

***APPENDIX A***

***PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE, AGENDA,  
SIGN-IN SHEETS AND HANDOUTS***

***March 11, 2004  
Public Meeting***

Press Release

Elkhart County Commissioners  
Puterbaugh Creek – Heaton Lake Watershed Management Plan

Elkhart County Commissioners have received a \$60,000 Federal Fiscal Year 2002 205(j) Water Quality Planning Grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency for the development of a Watershed Management Plan for the Puterbaugh Creek – Heaton Lake Watershed.

A public meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM on Thursday, March 11, 2004 at Eastwood Elementary School located at 53215 CR 15 North, Elkhart, Indiana. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the public regarding the Watershed Management Plan Project and invite public participation in the Watershed Planning process.

Questions concerning the meeting should be directed to Ms. Piper Tittle at Lawson-Fisher Associates (574) 234-3167 or Ms. Kristine Krueger at the Elkhart County Commissioners Office (574) 535-6746.

Welcome Guest.

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# Local News

## Today's News

T+ T+ T+ \*New\* Truth Story Tools

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## Local Digest (page 2)

Published: Thursday, March 04, 2004 -- The Truth, A3  
Last updated: 3/4/2004 8:25:39 AM

In Elkhart, Noble, Whitley, and Kosciusko counties -- which comprise the Indiana Lakeland Council -- there are 680 Scout volunteers who serve 2700 girls.

Goshen: Child car seat inspections offered at no cost

GOSHEN -- Free car seat inspections will be given from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at Wal-Mart/Market Center. Technicians will check car seats, offer help with new installments and answer questions about child safety seats.

Technicians report that about 96 percent of parents and caregivers in Elkhart County are using their car seats incorrectly, based on regular checks in Elkhart, Goshen and Nappanee.

Almost 33 percent of children are in the wrong type of restraint for their age or size and nearly 14 percent are riding completely unbuckled, according to a national study by National Safe Kids. The data was collected from observations of more than 9,300 children 14 and younger and more than 6,200 motor vehicles at 174 sites from November 2001 to January 2002.

For more information call the Elkhart County Safe Kids Coalition at 523-2112.

Elkhart: Heaton Lake, Puterbaugh public meeting set

ELKHART -- An environmental plan for the Heaton Lake and Puterbaugh Creek watershed is being developed, and a public meeting has been scheduled for March 11.

The event, starting at 7 p.m., will be at Eastwood Elementary School, 53215 C.R. 15. The study by Lawson-Fisher Associates is being funded with a \$60,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

For more information call Kris Krueger with Elkhart County government, 535-6746, or Piper Tittle with Lawson-Fisher at 234-3167.

Elkhart: Two streets to be closed temporarily

ELKHART -- Two street closings in the city will affect traffic in the coming weeks.

Through March 15, the 100 block of West Boulevard, between South Avenue and Florence Street, will be inaccessible during a sanitary sewer repair.

Beginning Monday and lasting for two months, construction of the Indiana Avenue underpass

- » Bayer plant closing
- » Weighing In
- » Parents, schools team up
- » Crowd favors Central
- » Reeves jury to decide
- » Meeting addresses health of minorities
- » Wellfield garden has director
- » Local Digest
- » Where's fall?
- » Government At A Glance
- » Eatery damaged by fire

## Week's Most Popular

- » Boarding house operated illegally
- » Family, friends mourn
- » The road untraveled
- » Before it's too late
- » Strong takes stand

will impact traffic east of the railroad tracks. Drivers will not be able to use Indiana Avenue from Tipton Street to Grand Avenue during the work.

Elkhart: Sign up open for St.

Vincent school

ELKHART -- St. Vincent de Paul School, 1114 S. Main St., announced that registration will be open to the public, beginning Tuesday.

St. Vincent offers a traditional Catholic education from preschool through sixth grade. Call 293-8451 for more information or to arrange a visit.

Muncie: Ball State art gallery open on Internet

MUNCIE -- A group of Ball State University students, including two local residents, has successfully merged art with the Internet by creating an interactive online art gallery.

