

2006 KRA Watershed Grant Final Report

Clark's Run Environmental and Educational Corporation

CREEC has accomplished the activities described in the KRA Watershed Grant agreement. These include community watershed education and the enhancement and protection of the riparian zone along Clark's Run.

Community Education Programs

Related Activities:

- CREEC informational booth at the Boyle County Fair
- Landowner Mailing
- Newsletter Mailing
- Clark's Run Town Forum

Description:

1) The informational booth was set up at the Boyle County Fair and staffed by CREEC volunteers. The display and handouts at the booth included general watershed educational materials, water quality information about Clark's Run and ways that local citizens can help improve the quality of their local stream.

2) The landowner mailing was sent to all property owners along Clark's Run. It included a letter of introduction about CREEC, a CREEC brochure, and the educational pamphlet called "Living Along a Kentucky Stream."

3) A CREEC Newsletter was mailed to the landowner list and all CREEC volunteers updating everyone on the organization's recent activities, encouraging more volunteer participation and soliciting memberships.

4) A Clark's Run Town Forum was held on March 6, 2007 to educate local citizens about the water quality status of the creek and its selection as a watershed priority by Kentucky's Watershed Steering Committee and the USEPA. This event was well attended and included presentations from the Division of Water, USEPA, Third Rock Consultants, the City of Danville's stormwater engineer, Boyle County's engineer and CREEC officers. Many associated organizations also provided booth displays for an open house that preceded the forum. A newspaper article was published in the Danville Advocate-Messenger following the event.

Related Purchases:

- Display board
- CREEC brochures
- CREEC banner
- Booth cost at Boyle County Fair
- Website hosting
- Printing / Postage

Creation of a Model Riparian Zone (includes eradication of invasive plants)

Activities: 3 CREEC workdays to plant trees, clear honeysuckle and mow around tree seedlings

Description: CREEC is focusing on riparian zone improvement along a one-mile segment of Clark's Run that flows through downtown Danville. Members believe this is a highly visible segment of the stream that affords scenic access to the creek for local citizens. The City of Danville is the primary owner along this portion of the creek, so public ownership also makes it easier for volunteer cleanup and tree planting efforts.

Purchases:

- Trees
- Tools
- Fencing
- Refreshments for volunteers

Promotion of Further Improvements to the Riparian Zone

Activities:

- Landowner Mailing (see above)
- Community education efforts (see above)
- Communications with local government officials

Description:

The landowner mailing included specific recommendations to preserve riparian vegetation and avoid mowing to the creek's edge. The CREEC educational display also includes these and other suggested ways to enhance the riparian zone along Clark's Run.

CREEC members are continually working to educate local residents and local officials about the importance of the riparian zone to the quality of Clark's Run and its receiving waterbody, Herrington Lake. We are working with the local agricultural agencies (Boyle County NRCS and Boyle County Extension Office) to encourage farmer participation in related cost-share programs that would enhance the vegetated riparian buffer. The City of Danville's stormwater engineer is also overseeing stormwater best management practices, erosion control measures and construction setbacks from the creek in an effort to protect the creek.