

Friends of Stony Brook
Development and Community Engagement

DNR Surface Water Education Grant: RP34621
March 15, 2021 to December 31, 2021
Extension to December 31, 2022



Goals and Objectives

Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership sponsored a project to engage stakeholders, build a steering committee, and develop a vision for Friends of Stony Brook (FOSB).

Deliverables - Specific project activities and current status

1) Establishment of a FOSB steering committee that will guide future restoration efforts and build community support for Stony Brook Creek;

Fully engaged Steering Committee

- Dani Santry – Calumet County Land and Water Conservation Department
- Joe Bach – Fox Valley Trout Unlimited
- Brittany Mayer – High School Biology Teacher, Trout in the Classroom
- Judy Hartl – County Board Member, WAV monitor
- Tracy Bartels – High School Teacher, Trout in the Classroom
- Greg Sromek – Middle School Teacher, Trout in the Classroom
- DuWayne Klessig – Calumet Groundwater Guardians, LNRP Board Member, Friends of Ledge View Nature Center
- Brad Bowman – Oshkosh Elementary Teacher, Launching new Trout in the Classroom initiative
- Teresa Hahn – Landowner, Retired Special Education Teacher
- Ron Zahringer – Retired, Past Director the Ledge View Nature Center

Current LNRP Support Staff

- Tom Mlada, Executive Director
- Jim Kettler, Director of Projects
- Natalie Dorrlor-Hyde, Director of Partnerships and Programs (beginning November 2021)

Additional LNRP Staff Support

- Jeff Kelling, Finance and Data Manager (through March 31, 2021)
- Kendra Kelling, Director of Programming (through May 31, 2021)
- Jenn Hansmann, Community Relations Coordinator (through September 30, 2021)
- Rolf Johnson, Transitional Staff (through December 31, 2021)

Long-term Considerations

- Phase One restoration grant from the Fund for Lake Michigan secured July 1, 2019
- Phase Two restoration grant from the Fund for Lake Michigan secured March 31, 2021
- Extension on RPG34621 through December 31, 2022
- Private sector fundraising launched in January 2022
- DNR Surface Water Restoration Grant secured in March 15, 2022

- Phase Three restoration grant from the Fund for Lake Michigan secured May 26, 2022
- Steering Committee commitment through 2023

2) A strategic plan with a mission statement, vision statement, annual action plan, and long-term goals;

Strategic Planning

- Steering Committee Meetings - 2021
 - April 14, 2021
 - May 12, 2021
 - June 9, 2021
 - August 12, 2021
 - September 8, 2021
 - October 13, 2021
 - November 10, 2021
- Steering Committee Meetings – 2022
 - January 12, 2022
 - March 16, 2022
 - May 11, 2022
 - August 10, 2022
 - October 12, 2022
- FOSB Vision Statement January 2020 (pre-grant period)
- FOSB Overview April 2021
- FOSB Action Plan and Time Table April 2021
- FOSB Steering Committee Expectations April 2021
- Stony Brook Vision Revised August 2021
- FOSB Statement of Purpose November 2021
- FOSB Annual Report November 2021
- FOSB LNRP Partner Mid-Year Planning December 2022
- FOSB 2023 Case Statement (draft)

3) Development of a website and social media account;

Brand Guide

- FOSB Branding Guide June 2021

Website (ongoing)

- www.friendsofstonybrook.org
- Maps
- Video and Photo Assets

Social Media (ongoing)

- Trout in the Classroom (TIC)– Chilton High School
- LNRP

4) Publish newsletters and create press releases;

Newsletters

- Calumet County Newsletter: Winter 2022
- Trout Unlimited Newsletter: October 2022

- LNRP Newsletter: Spring 2021
- Chilton Journal: August 26 / September 1, 2021

Additional Outreach

- Presentation to the Land and Water Conservation Committee: June 10, 2021
- Presentation to the Calumet County Board: September 9, 2021
- Presentation at the Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention: April 7, 2022
- Signage posted throughout the project area

5) Host a field day that demonstrates both the trout rearing program and restoration projects;

Restoration Field Day

- August 18, 2021
- Presentations by DNR, TIC
- Fish Monitoring

Trout in the Classroom Field Days

- October 20, 2021: Chilton High School
- May 6, 2022: Chilton High School, Oshkosh Middle School
- Learning Stations
 - Invasive species with Chris Acy from the Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance
 - Habitat quality with Dani Santry from the Calumet County Land and Water Conservation Department
 - Macroinvertebrates with Joe Bach from Trout Unlimited
 - Water quality with Judy Hartl, a WAV monitor and Calumet County Board member

6) Support the promotion of community-based conservation easements by providing outreach and education to landowners who might consider easement on their property;

Landowner Easements

- Fox Valley Trout Unlimited obtained six conservation easements along 1.25 miles of stream.
 - Tim Sohrweide
 - Dick Sohrweide
 - Andrew and Valeria Pethan
 - Teresa and Tony Hahn
 - Mary Meyers
 - Robert and Daniel Biese
- Our vision is to generate additional easements along the stream corridor that would allow implementation of restoration strategies from the headwaters to where the stream flows into the Manitowoc River.

7) FOSB will design and install signage on conservation easement properties;

Signage

- FFLM sponsored signage fabricated in December 2022 with install planned for Spring 2023
- TIC sign upgrade from Chilton High School Art Department
- Invasive species signage placed in 2022

8) FOSB will create a video from drone footage of an aerial view of Stony Brook Creek;

Video Assets

- Pre-Restoration Phase One
- Culvert Installation Phase Two
- Restoration Field Day

9) Final report summarizing the project.

Steering Committee Reports

- Annual Report 2021
- Case Statement 2022-2023
- Final Grant Report December 2022