KENDALL COUNTY
Health & Environment Committee
January 22, 2013 ~ 10:30 a.m.
Health & Human Services Bldg
811 W. John Street; 2nd Floor Conference Room

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Minutes of May 22, 2012 Meeting
3. Old Business
4. New Business
5. Status Reports
   - Farmland Protection
   - Soil & Water
   - Health & Human Services
   - Water Related Groups
   - Other Reports
6. Public Comment
7. Action Items
8. Executive Session
9. Adjourn- Next meeting TBD
CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Suzanne Petrella at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL
Present: Chairman Suzanne Petrella, Bob Davidson, John Shaw, Anne Vickery and Jeff Wehrli
Absent: None
Also present: County Board member Dan Koukol, County Board member Nancy Martin, Senior Planner Angela Zubko, Executive Director of the Health Department Amaal Tokars, Director and Environmental Health Steve Curatti and Megan Andrews from the Soil and Water Conservation District.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Anne Vickery made a motion to approve the minutes from March 19, 2012. Suzanne Petrella seconded the motion. All agreed and the minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS
None at this time

NEW BUSINESS
Discussion on June Meeting date- Chairman Petrella wanted to discuss possibly changing the day the committee meets. Suzanne suggested changing it to 10:30 on the same day. Everyone thought that would be a great idea so starting the next date it will be at 10:30am.

STATUS REPORTS
Solid Waste- Steve Curatti stated he talked to Marlin Hartman recently and wanted to update that he was at the 4 day training at the Hoover Forest Preserve and got to educate many children at the Natural Resource Tour that Soil and Water Conservation puts on. Mr. Davidson stated he has realized the Undessor property is up for sale and/or auction and part of Green Organics is on that property and we need to keep an eye on it and that large pile. Ms. Petrella asked about garbage or recycling and if there is a benefit of including the recycling with your Health & Environment Meeting Minutes
garbage. Mr. Curatti said he does not think it would benefit the garbage and decomposition process and to please keep on recycling. It also saves on landfill space.

**Farmland Protection**- No update at this time.

**Soil & Water**- Megan Andrews stated that the Soil and Water Conservation District coordinated the Natural Resource Tour went very well. There are about 7-9 presenters a day over a 4 day time period and about 750 students attended and got a lot of compliments from the parents. This Thursday the Soil and Water Conservation Districts will have a seminar about farm preservation and taxes. They also have their used oil pick up on June 16th. The education coordinator is wrapping up classroom education and the rest of the crew has done a lot of field work.

**Public Health**- Environmental Health and Radon presentation by Steve Curatti. Mr. Curatti gave a 101 presentation about Radon. Mr. Curatti passed out a map showing the geologic radon potential in different regions of Illinois. (See attached map) Radon is naturally occurring and in trace amounts in our outdoor air. When we build a house or structure we essentially build a bubble over the ground and trapping this gas. Ms. Martin asked how someone can do a diagnostic test and conclude that radon was the cause of lung cancer. Mr. Curatti stated that the medical community can measure the radiation in the lungs which comes from radon. To cause cancer it would come from chronic exposure. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers, killing as many as 21,000 people annually. Any number above 4 picocuries per liter, or pCi/L is considered dangerous and some places in Kendall County that the Health Department has seen are levels of 56. Radon resistance construction is required in Kendall County. Ms. Petrella stated she got a radon testing kits from the Health Department and it worked out great.

Ms. Vickery asked if drafty houses help with radon and Mr. Curatti stated yes that drafty houses most likely will have less radon in the house.

Mr. Wehrli stated short sales and foreclosures probably do not have that disclosure clause with regards to radon and it is up to you to test.

Ms. Tokars added to the discussion and stated that Argonne has a lab measuring radiation that started in the 1970’s.

