

Macon County Soil and Water Conservation District
4004 College Park Rd, Decatur, IL 62521 – (217) 877-5670 x3
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1. In 2007 we educated over 2000 students about watersheds and how to protect them. We also talked to over 5,000 visitors at the Farm Progress Show and showed them what we do here in Macon County to protect Lake Decatur.

2. We have a program in place that the City currently does not pay for, that not only protects Lake Decatur from erosion entering into the Lake, but also protects the City's important storm water infrastructure. We work with contractors through the IEPA to educate them on the storm water and erosion control laws that went into place in 2003. We make sure that the developer keep soil on their property and keep them from getting fines from the IEPA which could hinder development. We have visited 75 development sites since we started in 2005 and looked at over 895 acres that could have eroded into Lake Decatur or the storm water system.



3. We answer Citizens complaints about erosion and flooding problems. We average 10 to 15 calls a month about flooding and erosion concerns. We work with landowners in the City to solve the problem and if we cannot then we bring in the City Engineering Department. Many of these calls have been forwarded from the City or they did not receive the answer they were looking for.



4. We have brought together farmers, landowners, farm managers, conservationist, environmentalist, and citizens to put together 4 watershed plans that if fully implemented would protect Lake Decatur. This is unheard of in the environmental field and is why the Lake Decatur Watershed is looked at for its leadership throughout the State of Illinois and the Nation. Typically a plan takes 2 to 3 years to put together then another 3-4 to implement. Usually the plans are put on a shelf, but because of the City of Decatur's support three of the plans have been implemented and completed under budget.