The Pike River

Once Threatened,
Now in Transition



Crispell-Snyder, Inc.

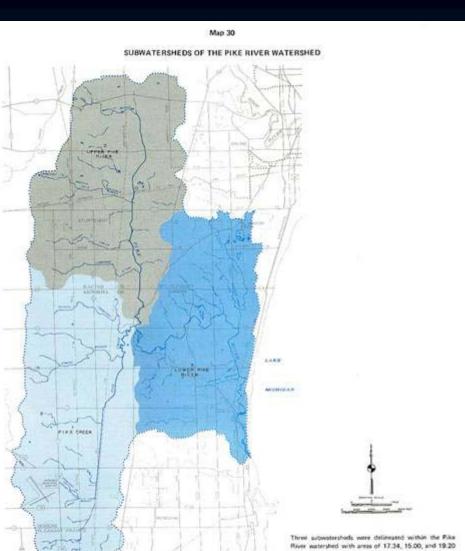
- Established in 1979 to provide engineering solutions for Wisconsin Communities
- 3 Wisconsin Offices and a total of 90 employees
 - Lake Geneva
 - Racine
 - Germantown
- Full service consulting engineer and land surveying firm



Overview and History

- Pike River system
- Kenosha and Racine County
- Discharges into Lake Michigan
- Upper Pike = 17.30 square miles
- Lower Pike = 15.00 square miles
- Pike Creek = 19.20 square miles





Source: SEWRPC.

Three autoestershed; were delineated within the Pike River watershed with areas of 17.34, 15.00, and 19.20 square miles for the Upper Pike River, Lower Pike River, and Pike Creek subwatersheds, respectively. In addition to providing rational units for hydrologic analysis, the subwatersheds serve as geographic units that enable the watershed resident to readily identify the relationship of his or her local drainage area to the large Pike River watershed.

139

Historic Impacts

- 1800's series of wetlands connected by a stream
- River channel created by farm drainage operations
- Early 1900's the river was redredged







Urbanization Impacts

- 1900's Predominately agricultural
- 1975 Approximately 28% of the watershed was converted to urban landscape
- 2004 Approximately 50% of the watershed is now urban







Past Planning and Engineering

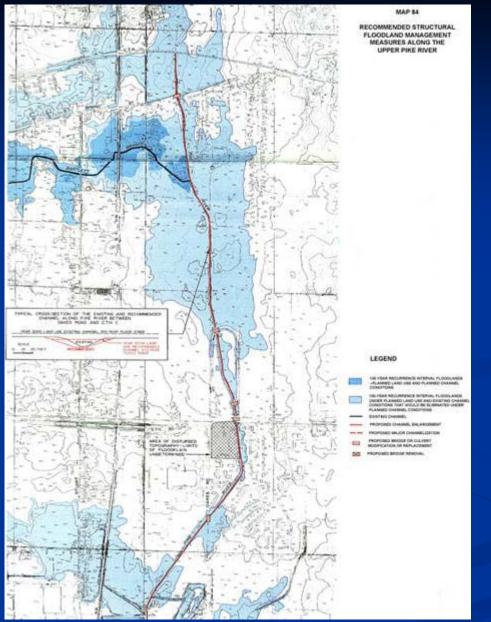
- 1983 SEWRPC "A Comprehensive Plan for the Pike River Watershed"
 - Problem identifications
 - Recommended solutions



Comprehensive Plan Recommendations

- Land use and open space planning
- Flood land management
- Water quality measures
- Implementation proceedures





Goals and Objectives

- Eliminate structural flooding
- Restore the environmental corridor
- Restore the water quality
- Improve aquatic habitat
- Provide recreational opportunities



Partnerships and Project Approach

In 1992 the Town of Mount Pleasant requested regulatory permits to construct the project based upon the SEWRPC report.



