

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Special acknowledgement goes to students of Northern Illinois University from the departments of Biology, Geology, and Environmental Studies, under the direction of Carl von Ende, Department of Biological Sciences; Melissa Lenczewski and Sheldon Turner, Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences Department of Geology, Environmental Science Consortium. Working with them were students of Sycamore High School under the instruction of Scott Horlock, Biology Teacher, Sycamore High School. Together, these students and instructors coordinated and collected data and provided research for portions of the studied watershed. The rewards for student involvement were extensive, as stated by Scott Horlock:

The opportunities for our students have been incredible. They have not only learned about the environment in their back yard while working alongside of Professors from NIU but they have developed a sense of civic responsibility and started to build relationships with members of county government and other agencies. The students who attended the informational meeting on the watershed were beaming with pride when they saw and heard the information that Deanna [Doohaluk] presented and they helped to collect. On top of all of this, the 4 students primarily involved in this project have received numerous college scholarships in part because of the experiences they have had with the watershed project.

Significant appreciation is attributed to presenters at community outreach workshops and events held throughout the course of the 18-month watershed planning process, including: Dewey Barnes, Ideal Industries, Fred Busse, Public Works Director, City of Sycamore; Brent Denzin, Partner, Attorney at Law, Ancel Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer, Chicago; Deanna Doohaluk, Water Resource Planner, Vince Mosca and Jeff Wickenkamp, Hey and Associates, Inc.; Dan Gible, Executive Director, Sycamore Park District; Dean Johnson, Resource Conservationist, DeKalb County Soil & Water Conservation District; Michael Konen, Soil Scientist, Associate Professor, Geography Department, Northern Illinois University; Paul Miller, Director, DeKalb County Planning, Zoning and Building Department, Donna Prain, High School Biology Teacher; Michael Richolson, District Conservation, USDA NRCS; Al Roloff and Terry Hannon, DeKalb

County Forest Preserve, Amy Burns Walkenbach, Manager, Watershed Management Section, Illinois EPA; Anita Zurbrugg, Program Director, DeKalb County Community Foundation.

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Union Ditch/Virgil Ditch Watershed Steering Committee
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