Creating the Sensitive Aquifer Recharge Area (SARA) Map

By Ed Ellinghausen

McHenry County relies on groundwater for 100% of its drinking water supply, and no other source of supply is reasonably available for the foreseeable future. The future adequacy of this limited resource was analyzed in the 2006 study, “McHenry County Groundwater Resources Plan,” by the engineering firm Baxter and Woodman. The study concludes that by 2020 some of the county’s rapidly expanding areas will have a demand for water that exceeds the rate at which the groundwater aquifers in the area are recharged, leading to potential water shortages. As a result of this study, the county undertook to address the situation by creating a new staff position of Groundwater Resources Manager and the subsequent creation of a water resource task force. Their mission is to examine the situation in greater detail and to explore the possibilities available to avoid depleting or contaminating the aquifers, thus avoiding the resulting water shortages and potential damage to groundwater-dependent natural resources. A number of Defenders’ members are participating in the county’s water resources task force. One aspect of the issue is to better understand the recharge function.

First, some Groundwater 101 definitions regarding precipitation after it reaches the ground: If it flows along the land surface, it is runoff; If it enters the soil, it is infiltration; If it reaches a usable aquifer, it is recharge.

Aquifers are recharged by rainfall that infiltrates into the ground and eventually percolates down to an aquifer. An aquifer is a geologic formation of either coarse grained material, such as sand or gravel, or fractured...
Environmental Defenders of McHenry County

Mission Statement

The Environmental Defenders of McHenry County is a citizen organization dedicated to the preservation and improvement of the environment. We are committed to building sound ecological relationships between people and the natural world that supports all life.

To achieve the aim of environmental preservation and improvement, we provide the community with educational programs and volunteer action on pollution prevention, sustainable land use and energy and natural resource conservation.

We advocate policies that protect drinking water supplies and conserve land for open space and agriculture. We demonstrate waste reduction through recycling drives and reuse centers. We encourage natural resource protection through native landscaping and stream protection programs.

Environmental Defenders of McHenry County

Advertising Policy

The Defenders will accept advertisements in NATURE Matters if the product or services offered are consistent with the mission of The Defenders, as determined solely by our Board of Directors. Products or services advertised in NATURE Matters do not necessarily carry the endorsement of the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County. The Defenders is not responsible for the accuracy of the ads, or for the performance of the products or services advertised.

Rates:
- Full Page $300
- Half Page 175
- Quarter Page 100
- Eighth Page 75

Discounts for multiple advertisements may apply.
Two basic sources were utilized in developing the map. The first was an Illinois Geological Survey study titled, “Aquifer Sensitivity Map,” which mapped the potential for contamination of the county’s aquifers based on the presence, or absence, of fine-grained material above the aquifer. Fine-grained material tends to filter and remove many forms of contamination and it also restricts movement of groundwater. The implication is, if there is little or no fine-grained material above an aquifer, the aquifer readily recharges, but it is also highly vulnerable to contamination.

The second source of information was data on McHenry County soils from USDA/NCRS Soils Survey. This provided information about areas of the county that have steep slopes, which encourage runoff to streams, as well as soils with restricted permeability, which discourages infiltration. By way of example, some soils in McHenry County can absorb more than 20 inches per hour of precipitation, while others can absorb only a few hundredths of an inch per hour. Several other soil characteristics related to groundwater movement were also considered.

By combining the information in these two databases, the task force was able to define and map those areas where sensitive aquifer recharge areas exist. These areas are not only the county’s most productive recharge areas, but they are also the most vulnerable to contamination. As such they deserve special protection. Exactly what protection these areas receive remains to be seen. However, a draft of the task force’s recommended policies regarding recharge areas can be seen by visiting the county’s Water Resource Web site at www.Mchenryh2o.com under “Task Force Information,” “Completed Policies.”

The SARA map is intended to be a broad-based planning tool and has already been recognized by the commission drafting the county’s 2030 plan. The map will likely be revised as additional information becomes available.

