

PROTECTING WATER QUALITY IN URBAN CENTERS PROJECT

FINAL REPORT

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The Protecting Water Quality in Urban Centers Project began on June 8, 2004 and ended on July 13, 2007.

### **Background**

In August, 2003, the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts (AISWCD), under the direction and with the support of the AISWCD Community Assistance Committee, applied for a Section 319 Grant from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The proposal was for the creation of a new program for Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), entitled “Protecting Water Quality In Urban Centers of Illinois”. The proposal, which received approval from IEPA in the Spring of 2004, provided grant funds to eligible SWCDs for the development and implementation of programs or projects that address nonpoint source water quality issues in urban centers of Illinois.

### **Resource Concerns**

The rapid expansion of growth in Illinois’ metropolitan areas shows no sign of abating. As the population increases, growth will continue in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors of our society. Most of this expansion has occurred, and will likely continue to occur, in or near existing urban areas. Between 1960 and 1990, the amount of urbanized land in the Champaign-Urbana and Peoria areas each grew more than 150 percent. Urbanized land in the Davenport-Rock Island-Moline area increased by nearly 50 percent. The change to urban land cover in the greater Chicago area reached 66 percent even though the population’s increase was only 14 percent. These statistics become more meaningful for the vast majority of us when we take a long drive through what we once appreciated as “country” and find new subdivisions and shopping malls along our route.

Along with urban development comes a host of environmental and natural resource considerations that can have an affect on water quality. As trees, grass and other forms of vegetative cover are removed and impermeable surfaces are created, there can be a detrimental impact on the quality of water in streams, lakes and even groundwater resources. The vegetative cover that once absorbed and filtered runoff water from precipitation, when removed, allows soil erosion to occur. Sediments from eroded soil will then fill water bodies, destroying aquatic life and habitat. In addition, chemicals from lawn fertilizers, salts from streets and roads and oils and petroleum products from automobiles and machinery find their way to water bodies in runoff water. This adds to the destruction of fish and wildlife habitat and the pollution of water resources.

The pollution of water in urbanized areas of the state from nonpoint sources (NPS) has implications beyond the destruction of aquatic species. Many of the stream, lake and groundwater resources provide a source of drinking water for the residents of urban communities. The pollutants must be removed, sometimes at great expense, in order to provide a potable water supply. Communities with reservoirs that supply drinking water to residents have also experienced serious problems with sedimentation reducing the holding capacity of these reservoirs. In some case, millions of dollars have been spent in the removal of sediments to restore storage capacity.

The problem of NPS pollution in urban areas is one that has not been able to be addressed by SWCDs to the extent that NPS pollution in rural, agricultural areas of the

state is being addressed by SWCDs. Previously, there have been limited resources available to SWCDs to address problems associated with NPS pollution in areas of rapid urban expansion. This program was tailored specifically for SWCDs to address NPS pollution concerns in specific highly urbanized areas throughout Illinois.

### **Program Purpose and Description**

The purpose of the Protecting Water Quality in Urban Centers of Illinois project was:

1. To benefit Illinois citizens in highly urbanized areas of the state experiencing rapid development by protecting and enhancing their water resources.
2. To provide eligible SWCDs with a portion of the funding necessary to develop, expand or implement programs or projects that protect water quality in urban areas.
3. To form a partnership between the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and county Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) in select urbanized areas to address NPS pollution problems of mutual concern to both parties.
4. To protect and preserve aquatic and wildlife species and their habitat.

At the core of the program was the creation of a mini-grant program that was administered by the AISWCD and available to 28 eligible SWCDs, serving 29 Illinois counties (see eligibility section for more information). Eligible SWCDs were able to apply for a competitive mini-grant to address NPS water pollution problems or water quality issues that are unique to urban centers. The program or project required a 40 percent cash or in-kind local match, with 60 percent of the funding provided by IEPA for a mini-grant for approved applicants. Some examples of the types of projects eligible for a mini-grant are presented in the section entitled, "Eligible Programs or Projects".

Mini-grant proposals that were submitted by eligible SWCDs were reviewed and prioritized by a Grant Proposal Advisory Committee established for such purpose. The Grant Proposal Advisory Committee rated all proposals utilizing a set of pre-established criteria. Mini-grant recipients had up to nine months to complete their project.

### **Grant Dollars Available**

The Protecting Water Quality in Urban Centers of Illinois project, approved by IEPA, provided a total of \$81,736.00 for mini-grants. SWCDs or their partners provided an additional \$54,490.66 as match, for a total of \$136,226.66. This breaks down to 60 percent provided by IEPA and 40 percent provided as match by SWCDs.

### **Eligibility**

A total of 28 SWCDs, covering 29 Illinois counties, were eligible to participate in the program and apply for mini-grant funds. Eligibility was based on either one of two factors: 1) the designation of a county as an urbanized area stormwater entity by USEPA/IEPA; or, 2) counties with a population center of 20,000 or greater as defined by the 2000 U.S. Census.

Two informational workshops were held in Springfield, IL and in Sycamore, IL. Below is a copy of the agenda from the December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> workshops.