Permit Denial

- Lack of habitat restoration
- Predominately a flood control project
- Not an environmentally comprehensive project
- Major dredging of streambed



Partnerships Formed

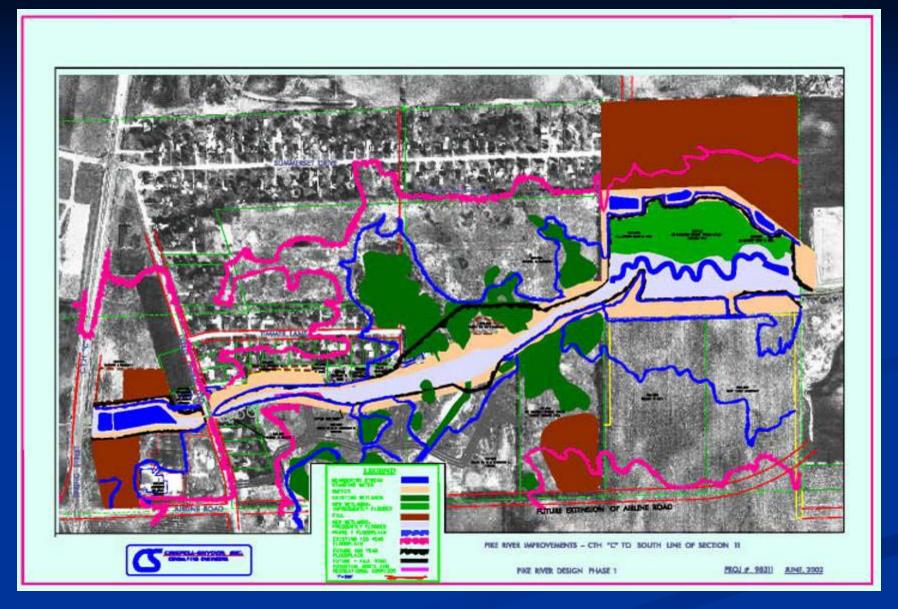
- WDNR Staff
- U. of W. Milwaukee Biology Department
- SEWRPC Staff
- Crispell-Snyder Staff
- G.A.S. Staff
- CH2M Hill Staff
- Mount Pleasant Staff
- Environmental Legal Counsel
- Zigmon, Joseph, Skeen



Project Development Plan

- Approximately 5 ½ miles of stream corridor
- Wetland restoration
- Flood storage areas
- Multi-use trails and public open space
- Aquatic habitat restoration
- Environmental corridor preservation
- Native vegetation restoration
- \$17 million dollars phased approach









Regulatory Permit Approved in 1997

- WDNR Chapter 30 Permit
 - 10 year permit
 - 50%, 90% and 100% plan approval process
 - Required 55 conditions to be met in each project phase
- USCOE Section 404 Permit
- Racine County conditional use permit



1997 to 2001

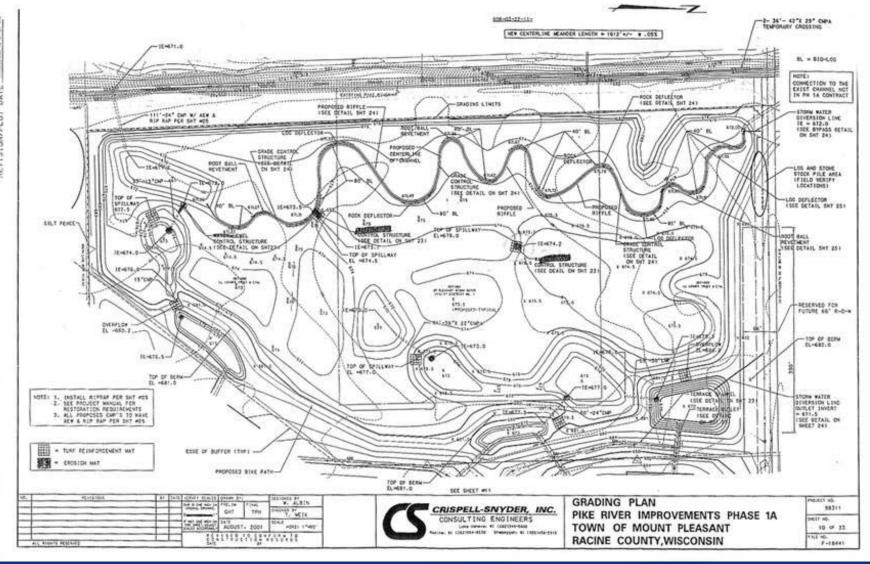
- Drainage district conversion to utility district
- New commission orientation
- Archeological surveys
- Economic feasibility study
- Peer review
- Plan preparation
- Funding applications