"It's a new way to look at art online," said team leader Mark Miller, a telecommunications major from Goshen. "There are many still images that can be viewed online, some having audio. We wanted to create a richer experience, even going as far as allowing visitors to meet the artists themselves."

The Web site allows visitors to tour galleries and studios, select works by each artist and listen to interviews of artists and critics. Visitors can also view sculptures and "move around" them, virtually speaking, to see the pieces from many angles.

The students will unveil their gallery, available at [www.absorbart.com](http://www.absorbart.com), through Sunday at the Mitchell Place Gallery in Muncie.

Chad Yoder, a journalism and graphics major from Millersburg, also worked on the project.

Aurora, IL.: Now is the time to book

summer cruise

AURORA, IL. -- Although it's not even spring yet, it's not too early to plan a summer vacation according to AAA Travel.

Space is already tight for many popular European destinations. "If you're thinking of traveling overseas, stop thinking and start planning," said Alexandra Petropoulos, direct of AAA Travel.

In recent years, people have been hesitant to venture abroad, but many European tours and cruises are already sold out for 2004. This is quite a change from last year, when some Mediterranean cruises were canceled because there weren't enough passengers.

Petropoulos also suggested to book reservations for summer cruises in the Caribbean as soon as possible. These ships have only a limited number of spots available.

Disney World, always a top destination for families, is another place to consider planning for now, as hotels tend to fill up quickly.

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## MEMORANDUM

March 18, 2004

TO: LFA Project File No. 200406.00

FROM: Adin M. McCann, P.E. *Amm*

RE: Elkhart County Commissioners  
Section 205(j) Watershed Planning Grant  
Puterbaugh Creek – Heaton Lake Watershed Management Plan  
Public Information Meeting No. 1

The first public information meeting for the above referenced project was conducted at the Eastwood School on March 11, 2004. Copies of the agenda, sign-in sheet and sign-up sheet for the Stakeholder Committee are included with this memorandum.

The meeting began with a general overview and introduction by Ms. Kristine Krueger of Elkhart County. The writer and Mr. John Fisher made a Powerpoint Presentation covering information on watersheds, point source pollution, non-point source pollution, specific project objectives, tasks and schedule, as well as a general discussion on environmental regulatory programs and methods of improving water quality.

After completing the formal presentation, the audience was given an opportunity to pose any specific questions. The following items were discussed:

- One attendee suggested that it might be beneficial to modify the public notice in the newspaper to clarify the scope of the project and corresponding meeting. It was suggested that this might solicit more participation from land owners outside the Heaton Lake area. Due to the specific verbiage of the public notice, it was thought that the project was intended to only include the Heaton Lake area. Consequently, the majority of the meeting attendees were residents of the Heaton Lake area.
- There was also some general interest as to the types of water quality data that would be sampled and analyzed as a part of this project. One specific member of the audience knew that the County sampled in many areas on a consistent basis and wondered if this data might be beneficial to the project. Mr. Fisher explained that the project was being coordinated with the County Health Department and that the current water quality sampling database would be analyzed and incorporated into the project. Mr. Fisher continued the discussion by explaining that this project would also required obtaining additional water quality sampling data for additional areas within the watershed. The additional sampling data would include an extensive list of water quality parameters not currently contained in existing Elkhart County Health Department databases.



LFA Project File No. 200406.00

March 18, 2004

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- There were some concerns expressed by the residents regarding field work that might be performed in the areas near their homes. Mr. Fisher responded by stating that the majority of sampling would be conducted in the public right-of-ways, but that certain circumstances might require access to private properties. In these instances, the specific land owner(s) would be contacted to receive appropriate authorization. In response to additional concerns voiced over the collection of water quality sampling data, Mr. Fisher stated that all field work would be performed by Lawson-Fisher Associates (LFA) personnel. Although LFA might use student engineering interns to accomplish some of this work, the interns would typically be supervised by a full-time employee of LFA.
- The watershed maps (Puterbaugh Creek – Heaton Lake, Idealized Watershed) provided by LFA for display were generally well received. Many of the meeting participants requested additional copies be brought to future meetings.