### Workshop Agenda

December 6, 2004; 9:00AM-12:00PM Springfield Illinois Dept. of Agriculture Building Room 66	December 7, 2004; 9:00AM-12:00PM DeKalb DeKalb County Farm Bureau Training Room
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refreshments</li> <li>• Welcome and Introductions; Dwayne Proctor, Chair, AISWCD Community Assistance Committee</li> <li>• Importance of Protecting Water Quality in Urban Centers; Dwayne Proctor, Chair, AISWCD Community Assistance Committee</li> <li>• Grant Program Objectives-Overview of Guidelines/ Application Forms; Terry Donohue, AISWCD</li> <li>• Eligible Projects-Ideas and Examples; Kent Sims, NRCS</li> <li>• IEPA Requirements-Matching Dollars, Reporting, Documentation; Chris Davis, IEPA</li> <li>• Questions and Answers</li> <li>• Adjourn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9AM-9:30AM</li> <li>9:30AM-9:35AM</li> <li>9:35AM-9:45AM</li> <li>9:45AM-10:15AM</li> <li>10:15AM-10:45AM</li> <li>10:45AM-11:15AM</li> <li>11:15AM-12:00PM</li> <li>12:00PM</li> </ul>

A memo was sent to all eligible SWCDs explaining that the Advisory Committee would look at the following as top priorities when reviewing applications.

- **1st priority:** SWCDs who attended the training/information meetings (held in Springfield on December 6, 2004 and in DeKalb on December 7, 2004), but did not file a proposal.
- **2nd priority:** SWCDs who did not attend the training/informational meetings and did not file a proposal
- **3rd priority:** Those SWCDs who currently have a grant and who have completed or have substantially completed the project.

A map of Illinois indicating the eligible counties is enclosed.



## **Eligible Projects**

Projects to be implemented by SWCDs with the objective of water quality protection through the reduction of urban NPS pollution were eligible for funding consideration. Presented below is a non-inclusive list of examples of project areas that were eligible for mini-grant funds. Other innovative ideas were considered, as well, and were encouraged.

1. Update/Develop Technical Resource Materials
  - a. Illinois Urban Manual (IUM)-continue review and revision process, expand to include more stormwater management, water quality, native habitat protection and enhancement best management practices (BMPs)
  - b. Procedures and Standards for Urban Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control in Illinois (Greenbook)-expand into comprehensive urban resource planning manual.
  - c. Field Manual for Implementation and Inspection of Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (Inspector's Manual)-revise to be consistent with IUM; develop companion manual for inspection of stormwater management facilities.
  - d. Develop statewide model for natural resource protection or urban erosion sediment control ordinances.
  - e. Convert existing urban NPS pollution control or water quality protection guides/manuals to a CD, so that they may be made available to a wider audience more cost effectively.
2. Development and Delivery of Urban NPS Pollution Control Information/Education/Marketing Materials
  - a. Produce brochures, fact sheets and public service announcements.
  - b. Purchase and distribute technical reference materials.
  - c. Produce and distribute educational videos.
  - d. Develop electronic materials for web based application.
  - e. Create community development/urban water quality protection information clearinghouse.
3. Develop and Implement Urban NPS Pollution Control Outreach Strategies
  - a. Develop coordinated and targeted media marketing materials.
  - b. Arrange and conduct workshops, seminars or tours targeted to county/municipal land use decision makers, planning/zoning boards, developers/contractors or the public.
  - c. Establish a cost-share program for BMPs demonstration/education to work with developers, units of government or homeowners associations.
4. BMP Implementation and Technical Assistance (must include an information/education component)

- a. Support hiring of additional staff for specific community conservation activities and tasks.
  - b. Support hiring of consultant to complete specific activity or task.
5. Training of SWCD/NRCS Staff and Others
- a. Develop and conduct urban NPS water quality protection courses or seminars
  - b. Train technical assistance providers on urban NPS water quality protection BMPs (i.e. construction site erosion/sediment control, stormwater management related to water quality).
  - c. Employ consultants to prepare training materials and hold training programs for developers and government decision makers.
  - d. Pay costs associated with sending SWCD/NRCS employees to relevant seminars or workshops.
6. Technology Development, Demonstration or Transfer
- a. Provide resources for new materials development, contract consultants and other support needed for research projects
  - b. Development of certification programs for soil erosion and sediment control and stormwater managers, plan reviewers and inspectors

**Maximum Grant Amount per SWCD and Project**

The maximum amount that an individual SWCD could apply for and receive was \$5,000. SWCDs could submit one or more grant proposals for consideration provided that the total dollar amount requested does not exceed \$5,000. Up to four SWCDs could jointly develop and submit a proposal for funding consideration, if the proposal would provide benefits to constituents in all SWCDs applying. In this case, each SWCD could request the maximum individual grant amount of \$5,000 up to a total maximum of \$20,000 per project.

In the case of a multi-SWCD project only one proposal could be submitted. However, a separate Project Application Signature form and Project Budget sheet were to be completed by each participating SWCD and included in the proposal.

**Matching Dollar Requirements**

The Section 319 NPS Pollution Control Program administered by IEPA, that provided the funding for this program, required matching contributions. All applicants for a mini-grant were to have, as a minimum, a 40 percent match in cash or in-kind services contributions. The remaining 60 percent of the project costs were to be provided by IEPA in the form of the mini-grant.

The 40 percent cash match can be provided by the grant recipient or by other non federal government (state, county, city) or non-government partners or contributors. The source and dollar amount of the match were to be specified in the application narrative. The SWCD was responsible for making sure that any identified project partners honor their commitment.

In-kind services for the 40 percent match requirement could include the salary and benefits of administrative support provided by people directly involved with the project,

as long as they were not already being paid by IPEA, IDOA, or a federal source of funds. Federal government employee salaries or benefits could not be used as an in-kind match. Hourly rates were to be documented for in-kind salary/benefit matches.

Other contributions of time, labor, mileage, equipment, office space, materials, etc. could qualify as an in-kind match if properly documented and the value was established in the application narrative, and approved prior to project implementation.

