

Badfish Creek Group

These are the results from the March 31st organizational meeting of the Badfish Creek Group (working title formal name to be determined)

Present: Emily Harris, Chris Ziemba, Kathy Esch, Colleen Lourigan, Jim Hill, Jim Wendt, Sally Wedde, Rodd Wangen, Caroline Werner, John Deits, Jane Sheffy, Susan Shedivy, Phil Chapmen, Sally Franz, James Carpenter, Hans, Noeldner, Keith Reopelle

Co-Leaders: the Co-leaders of the group are Caroline Werner and Colleen Lourigan

Suzanne Wade, UWEX Rock River Basin Educator lead the group through a brainstorming exercise with people providing reasons for developing a group around the Badfish Creek, below are the answers after they were put into categories. The group was then asked to prioritize there top two short term needs and two long term needs.

Top Short Term Needs:

- Learn about creek today. (6 Short)
- Learn what needs to be done. (5 Short)
- Find out what area once was like. (4 Short)
- What research has been done. (3 Short)
- Preserve wetlands. (3 Short, 3 Long)

Top Long Term Needs

- Develop a vision for the creek. (8 Long)
- Improve habitat (Riparian) (3 Long)
- Build political effectiveness. (3 Long)
- DNR – work with them to target areas and help. (3 Long)

Next Steps: It was decided to hold the next meeting on April 26, 6:30 – 9:00 at the library. The first hour will be open to anyone interested and will include a presentation by a DNR staff or other person who can provide an overview of the creek, its ecology, it's impairments and what is currently being done (research or practices). Caroline will line up a speaker.

Educate ourselves

- Learn about creek today. (6 Short)
- Learn what needs to be done. (5 Short)
- Find out what area once was like. (4 Short)
- What research has been done. (3 Short)
- Share with each other educational opportunities. (2 Long)
- Identify other groups. (2 Short)
- What are concerns. (1 Short)
- Educate ourselves about creek impacts, urban effects. (1 Short)
- What is the impact of infrastructure placement. Electric Power, sewer, roads, water.
- Learn about funding and other resources.
- Learn what other groups have done.
- I.D. impacts of Oregon Village wells, and others, on Bad Fish recharge.

Vision

- Develop a vision for the creek. (8 Long)
- Improve habitat (Riparian) (3 Long)
- Develop tourism potential of creek.
- Add public amenities.

Inventory stream.
Map-springs and other sensitive areas.
Improve fishery.

Group Identity & Focus

Share responsibilities.
Can do larger projects.
Holds you accountable.
More fun and interesting.
Legitimacy.
Feel somethings possible.
U. W. School of Geology.

Habitat Preservation (Grunt Work)

Preserve wetlands. (3 Short, 3 Long)
Clean-up, restore springs. (1 Short)
Invasive species control.
Preserve farmland, sustainable agriculture.
Develop citizen or youth monitoring.

Political

Build political effectiveness. (3 Long)
Take land use 'stand' on developments - improve - plan. (2 Long)
Representation from all political jurisdictions. (1 Long)
'Awaken' citizenry to potential.

Educate Others

Educate citizens. (1 Long)
Educate and work with landowners on creek improvements.
Link for education purposes/uses.

Partnerships

DNR – work with them to target areas and help. (3 Long)
Work with MMSD. (1 Short , 1 Long)
Work with schools and youth locally! (1 Long)
Partner with other groups. (1 Short)

- Trout Unlimited
- West Waubesa Preservation Coalition
- Sierra Club

Set up communication with DNR
Local e-mail list notices.
Share information re land use.