

### 13.0 GLOSSARY OF TERMS & KEY STAKEHOLDERS

**100-year floodplain:** A 100-year flood is a flood that has a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. A base flood may also be referred to as a 100-year storm and the area inundated during the base flood is called the 100-year floodplain.

**303(d):** The Federal Clean Water Act requires states to submit a list of impaired waters to the USEPA for review and approval using water quality assessment data from the Section 305(b) Water Quality Report. States are then required to develop total maximum daily load analyses (TMDLs) for waterbodies on the 303(d) list.

**305(b):** The 305(b) report is a water quality assessment of the state's surface and groundwater resources that is compiled by the WDNR as a report to the USEPA as required under Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act.

**ADID wetlands:** Advanced identification of wetland disposal areas (ADID) studies conducted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in conjunction with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), with further technical assistance provided by Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC). Both the regional and ADID wetland inventories for Racine and Kenosha County were completed in 2005. The wetland features were delineated according to the definitions of the Wisconsin Wetland Inventory Classification Guide, with the addition of special features such as drained wetlands and drainage ditches. ADID wetlands and waters include all aquatic resources located within primary environmental corridors and natural areas as identified by SEWRPC and categorized as either wetlands, lakes/ponds, or natural area wetlands.

**Applied Ecological Services Inc. (AES):** A broad-based ecological consulting, contracting, and restoration firm that was founded in 1978. The company consists of consulting ecologists, engineers, landscape architects, planners, and contracting staff. The mission of AES is to bring wise ecological decisions to all land use activities.

**Aquatic habitat:** Structures such as stream substrate, woody debris, aquatic vegetation, and overhanging vegetation that is important to the survival of fish and macroinvertebrates.

**Base Flood Elevation (BFE):** The elevation delineating the level of flooding resulting from the 100-year flood frequency elevation. (See also **Floodplain**.)

**Base flow:** The flow that a perennially flowing stream reduces to during the dry season. It is often supported by groundwater seepage into the channel.

**Bedrock:** The solid rock that underlies loose material, such as soil, sand, clay, or gravel.

**Best Management Practices (BMPs):** See **Management Measure**

**Biodiversity:** The variety of organisms (plants, animals and other life forms) that includes the totality of genes, species and ecosystems in a region.

**Bio-infiltration (rain gardens):** Excavated depressional areas where stormwater runoff is directed and allowed to infiltrate back into groundwater rather than allowing to runoff. Infiltration areas are planted with appropriate vegetation.

**Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD):** The amount of dissolved oxygen that is required by microscopic organism (e.g. bacteria) to decompose organic matter in waterbodies.

**Biological Stream Characterization (BSC):** A multi-tiered stream quality classification based primarily on the attributes of lotic (living in moving water) fish communities. The predominant stream quality indicator used in this process is the Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI), comprised of 12 metrics, which form a basis for describing the health or integrity of the fish community. When insufficient fishery data are available for calculating an IBI value, BSC criteria allow the use of sport fishing information or macroinvertebrate data to rate streams. BSC provides a uniform process of characterizing streams statewide and is used by a variety of sources for stream protection, restoration and planning efforts.

**Bioengineering (or Soil Bioengineering):** Techniques for stabilizing eroding or slumping stream banks that rely on the use of plants and plant materials such as live willow posts, brush layering, coconut logs and other “greener” or “softer” techniques. This is in contrast to techniques that rely on creating “hard” edges with riprap, concrete and sheet piling (metal and plastic).

**Center for Watershed Protection (CWP):** Non-profit 501(c)3 corporation founded in 1992 that provides local governments, activists, and watershed organizations around the country with the technical tools for protecting some of the nation’s most precious natural resources such as streams, lakes and rivers.

**Channelized stream:** A stream that has been artificially straightened, deepened, or widened to accommodate increased stormwater flows, to increase the amount of adjacent land that can be developed or used for urban development, agriculture or for navigation purposes. In addition to being unsightly, channelized streams have a uniform gradient, no riffle and pool development, no meanders (curves) and very steep banks. The vegetation is frequently removed and replaced with riprap, concrete or other hard surfaces. During low flow periods in the summer, many channelized streams have low dissolved oxygen levels, in part due to shallow, slow-moving water. Under these conditions, they provide poor habitat for fish or other stream organisms such as benthic macroinvertebrates.