### **Eligible Project Expenses**

Most expenses directly related to implementing an approved project were eligible for reimbursement or for use as an in-kind match. These included, but were not limited, to the following categories:

- Salary
- Benefits
- Mileage (not to exceed state rate)
- Travel Expenses (not to exceed state rate)
- Equipment (special limit set)
- Supplies
- Meeting Expenses (special limit set)
- Printed Materials
- Postage
- Speaker/Consultant Fees
- Copying
- Other project payments/incentive for involving landowner participation

Expenses that were not eligible for the program include the following:

- Salaries and benefits for persons already employed by the SWCD, unless the SWCD prepared a separate agreement stipulating the days of the week, the number of hours and the nature of the work to be accomplished, etc., and that the work would be accomplished at times other than the employee's regular work hours.
- Salaries and benefits for federal government employees.
- Expenses for work or activities already underway or for a regular ongoing program or project.
- Fixed expenses for which the SWCD was responsible for on a regular and reoccurring basis, such as:
  - Rent
  - Utilities
  - Other improvements or purchases

### **Reimbursement Requirements**

The mini-grant program was a reimbursable program. No “up-front” grant monies were provided. Upon completion of activities contained in a project approved for grant funds, documentation and billing forms was to be sent to the AISWCD Office, for reimbursement. The AISWCD then billed IEPA, received funds, and reimbursed approved SWCDs. Grant recipients had to have sufficient financial resources available to cover initial project expenses.

### **Format For Project Proposals**

Proposals were to be no more than two (2) single-sided pages in length and the type-face could be no smaller than 10pt. To ensure consideration, a properly completed project application form and budget form was to be attached to the front of the proposal. The project application and budget form were not considered part of the proposal. One unbound original and six (6) stapled copies of the complete package (project application form, budget form, and proposal) were to be submitted to the AISWCD.

The proposal had to follow the precise titles and sequence outlined below:

- ***Project Statement***-Describe the proposed projects relevance to urban NPS pollution control or water quality protection plans and efforts in the county and/or adjacent areas (i.e. the compatibility of the proposed project with the SWCD’s Long-Range Plan or applicability to local/regional water quality planning activities).
- ***Project Goals***-Provide a clear goal statement addressing in qualitative or quantitative terms what the project would accomplish and how the project was consistent with and can further the stated goals and objectives of the Protecting Water Quality in Urban Centers of Illinois project (i.e. how the project would address urban NPS water pollution or water quality protection).
- ***Proposed Work***-Present a statement of methodology, identifying key tasks, end product(s), timetable, evaluation process, and dissemination strategy. A full description of each task and associated output(s) had to be included. The “proposed work” section was to also include a brief narrative statement explaining how the funds will be used and how the use of these funds, will be coordinated with other (non-state provided) funds devoted to urban NPS water pollution control or water quality protection activities. In some cases projects will entail only one main task. In that event, please be sure to describe the task fully, both in narrative and in the budget.
- ***Project Personnel***-Identify key personnel, their role in the project, their experience, and their qualifications that ensure successful completion of the proposed project.
- ***Partnership Collaboration***-Provide a detailed statement of any individuals (beyond the project team), other SWCDs, agencies or organizations that would

collaborate on the proposed project. Collaboration could also include funding or in-kind services. (Note: The salaries of NRCS or other federal employees could not be used as matching funds or in calculating the value of in-kind services.)

- **Transferability**-Provide a statement regarding the project’s ability to have application in other parts of the county or other counties in the state, and indicate what, if anything, you would do to promote that transferability.
- **Timeframe**-Indicate a starting date and completion date for the project. (Note: The timeframe should coincide with the number of tasks involved in implementing the project. The Grant Proposal Advisory Committee may require an earlier completion date than the date proposed by an applicant.)
- **End Product Review**-Indicate appropriate parties to review end product documents, if applicable. (Note: All technical or educational documents were to undergo a review by a qualified committee as identified by the grant recipient, prior to the submittal of the final product. The Grant Proposal Advisory Committee must approve the product review committee members.

**Project Proposal Review Process**

Project proposals received by the established deadline for submittal were reviewed, evaluated, prioritized and selected by an independent review committee established for this purpose. The Protecting Water Quality in Urban Centers of Illinois project Advisory Committee was comprised of individuals from a broad cross section of agencies and organizations and who haven an extensive knowledge of urban NPS pollution and water quality issues. The committee members and the organizations that they represent:

Name	Organization
• Shannon Allen	Macon County Soil & Water Conservation District
• Joe Bybee	Illinois Department of Agriculture
• Chris Davis	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
• Rich Nichols	Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts
• Dwayne Proctor	Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District
• Kent Sims	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Note: In the event of a reviewer conflict of interest for a particular proposal, they were asked to remove themselves from considering that proposal.

Project proposals were evaluated using the project criteria specified in this report. The number of projects selected was based on the amount of funding available for the program in the funding cycle in which the project proposal was submitted. All SWCDs submitting proposals were notified in writing by the Grant Proposal Advisory Committee, regarding proposal approval or denial.

