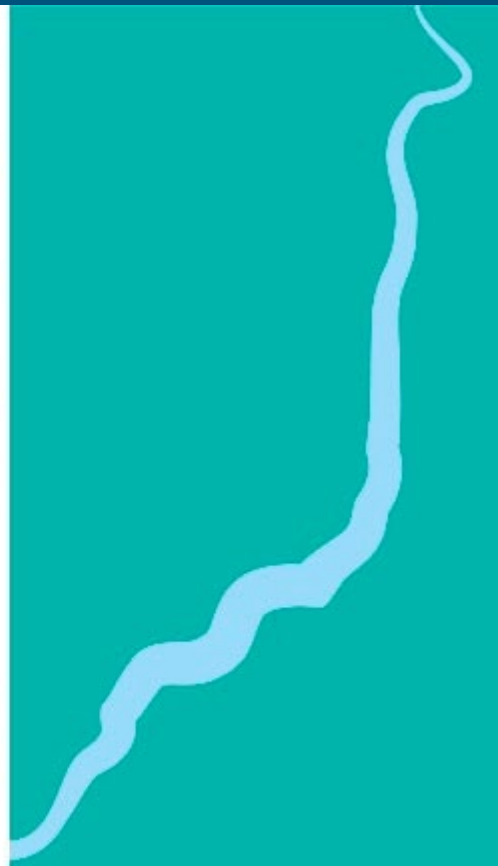


**FOX
RIVER
STUDY
GROUP**



Today's Agenda

Welcome

Introductions

Presentations

Networking

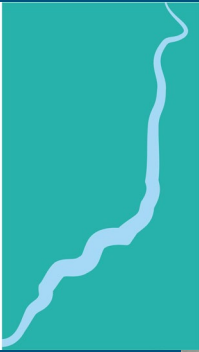
Presentations

Fox River Study Group 2025 Update- Rob Linke, P.E.,
FRSG Chair

IDNR-OWR Activities & Projects in the Fox River
Watershed- Wes Cattoor, P.E., IDNR Office of Water
Resources

City of Elgin Water intake / Impoundment Study-
Nora Bertram, City of Elgin

Not Your Father's Fox Metro: Building a Utility of
the Future- Karen Clementi, Fox Metro WRD



ABOUT THE FOX RIVER STUDY GROUP

MISSION

The mission of the Fox River Study Group is to enhance the health and vitality of our river for the benefit of the nearly 1 million citizens in the Fox River Valley.

ABOUT

We are a diverse coalition of stakeholders using science to guide the region toward a cleaner, safer and more beautiful Fox River. We use research, data and collaboration to support sustainable policies and development across the Fox River watershed.

Website

www.foxriverstudygroup.org

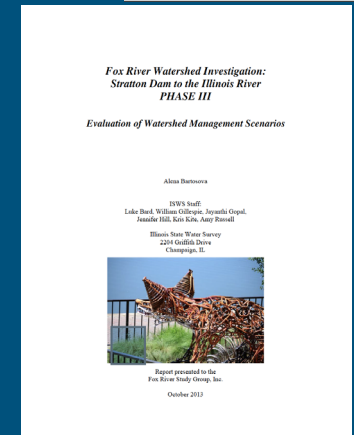
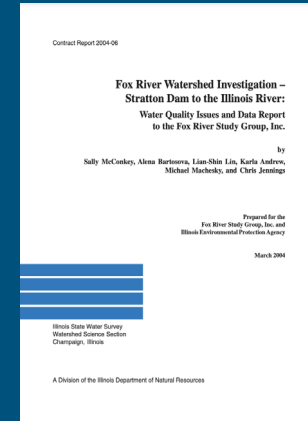
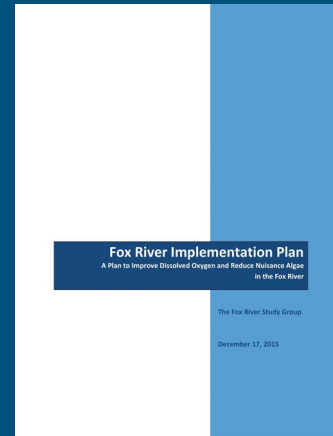
WHO WE ARE