**Channel:** Any river, stream, creek, brook, branch, natural or artificial depression, ponded area, lakes, flowage, slough, ditch, conduit, culvert, gully, ravine, swale, wash, or natural or man-made drainageway, in or into which surface or groundwater flows, either perennially or intermittently.

**Conservation development:** A development designed to protect open space and natural resources for people and wildlife while at the same time allowing building to continue. Conservation design developments designate half or more of the buildable land area as undivided permanent open space.

**Conservation easement:** The transfer of land use rights without the transfer of land ownership. Conservation easements can be attractive to property owners who do not want to sell their land now, but would support perpetual protection from further development. Conservation easements can be donated or purchased.

**Clean Water Act (CWA):** The CWA is the basic framework for federal water pollution control and has been amended in subsequent years to focus on controlling toxics and improving water quality in areas where compliance with nationwide minimum discharge standards is insufficient to meet the CWA's water quality goals.

**Debris Jam:** Natural and man-made debris in a stream channel including leaves, logs, lumber, trash and sediment.

**Designated Use:** EPA requirements that states and authorized Indian Tribes specify appropriate water uses to be achieved and protected. Appropriate uses are identified by taking into consideration the use and value of the water body for public water supply, for protection of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and for recreational, agricultural, industrial, and navigational purposes. In designating uses for a water body, States and Tribes examine the suitability of a water body for the uses based on the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the water body, its geographical setting and scenic qualities, and economic considerations. Each water body does not necessarily require a unique set of uses. Instead, the characteristics necessary to support a use can be identified so that water bodies having those characteristics can be grouped together as supporting particular uses.

**Detention basin:** A man-made structure for the temporary storage of stormwater runoff with controlled release during or immediately following a storm.

**Discharge (streamflow):** The volume of water passing through a channel during a given time, usually measured in cubic feet per second.

**Digital Elevation Model (DEM):** Regularly spaced grid of elevation points used to produce elevation maps.

**Dissolved oxygen (DO):** The amount of oxygen in water, usually measured in milligrams/liter.

**Downcutting:** The action of a stream to deepen itself, often as a result from channelization.

**Drainage basin:** Land surface region drained by a length of stream channel; usually 1,000 to 10,000 square miles in size.

**Ecosystem:** An ecological community together with its environment, functioning as a unit.

**Erosion:** Displacement of soil particles on the land surface due to water or wind action.

**European settlement:** A period in the early 1800s when European settlers moved across the United States in search of better lives. During this movement, much of the historical communities were altered for farming and other types of development.

**Eutrophic:** A waterbody having a high level of biological productivity. A typical eutrophic waterbody either has many aquatic plants and is clear or has few plants and is less clear. Both situations have potentially to support many fish and wildlife.

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):** Government agency within the Department of Homeland Security that responds to, plans for, recovers from, and mitigates against disasters/emergencies, both natural and man-made.

**Fee in lieu:** Defined by the USACE and EPA as a payment "to a natural resource management entity for implementation of either specific or general wetland or other aquatic resource development projects" for projects that "do not typically provide compensatory mitigation in advance of project impacts."

**Filter strip:** A long narrow portion of vegetation used to retard water flow and collect sediment for the protection of watercourses, reservoirs or adjacent properties.

**Flash hydrology/flooding:** A quickly rising and falling overflow of water in stream channels that is usually the result of increased amounts of impervious surface in the watershed.

**Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM):** A map prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency that depicts the special flood hazard area (SFHA) within a community. The FIRM includes zones for the 100-year and 500-year floodplains and may or may not depict Regulatory Floodways.

**Flood problem area (FPA):** One or more buildings, roads or other infrastructure in one location that are repeatedly damaged by flooding.

**Floodplain (100-year):** Land adjoining the channel of a river, stream, watercourse, lake or wetland that has been or may be inundated by floodwater during periods of high water that exceed normal bank-full elevations. The 100-year floodplain has a probability of 1% chance per year of being flooded.

**Floodproofing:** Any combination of structural and non-structural additions, changes or adjustments to structures or property which reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or improved real property, water and sanitary facilities, structures and contents.

**Floodway:** The floodway is the portion of the stream or river channel that includes the adjacent land areas to that must be reserved to discharge the 100-year flood without increasing the water surface.

**Geographic Information System (GIS):** A computer-based approach to interpreting maps and images and applying them to problem-solving.

**Glacial Drift:** Earth and rocks which have been transported by moving ice or land ice.

**Global Positioning System (GPS):** Satellite mapping systems that enables locators and mapping to be created via satellite.