To see a complete listing of the criteria used in the development of the map and to view the map in greater detail, go to: http://www.co.mchenry.il.us/common/CountyDpt/WaterRes/TaskForce.asp.
Since last year’s strategic planning session many changes have occurred. As most of you know, one notable change was our name. We are now the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County. The change does not affect our mission, but more accurately identifies our sole purpose as a nonprofit, grassroots organization that upholds the environmental integrity of McHenry County. Education, Advocacy, and Preservation still remain the focus of the Defenders. During the past year, the Land Use Committee continued to monitor new developments in McHenry County and serve as watchdogs for the development of the 2030 plan. The Water Resources Protection Committee developed an educational Power Point presentation detailing the importance of ground water in the county. The committee also logged many volunteer hours on countless other water-related projects, issues, and regional groups. The Education Committee continued to remind our residents of the importance of the environment in many ways, such as showing the premiere of “The 11th Hour,” a film by Leonardo DeCaprio; the annual Earth Day celebration co-sponsored with the McHenry County Conservation District; emphasizing buying and vacationing local; and co-sponsoring Step-It-Up Day 2 with the McHenry County Conservation District 200 Environmental Task Force, co-sponsored by the Barrington High School Clean Cars Bill legislation update and an environmental audit for all District 200 schools, which led to the creation of a District 200 Environmental Task Force, co-sponsored by the Defenders. The Waste Reduction Committee took on the collection of batteries and CFL light bulbs, which would have otherwise ended up in a landfill. We also reached out to the eastern part of the county with “It’s Our River Day,” co-sponsored with the Village of Algonquin and supported by the Sierra Club, an event that will now take place annually. I am proud of our members and board members for the many hours donated to this organization without an Executive Director.

While there are many projects and concerns, the Board established three main priorities that are vital to our overall mission. The priorities are: to hire a new executive director, build a home with green practices, and create new services that take the place of the recycling center. After much debate, the Board has decided to build a new green building on our property at Dean Street and Highway 14 that will serve as an example of green practices. This area has already been staked out and various events are being planned at the site. Funds are being explored to hire an executive director who will be our voice in the community and many new service ideas have been explored such as a food cooperative, a yellow bike program and an energy audit for citizens.

Despite these positive endeavors, the most pressing issue facing our county and our planet is global climate change. I thought everyone knew this and would start to plan for its effects, and I was excited about the possibility of making a difference. I attended a Woodstock City Council meeting, a District 200 division head meeting, ate dinner on the square, and spoke with state and county representatives. Unfortunately, after all of this, I realized that many people still do not understand the urgency of what’s happening to the world in which we live. Developments are still being approved despite their carbon footprint being taken into account, energy is being wasted, bottles and cans are being thrown away, and our officials still listen to the same car dealers that need bailing out. As a result, the Board is forming a new committee for the Defenders to confront the challenges of climate change and it is appropriately named, The Global Climate Change Committee. This committee will investigate, make recommendations, and implement strategies centered on remediating the effects of global climate change. I am asking you, our members to join this committee and lead the county in making changes that reduce our carbon footprint. The old way of thinking is to make choices between the economy and the environment. We are past this way of thinking. In his book, “Hot, Flat and Crowded,” Thomas Friedman states that the only way out of our economic crisis is to develop a green technology and to preserve our biodiverse hot spots. We cannot wait. The planet cannot and, is not, waiting. The Defenders must take the lead in this area and be the umbrella group for every environmental organization in the county. Only by acting in unison can we make a difference. This is a key moment in history. Some may be afraid to move forward on this, but we must grasp this moment and change the way our citizens think and act toward the environment. In order for this to happen, all of our members must become involved so that our children can inherit a world that is centered on peace and justice instead of overconsumption through war and intolerance.

The Board of Directors sends sincere thanks to Margaret Fox-Hawthorne for her service on the Board for the past two years. In the 90s, Margaret also served on the Board and was chair of the Education Committee. One of the projects she and others worked on during that time was an educational program for kids called “Young Defenders.” Recently, Margaret was on the Defenders’ Education and New Home Committees and will continue working on the New Home Committee as the Defenders proceed with plans to build a green building on Dean Street. Margaret is also co-chair of the Green Sanctuary Committee of the Congregational Unitarian Church. Before she moved to McHenry County 20 years ago, she was on the board of Prairie Wood Audubon and Citizens for Conservation in Barrington. Thank you, Margaret!
ON THE RECORD: A Conversation with Dennis Sandquist

Dennis Sandquist [DS], McHenry County’s new Director of the Planning & Development Department, recently spoke with a member of the Defenders’ Water Resources Protection Committee [WR] about his work.

WR: Tell us about yourself and your background.
DS: I’m originally from Hudson, Wisconsin, received an M.A. in Urban and Regional Planning from Rutgers [New Jersey].

WR: Where have you worked as a planner?
DS: From the beginning, I was drawn to counties, especially counties facing development pressures: Somerset County, New Jersey, Johnson County in Kansas and for the past 10 years, Lake County.

