

## Nippersink Creek Watershed Collaboration Group Members

Army Corps of Engineers  
Fox River Ecosystem Partnership  
Friends of the Fox River  
Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources  
Land Conservancy of McHenry County  
McHenry County Conservation District  
McHenry County Defenders  
McHenry County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Metropolitan Planning Council  
The Nature Conservancy  
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Nippersink Creek Watershed Planning Committee  
Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission  
The Prairie Club  
Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter

The Nippersink Creek Watershed has a long history of effective grassroots work towards protecting the watershed through the Nippersink Creek Watershed Plan and collaborative efforts such as the Nippersink Creek Watershed Collaboration Group.  
Please join us in our work.

For more information or to be placed on our mailing list, please contact:

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## *Creating a Nippersink Creek Watershed Community...*

*....to protect and enhance the  
high quality natural resources of the watershed*



The **Nippersink Creek Watershed Collaboration Group** is a working group of local and regional agencies and organizations in the Nippersink Creek watershed. As an advocate for Nippersink Creek, members of the Collaboration Group work together to foster and develop the Nippersink Creek watershed community **to protect and enhance the high quality natural resources of the watershed.**

## Wonders of the Nippersink Creek Watershed:

The Nippersink Creek Watershed is the area of land that drains into Nippersink Creek and its tributaries, lakes and wetlands. The Nippersink Creek Watershed has many unique features which makes this very special area worth protecting. For example,

- Nippersink Creek has **high water quality ratings** of “A” and “B” from Illinois EPA.
- There are at least **21 threatened and endangered species of plants**, and **20 threatened and endangered species of animals** in the Nippersink Creek Watershed.
- The watershed has extremely **high quality natural areas**, including 46 Natural Areas as inventoried by the McHenry County Conservation District.

## Threats to the Nippersink Creek Watershed:

In order to preserve the watershed, we must anticipate and diminish the negative effects of potential threats:

- **Soil Erosion** from new construction, streambanks and agriculture degrades water quality and fills the creek.
- **Stormwater Runoff** from parking lots and other paved surfaces, abnormally increases flow in the creek, adds pollutants to the creek and removes water from its natural function of recharging drinking water aquifers.
- **Wetland Destruction** eliminates important flood storage, filtration and wildlife habitat.
- Improper disposal of **household hazardous items** pollutes the watershed.

## The Nippersink Creek Watershed Collaboration Group can help combat these threats!

As the local and regional experts on watershed issues, the Nippersink Creek Watershed Collaboration Group would like to empower a watershed community that actively protects the Nippersink Creek Watershed. The Collaboration group works together in order to streamline and magnify the many different efforts of watershed protection. **We can provide the following assistance to individuals, communities and organizations:**

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|---|--|--|
| ◆ <b>Examples of Best Management Practices (BMP's) for new developments</b> | ◆ <b>Data collection and dissemination</b>                   | ◆ <b>Erosion and sediment control assistance</b> |
| ◆ <b>Technical assistance with conservation techniques</b>                  | ◆ <b>Stream monitoring activities</b>                        | ◆ <b>NPDES Phase II technical assistance</b>     |
| ◆ <b>Policy and land use planning consultation</b>                          | ◆ <b>Explanation of conservation cost share programs</b>     | ◆ <b>Technical reference materials</b>           |
| ◆ <b>Stormwater runoff education</b>  | ◆ <b>Ecotourism information</b>                              |  |
|   | ◆ <b>Natural landscaping consultation</b>                    |  |
|   | ◆ <b>Ordinance development and implementation assistance</b> |  |