**Grassland:** An area such as a prairie or a meadow dominated by grass or grass-like vegetation.

**Green infrastructure:** An interconnected network of waterways, wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitats, and other natural areas; greenways, parks and other conservation lands, farms, and

forests of conservation value; and wilderness and other open spaces that support native species, maintain natural ecological processes, sustain air and water resources and contribute to the health and quality of life.

**Greenways:** A protected linear open space area that is either landscaped or left in its natural condition. It may follow a natural feature of the landscape such as a river or stream, or it may occur along an unused railway line or some other right of way. Greenways also provide wildlife corridors and recreational trails.

**Groundwater recharge:** Primary mechanism for aquifer replenishment which ensures future sources of groundwater for commercial and residential use.

**Headwaters:** Upper reaches of tributaries in a drainage basin.

**Hydraulic and Hydrologic modeling:** Engineering analysis that predicts expected flood flows and flood elevations based on land characteristics and rainfall events.

**Hydraulic structures:** Low head dams, weirs, bridges, levees, and any other structures along the course of the river.

**Hydric inclusion soil:** A soil unit (usually adjacent to hydric soils) that are not wet enough to form hydric properties but do have some hydric properties.

**Hydric soil:** Soil units that are wet frequently enough to periodically produce anaerobic conditions, thereby influencing the species composition or growth, or both, of plants on those soils.

**Hydrograph:** A way of measuring and graphing stream flow, or discharge, as it varies with time.

**Hydrologic Soil Groups (HSG):** Soils are classified by the Natural Resource Conservation Service into four Hydrologic Soil Groups based on the soil's runoff potential. The four Hydrologic Soils Groups are A, B, C and D. A's generally have the smallest runoff potential and D's the greatest.

**Hydrology:** The scientific study of the properties, distribution, and effects of water on the earth's surface, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere.

**Hydrophytic vegetation:** Plant life growing in water, soil or on a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content; one of the indicators of a wetland.

**Impervious cover/surface:** An area covered with solid material or that is compacted to the point where water cannot infiltrate underlying soils (e.g. parking lots, roads, houses, patios, swimming pools, tennis courts, etc.). Stormwater runoff velocity and volume can increase in areas covered by impervious surfaces.

**Impervious Cover Model:** Simple urban stream classification model based on impervious cover and stream quality. The classification system contains three stream categories, based on the percentage of impervious cover that predicts the existing and future quality of streams based on

the measurable change in impervious cover. The three categories include sensitive, impacted, and non-supporting.

**Incised channel:** A stream that has degraded and cut its bed into the valley bottom. Indicates accelerated and often destructive erosion.

**Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI):** A Fish Index of Biotic Integrity (Fish IBI) is one method of assessing biological health and water quality through several attributes of fish communities found in streams. These attributes fall into such categories as species richness and composition, trophic composition, and fish abundance and condition. After data from sampling sites has been collected, values for the metrics are compared with their corresponding expected values for a high quality reference stream and a rating is assigned to each metric based on whether it deviates strongly from, somewhat from, or closely approximates the reference values. The sum of these ratings gives a total Fish IBI score for the site. The IBI is calculated on a scale of 0 to 100, the higher the score the better the stream quality.

**Infiltration:** That portion of rainfall or surface runoff that moves downward into the subsurface soil.

**Invasive vegetation/plant:** Plant species that are not native to an area and tend to out-compete native species and dominate an area (e.g. European buckthorn or garlic mustard).

**Loess:** A fine-grained unstratified accumulation of clay and silt deposited by wind.

**Macroinvertebrates:** Invertebrates that can be seen by the unaided eye (macro). Most benthic invertebrates in flowing water are aquatic insects or the aquatic stage of insects, such as stonefly nymphs, mayfly nymphs, caddisfly larvae, dragonfly nymphs and midge larvae. They also include such things as clams and worms. The presence of benthic macroinvertebrates that are intolerant of pollutants is a good indicator of good water quality.

**Macroinvertebrate Index of Biotic Integrity (MBI):** Data derived from aquatic macroinvertebrate samples, which can be combined with stream habitat and fish assemblages, to provide valuable information on the physical, chemical and biological condition of streams. Most aquatic macroinvertebrates live for one or more years in streams, reflecting various environmental stressors over time. Since the majority of aquatic invertebrates are limited in mobility, they are good indicators of localized conditions, upstream land use impacts and water quality degradation.