Mr. Curatti passed out another hand out showing the radon test results from 2005-2011 that was performed in Kendall County. The kits are bought by the Health Department from a grant and sold at a low price. The Health Department’s radon awareness program is funded in a large part through a grant from the USEPA. Out of 585 tests, a rate of 52% of the test came...
back at an elevated level above 4 pCi/L. The World Health Organization is looking to reduce the number to 2.5 pCi/L. On that hand out there are 2 charts, one by high and low levels and the other chart if by percentages. He stated it’s a 50/50 shot if you have radon in your home and it could be different even between the houses next to each other.

The last hand out shows the information provided in the 2011-2016 IPLAN and the goal is to reduce everyone’s exposure to radon. There are three main components: Education, Collaboration and Policy. Mr. Curatti stated 2 communities do not require radon resistance construction which is the Village of Minooka and the Village of Lisbon. Mr. Curatti had some brochures that the Health Department hands out to residents.

**Water Related Groups**
- **Stormwater Technical Advisory Committee** - The group is done meeting.
- **Stormwater Planning Committee** - Is on the June 5th County Board meeting to vote on and the public hearing.
- **Blackberry Creek Watershed** - The plan is complete and the group will meet yearly.
- **Lower Fox River Study Group** - Met May 3rd, next meeting on June 7th. They are looking at what open space exists along the corridor and trying to find the best land the purchase in the future.
- **NWPA** - Met on May 10th where there was a presentation on Full Cost Water pricing, got a copy of the approved by-laws, the group is officially filed their incorporate paperwork and now working on their 5013C.

**Other Reports** - None

Mr. Shaw asked if anyone else has heard any new news about transfer stations. No one has heard anything new.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**ACTION ITEMS** – None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - None

**ADJOURNMENT** - Next meeting will be on June 18, 2012 at 10:30am.

Bob Davidson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Wehrli seconded the motion. All agreed. Chair Petrella adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela L. Zubko
Senior Planner
Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District Programs – An Overview

Soil & Water Conservation: To provide and assist in delivering programs that prevent erosion from urban development and of tillable soil that can threaten our agricultural economy and the sustainability of our surface water supplies.

- **Partners for Conservation Program:** Provides technical and financial assistance (cost-share) to landowners to address erosion issues. Local SWCD administers program with funds provided by the State of Illinois through the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
  - Practices on agricultural land include: Graded waterways, grade stabilization structures, water & sediment control basins, filter strips, nutrient management, etc.
  - Practices not specific to agricultural land include: Streambank stabilization and restoration, well sealing, rain gardens, and special projects (non-traditional practices such as urban stormwater basin retro-fitting).

- **Vegetative Filter Strip Certification Program:** Provides for tax incentives (a reduction in the assessed value to cropland certified as meeting the requirements of the law to 1/6 of its value) for the development of vegetative filter strips. SWCD assists with certification process.

- **Natural Resource Information (NRI) Reports:** Provides natural resource information to officials of the local governing body and other decision makers. The NRI report intends to present the most current natural resource information available in an understandable format. It contains a description of the present conditions and resources available and their potential impact on each other.

- **Soil Erosion & Sediment Control:** Expertise provided to agencies (Illinois EPA, United States Army Corps of Engineers) and local governments (County and Municipal Government) as part of a cooperative agreement.

Educational Programs: Programming for students and adults on natural resource and agricultural related topics.

- Classroom Presentations K-12
- Natural Resource Tour
- Teacher Workshops/In-services
- Community Presentations (ex. Native plants, rain gardens, soil & water conservation, pond events (pond shocking demonstration, pond seminar), etc)
- Student Contests/Special Events
- Envirothon Competition
- Educational Resources, Curriculum, kits
- Displays/Activities at Libraries and Schools
- Interactive activities at local county fairs

Community Assistance: Assistance provided to local developers, elected officials, municipal & county government, state/federal natural resource agencies, local organizations/community groups, watershed groups, residents on a variety of agricultural and natural resource topics as needed.