### **Criteria for Project Selection:**

The six Grant Proposal Advisory Committee members read and rated each proposal based on the seven criteria listed below. A point value from 0-10 points was assigned to each of the criteria. Assigning a value of 10 points for a particular criteria indicates that an activity or condition is fully achievable or fully explained. A point value of 0 for particular criteria indicates that the activity or condition was not achievable, was not evident or eligible or appropriate. Point ranges were assigned between 0-10 points and indicate the relative degree to which an activity or condition was achieved in the mind of the reviewer. A maximum point total of 70 points was available for assignment to each proposal by each reviewer, or a total of 420 points when point scores of all six reviewers, were totaled. The point values assigned by each reviewer for each proposal were then added and divided by six (the total number of reviewers) to obtain an average point rating for each proposal. Beginning with the proposal receiving the highest average point value, approval was given to as many proposals as permitted by the dollars available. The committee agreed prior the ranking that any proposals that received less than 35 points was not to be funded even if grant funds were still available.

The following criteria were considered and point values assigned in the process of selecting qualified proposals for funding purposes:

***Impacts on Urban NPS Water Pollution or Water Quality Protection***-Proposals were to explain what impact(s) the proposed project will have on the control of urban NPS water pollution or water quality protection and where appropriate, the inclusion of an education/information component for raising public awareness of urban NPS water pollution and water quality protection issues. Any secondary impacts that were attributable to the proposed project should also be explained.

***Applicability to Local/Regional Water Quality Plans and Activities***-Proposals had to explain how the proposed project would address element(s) of applicable Water Quality Plans or activities, and if the proposed project had been identified as a high priority within the plan.

***Measurable Results***-Proposals were to explain how the proposed project would be evaluated to determine its success, using quantitative or qualitative measurements.

***Feasibility of Project***- Proposals were evaluated based on the complexity, impact(s) and implement ability of the proposed project in relation to timeframes and cost proposed for accomplishing all or each part of the proposed project.

***Transferable Results***-Though transferable results are not required, they are important and proposals were evaluated based on the proposed project's potential to have application elsewhere in the state.

***Evidence of Partnership***-Though partnerships are not required, they are important and proposals were evaluated based on the degree of desirability and necessity of obtaining

the support of others in accomplishment of the proposed project, including landowners in the project area.

***Matching Funds or In-Kind Contributions***-*Matching funds or contributions were required for successful competition.* Proposals were evaluated based on evidence of local matching funds and/or in-kind services. A minimum of 40 % matching funds or in-kind contribution was necessary. (Note: Federal government resources were not be used as matching funds or in calculating the value of in-kind services.)

**Project Submittal and Review Timetable**

Proposals were received at the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts office in Springfield; applications by mail, courier, or hand delivery were accepted; faxed applications were not accepted.

The time frame for project submittal, review, approval and implementation was as follows:

Item	Dates
• Grant Application Period	September 15-October 12, 2005
• Project Proposal Submittal Deadline	October 12, 2005
• Project Proposal Review Period	October 13-October 19, 2005
• Project Approval/Denial Notification	October 25, 2005
• Grant Agreement Signing	October 21-November 15, 2005
• Grant Project Implementation Period	December 15, 2005-August 16, 2006
• Final Reports and End Products to AISWCD	September 30, 2006

**Financial Agreements**

Upon notification of approval of a project a grant agreement outlining the project components, grant amount, reporting requirements and time frame was sent by the AISWCD to the sponsoring SWCD. The Grant Proposal Advisory Committee could require that an approved project be completed in a time frame shorter than the nine months implementation period depending on the nature and complexity of the project. After the agreement was properly executed and returned, the sponsoring SWCD was then notified in writing that the project was authorized to proceed. Grant recipients also received reimbursement forms, information on documentation requirements and instructions for requesting grant monies.

Upon completion of projects the Administrating SWCD submitted an invoice to the AISWCD and a final report. The AISWCD then submitted an invoice to the IEPA, who reviewed and approved the invoices, and then the IEPA sent a reimbursement check to the AISWCD. The AISWCD then paid the SWCDs after receiving the money from IEPA. Only the administrating SWCD received the money. If multiple SWCDs were involved in a project the administrative county would combine all expenses and submit only one invoice to the AISWCD; after the administrative SWCD receives money from the AISWCD the administrative SWCD can reallocate funds to the multiple SWCDs involved in the project.

### **Midway Reporting and End Products Review**

On April 1, 2006, approximately half way point of the SWCD mini grants, each SWCD grantee prepared and submitted a brief report describing progress to date on their project.

If the project involved the development of a technical or educational document, they were reviewed by a qualified product review committee, as identified by the grant recipient, prior to the printing, distribution or submittal of the final product. The Grant Program Proposal Advisory Committee had to approve the product review committee. In addition, all products produced and all work performed by the grantee were subject to review and approval by IEPA to determine eligibility for the Section 319 program.

Within 60 days following the end of the grant agreement period (**or no later than August 1, 2006**), each SWCD grantee prepared a brief (one or two page) report, summarizing the outcome, achievements, successes and benefits of the project. The reports included quantifiable benefits (i.e. number of people benefited or served). The project summary report also included copies of written materials that were identified as fundable elements in the grant proposal and a financial statement detailing actual program expenditures. In addition, digital or hard copy photographs documenting the projects implementation were to be included. Progress reports and final reports were submitted to the AISWCD.

### **SUMMARY**

During the first round of applications received in January of 2005 the AISWCD received 10 proposals covering 15 SWCDs. The proposals were reviewed and prioritized by the Grant Proposal Advisory Committee. The Committee rated all proposals utilizing a set of pre-established criteria. All ten proposals were approved.

Not all of the grant funds were committed through the first round, so the Protecting Water Quality Grant was opened for 2nd round grant applications to all SWCDs on September 14, 2005. The AISWCD office received two grant applications and submitted them to the Advisory Committee for review. After budget revisions to both applications, both were approved and final sub-agreements were put in place. Adams County SWCD was approved to exceed the set maximum grant limit, since no one else was waiting for money. A copy of the final sub-agreements were sent to IEPA.