**Management Measures:** Also known as Best Management Practices (BMPs) are non-structural practices such as site planning and design aimed to reduce stormwater runoff and avoid adverse development impacts - or structural practices that are designed to store or treat stormwater runoff to mitigate flood damage and reduce pollution. Some BMPs used in urban areas may include stormwater detention ponds, restored wetlands, vegetative filter strips, porous pavement, silt fences and biotechnical streambank stabilization.

**Marsh:** An area of soft, wet, low-lying land, characterized by grassy vegetation and often forming a transition zone between water and land.

**Meander (stream):** A sinuous channel form in flatter river grades formed by the erosion on one side of the channel (pools) and deposition on the other (point bars).

**Mitigation:** Measures taken to eliminate or minimize damage from development activities, such as construction in wetlands or Regulatory Floodplain filling, by replacement of the resource.

**Moraine:** see Terminal Moraine.

**National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP):** Managed by the Mitigation Division within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), participants in the NFIP adopt and enforce floodplain management ordinances to reduce future flood damage and in exchange are eligible to receive federally funded flood insurance.

**National Wetland Inventory (NWI):** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service study that provides information on the characteristics, extent, and status of U.S. wetlands and deepwater habitats and other wildlife habitats.

**Native vegetation/plants:** Plant species that have historically been found in an area.

**Natural community:** an assemblage of plants and animals interacting with one another in a particular ecosystem.

**Natural divisions:** Large land areas that are distinguished from each other by bedrock, glacial history, topography, soils, and distribution of plants and animals.

**No-net-loss:** A policy for wetland protection to stem the tide of continued wetland losses. The policy has generated requirements for wetland mitigation so that permitted losses due to filling and other alterations are replaced and the net quality wetland acreage remains the same.

**Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution:** Refers to pollutants that accumulate in waterbodies from a variety of sources including runoff from the land, impervious surfaces, the drainage system and deposition of air pollutants.

**Nutrients:** Substances needed for the growth of aquatic plants and animals such as phosphorous and nitrogen. The addition of too many nutrients (such as from sewage dumping and over fertilization) will cause problems in the aquatic ecosystem through excess algae growth and other nuisance vegetation.

**Open space:** Any land that is not developed and is often set aside for conservation or recreation purposes. It can be either protected or unprotected. Protected open space differs from unprotected in that it is permanently preserved by outright ownership by a body chartered to permanently save land, or by a permanent deed restriction such as a conservation easement. Open space is important to a watershed's hydrology, habitat, water quality, and biodiversity.

**Outwash:** Sand and gravel deposits removed or washed out from a glacier.

**Partially open parcel:** Parcels that have been developed to some extent, but still offer some opportunities for open space and Best Management Practice (BMP) implementation. They

typically include private residences with acreage exceeding the surrounding minimum zoning, partly developed industrial sites, or institutions (churches, schools, etc.) with extensive grounds.

**Point source pollution:** Refers to discharges from a single source such as an outfall pipe conveying wastewater from an industrial plant or wastewater treatment facility.

**Pollutant load:** The amount of any pollutant deposited into waterbodies from point source discharges, combined sewer overflows, and/or stormwater runoff.

**Pool:** A location in an active stream channel usually located on the outside bends of meanders, where the water is deepest and has reduced current velocities.

**Prairie:** A type of grassland characterized by low annual moisture and rich black soil characteristics.

**Preventative measures:** Actions that reduce the likelihood that new watershed problems such as flooding or pollution will arise, or that those existing problems will worsen. Preventative techniques generally target new development in the watershed and are geared toward protecting existing resources and preventing degradation.

**Rain gage station:** Point along a stream where the amount of water flowing in an open channel is measured. The USGS makes most streamflow measurements by current meter. A current meter is an instrument used to measure the velocity of flowing water. By placing a current meter at a point in a stream and counting the number of revolutions of the rotor during a measured interval of time, the velocity of water at that point is determined.

**Regulatory floodplain:** Regulatory Floodplains may be either riverine or non-riverine depressional areas. Projecting the base flood elevation onto the best available topography delineates floodplain boundaries. A floodprone area is Regulatory Floodplain if it meets any of the following descriptions:

1. Any riverine area inundated by the base flood where there is at least 640 acres of tributary drainage area.
2. Any non-riverine area with a storage volume of 0.75 acre-foot or more when inundated by the base flood.
3. Any area indicated as a Special Flood Hazard Area on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map expected to be inundated by the base flood located using best available topography.