WR: You have been on the job since December 15, 2008. What are your responsibilities and current priorities?
DS: Overseeing the ongoing, day-to-day work of the department, [which includes] serving the public, issuing permits, enforcement of the county’s building codes, its zoning, subdivision and stormwater ordinances. We’re currently reviewing our process to make it more efficient, yet remain flexible in how we serve county residents.

WR: Is the county’s 2030 Plan your priority?
DS: Yes, I’m working with the Regional Planning Commission [RPC] and Houseal Lavine & Associates [HLA], the county’s planning consultants. HLA has drafts of 6 chapters, which they will edit and return for RPC review in mid-March.

WR: When will the public make its contributions to the Plan?
DS: There will be a time in early April for the public to see and comment on the Plan text, and early summer on the Plan maps. We’re still discussing the format for these meetings. Then in early July there would be a public meeting on the Plan before it goes to the county Board for approval.

WR: Have municipalities been included in drafting the Plan?
DS: There were meetings with townships and municipalities in 2008. There will probably be one or more meetings with them, also with the McHenry County Council of Governments before completing the final draft.

WR: When will the Plan’s changes be incorporated into amendments to the Zoning Ordinance?
DS: Post-approval revisions will take several months. [Editor’s note: revisions will also require one or more public hearing/s.]

WR: Throughout the Plan’s drafting, especially after the RPC’s abolishing its subcommittees, there have been concerns about how competing chapters will be reconciled to make a coherent, enforceable Plan. Who will carry out this integration?
DS: I think we are seeing more consensus among RPC members now. Any plan has inherent inconsistencies, that’s the nature of a comprehensive plan.

WR: Given these internal differences, how will the Plan ensure the outcomes that the public identified as first priorities in the Imagine McHenry survey, protecting water resources, clean air, open land and rural community character?
DS: The RPC is working with LEAM [modeling] to recommend policies that will be reflected in the LEAM maps.

WR: Looking at the latest draft of the 2030 Plan’s Water Resources chapter, there is no mention of the Sensitive Aquifer Recharge Areas [SARA] maps that the RPC adopted. How will those maps be used?
DS: With the LEAM modeling. Because the maps show 50% of the county as recharge areas, there were questions about prohibiting any development in those areas. Cassandra McKinney [McHenry County’s Groundwater Coordinator] and her Groundwater Task Force are recommending less intense use in these areas, along with BMPs [best management practices].

WR: There has been some discussion of displaced development, forcing new development into rural lands outside those [recharge] areas. Could there be unintended consequences in trying to protect these recharge areas?
DS: Not if the Plan is consistent in siting development near existing municipal areas.

WR: Some of the assumptions and recommendations in the first draft of the Plan’s economic development chapter were met with skepticism last year. For example, the new airport north of Marengo, or the four-corner commercial developments at every major county intersection. Are these still part of that chapter?
DS: I am not familiar with them.

WR: Are the economic development chapter’s emphasis on new manufacturing and office jobs in the county realistic in this economic climate?
DS: The underlying premise is that if people can work closer to where they live, there will be less traffic congestion and more time at home for those now commuting long distance.

WR: How do you see the future of farming in this county?
DS: The agricultural conservation easement program as carried out in Kane County is successful, but we lack the funding here. Still under consideration by the RPC are those blocks of high quality soils that would be identified as best for agriculture.

WR: In helping to chart the future of the county, what would you like to see?
DS: I see this as an opportunity to do some things different here, to strike a balance, to protect natural resources and agriculture while siting good development in appropriate locations. I am excited to be here. McHenry County is dynamic, its residents are interested and engaged.
Committee Spotlight: Membership

The Membership Committee holds a lunch meeting monthly and encourages members to join us. We begin each meeting reviewing current membership statistics. Currently, we stand at about 520 member households. This number has been holding steady for some time now with our highest total reaching 633 in the year 2006. Woodstock continues to produce the largest number of members, followed by Crystal Lake. We are well aware that we are not keeping pace with growth in the county, and we would like to see that trend change. Thus, most of our meetings have been spent brainstorming ways to increase membership and discussing new ways to serve our members.

Gift memberships are one technique the committee hopes will help increase our numbers. Members can give a “Gift Membership” for $25 (half the regular membership cost). Any new member then receives a packet of information about the Defenders’ work and how to get involved, plus a note communicating who the gift is from. The committee hopes that members will think of this both as a $25 donation and as a way to help increase our numbers and therefore our strength. A membership form is on page 11 for your convenience.