The following is a summary of each project approved for the Protecting Water Quality in Urban Centers 319 project (the information stated below was taken from reports submitted by the involved SWCDs):

**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-01

**Grant Title:** Tri-County Erosion and Sediment Control Forums

**SWCDs:** Madison, Monroe, St. Clair

**Project Completed:** Yes

**Approved Budget Information:** Madison SWCD Monroe SWCD St. Clair SWCD Multiple County Total

<u>Assistance Amount</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$480.00</u>	<u>\$2,200.00</u>	<u>\$7,680.00</u>
<u>Match Amount</u>	<u>\$3,333.00</u>	<u>\$320.00</u>	<u>\$1,467.00</u>	<u>\$5,120.00</u>
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<u>\$8,333.00</u>	<u>\$800.00</u>	<u>\$3,667.00</u>	<u>\$12,800.00</u>

**Actual Budget Information:** Madison SWCD Monroe SWCD St. Clair SWCD Multiple County Total

<u>Assistance Amount</u>	<u>\$4,973.85</u>	<u>\$115.01</u>	<u>\$1,254.65</u>	<u>\$6,343.51</u>
<u>Match Amount</u>	<u>\$6,222.00</u>	<u>\$76.67</u>	<u>\$836.43</u>	<u>\$7,135.10</u>
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<u>\$11,195.85</u>	<u>\$191.68</u>	<u>\$2,091.08</u>	<u>\$13,478.61</u>

**Summary of Completed Project:** This grant was a joint project of the St. Clair, Madison and Monroe County SWCDs. The grant included two events that were aimed at educating: contractors, developers, municipal inspectors and private consulting engineers about urban erosion and sediment control. A seminar was held on April 29, 2005 in Waterloo. Speakers included representatives from IEPA, NRCS, product suppliers, and the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District. The topic throughout the day was best management practices (BMPs) and application of new erosion and sediment control products on the market. Approximately 75 people attended. The grant funds were used to purchase 205 copies of a field manual that can be used by inspectors and designers to plan and install BMPs on urbanizing sites. Manuals were distributed to the attendees of the seminar. The rest of the manuals were distributed to the 3 SWCDs for future distribution.

The second event was an on-site field demonstration of erosion and sediment control products and application techniques. This demonstration was held on October 26, 2005 at the Richland Subdivision south of Belleville. Approximately 85 people were in attendance. There were city/village inspectors, public works directors, contractors, private engineers and developers in attendance. Demonstrations at the field day included: the application and proper use of a hydro seeder; the use of a straw blower; proper installation of silt fence; construction of a sediment basin with a rip rap check dam around the inlet of the outlet pipe; triangular grade control devices; rolled erosion control blankets; turf reinforcement mats; and several types of stormwater drain inlet protection devices. Products were demonstrated and explained by industry representatives and suppliers who were also available to answer questions. The suppliers also remarked that this was an excellent opportunity to build networks and make contacts with organizations and people that could use the products discussed. Many of the attendees were unaware of the proper techniques and erosion and sediment control products that were available.

A presentation was given by SCI Engineering on the proper preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP). These events described above have helped the construction industry to be better educated in the methods and products available to properly address erosion and sediment control on urbanizing sites.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-02

**SWCDs:** Champaign

**Grant Title:** Nonpoint Source Pollution Education

**Project Completed:** Yes

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>Champaign SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$4,800.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$3,200.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$8,000.00</u></b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>Champaign SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$4,483.37
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$3,599.35
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$8,082.72</u></b>

**Summary of Completed Project:** The first phase of the project was to produce a brochure that could be used by the municipalities and county government in Champaign County to educate the public on stormwater pollution issues they could have a positive influence on. A brochure entitled "You Are The Solution to Storm Water Pollution" was developed by local government employees with special help from the University of Illinois graphic designers. 30,000 copies were printed by the University of Illinois. The brochure will be used at meeting the various municipalities have with citizens that will promote the care of the water in our communities.

The second phase of the project was to focus on builders in the community that contribute to NPS pollution at construction sites. A meeting was developed to educate engineers and contractors on BMPs that would reduce urban NPS pollution. This seminar was held January 10, 2006 at the University of Illinois and attended by over 100 engineers and contractors. One of the highlights of the meeting was a presentation by Core Construction on efforts they have taken showing before and after pictures of how they have become good stewards of their projects on the University of Illinois campus. This helped show that BMPs are workable and effective in keeping sediment from leaving construction sites.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-03

**SWCDs:** Macon

**Grant Title:** The Proper Installation of the Top 5 BMP in Central Illinois

**Project Completed:** Yes

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>Macon SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$4,797.50
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$2,878.50
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$7,676.00</u></b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>Macon SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$1,818.50
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$1,232.40
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$3,050.90</u></b>

**Summary of Completed Project:** A bus tour was held on August 1, 2006 with approximately 40 people in attendance in conjunction with the AISWCD Summer Conference in Decatur, Illinois. The participants included people from SWCDs (staff & directors), NRCS, IEPA, private consultants, and engineers. While on the bus on the way to the site the participants were given information on the rules and regulations of the IEPA Phase II Stormwater Ordinance. The tour participants went to multiple sites on a property which showed inlet protection around stormwater drains on the site, a bio berm, silt fence installed by a silt plow, eco sock, straw waddles, triangular silt dikes, geo berm, rolled matting, compost blanket applied to slope and hydro seeder applied. A survey was conducted on the bus tour and comments have been submitted to IEPA.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-04