AMM/bsa

Encls.

c:→Piper C. Tittle, P.E. w/Encls.



**Elkhart County Commissioners  
205(j) Watershed Planning Grant**

**Puterbaugh Creek – Heaton Lake Watershed Management Plan**

March 11, 2004 at 7:00 P.M.

**Agenda**

1. Introduction
2. Water Quality Issues
  - *Watersheds*
  - *Non-Point Source Pollution*
  - *Point Source Pollution*
  - *IDEM/EPA 205(j) Grant*
3. Puterbaugh Creek – Heaton Lake Watershed Management Plan Project
  - *Objectives*
  - *Public Participation-Form Stakeholder Committee*
    - *Quarterly Meetings*
    - *Local Input*
  - *Planning Tasks*
  - *Schedule*
4. Conclusion
  - Best Management Practices
  - Good Agricultural Practices
  - Regional Sewer Districts
  - Good Common Sense
5. Discussion





***Elkhart County Commissioners  
Section 205(j) Watershed Planning Grant  
Puterbaugh Creek – Heaton Lake Watershed***

Kristine Krueger – Elkhart County  
John Fisher, P.E. – Lawson-Fisher Associates P.C.  
Piper Tittle, P.E. – Lawson-Fisher Associates P.C.  
Adin McCann, P.E. – Lawson-Fisher Associates P.C.

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**Agenda**

- Introduction
- Water Quality Issues
  - Watersheds
  - Point Source Pollution
  - Non-Point Source Pollution
  - Causes and Effects of Pollution
- Puterbaugh Creek-Heaton Lake Watershed Management Project
  - Objectives
  - Public Participation-Form Stakeholder Committee
  - Planning Tasks
  - Schedule
- Conclusions
  - Best Management Practices (BMPs)
  - Good Agricultural Practices
  - Regional Sewer Districts
  - Good Common Sense

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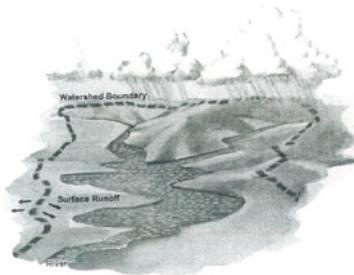
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**What is a Watershed?**

It's the area of land that catches rain and snow and drains or seeps into a marsh, stream, river, lake or groundwater.



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**You're Sitting in a Watershed Right Now!**

- No matter where you live, you live in a watershed.
- Homes, farms, ranches, forests, small towns, big cities and more can make up watersheds.
- Some cross county, state, and even international borders.
- Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes.
- Some are millions of square miles, others are just a few acres.
- Just as creeks drain into rivers, watersheds are nearly always part of a larger watershed.




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**St. Joseph River Watershed**

USGS Cataloging Unit: 04050001



For More Information: <http://www.epa.gov/surf/>

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**Puterbaugh Creek -Heaton Lake Watershed**

14-Digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) = 04050001150040  
 Watershed Area = Approx. 17 sq. mi.




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## Water Quality Issues

### Potential Sources of Pollution

- Point Sources
  - Storm Sewer Outfalls
  - Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)
  - Wet Weather Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)
- Nonpoint Sources
  - Excess fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides from agricultural lands and residential areas
  - Oil, grease, and toxic chemicals from urban stormwater runoff and energy production
  - Sediment from improperly managed construction sites, crop and forest lands, and eroding streambanks
  - Salt from irrigation practices and acid drainage from abandoned mines
  - Bacteria and nutrients from livestock, pet wastes, and faulty septic systems