Phase I Construction

- 1 ½ mile corridor
- \$1.3 million
- Construction began in Fall of 2002
- Completed in the Spring of 2003
- Additional wetland planting in summer of 2003







































Phase II

- Approximately ½ mile
- Retrofit ponds for water quality
- Redirect storm sewer systems
- Connect old channel to new
- New bridge crossing
- \$1.2 million
- Completion early summer 2004











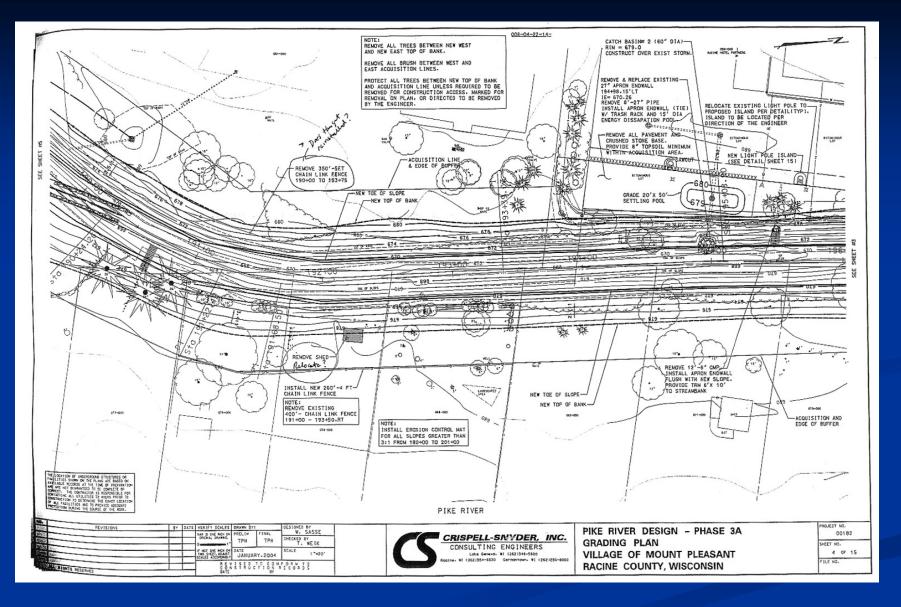


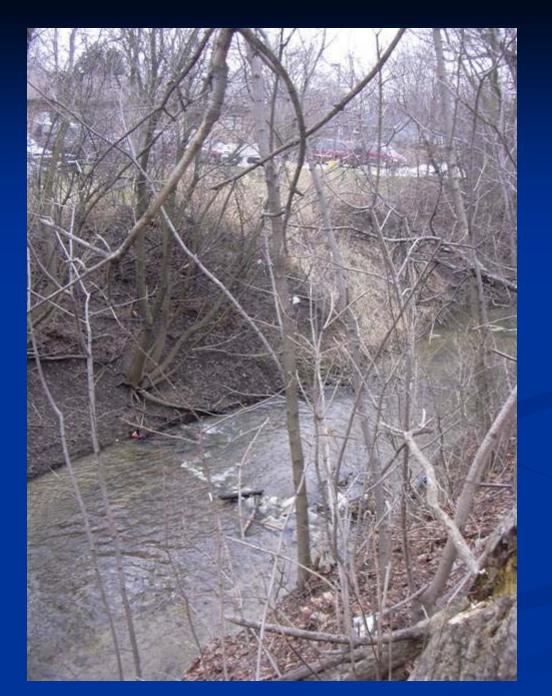


Phase III

- Design Stage ½ mile length
- Currently acquiring land
- Channel widening in narrow, urbanized area
- Construction anticipated in late 2004











Phases 4-9

- Phase 4, 5 and 6 COE Section 206 program
- Projected to be constructed in 2006
- □ Phases 7 through 9 2007 through 2010



Outside Funding Mechanisms

- State and Federal grants
 - Coastal Zone Management
 - Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grants
 - Non-point source pollution grant
 - DNR flood control grant
 - WisDOT wetland cooperative agreement
 - Racine County Bridge Aides
- Private organizations
 - Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network (WIN)
 - Wisconsin Waterfowl Association
- Nearly \$1.6 million to date



Public Uses

- Multi-use trails
- Public open space
- Corridor owned by Mount Pleasant Water Utility District
- Fishery rehabilitation



Academic and Educational Uses

- Water quality education
- Wetland restoration monitoring and research
- Water quality monitoring and research
- Community education and involvement



What is a watershed?