**SWCDs:** McHenry

**Grant Title:** [www.ilwaterquality.net](http://www.ilwaterquality.net)

**Project Completed:** Yes

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>McHenry SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$4,200.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$2,800.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$7,000.00</u></b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>McHenry SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$4,200.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$2,800.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$7,000.00</u></b>

**Summary of Completed Project:** This project created the Illinois Water Quality Network website, [www.ilwaterquality.net](http://www.ilwaterquality.net). This website has been a helpful resource to access water quality regulations at the federal, state and local levels, but has also been helpful to local schools within McHenry County to help educate the students about NPS pollution control. In March 2005, the District hired a web hosting company to design the website, register the site domain name and begin researching what water quality regulations were available on-line in the identified "urbanizing counties". McHenry County contacted the SWCDs that are considered urbanizing counties to help in researching water quality regulations. The preliminary website was completed in January 2006. Promotion of the website began with an all SWCD email; fliers were sent to urbanizing SWCDs, local developers, and government entities; emails were sent to area schools; and fliers were provided at local conferences (97 SWCDs, 123 government agencies/consultants/developers, 200 plus conference attendees, and 84 schools). The current website has a contract until March 2008.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-5

**SWCDs:** Rock Island and Stephenson

**Grant Title:** Nonpoint Source Pollution Workshop

**Project Completed:** Yes

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>Stephenson SWCD</u>	<u>Rock Island SWCD</u>	<u>Multiple County Total</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$840.00	\$2,700.00	\$3,540.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$560.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,360.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b>\$1,400.00</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>	<b>\$5,900.00</b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>Stephenson SWCD</u>	<u>Rock Island SWCD</u>	<u>Multiple County Total</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$356.76	\$2,373.93	\$2,730.69
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$237.84	\$1,610.00	\$1,847.84
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b>\$594.60</b>	<b>\$3,983.93</b>	<b>\$4,578.53</b>

**Summary of Completed Project:** Rock Island County SWCD held an Urban Soil Erosion and Sediment Control (SESC) workshop on April 26, 2005 at the Moline Holiday Inn and had over 45 people in attendance. Workshop participants included private engineers, soil and water conservation districts, county highway departments and the Illinois DOT. The workshop included SESC regulations on NPDES and local ordinances followed by components of an effective SESC plan and a case study of a successful SESC plan. A SESC exercise was conducted and participants were put into groups of six to review and comment on the plan. Stephenson County SWCD held a Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Luncheon on April 27, 2005, at Highland Community College in Freeport, Illinois. There were twenty-five participants in attendance, including contractors, developers, and city and county officials. The session included a slideshow depicting construction sites that had neglected to address erosion control. A presentation on urban soil erosion principals was completed during the session and a variety of best management practices, laws, and resources were presented.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-6

**SWCDs:** Kankakee

**Grant Title:** Technical Reference Document Development

**Project Completed:** Yes

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>Kankakee SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$5,000.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$3,500.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>Kankakee SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$5,000.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$8,311.00

Total Project Amount **\$13,311.00**

**Summary of Completed Project:** A reference manual entitled “*Kankakee County Stormwater Technical Reference Manual*” was created in this project to assist developers in meeting requirements of local ordinances in the reduction of nonpoint source pollutants leaving construction sites and developments.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-7

**SWCDs:** Adams

**Grant Title:** Assessing and Protecting Riparian Corridors

**Project Completed:** Yes

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>Adams SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$6,350.00*
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$4,050.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$8,200.00</u></b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>Adams SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$6,345.78
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$4,873.02
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$11,218.80</u></b>

\*Adams County SWCD was awarded an additional \$2,200.00 after the initial grant approval. These additional funds were used to cover printing costs.

**Summary of Completed Project:** The 26page “*Citizen Guide to Riparian Corridor Management*” publication was completed and 500 copies were printed. This publication was a collaborative effort between the SWCD, the City of Quincy Engineer and Planner, the Adams County Highway Department Engineer and students in an agriculture/horticulture class at John Wood Community College. A document entitled “*Best Management Practices for Urban Areas*” was also produced. Both documents are now posted on Adams County SWCD website at [www.adamsswcd.org](http://www.adamsswcd.org).

The Adams County Highway Department and SWCD personnel reviewed stream corridors as they were in 1936 and 2004. This information was developed into a GIS project. The GIS project was completed and included overlays of ponds/lakes/retention basins for the same years. This data has already been used as a part of the resource planning process for the Bear Creek Watershed, and has been used by the SWCD for stream bank stabilization and restoration projects in the Quincy area.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-8

**SWCDs:** Woodford, Peoria and Tazewell

**Grant Title:** Demonstration BMPs in Rapidly Urbanizing Forested Bluffs

**Project Completed:** Yes

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>Woodford SWCD</u>	<u>Peoria SWCD</u>	<u>Tazewell SWCD</u>	<u>Multiple County Total</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$15,000.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$3,333.00	\$3,333.00	\$3,333.00	\$9,999.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$8,333.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,333.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,333.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$24,999.00</u></b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>Woodford SWCD</u>	<u>Peoria SWCD</u>	<u>Tazewell SWCD</u>	<u>Multiple County Total</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$4,995.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$14,995.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$3,426.13	\$3,426.13	\$3,426.13	\$10,278.39
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$8,421.13</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,426.13</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,426.13</u></b>	<b><u>\$25,273.39</u></b>

**Summary of Completed Project:** The first task accomplished was applying forest management in Oakbrook Subdivision. In order to complete this task the SWCDS & partners had to gather enough landowner financial support to hire an ecological consultant to perform forest management on 10-15 acres of privately owned property. Twenty landowners agreed to allow a consultant to manage vegetation on their property for the sake of bluff stabilization. A number of landowners also contributed in-kind service to the project by working on forested acres in less steep, upland portions of their property. Approximately 16 acres underwent restoration. The type of restoration was timber stand improvement- removing sugar maples, shade tolerant trees and invasive plants to open up the canopy and allow sunlight to penetrate the ravine floor. The main purpose was to get ground cover to grow and help stabilize the soil.