Resources:

- Conservation Sales: Fish, trees, rain barrels, composters, soil test kits, and water test kits.
- Used Oil Collection – annual event
- Maps: soil, floodplain, topographic, wetland (NWI) & historic aerials.
- Informational brochures & materials: Local Watershed Plans, program information, pond management resources, soil information, seed material, rain gardens, backyard conservation, etc.
Project Spotlights:

Modular Concrete Block Structure

Recently, the Kendall County SWCD and USDA-NRCS partnered together to provide cost-share and technical assistance to a local landowner with an erosion concern. Water draining from cropland and pasture upstream was undermining a livestock stream crossing. In order to stabilize the crossing and provide a stable outlet for the water, a grade stabilization structure was needed. The type of structure, a modular concrete block chute, was determined to be the best fit to address the onsite resource concerns. This structure is the first of this type to be installed in Kendall County.

![Modular Concrete Block Structure immediately following construction](image)

Streambank Stabilization: Stone Toe Protection & Rock Ripple

Streambank erosion is a natural process that occurs in all streams as water wears away the soil and rock that form their banks. As the banks are worn away, streams naturally and slowly establish a meandering course. Streambank erosion in Illinois has, however, been accelerated by land altering activities. As such, streambank erosion has become a serious threat to the land, water, plant and animal resources along many streams in our state.

When left unchecked, streambank erosion can be responsible for the loss or damage to valuable farmland, wildlife habitat, buildings, roads, bridges and other public or private structures and property. This type of erosion is a major source of sediments deposited in Illinois lakes, streams and backwater areas. Sediment reduces stream channel capacity, which may increase flooding and streambank erosion, or reduce the depth and holding capacity of lakes. Sediment deposited in creeks, streams and rivers degrades water quality and can destroy fish and wildlife habitat.

The Kendall County SWCD provides cost-share, technical assistance and education information to landowners with severely eroding streambank sites where effective low-cost streambank stabilization techniques can be established.
Two methods, shown below, to stabilize or treat eroding streambanks through our cost-share program are stone toe protection and rock riffles. These two practices were recently installed in Kendall County along a reach of a creek that was downcutting and experiencing streambank erosion.

Rain Garden

Kendall County Staff installed a rain garden at our office. A rain garden is a shallow depression, planted with native plants, on your property that absorbs rain water (runoff) from impervious surfaces, mainly from the roof of a building. As land begins to develop, there is a dramatic increase in impervious surfaces which increases the amount of stormwater runoff. A rain garden is a helpful stewardship tool that can significantly reduce the amount of runoff. Such gardens provide an increased functional benefit compared to conventional lawns.

Specifically, rain gardens can reduce flooding, absorb pollutants, recharge aquifers and sustain wildlife by providing habitat. Since these gardens are planted with native vegetation, the long, extensive root structure allows water to infiltrate into the ground. By allowing for greater infiltration, the speed of runoff, which can cause erosion, is reduced. Additionally, rain gardens naturally filter pollutants from runoff. As a result, rain gardens improve water quality as well as address water quantity concerns.
# U.S. Drought Monitor

## Illinois

### Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

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<th>D2-D4</th>
<th>D3-D4</th>
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### Intensity:
- **D0 Abnormally Dry**
- **D1 Drought - Moderate**
- **D2 Drought - Severe**
- **D3 Drought - Extreme**
- **D4 Drought - Exceptional**

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

[http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

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Released Thursday, January 17, 2013

David Simmeral, Western Regional Climate Center
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu
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http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu
# U.S. Drought Monitor

## Illinois

### Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

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<th></th>
<th>None</th>
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http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Released Thursday, July 26, 2012

Richard Heim, National Climatic Data Center, NOAA
**U.S. Drought Monitor**

**Illinois**

**Drought Conditions (Percent Area)**

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**Intensity:**
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http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Released Thursday, July 19, 2012
Richard Heim, National Climatic Data Center, NOAA
The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is Tuesday at 7 a.m. Eastern Time. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

**U.S. Drought Monitor**

*Midwest*

**January 8, 2013**

*Valid 7 a.m. EST*

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See associated local summary for forecast statements.