Approximately 100 members have joined at the Patron level, which is $100 and above. The committee is planning a special “Patron Event” for those individuals in May at the Dean Street property new home site. A tour of Defenders’ property and proposed building location will take place. The date of this event will be announced in the near future.

Another service the committee has in the works is community “green gatherings.” The hope is to have members from various areas of the county get together with non-members of that area to air green concerns. For example, members from Algonquin and Lake in the Hills would help host a meeting in their area, while members in Marengo would host a gathering in their neck of the woods.

In addition, the Membership committee takes on the responsibility of planning the Annual Meeting, Ground Hog days, and other special events while organizing annual reports, membership brochures and other information.

The Membership Committee and the Board realize that income from membership is and has always been a steady source of funding for the Defenders. If you have questions about the committee or wish to join and help raise awareness, please contact the office at 815-338-0393. Thank you!

Dwight Dalton
Committee Chair

Spring into action...

Celebrate Earth Day!

Saturday, April 18
Noon-4:00 p.m.
Prairieview Education Center
2112 Behan Road
Crystal Lake

Co-sponsored by the McHenry County Conservation District and The Environmental Defenders of McHenry County

Activities

Entertainment and educational activities for the whole family, including presentation of environmental awards for schools, music, seminars, restoration service projects, kids’ activities, vendors and exhibitors on sustainable practices, resource center, recycling drop-off, puppet show and more. New this year, an Earth Day patch program for Girl and Boy Scouts.

Recycling

Drop-off stations will be available for athletic shoes; electronic equipment, such as computers, radios, VCRs, phones, cell phones, hair dryers, amplifiers, and TVs (with a fee of $5 per computer monitor and .50 cents per pound for TVs); fluorescent bulbs and household batteries. A donation of .50 cents per bulb and .50 cents per pound of batteries is requested. Things that cannot be accepted are “white” appliances (Freon), microwaves, wood or pressboard cabinetry.

Entertainment

“Professor Oops” will be onstage at 12:45 in the “lecture hall” (Prairieview’s vista room) with educational entertainment for the whole family. Professor WW. Oops! (aka Sky Schultz, Ph.D.) defines himself as an “educator-humorist and stand-up Foolosopher.” He will be presenting, “The Bee, The Sea, The Tree…and Thee,” an interactive experience demonstrating the many invisible connections that make up life on our beautiful blue planet. (www.professoroops.com)

Musical entertainment throughout the afternoon by the duo “Judy & Keith,” regular performers at Woodstock’s Stage Left Café.

The Greener U Library: the Defenders will be bringing selections from their library, which can be checked out on site. A variety of sustainable living topics will be available.
Earth Day Workday at the Albert Property

Wednesday, April 22
8:00-noon

This workday is “Senior Service day” and all seniors are dismissed to work in the community. Come work on extending the trail and planting native species alongside Woodstock High School seniors. This natural area is truly an outdoor classroom where students learn about native plants and animals; and where, on an ongoing basis, everyone is invited to enjoy a hike through the woods. The Albert property is adjacent to Woodstock High School. 501 W. South Street, Woodstock.

Fox River Clean-up in Fox River Grove

Saturday, May 16
9:00-noon

Join the Defenders at Picnic Grove Park in Fox River Grove for the Annual Fox River Rescue Day. Spend a morning cleaning up the river and working alongside other stewards of the environment. Bags, gloves and snacks will be provided by the Sierra Club. Please wear appropriate clothing and bring sun protection, friends and family.

Directions: East on Route 14 (from Cary), turn left on Lincoln (first stop light before the train station). Turn right at the second street (Harding). Follow curve to the left after a cul-de-sac and continue on to the park.

Welcome New Members!