The second task completed in this project was to conduct a kick-off event to publicize the Oakbrook project and educate stakeholders on forest management procedures. The Tri-County Regional Planning Commission created an agenda and created and distributed flyers and packets of information on forest management brochures created in this grant; which were distributed to landowners, contractors and foresters. Two local news stations covered the event.

The third task accomplished was the creation and distribution of “*Stormwater Management BMPs in the Forested Bluffs*” pamphlet. The brochure was reviewed by IEPA personnel, the AISWCD, the Woodford, Peoria and Tazewell County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Advisory Committee, and the Natural Resources and Your Development Taskforce. There were 1000 brochures printed. All three SWCD's and Tri County split the brochures to pass out to landowners, contractors and the public. Tri County also passed some out for a watershed restoration project they were working on.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-9

**SWCDs:** Kendall

**Grant Title:** Water Quality Management Workshop Series

**Project Completed:** Yes

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>Kendall SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$2,100.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$1,400.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$3,500.00</u></b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>Kendall SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$516.43
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$344.29
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$860.72</u></b>

**Summary of Completed Project:** The Kendall County SWCD conducted a two-part “Water Quality Management Workshop Series” with a focus on detention/retention basins and wetlands to improve water quality. The workshop series highlighted the function, design, construction and care/maintenance of wetlands and detention/retention basins. Presentations also included local project case studies and information on best management practices specific to each series. The workshops served to educate a target audience of developers, engineers/consultants, contractors, local leaders, and the public on how to reduce NPS pollution through the sessions and provided resource materials. At the conclusion of the series, the resource packet given to attendees were made available to the 98 Illinois SWCD offices and remains available at the Kendal County SWCD office.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2005-10

**SWCDs:** Winnebago

**Grant Title:** Construction Site Planning Workshop

**Project Completed:** Yes

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>Winnebago SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$5,000.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$6,600.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$11,600.00</u></b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>Winnebago SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$5,000.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$4,142.61
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$9,142.61</u></b>

**Summary of Completed Project:** An Urban NPS Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop was held on September 29, 2005 in Rockford, Illinois. The target audience for this workshop was contractors, developers and engineers. The goal was to show workshop participants how to properly develop an erosion and sediment control plan, how to implement the plan using the Illinois Urban Manual, other erosion and sediment control methods not founds in the Illinois Urban Manual, and how to do a proper inspection. 45 people were in attendance at the workshop. All participants were very positive towards the program, due to the volume of questions and

interest the program was extended an additional hour. The SWCD has been contacted by the contractors since the workshop, all were very grateful for this program and have requested that the SWCD consider other similar workshops. Media coverage was also present at this event.

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## **2<sup>nd</sup> Round Approved Applications**

Many of the 1<sup>st</sup> round projects came in under budget. In an effort to develop as many projects as possible, a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of funding was announced. The following projects were funded in round 2.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2006-01

**SWCDs:** Lake, Kane-DuPage, North Cook & Will South Cook

**Grant Title:** Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Measures Workshop

**Project Completed:** Yes

### **Approved**

<b>Budget Information:</b>	<u>Kane-DuPage</u>	<u>Lake</u>	<u>N. Cook</u>	<u>Will South Cook</u>	<u>Multiple County Total</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	<u>\$3,355.00</u>	<u>\$3,575.00</u>	<u>\$1,700.00</u>	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	<u>\$11,630.00</u>
<u>Match Amount</u>	<u>\$3,523.00</u>	<u>\$4,525.00</u>	<u>\$2,170.00</u>	<u>\$2,050.00</u>	<u>\$12,268.00</u>
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<u><b>\$6,878.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$8,100.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$3,870.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$5,050.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$23,898.00</b></u>

### **Actual**

<b>Budget Information:</b>	<u>Kane-DuPage</u>	<u>Lake</u>	<u>N. Cook</u>	<u>Will South Cook</u>	<u>Multiple County Total</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	<u>\$3,165.19</u>	<u>\$2,559.36</u>	<u>\$702.75</u>	<u>\$2,658.66</u>	<u>\$9,085.96</u>
<u>Match Amount</u>	<u>\$4,084.19</u>	<u>\$2,450.81</u>	<u>\$1,383.00</u>	<u>\$2,069.46</u>	<u>\$9,987.46</u>
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<u><b>\$7,249.38</b></u>	<u><b>\$5,010.17</b></u>	<u><b>\$2,085.75</b></u>	<u><b>\$4,728.12</b></u>	<u><b>\$19,073.42</b></u>

**Summary of Completed Project:** The Lake County SWCD held a Soil Erosion and Sediment Control (SESC) Workshop on June 27, 2006 at the University Center located in Grayslake. The workshop was attended by 70 participants and pictures from the event have been submitted. Topics covered included: Stormwater Regulation and Technical Standards, Erosion Control Practices and Products, Sediment Control Practices and Products, Site Inspection and Reporting, and In Stream and Streamside Work. There was also a case study completed entitled “Mitigating Sediment Runoff, IDOT Route 22 Roadway Bypass, Lake Zurich. A survey was conducted on the workshop. Lake County SWCD distributed two books by Jerald Fifield to the participants and these were: Designing for Effective Sediment and Erosion Control on Construction Sites and Field Manual on Sediment and Erosion Control Bmps for Contractors and Inspectors. On June 20th, 2006 the Kane Du-Page SWCD held a Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop to inform and educate local municipal officials, private consultants and engineers, developers, and contractors about the importance of construction site BMPs for protecting water quality. Over 60 participants attended the seminar. The overall purpose and intent of the seminar was achieved both through the information provided to the attendees directly, and the benefits to citizens within the two counties that would be provided indirectly through the education of the attendees.