**http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu**

For local details and impacts, please contact your [State Climatologist](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu) or [Regional Climate Center](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu).

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http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DM_midwest.htm

1/15/2013
The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is Tuesday at 7 a.m. Eastern Time. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

**U.S. Drought Monitor**

**Midwest**

**November 27, 2012**

**Valid 7 a.m. EST**

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

For local details and impacts, please contact your [State Climatologist](http://climate.unl.edu) or [Regional Climate Center](http://climate.unl.edu).

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DM_midwest.htm 12/3/2012
## U.S. Drought Monitor

### Midwest

#### Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

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#### Intensity:
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- **D2 Drought - Severe**
- **D3 Drought - Extreme**
- **D4 Drought - Exceptional**

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

[http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

**Released Thursday, August 16, 2012**

Michael Brewer, National Climatic Data Center, NOAA
The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is Tuesday at 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Midwest

May 1, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu
Matthew Rosencrance, Climate Prediction Center/NCEP/NWS/NOAA
Released Thursday, May 3, 2012

For local details and impacts, please contact your State Climatologist or Regional Climate Center.
The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is Tuesday at 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

NOTE: To view regional drought conditions, click on map below. State maps can be accessed from regional maps.

U.S. Drought Monitor

January 8, 2013
Vhad Pala, ESA

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

The U.S. Drought Monitor is produced in partnership between the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

UPDATE: The links have been moved into the menu bars below.

PDF Last Week Tabular Statistics Archived Tabular Statistics USDM Change Maps Annual Animations Contact People

NDMC's Drought Impact Reporter 6-week animation 12-week animation Custom DM animation short-term drought indicator blends long-term drought indicator blends

About the DIR Experimental Drought Blends Classification Scheme Historical Weather Data North American Drought Monitor

For local details and impacts, please contact your State Climatologist or Regional Climate Center.

National Drought Summary – January 8, 2013

The discussion in the Looking Ahead section is simply a description of what the official national guidance from the National Weather Service (NWS) National Centers for Environmental Prediction is depicting for current areas of dryness and drought. The NWS forecast products utilized include the HPC 5-day QPF and 5-day Mean Temperature progs, the 6-10 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, and the 9-14 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, valid as of late Wednesday afternoon of the USDM release week. The NWS forecast web page used for this section is: http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/forecast/West.

This U.S. Drought Monitor week saw minor modifications as the continuous U.S. experienced relatively tranquil weather conditions. Some modest amounts of precipitation fell over the central Gulf Coast states, California, and the Pacific Northwest while some lesser amounts were observed over portions of the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic states. Overall, temperatures across much of the contiguous U.S. were below average except for portions of the Southeast, Mid-Atlantic, Northern Great Plains, and the Upper Great Lakes region where temperatures were above average. The northern Great Basin, Intermountain West, and central Rocky Mountains experienced well-below-normal temperatures during the last week, and numerous records were broken. In Alaska, temperatures were well above normal during the last week while the Hawaiian Islands experienced generally cooler-than-normal conditions.

The Northeast: The region received minor amounts of precipitation during the past week, and conditions on the map remained unchanged. Temperatures throughout the region were slightly below normal during the past seven-day period.

Mid-Atlantic: Overall, the Mid-Atlantic was generally dry during the last week, except for some light shower activity over southeastern Virginia. Average temperatures in the region were generally near normal. No changes were made on this week's map for the region.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/
The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is Tuesday at 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

NOTE: To view regional drought conditions, click on the map below. State maps can be accessed from regional maps.

The U.S. Drought Monitor is produced in partnership between the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

UPDATE: The links have been moved into the menu bars below.

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NDMC's Drought Impact Reporter 6-week animation 12-week animation Custom DM animation short-term drought indicator blends long-term drought indicator blends

About the DIR Experimental Drought Blends Classification Scheme Historical Weather Data North American Drought Monitor

For local details and impacts, please contact your State Climatologist or Regional Climate Center.