Martha & Darryl Adams, Barrington
Joe Brasile, Woodstock
Phil & Anna Teresa Evans, Woodstock
David Farley Family, Crystal Lake
Kate Femal, Woodstock
Becky Goers, Woodstock
The Graczyk Family, Fox River Grove
Julie McFail Weingarz of Sound Mind Sound Body Health Services, Crystal Lake

Dale & Bill Miller, Barrington
Theresa & Eric Peterson, Woodstock
Dylan Peterson, Woodstock
Irene Raven, McHenry
David Rigby, Johnsburg
Karen Rocks, Huntley
Stephanie Stedmire-Walls, East Cleveland, OH
Troy Thomas, Woodstock
Larry & Kim Willis, McHenry
Barbara Wilson, Lake in the Hills

Thank you for your support.
Annual Meeting: A Call for Volunteers and Honoring Those Who Make a Difference

By Cynthia W. Kanner

The annual membership potluck dinner this year was punctuated with the message that the Defenders’ work remains vital to the health of our communities and that we need many more volunteers in order to meet the Defenders’ mission. Defenders’ President, Bill Donato, welcomed members on Saturday evening, March 14, by highlighting the organization’s top three priorities: hiring an executive director, introducing new services, and moving ahead with plans for the new green office building on Dean Street. These three priorities have associated committees whose members are working hard to see that progress is made. In order to meet our mission of “Preserve,” “Protect,” and “Educate,” the Defenders needs members to volunteer on our many committees to work on pressing environmental issues facing our county. In the area of committee work, Bill Donato announced the formation of a new committee – the committee on Global Climate Change. The announcement drew audible approval from those at the dinner.

At the same time members were encouraged to volunteer, special guests were presented with the Defenders’ annual awards for their hard work achieved throughout the year – work that truly made a difference. The “Volunteer of the Year” award was presented to Dorothy Johnson for her many hours helping out in the Defenders’ office. When accepting the award from Dwight Dalton, Dorothy said with regard to the Defenders, “It’s like a home away from home.” The Defenders’ Government Award was given to the McHenry County Department of Transportation. Mark Devries accepted the award from Cindy Skrukrud for his work on reducing salt usage on our roads in the county by 40%. The inventor of a liquid blending system using sugar beet juice on icy roads, Mr. Devries is now a world traveler, sharing the technique with such places as Vienna, Austria. Lastly, the Theta Award was presented to the Village of Lakewood for its leadership in banning phosphates in their community. Cathy Peterson, Village Manager and Defenders’ member, accepted the award saying, “It’s just one step that we’ve taken to be one of the most environmental towns in the county.” Her brief remarks were poignant to the Defenders’ goal of education as she concluded that, “people want to do the right thing when they’re educated.” All three recipients were grateful for the recognition and enjoyed the evening with Defenders’ members.

Throughout the night, in addition to incredible food, everyone enjoyed a game of Defenders’ trivial pursuit, which was created by Nancy Schietzelt and Mcd by Tom Von Geldern. There were also raffle prizes awarded, and the reverse raffle done throughout the evening brought some tense moments for those in the final group of tickets. There was even an auction of two unsold tickets, which raised nearly $200 dollars. Dwight Dalton’s lone ticket was left in the end and he plans to pay off some college loans with his winnings. Half of the $2,000 proceeds will go to the Defenders.

Board member Nancy Schietzelt closed the evening by announcing the new “Executive Director Fund.” The fund will operate on raising funds to hire a new executive director through pledges made. When a certain goal is met, those pledges will be honored. If you are able to make a pledge, please contact the office at 815-338-0393.
Advocacy & EDUCATION

WWW.MCDEF.ORG
Defenders’ Web site: Keep Updated and Informed

The Defenders’ work has always been about people, people doing real grassroots work to help preserve a healthy environment. We were founded at the time a wake-up call came to protect our planet in the form of Earth Day and during the early days of recycling, which was initiated in this county by the Defenders. As times change and technology evolves, even though our mission in its purest sense is about the land, air, and water, our delivery of information must keep up with the present so we can meet future needs successfully. Today’s technology, such as the Internet, is vital to the Defenders’ ability to communicate while using less paper in the process.

On the Defenders’ Web site (www.mcdef.org), you will find important information about our committees and when they meet, as well as a long list of environmental resources. You can review our calendar of events, see press releases about the Defenders’ work and accomplishments, and get the latest news from the office. One section includes legislative contacts so that you can connect to those in government. There are ideas for living green and announcements of other organizations’ events and programs. Recycling news is included and there are items that will inspire, from information about water conservation to ideas on green holidays. You can surf the Net and shop while helping to raise money for the Defenders through GoodSearch and Amazon.com. You can even buy your coffee at our site, organic and fair trade Arabica coffees, a fundraiser held on behalf of the Defenders by Conscious Cup Coffee in Crystal Lake.

So, please plan to visit us often and keep updated and informed!

