

## **Cane Run Watershed Council meeting**

### **Lexmark's Shady Brook Park**

Monday, June 4, 2012

6:00 – 8:00 pm

In attendance:

Sarah Wightman  
Stephanie Mehlhope  
Donnie Stamper  
Amanda Gumbert  
Frank Whitehouse  
Russ Turpin  
Beth Finzer  
Jennifer Myatt  
Elizabeth Mortenson

Jim Rebmann  
Cindy King  
Eric Dawalt  
Ernest Collins  
Bill Varble  
Ben Krebs  
Jim Hansson  
Jim Currens

Thanks were expressed to Donnie Stamper, Sarah Wightman, and Stephanie Mehlhope for preparing the cookout food for the meeting.

Thanks were also expressed to Sarah Wightman for her service to the UK Cane Run project team. As Sarah leaves for law school, UK welcomes Stephanie Mehlhope to the project team for assistance with project/grant management.

And a final thank you to Frank Whitehouse for his service to the Cane Run Council as Lexmark's representative. Frank retires at the end of June, and Bill Varble is welcomed to the Council as Lexmark's representative.

#### **I. UK Update**

- The implementation phase of the Cane Run project with UK has begun.
  - Two different grants will fund the implementation and planning
    - The initial implementation/watershed-based plan grant is nearly finished.
- Recently, a stream section on the North Farm that was inadvertently straightened has undergone a restoration by Carmen Agouridis.



- Question: Can watershed festivals be held on private property? Landsdowne?
  - Has to be in Cane Run.
- Comment (Cindy King )
  - We had talked about going to Old Friends. A landowner saw the new brochures, talked to Cindy, and had a few things to say about who was polluting the stream. His farm borders the Cane Run. Cindy suggested going to a watershed festival, he refused, but volunteered to have one at his farm, in Scott County, near the county line, on Paynes Depot Road (62). He has BMPs installed, but not as good as he could. Old Friends would be more community-based, but we could still do something small-scale there. Cindy may be able to get the county and city in on hosting an event.

## **II. North Limestone Storm Water Project Update**

- The North Limestone Neighborhood Association has a grant through LFUCG and Russ is meeting with property owners to develop conceptual plans and cost estimates for implementing stormwater controls.
- Russ has reports if anyone is interested.
- A rain garden workshop took place a few weeks ago, and a BMP tour in the neighborhood will be taking place soon. The workshop was at the North Pole community garden, near Embrace Church, and the turnout was good. The workshop dovetailed with the normal Sunday workshop. Seedleaf, and many others, are involved with the project.
  - Russ will email the listserv concerning the workshop

## **III. Lexmark Stormwater Feasibility Study (Eric and team)**

- LFUCG Incentive Grant program is part of the Consent Decree to give back money to the community, 10% every year, to homeowners associations, businesses, everyone who pays the fee is eligible. Small Class A (up to \$50,000, neighborhoods, provide a match), Class B Education (UK, schools, etc) Class B Structural (improving water quality: stream restoration, rain gardens, etc.). \$1.2 million per year, 60-80 projects completed so far.

- Applications are up for Class A and Class B Education. Class B Structural will be up in August
- Lexmark project
  - Project goals
    1. Improve water quality, reduce trash
    2. Decrease runoff
    3. Educate (partner with UK's STEM program, Carmen, and Carol Hanley)
    4. Prioritized list (final deliverable)
  - Current state
    - Not very many BMPs in a very urbanized watershed
  - Brainstorm Session - Any good ideas for implementation on Lexmark's property?
    - No mow zones and riparian buffers
    - Destroy last stand of honeysuckle, replace with wetland species
    - Anything to remediate bacteria and nutrients including wetlands
    - Fix sewers upstream – underway according to LFUCG representative
    - Implementation of a sustainable lawn care policy
    - Fix water flow issue near Legacy Trail bridge
    - Litter control structures and trash collection
    - Where does water from rooftops go?
      - Storm sewer and into the creek. Slowing the flow areas during a heavy rain event and reducing impervious could help reduce flashiness and capture runoff.
    - Shade, tree planting to reduce water temperature and increase dissolved oxygen
    - Recharge groundwater base flow, retention, rain gardens
    - Educate surrounding neighborhoods about trash disposal
      - Work with Keep Lexington Green Commission to do a trash pilot
      - Education has been attempted, and trash has been reduced, but it is still a problem. A huge effort has been made, and trash has been reduced. Talking to neighborhoods has had an effect. Stenciling storm drains and going door-to-door has also been

done through Fusion. Tributary near WLEX /Loudon is contributing a majority of the trash.

- Invite adjacent property owners to have a “watershed discussion” about possible solutions
    - Frank mentions that this has been successful so far
  - Watershed festival at Lexmark
  - Dog bags/trash cans along Legacy Trail
  - Fix erosion along the Legacy Trail, assist Legacy Trail planters
  - Green roof/permeable pavement
  - Traffic island (landscape island)
  - Aquifer recharge
  - Plastic grids, grassy pavers
  - Increase vegetation
  - Amend soil to increase porosity
  - Stream restoration
  - Weep berms
  - Demolish parking lots (decrease impervious areas)
  - Tree-planting
  - Education about no-mow zones
  - Replace pavement with a tranquility garden
- If you think of any other BMP suggestions, let Eric know. The project has just started (a couple of weeks ago).

#### **IV. PRIDE Initiative comments**

- Kentucky American Water gave money for a rain barrel workshop in Georgetown this Saturday. If a few more people want to sign up, they will have a second one (9am and 10:30 am) at the Extension Office in Scott County. Free rain barrel if they want to go make it.

#### **V. Update from Jim Currens of KGS**

- KGS got involved when UK Ag approached them about monitoring.
- Cane Run
  - The surface channel runs northwest to South Elkhorn
  - The royal spring conduit runs north, from the Kentucky Horse Park to Royal Spring.

- Surface water outside of the official Cane Run interacts with the watershed.
- UK Ag wanted to account for the underground flow in monitoring. KGS proposed three sites for conduit location: Kentucky Horse Park, across Iron Works Pike (Berea Road Track), UK North Farm, just northeast of 64/75.
  - Contrast water quality between KHP and Berea Road Track
  - Drilling (80-100 ft) has been conducted, and data has been collected at all points.
  - 25 holes drilled at KHP, and monitoring has been conducted for about a year and a half.
    - Conduit found
    - Cave is 4ft high and 18-24ft wide.
    - Water depth, spot velocity, ISCO sampler, water quality data logger (temp, pH, DO, turbidity, etc.) monitored
      - Bacteria counts high (13,000), but not that often
    - 8 wells at Horse Park
    - After equipment was installed, the water temperature was creeping, up to 22 degrees C.
  - 18 holes drilled at Berea Rd, conduit still not found
    - Small conduits found (a few square feet large)
  - 6-8 holes drilled at North Farm, this part of the project on hold
- Once we find the conduit at Berea Rd., it is unknown how KGS will instrument it, as they have no resources left.

## **VI. Election of new treasurer**

- Ken Cooke is resigning from Treasurer as the Friends of Cane Run. He nominates Amanda Gumbert as Treasurer.
  - Nominations open
    - Frank officially nominates Amanda as Treasurer. Russ seconds. Everyone “ayes.”
  - Amanda Gumbert instituted as the new Treasurer.

## **VII. Next meeting**

- Date will be set via the listserv.