National Drought Summary -- November 27, 2012

The discussion in the Looking Ahead section is simply a description of what the official national guidance from the National Weather Service (NWS) National Centers for Environmental Prediction is depicting for current areas of dryness and drought. The NWS forecast products utilized include the HPC 5-day QPF and 5-day Mean Temperature Prog, the 8-14 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, and the 8-14 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, valid as of late Wednesday afternoon of the USDM release week. The NWS forecast web page used for this section is: http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/forecasts/.

Summary: Mostly dry weather prevailed across drought areas of the contiguous U.S., with above-normal temperatures across the western half of the nation contrasting with near- to below-normal temperatures east of the Mississippi. Locally heavy rain and mountain snow persisted, however, across the central and northern Pacific Coastal states as well as the northern Rockies. Meanwhile, a disturbance generated beneficial showers in the period from the western and central Gulf Coast into the lower Ohio River Valley, although amounts were generally too light to afford any notable drought reduction. Rain from this system had not yet reached the Southeast as of the Tuesday morning cutoff for inclusion in this analysis; any potential benefits from the Southeastern rainfall will be addressed in next week’s Drought Monitor.

Mid-Atlantic and Northeast: Mostly dry, cool weather continued. Abnormal Dryness (DO) was introduced along the Vermont-New Hampshire border to reflect declining streamflows as well as increasing precipitation deficits (locally less than 50 percent of normal over the past 60 days). Further south, Moderate Drought (D1) expanded across southern Virginia, where 90-day rainfall has fallen less than 60 percent of normal and streamflows have likewise dropped into the 15th percentile or lower.

Southeast: Despite cooler-than-normal weather, conditions deteriorated across much of the region. It is important to note the rain which fell over the Southeast Tuesday into Wednesday did not last after the Tuesday morning (5 a.m., EST) cutoff for this week’s U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM), the impacts of this rain — if any — will be addressed in next week’s report.
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/
The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is Tuesday at 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

NOTE: To view regional drought conditions, click on map below. State maps can be accessed from regional maps.

U.S. Drought Monitor May 1, 2012

The Drought Monitor focuses on areas of dryness and drought. Drought conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecasts and updates.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

UPDATE: The links have been moved into the menu bars below.

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NATIONAL Drought Summary -- May 1, 2012

The discussion in the Looking Ahead section is simply a description of what the official national guidance from the National Weather Service (NWS) National Centers for Environmental Prediction is depicting for current areas of dryness and drought. The NWS forecast products utilized include the HPC 5-day QPF and 5-day Mean Temperature prog, the 5-10 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, and the 8-14 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, valid as of late Wednesday afternoon of the USDM release week. The NWS forecast web page used for this section is: http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/forecasts/

The week featured a series of low-pressure systems moving along a northern storm track. These storm systems brought significant rains to many portions of the Midwest, Great Plains, Ohio Valley, and Central Appalachians. Additionally, soaking rains fell across southern Florida. Dry conditions persisted over many of the areas already experiencing drought conditions, especially the Intermountain West, Upper Midwest, and Southeast, with the exception of South Florida.

The Northeast and mid-Atlantic: At the end of last week, a storm system moved the northeast from the Mid-Atlantic. Much of the precipitation with this system was forced out of the clouds over the Central Appalachians before the storm could again tap moisture over the Atlantic, so the major impacts were across West Virginia and Maine. The result was the removal of the area of abnormally dry (D3) conditions across northern Maine and a slight trimming of the Severe Drought (D2) across the Delmarva Peninsula. No other changes were made across this region as the light precipitation did little to ease the drought.

The Southeast: As the storm systems passed to the north, some convective rains (0.5 inch - 2.3 inches) moved across the Carolinas, with heavier amounts (1.0 - 2.6 inches) over the western portions of North Carolina and extreme eastern Tennessee. The response to the precipitation in the hydrologic system over western North Carolina.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/
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