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a watershed is "the area of land that catches rain and snow and drains or seeps into a marsh, stream, river, lake or groundwater." These features within a watershed filter sediment and other pollutants out of storm water.

You're sitting in a watershed right now.

Homes, farms, ranches, forests, small towns, big cities and more can make up watersheds. Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. Some are millions of square miles, while others are just a few

acres. Just as creeks drain into rivers, watersheds are nearly always part of a larger watershed system.

For more information about water resources, visit the EPA's Watershed Information Network site at http://www.epa.gov/win/.

The Pike River is the main lifeline for the Pike Watershed, shown below:



The project will be constructed over the next several years with the first phase near County Highway "C" starting as early as 2002.

Pike River Present and Future Goals

Improvements to the North Branch of the Pike River in the Town of Mt. Pleasant, extend between County Trunk Highways C (Spring Street) and KR. Improvements include:

- · restore natural stream features and wetlands.
- · enhance aquatic habitat.
- reduce/eliminate flood damage and change the floodplain boundaries.
- · provide adequate storm water drainage.
- · improve storm water runoff and water quality.
- facilitate urban development consistent with adopted land use plans, recreation plans and parkway corridor plans.

Channel: The current streambanks will be widened with gentler side slopes. This will reduce flood water elevations, control erosion and shrink the size of the floodplain. As a result, nearly 100 existing structures will no longer be in the floodplain.

Wetland / Floodwater Storage Basins: Each basin is designed to include a new meandering stream channel, riparian wetlands and several ponds to treat stormwater runoff. The restored sections will increase flood water retention, improve water quality and enhance stream habitat.

Buffer Strip: A native prairie grass buffer strip will be planted along the banks to filter storm water runoff for improved water quality.

Educational Research: UWM's Department of Biology will conduct educational research to find plantings that are best applied in river restorations.

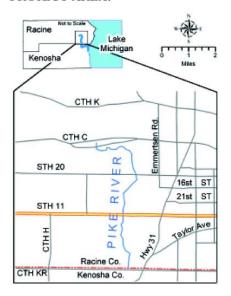
Bike Trail: The plan incorporates a walking / bike trail for recreation. The trail is part of Mount Pleasant's park and open space plan and enhances recreational facilities for our community.

Pike River Improvements and the Watershed

The Pike River watershed drains approximately 52 square miles in the communities within Racine and Kenosha counties. The "Comprehensive Pike River Watershed Plan" by SEWRPC required cooperative efforts between area communities. These cooperative efforts are a significant contribution in watershed system management.

The plan follows a wholistic approach to integrate concerns in the watershed which include economic, environmental, recreational, educational and regulatory factors. Improvements are part of the regional planning efforts for a sustainable watershed and water resource for the future of our community.

PROJECT AREA:



PIKE RIVER PARTNERS

Town of Mount Pleasant (Project Sponsor)

Town of Mount Pleasant Storm Water Utility District

Town of Mount Pleasant Parks Department

UW-Milwaukee, Department of Biology

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Crispell-Snyder, Inc.

BROCHURE SPONSOR



Funding for this brochure was made possible by a grant from the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network (WIN).

WIN's MISSION: To

protect, restore, and sustain the ecosystem in the watersheds through the funding and facilitation of a regional network of locally-initiated projects.

HELPING HANDS WELCOME

Interested in learning more about the Pike River or finding ways to volunteer to help? Please contact Matt Fineour, Stormwater Technician, at 262-554-8750.

Brochure designed by Crispell-Snyder, Inc.



Monitoring Reports

- Wetland restoration monitoring program
- Stream Habitat and aquatic biotic integrity