**Regulatory floodway:** The channel, including on-stream lakes, and that portion of the Regulatory Floodplain adjacent to a stream or channel as designated by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources-Office of Water Resources, which is needed to store and convey the existing and anticipated future 100-year frequency flood discharge with no more than a 0.1 foot increase in stage due to the loss of flood conveyance or storage, and no more than a 10% increase in velocities. Where interpretation is needed to determine the exact location of the Regulatory Floodway boundary, the IDNR-OWR should be contacted for the interpretation.

**Remedial measures:** Used to solve known watershed problems or to improve current watershed conditions. Remedial measures include retrofitting drainage system infrastructure such as detention basins and stormsewer outfalls to improve water quality, adjust release rates, or reduce erosion.



**Remnant:** a small fragmented portion of the former dominant vegetation or landscape which once covered the area before being cleared for human land use.

**Retention facilities:** A facility designed to completely retain a specified amount of stormwater runoff without release except by means of evaporation, infiltration or pumping.

**Retrofit:** Refers to modification to improve problems with existing stormwater control structures such as detention basins and conveyance systems such as ditches and stormsewers. These structures were originally designed to improve drainage and reduce flood risk, but they can also be retrofitted to improve water quality.

**Ridge:** A line connecting the highest points along a landscape and separating drainage basins or small-scale drainage systems from one another.

**Riffle:** Shallow rapids, usually located at the crossover in a meander of the active channel.

**Riparian:** Referring to the riverside or riverine environment next to the stream channel, e.g., riparian, or streamside, vegetation.

**Runoff:** The portion of rain or snow that does not percolate into the ground and is discharged into streams by flowing over the ground instead.

**Savanna:** A type of woodland characterized by open spacing between its trees and by intervening grassland.

**Section 319:** see U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Section 319.

**Sediment:** Soil particles that have been transported from their natural location by wind or water action.

**Sedimentation:** The process that deposits soils, debris and other materials either on other ground surfaces or in bodies of water or watercourses.

**Silt:** Fine mineral particles intermediate in size between clay and sand.

**Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC):** Established in 1960 as the official areawide planning agency for the southeastern region of the State, SEWRPC serves the seven counties of Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha. It was created to provide objective information and professional planning initiatives to help solve problems and to focus regional attention on key issues of regional consequence.

**Stakeholders:** Individuals, organizations, or enterprises that have an interest or a share in a project. (see also Watershed Stakeholders).

**State Natural Areas (Program):** The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources manages the State Natural Areas Program which works to identify ecological communities that remain predominantly untouched from pre-European settlement times. These areas have been assessed

according to field inventories conducted by WDNR staff and account for the quality, diversity, extent of past disturbance, context within the greater landscape, and rarity of features.

**State Scientific Areas:** Areas that meet the qualifications of a State Natural Area and have also been identified as areas of statewide significance.

**Stormwater management:** A set of actions taken to control stormwater runoff with the objectives of providing controlled surface drainage, flood control and pollutant reduction in runoff.

**Stormsewershed:** An area of land whose stormwater drains into a common storm sewer system.

**Stream corridor:** The area of land that runs parallel to a stream.

**Stream reach:** A stream segment having fairly homogenous hydraulic, geomorphic and riparian cover and land use characteristics (such as all ditched agriculture or all natural and wooded). Reaches generally should not exceed 2,000 feet in length.

**Streambank stabilization:** Techniques used for stabilizing eroding streambanks.

**Stream monitoring:** Chemical, biological and physical monitoring used to identify the causes and sources of pollution in the river and to determine the needs for reduction in pollutant loads, streambank stabilization, debris removal and habitat improvement.

**Substrate (stream):** The composition of the bottom of a stream such as clay, silt or sand.

**Subwatershed:** Any drainage basin within a larger drainage basin or watershed.

**Subwatershed Management Unit (SMU):** Small unit of a watershed or subwatershed that is delineated and used in watershed planning efforts because the effects of impervious cover are easily measured, there is less chance for confounding pollutant sources, boundaries have fewer political jurisdictions, and monitoring/mapping assessments can be done in a relatively short amount of time.

**Swale:** A vegetated channel, ditch or low-lying or depression tract of land that is periodically inundated by conveying stormwater from one point to another. Swales are often used in natural drainage systems instead of stormsewers.

**Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E):** An “endangered” species is one that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. A “threatened” species is one that is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.