- Funded by 25-50¢ annual per capita contributions from municipalities as well as grants
- Financial supporters- Village of Algonquin, City of Aurora, Village of Barrington, City of Batavia, Village of Carpentersville, Village of Cary, City of Crystal Lake, Village of East Dundee, Village of Elburn, City of Elgin, Fox River Water Reclamation District, City of Geneva, Village of Gilberts, Kane County, Lake in the Hills Sanitary District, City of Plano, Village of Sandwich, City of St. Charles, Yorkville-Bristol Sanitary District, Village of Wauconda, City of Yorkville
- No staff, board-led-
 - Chair, Rob Linke, Kane County Dept. of Environmental & Water Resources
 - Vice Chair, Cindy Skrukrud, Sierra Club
 - Treasurer, Karen Clementi, Fox Metro Water Reclamation District (Oswego)
 - Secretary, Tim Wilson, Tri-Cities (Batavia, Geneva and St. Charles)
 - Assistant Secretary-Brian Witkowski, City of Aurora
 - Art Malm, Friends of the Fox River
 - Debra Ness, City of Elgin
 - Alyse Olson , Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
 - Eric Johnson, Fox River Water Reclamation District (Elgin)
- In Kind supporters- 23 years of monthly monitoring of 86-mile stretch of Fox River and major tributaries- Village of Algonquin, City of Crystal Lake, City of Elgin, Environmental Defenders of McHenry County, Fox Metro Water Reclamation District, Fox River Water Reclamation District, Friends of the Fox River, Northern Moraine Water Reclamation District, City of St. Charles, Sierra Club, Yorkville-Bristol Sanitary District

20+ Years Working Together to Improve the Fox River

- **2001** – Environmental Groups, Municipalities & Water Reclamation Districts started working together to address WQ concerns
- **2002** – Started monthly water sampling (7 mainstem & 7 tributaries)
- **2003** – FRSG incorporated as an official non-profit org
- **2004** – Initial WQ Data Reports – ISWS
- **2003 - 2013** Model Development
 - 2011 Storm Flow Monitoring Project
 - 2012 Low Flow Monitoring Project
- **2015** - First Fox River Implementation Plan (FRIP)
- **2019** - ISWS WQ Trends Analysis
- **2023** - ISWS WQ Trends Analysis
- **2017-2021** Improvement of models



20+ Years Working Together to Improve the Fox River

2022 Update of Fox River Implementation Plan (FRIP)

- Major WWTPs complete reductions to meet the 0.5 mg/l annual geometric mean TP limit by 2030
- Collaborate on removal of dams on the Fox River and monitor the resulting water quality impacts after completion of the Fox River Connectivity & Habitat Study recommendations
- Encourage state-of-the-art watershed management practices to mitigate projected population growth impacts
- Leverage statewide work on evaluation of streambank erosion and quantify its impact on phosphorus loads in the watershed
- Partner with efforts to reduce nutrients upstream and downstream
- Partner with other agencies and organizations to eliminate non-nutrient related impairments

FOX RIVER IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (FRIP)

Final Draft

Fox River, IL

Submitted to

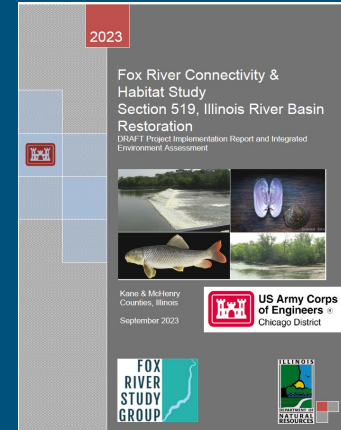


Submitted by

Geosyntec
consultants
engineers | scientists | innovators

2025 FRSG Activities in Review

- **Continued support to USACE on Fox River Connectivity & Habitat Study**
- **Lunch & Learn Sessions**
 - **May 2025 - USGS Trends in Nitrate & Phosphorus Yields at HUC8 Scale for the Fox River and Surrounding Watersheds – Jenny Murphy, USGS**
 - **August 2025 - NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) – Brandi Richter, WI RCPP Coordinator / Shannon Allen IL RCPP Coordinator**