The North Cook SWCD held a Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop on July 19, 2006 in Palatine. The workshop was attended by 28 individuals from the private consultant, conservation agency and municipal staff arenas. Topics included: NPDES Phase II regulations, BMPs for Erosion and Sediment Control and Inspection, soil erosion and sediment control methods for projects in, or adjacent to aquatic habitats. Materials included in the workshop binder included the Iowa NRCS Inspection forms and IEPA NPDES forms, information from the Illinois Green Book and a manual from the state of Virginia. Sediment Control and Stormwater Management Fact sheets were also included. A survey was conducted on the workshop. On July 12, 2006 the Will/South Cook SWCD held a Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop. The goal of this workshop was to inform and educate engineers, contractors, developers, site inspectors, and landowners about local, state and federal rules and regulations that relate to soil erosion and sediment control. Over 30 participants attended the seminar that was held in Olympia Fields, Illinois. Topics included: Stormwater Regulations and technical standards, site inspections, erosion and sediment control practices and products, guidance on how to approach working within a stream, and different alternatives to streambank stabilization, and the successes and failures of different practices. A survey was taken.

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**Sub-Agreement No.:** 2006-02

**SWCDs:** Adams

**Grant Title:** Retention Basin Retrofit

**Project Completed:** No

<b>Approved Budget Information:</b>	<u>Adams SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$5,000.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$6,600.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$11,600.00</u></b>

<b>Actual Budget Information:</b>	<u>Adams SWCD</u>
<u>Assistance Amount</u>	\$2,700.00
<u>Match Amount</u>	\$2,720.00
<u>Total Project Amount</u>	<b><u>\$5,420.00</u></b>

**Summary of Completed Project:** An existing retention basin on the Quincy Campus of John Wood Community College (JWCC) has been planted to native species that will filter pollutants from runoff water. Adams County Highway Department staff removed existing vegetation. Plants were ordered and planted the week of June 12, 2006. Jim Nelson, AISWCD Watershed Liaison, assisted with the design and planting of this project. Due to extremely dry weather, JWCC staff and Adams County SWCD staff watered the area twice a week for six weeks. Weeding was done as needed. Sometime around August 8, 2006, the majority of the native plants disappeared. Geese seem to be the culprits. It is estimated that 85% of the plants are now missing.

They are continuing to maintain the area by weeding and checking on plants. In late spring, they should know if the geese completely pulled the plants out of the ground or if the roots survived

and will re-grow. Arrangements have been made with a nursery to purchase additional plants if needed. Goose netting will be installed at the site with assistance from JWCC staff.

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### **Radio Advertisement**

The AISWCD took the opportunity at the end of the project period to use the outstanding SWCD mini grant funds to put together radio ads to promote nonpoint source pollution education throughout Illinois.

The AISWCD contracted with Learfield News out of Jefferson City Missouri to host sixty second ads for a total of five weeks from 6am to 7pm Monday through Friday with a total of ten spots per week (totaling 50 spots) at a rate of \$286.00/spot. Radio spots were ran the weeks of 03/26/07, 04/09/07, 06/11/07, 06/25/07, and 7/09/07.

Attached is a list of forty different radio stations that aired the radio advertisement and the verbiage used for the advertisement.

### **Overview of Project Perceived**

The Association of Illinois Soil and Conservation Districts (AISWCD) felt that this project was a huge success. There were over twelve projects funded covering nineteen Soil and Water Conservation District counties. There were hundreds of landowners, contractors and general public that were educated on different practices used in protecting natural resources in urban centers across the Illinois River Basin and brochures that were developed to continue the education of others that could not attend the seminars conducted. There were also fifty sixty second radio advertisements that played on over forty radio stations across the state spreading education to the public of Illinois on non-point source pollution.

The AISWCD appreciates the opportunity given to us by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and believes that the future protection of Illinois' natural resources will tremendously be protected by the completion of this project.

## Budget Summary

<b>Protecting Water Quality in Urban Centers of Illinois</b> <i>Agreement or Contract Number &amp; Program:</i> 3190406	<b>Original Budget Amounts</b>	<b>Amended Budget Amounts</b>	<b>Actual Budget Amounts</b>
<b>Payment Categories</b>			
<b>Direct Labor</b>			
Project Manager	11,700.00	8,702.50	8,077.50
Project Administration	6,240.00	9,237.50	7,665.00
<b>Indirect Costs</b>			
Indirect Costs	12,500.00	12,500.00	12,500.00
<b>Other Direct Costs</b>			
Program Outreach	3,290.00	0.00	0.00
Partner Assistance	2,750.00	0.00	0.00
<b>General SWCD Grant Funds</b>	125,000.00	136,226.66	134,373.43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$161,480.00</b>	<b>\$166,666.66</b>	<b>\$162,615.93</b>

IEPA provided \$95,456.95 (or 58.70%) of the total project cost. The AISWCD and local SWCDs provided \$67,158.98 (41.30%) of match.