**Till:** A heterogeneous mixture of clay, silt, sand, gravel, stones, and boulders deposited directly by and underneath a glacier without stratification.

**Terminal moraines:** A ridge-like accumulation of till and other types of drift that was produced at the outer margin or farthest advance, of a retracting glacier.

**Topography:** The relative elevations of a landscape describing the configuration of its surface.

**Total dissolved solids (TDS):** A measure of the dissolved solids in water sample.

**Total suspended solids (TSS):** The organic and inorganic material suspended in the water column and greater than 0.45 micron in size.

**Treatment Train:** Several Management Measures/Best Management Practices (BMPs) used together to improve water quality, infiltration and reduce sedimentation.

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL):** A TMDL is the highest amount of a particular pollutant discharge a waterbody can handle safely per day.

**Turbidity:** Refers to the clarity of the water, which is a function of how much material including sediment is suspended in the water.

**United States Environmental Protection Agency Section 319 (Section 319):** Section 319 of the Clean Water Act encourages and funds nonpoint source pollution control projects (any indirect pollution, like runoff, stormwater discharge, road salt, sediment, etc.) or NPS reduction at the source.

**United States Geological Survey (USGS):** Government agency established in 1879 with the responsibility to serve the Nation by providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life.

**United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):** Federal group of civilian and military engineers and scientists that provide services to the nation including planning, designing, building and operating water resources and other Civil Works projects. These also include navigation, flood control, environmental protection, and disaster response.

**USDA TR55 Document:** A single event rainfall-runoff hydrologic model designed for small watersheds and developed by the USDA, NRCS, and EPA.

**Urban runoff:** Water from rain or snow events that runs over surfaces such as streets, lawns, parking lots and directly into storm sewers before entering the river rather than infiltrating the land upon which it falls.

**Vegetated buffer:** An area of vegetated land to be left open adjacent to drainageways, wetlands, lakes, ponds or other such surface waters for the purpose of eliminating or minimizing adverse impacts to such areas from adjacent land areas.

**Vegetated swale:** An open channel drainageway used along residential streets and highways to convey stormwater and filter pollutants in lieu of conventional storm sewers.

**Velocity (of water in a stream):** The distance that water can travel in a given direction during a period of time expressed in feet per second.

**Water Quality Standards (State):** WDNR developed four general Designated Uses which define the goals for a waterbody for all Wisconsin surface waters: Fish and Aquatic Life, Recreational Use, Public Health and Welfare, and Wildlife. Each designated use is associated with particular water quality criteria that are either numeric or narrative in nature and set the standards a waterbody must meet in order to protect the intended use.

**Waters of the United States (WOUS):** For the purpose of this Ordinance the term Waters of the United States refers to those water bodies and wetland areas that are under the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction.

**Watershed:** An area confined by topographic divides that drains to a given stream or river. The land area above a given point on a waterbody (river, stream, lake, wetland) that contributes runoff to that point is considered the watershed.

**Watershed partner(s):** Key watershed stakeholders who take an active role in the watershed management planning process and implementing the watershed plan. Partners in Woods Creek watershed include Algonquin, Crystal Lake, Lake in the Hills, and Crystal Lake Park District.

**Watershed stakeholder:** A person who has a personal, professional, legal or economic interest in the watershed and the outcome of the watershed planning process.

**Watershed Vulnerability Analysis:** Rapid planning tool for application to watersheds and subwatersheds that estimates future and impervious cover and provides guidance on factors that might alter the initial classification or diagnosis of a watershed or subwatershed.

**Wetland:** A wetland is considered a subset of the definition of the Waters of the United States. Wetlands are land that is inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, under normal conditions, a prevalence of vegetation adapted for life in saturated soil conditions (known as hydrophytic vegetation). A wetland is identified based upon the three attributes: 1) hydrology, 2) hydric soils and 3) hydrophytic vegetation.

**Wet meadow:** A type of wetland away from stream or river influence with water made available by general drainage and consisting of non-woody vegetation growing in saturated or occasionally flooded soils.

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR):** A government agency established to manage, protect and sustain Wisconsin's natural and cultural resources; provide resource-compatible recreational opportunities and to promote natural resource-related issues for the public's safety and education.

**Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES):** The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) developed the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) Storm Water Discharge Permit Program which is administered under the authority of ch. NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code. The WPDES Storm Water Program regulates the discharge of storm water from construction sites, industrial facilities, and municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s).