2025 FRSG Activities in Review

- **Water Quality Monitoring in Carpentersville Dam Reach Post-removal**

- Data Collection mid-June through end of October
- Continuous WQ Data
- Two YSI EXO sondes deployed
 - One within former impoundment & one upstream in free-flowing reference reach
- Discrete WQ samples (10 visits over 5 months)
 - Chloride, Turbidity, BOD, Organic N, Nitrate, Nitrite, TKN, Ammonia, TP, Dissolved P, TSS, VSS
 - Sestonic chlorophyll-a
- Report due end of Nov 2025



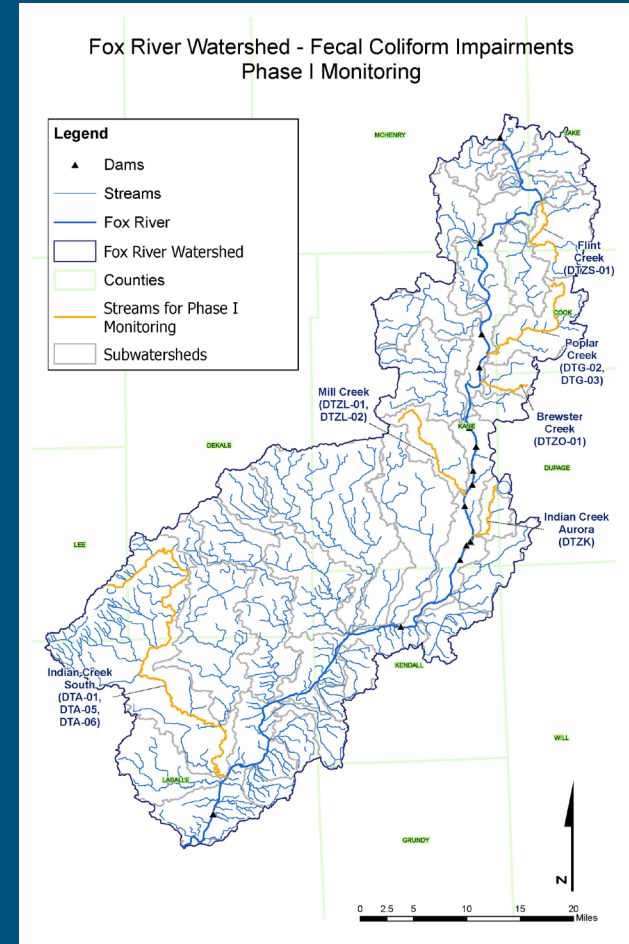
2025 FRSG Activities in Review

- INHS Mussel Sampling
 - September 2025



2025 FRSG Activities in Review

- **IEPA 604(b) Grant Application for Fox River Watershed Microbial Source Tracking in 2026-2027**
 - **Phase 1 (2026):** Outlets of six tributaries sampled during dry & wet weather
 - **Phase 2 (2027):** More detailed sampling in the tributary with the highest human fecal loading



FRSG in 2026 & Beyond

- **Microbial Source Tracking Project (if we get the grant!)**
- **Improve how FRSG shares/publishes its WQ monitoring data**
- **Review Carpenter Dam Post-removal WQ results and assess need for updates to instream model**
- **Share results of Carpenter Dam Post-removal mussel survey and determine need for additional studies**
- **Schedule additional Lunch & Learn presentations**
- **Coordinate Watershed-wide BMP tracking and develop tools to help stakeholders (including MS4s) assess BMP load reductions**

WEBSITE

www.FoxRiverStudyGroup.org

FACEBOOK

Fox River Study Group

EMAIL/PHONE

foxriverstudygp@gmail.com / 630.538.3909



Fox River Study Group meets each 4th Thursday (3rd Thurs. Oct-Dec), 9:30am Virtually on Go To Meetings platform. Join us!