

Wet n' Wild at the Wellfield

Conserving Wetlands for Clean Water



Wetlands have long been one of Nature's most misunderstood natural resources! Their true value was not realized until more than 50 percent of them were filled or drained.

Flood control, contaminant and sediment filtering, storm water management, aquatic habitat, and a number of other functions are all credited to wetlands.

YOU ARE INVITED to learn more about the status of wetlands in our area, along with a new planning tool that ranks wetlands—previous and existing—by the significance of the functions they serve. This tool will help inform landowners in the St. Joseph River Basin about the importance of *protecting* remaining wetlands and *restoring* the functions of wetlands that were previously lost. As a property owner, you may discover that you own important wetlands for protecting or improving water quality in the River Basin. **Also learn about potential funding sources and financial incentives for landowners that can aid in protecting existing wetlands and/or revitalizing previously impacted wetlands.**

WHO: Local officials and decision makers; Landowners in the St. Joseph River Basin and Christiana Creek Watershed

WHAT: An introduction to a new wetland planning tool and an opportunity to review maps identifying critical wetlands in the St. Joseph River Basin

WHEN: Thursday, August 16, 2012

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Wellfield Botanic Gardens
921 North Main Street
Elkhart, IN 46514



This event is hosted by the Christiana Creek Coalition in partnership with:

Friends of the St. Joe River Association, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy, Wellfield Botanic Gardens, Elkhart County Soil & Water Conservation District, Elkhart River Restoration Association, City of Elkhart, Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, St. Joseph River Basin Commission, Michiana Watershed, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and more...