a new grant program!
- Took about 1.5 years to be “ready and able” to offer program

Summer 2013

- Coastal outreach and education
- $30,000 to $100,000
- Environment, economy and community considerations
- Grant announced Oct. 2013
ICMP Grant Program

• Grant funding will be guided by Illinois Lake Michigan Implementation Plan priorities
• Announcing Fall 2013 successful applicants very soon
• New 2014 Request for Proposals also coming soon
• In the future: Education/outreach, planning, habitat management, and land acquisition projects.
• ICMP will have $750,000 - $1,000,000 available annually for the grant program
Grantee: League of Women Voters

Project Focus: Public information campaign to educate citizens about the problems associated with stormwater runoff, emphasizing actions that individuals, communities, and regions can take to alleviate flooding.
Grantee: Chicago Park District

Project Focus: Providing environmental education opportunities on coastal Resources to children and families through day camps, afterschool programs and special events
Green Infrastructure and Non-Point Source Pollution Prevention

Green infrastructure uses vegetation, soils, and natural processes to manage water and create healthier urban environments.
What is Green Infrastructure?

- At a scale of a city or county:
  - green infrastructure is a patchwork of natural areas that provides habitat, flood protection, cleaner air, and cleaner water.

- At the scale of a neighborhood:
  - green infrastructure is a stormwater management system that mimic nature by soaking up and storing water.

Examples of Green Infrastructure

- Downspout Disconnection
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Rain Gardens
- Planter Boxes
- Bioswales
- Permeable Pavements
- Green Alleys and Streets
- Green Parking
- Green Roofs
- Urban Tree Canopy
- Land Conservation
A perfect example…. 

Flooding is serious economic impact

Stormwater runoff is detrimental to the environment if not treated

Stormwater and flooding affects municipal infrastructure, homes, people, and their possessions
Non-point Source Pollution Prevention Program

• IEPA and USEPA collaboration
• Reduce and manage stormwater that affects Lake Michigan.
• Planning and implementation grants
• Coordination and connection to other programs
• Value-added actions
• Educational materials
Millennium Reserve

- Governor Quinn’s Initiative and part of the America’s Great Outdoors Initiative

- Focused on community, environment, and economy

- Recognizes that conservation and sustainable land use in urban areas are inextricably linked to healthy communities and a robust economy
Ecological Region of Significance

Snowy egret

Wilson's phalarope
Industrial Heritage and Legacy

Chicago West Pullman and Southern Railroad served US Steel and Pullman.

Calumet River: a working river

Republic Steel (built 1876) at Avenue O & Calumet River
Community

Polish
Irish
Czechoslovakian
Swedish
Serbians
Slovenians
Italian
German
Croatian
Austrian
Mexican
(~1926)
African American
(post WWII)
Millennium Reserve: A new model for change

“We cannot solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.” - Albert Einstein.

- Use Federal, State, Regional, Local partnerships to combine, leverage, and focus funds for priority projects and activities.

- Develop projects that aim to achieve “triple-win gains” – with results for the environment, the economy, and the communities.

- Connect to non-traditional conservation partners; strengthen ongoing efforts by connecting related projects; and bring strategic, value-added components by identifying gaps in current activities.
EXECUTIVE ORDER

EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE MILLENNIUM RESERVE

WHEREAS, the area referred to as Calumet region extends from Chicago’s southeast side and adjacent south suburbs and extends eastward across Lake and Porter Counties in Indiana;

WHEREAS, the Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core includes the Illinois portion of the Calumet region from 89th Street through the adjacent south suburbs and which connects with Millennium Park through the Burnham Lakefront Core;

WHEREAS, the Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core is a unique ecosystem in the Lake Michigan basin that includes Lake Calumet, Wolf Lake, the Calumet River, the Little Calumet River and the Grand Calumet River, as well as large wetlands and natural areas used by Illinois endangered and threatened species;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement between the United States and Canada was amended in September 2012, with new provisions to address the nearshore environment, aquatic invasive species, habitat degradation, and the effects of climate change and continued focus on existing threats to people’s health and the environment of the Great Lakes;

WHEREAS, much of the natural area is owned by public agencies but is threatened by fragmentation and contamination and requires remediation, ecological restoration and coordinated ecological management;

WHEREAS, the Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core has a rich industrial heritage and associated labor culture that led to a richly diverse and vibrant immigrant community;

WHEREAS, residents of the Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core have justifiable pride in their role in building the United States of America;

WHEREAS, the Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core, although still retaining the largest concentration of industrial jobs in the City of Chicago, now includes significant areas of existing or former industrial and manufacturing land that suffers from contamination, abandonment and fragmented ownership that stands in the way of economic revitalization in the area;

WHEREAS, the area within the Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core boundary has been economically challenged by the decline of heavy industry and the loss of jobs and that there is an opportunity to create new jobs in the land conservation, brownfield remediation, and public recreation industries;

WHEREAS, the Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core served by major rail, highway and waterway transportation systems - is a center for intermodal freight shipping and the increased economic development that takes advantage of these transportation systems would greatly benefit the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois, and the region as a whole;

WHEREAS, the area within Millennium Reserve has an extensive but incomplete network of trails that creates significant transportation alternatives as well as attractive recreational opportunities for the residents of Chicago’s Southeast Side and beyond;
Millennium Reserve Project: GreenCorps Calumet

• Green job training and invasive species control at 15 city and suburban sites

• Benefits both the local ecosystem and economy by hiring and training individuals with barriers to employment

Lead Agency: City of Chicago
Key Partners: Chicago Park District, FPDCC, IDNR, US EPA
Key connectors for the 100-mile loop of Southland trails
• Cal-Sag Trail: new sections will connect 185,000+ people in 14 communities
• Thorn Creek Trail extension to 17.5 miles

Bolster:
• recreational opportunities
• eco-tourism
• related consumer spending in the region
Millennium Reserve Project: Mighty Acorns

- Curriculum is correlated to the Illinois STEM Standards
- Fosters a personal connection between students and natural areas in their communities
- First-step opportunities for conservation career development

Lead Agency: Field Museum
Key Partners: Calumet Stewardship Initiative, FPDCC, IDNR
Millennium Reserve Project: Tillman Maritime Academy

- This new program offers environmental education, job training, and service learning for low-income, at risk, primarily African American young people aged 16-24.

Lead Agency: Prologue
Current & Prospective Partners: Blacks in Green, GreenCorps, IL Conservation Police – Marine Unit, SSMMA, IDNR
Integrating Sustainability

*Using an approach and attitude that balances Environmental, Economic and Community values and needs WILL result in better outcomes*

- Trails and Recreational Access
- Coastal Community Resilience
- Coastal Sand Management
- Millennium Reserve
Wrap Up

• Environmental movement has been important and powerful

• Environmental consideration can draw ire and resistance from some sectors

• The integration of Environmental, Economic and Community values reaches broader sectors and interests

• Brings new partners, new supporters and sustainable, balanced results
Additional Program Information

Our website:

http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/Pages/default.aspx

Or contact me!

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