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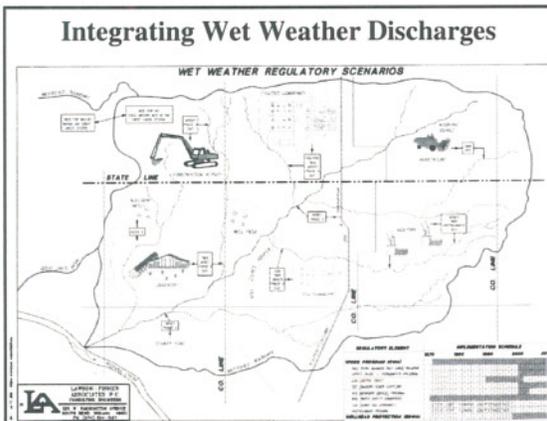
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## Integrating Wet Weather Discharges



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## Puterbaugh Creek - Heaton Lake Watershed Management Plan Project

What is a Section 205(j) Grant Project?

- Section 205 of the Federal Clean Water Act provides funding for water quality management planning
- Funds used to determine nature, extent, and causes of point and non-point source pollution problems and to develop plans to resolve these problems
- Increase involvement of environmental and civic organizations in watershed planning

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## Puterbaugh Creek - Heaton Lake Watershed Management Plan Project

### Project Objectives

- Address water quality issues in the Puterbaugh Creek – Heaton Lake Watershed via the development of a Watershed Management Plan
  - Problematic unsewered area within Elkhart County
    - Inadequate septic systems with the potential for more problems due to future growth in the area
    - Poor soils exist in the Heaton Lake area
    - Predominant lot sizes are equal to or less than ½ acre & support both individual wells and septic systems
  - Future growth and development due to the CR 17 extension connecting the Indiana Toll Road with U.S. 12 in Michigan
  - Recreational activities – Ideal Beach

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## Watershed Planning



A *watershed management plan* serves as a blueprint to protect natural resources within the watershed, or improve natural resource elements identified as important for the future of the watershed

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## The Watershed Approach

- A *watershed approach* is a strategy for effectively protecting and restoring aquatic ecosystems and protecting human health.
- This strategy has as its premise that many water quality and ecosystem problems are best solved at the watershed level rather than at the individual waterbody or discharger level.

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### Watershed Planning

- Identifies where the watershed is in relation to other watersheds in the basin
- Identifies stakeholders within the watershed
- Identifies what the stakeholders believe is important about the watershed
- Identifies opportunities for water quality improvements
- Contains an inventory of elements that best characterize the watershed
- Prioritizes inventory
- Correlates best management practices to address identified concerns
- Sets goals
- Develops a way to educate and inform the public
- Develops an action plan to achieve goals

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### Watershed Management Plan

- Land Use
- Soils
- Hydrology
- Zoning
- Septic Permit Locations
- History
- Water Quality Monitoring Data
- Previous Studies and Reports
- Identify Critical Areas
- Develop Plan to Improve Water Quality

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### Public Participation-Form Stakeholder Committee

Why form a stakeholder committee?

- A need or problem has been identified
- A project has been identified that will benefit several groups/individuals
- Diversity enables the development of creative solutions
- Opportunity to enhance natural resource management

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**Public Participation-Form Stakeholder Committee**

Key Components of the Stakeholder Committee

- Broad representation
  - All interests in the watershed are represented
- Local Knowledge
  - People who live and work in the watershed know how things function
- Common vision
  - Builds long-term support, and personal responsibility and commitment increase

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**Public Participation-Form Stakeholder Committee**

Stakeholder Committee Focus

- Identify the community's concerns
- Develop a problem statement, vision statement, and mission statement
- Set measurable goals
- Achieve consensus
  - Members understand and are able to support it

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**Project Schedule**

- Spring 2004
  - Gather existing watershed data
  - Start Public Meetings
  - Form steering committee
  - Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)
- Summer/Fall 2004
  - Water Quality Sampling
- Dec. 2005 – Dec. 2006
  - Develop Watershed Management Plan

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**Conclusion**

- Best Management Practices
- Good Agricultural Practices
- Regional Sewer Districts
- Good Common Sense

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*Questions? Comments?*

*General Discussion....*

*Thank You!*

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