Recycling NEWS

Defenders’ Recycling Drives

What:
Collection of fluorescent tubes, compact fluorescent bulbs, and household batteries for recycling. The suggested donation for this service is .50 cents per pound of household batteries and .50 cents each for fluorescents. We will also be conducting a buy-back program for aluminum cans and other non-ferrous metals and will be accepting styrofoam pellets and bubble wrap. Come in and help keep these items out of the landfill.

When:
Second Saturday of every Month.

Where:

Woodstock: The Woodstock collection takes place on the second Saturday of each EVEN numbered month and is held in front of the Farm Bureau, 1102 McConnell Road in Woodstock, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

McHenry: The McHenry collection takes place on the second Saturday of ODD numbered months at the Metra Station Parking lot, 4005 Main Street in McHenry, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The McHenry collection will also pay for aluminum, brass and copper.

Update from the New Home Committee

The New Home Committee has decided on a rectangular-shaped building that will become the new home for the Defenders. The building will have approximately 3,200 square feet of space. The location of the future green building has been staked out on the Defenders’ Dean Street property. The Soil and Water Conservation District will do borings to determine if the soils are suitable for building there and also to test the area for septic suitability.
Walkup Heritage
Farm & Gardens

Native and Heirloom Plants and Vegetables
5215 North Walkup Road, Crystal Lake, IL 60014 • (815) 439-7090
Across from Veteran's Acres at the Historic Walkup House.

• Heirloom Tomatoes, & Vegetables
• Heirloom Annuals, Perennials, Roses and Peonies
CSA Vegetable Share program available

Opening Day
Wildflower & Plant Sale
April 25, 10 am
Open Daily;
May 1st through October 31st
Mon-Fri 3-6pm
Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 1-5pm

Opening Day
Wildflower & Plant Sale
Saturday, April 25, 10 AM

This is a paid advertisement.
The Defenders thanks the following members for their most generous and ongoing support. We are grateful for their contributions during the past year.

Contributions of $2,000
Elyse & Ray Roberts
Randy & Nancy Schietzelt
Gilbert & Susan Tauck

Contributions of $1,000 and greater
Chris Dahm
Kathleen Dietzen
Alice & Bill Howenstine
Mary & Charles Liebman
Dan & Sandra Scheinfeld
Cynthia Skrukrud & Tom Von Geldern
Kevin Eldridge & Yvonne Yao

Thank you.

Give a Gift Membership

As a member, you can help the Defenders most at this time by giving a 1/2 price gift membership to someone you know – a neighbor, friend or colleague. Easy to do. Send $25 to the office with the name and address of the recipient. (You can even use the form below). He or she will receive a packet of membership information plus a note mentioning who the gift is from. In order for us to continue upholding the environmental integrity in McHenry County, we need members. Our strength is in numbers. Thank you! The Membership Committee

The Membership Form

Levels of Membership

Supporting – $250...........................................................
Patron – $100...........................................................
Organization – $50...........................................................
Family/Basic – $50...........................................................
Senior – $25...........................................................
Student/Other – $10...........................................................

Subtotal: $________________
Additional donation: $________________
Total contribution: $________________

Name #1______________________________
Name #2______________________________
Address______________________________
City________________ State______ Zip______
Township____________________________
E-mail #1______________________________
E-mail #2______________________________
Phone_______________________________

Year moved to McHenry County:________________________
Number of individuals residing in household:________________

☐ My check is enclosed.

Please return completed form to:
Environmental Defenders of McHenry County
124 Cass Street, Suite 3
Woodstock, IL 60098 OR
Join on-line at www.mcdef.org
Questions? Call 815-338-0393

Code: nwsltrsprng09
# Calendar of EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

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<td>Saturday, April 18</td>
<td><strong>Earth Day 2009, “Greener-U,”</strong></td>
<td>Noon-4:00 p.m., Prairieview Education Center. See page 6 for details.</td>
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<td>Saturday, May 23</td>
<td><strong>Turtle Creek canoe trip</strong>, 9:00 a.m. Contact Cindy Skrukrud for details and to sign up. 815-675-2594.</td>
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<td>Saturday, June 27</td>
<td><strong>Nippersink Creek canoe trip</strong>, 9:00 a.m. Contact Dan Wilson at <a href="mailto:danwil126@aol.com">danwil126@aol.com</a>.</td>
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Mark your calendars for these future events!

- July 11 – Kishwaukee River canoe trip. Leader: Neill Sachs
- September 13 – Fox River canoe trip. Leader: Cindy Skrukrud
- September 19 – “It’s Our River Day” in Algonquin. Leader: Cynthia Kanner