

LOWER SALT CREEK WATERSHED PLANNING

Working DRAFT (revised 8/3/2017)

Originally presented at June 8, 2017, Lower Salt Creek Watershed Planning meeting and *revised* to reflect the meeting's discussions.

Problem Statement

Surface waterbodies are impacted by a variety of nonpoint sources of pollution. Within the Lower Salt Creek Watershed Planning Area, *data indicates that* Salt, Addison, Spring Brook, and Meacham Creeks and Swan Lake fail to meet certain water quality standards and thus do not attain all of their designated uses due to both known and unknown causes of pollution often related to land use. Best management practices, programs, and policies must be identified and implemented by landowners and managers as resources allow to improve water quality and to restore designated use attainment. A plan will be completed that outlines protective actions to address nonpoint source pollution and guide remedial activities during the following ten years.

Goals

- Improve and protect the ecological integrity of surface water resources to attain or maintain designated uses of aquatic life support, fish consumption, primary contact, and aesthetic quality.
- *Protect, restore, and expand natural areas and increase native [aquatic] species diversity [both terrestrial and aquatic plants and animals].*

Potential Management Objectives:

- *Maintain high quality riparian ecosystems by improving degraded and marginal areas*
- Reduce flooding and attendant bank erosion *and infrastructure* risk through initiatives to improve and protect water quality.

Potential Management Objectives:

- *Establish landowner incentives (e.g., cost-share program) to establish and maintain riparian buffers*
- *Adopt a watershed-wide green infrastructure plan*
- *Encourage construction of green infrastructure BMPs at community and site scales*
- Continue to build, strengthen, and support local partnerships and expertise to protect our streams and lakes via plan implementation.
- Continue to raise public awareness and increase understanding of the impacts of land use and land/water management decisions on water and habitat quality, *and further encourage implementation of watershed protection practices.*

Next steps under each goal:

- Management Objectives
- Indicators