ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



1021 NORTH GRAND AVENUE EAST, P.O. BOX 19276, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276 – (217) 782-3397 JAMES R. THOMPSON CENTER, 100 WEST RANDOLPH, SUITE 11-300, CHICAGO, IL 60601 – (312) 814-6026

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH, GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS P. SCOTT, DIRECTOR

217/782-3362

JAN - 8 2008

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Cahokia Creek/ Holiday Shores Lake Watershed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Report has been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is available on our website at http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/tmdl/report-status.html This report includes the Responsiveness Summary, which addresses questions and comments submitted during the Stage 3 public comment period.

Paper copies of the TMDL Report are available upon request by contacting Sarah Tadla at 217/558-4455.

The Illinois EPA views TMDLs as a tool for developing water quality based solutions that are incorporated into an overall watershed management approach. The TMDL establishes the link between water quality standards assessment and water quality based control actions. For these control actions to be successful, they must be developed in conjunction with local involvement that incorporates regulatory, voluntary and incentive-based approaches with existing applicable laws and programs.

Some of the voluntary management measures recommended in the TMDL Report can only be implemented through the leadership of local stakeholders within the watershed. In order to assist local stakeholders in implementing these recommendations, we strongly encourage the participation of watershed planning groups. These groups can direct planning efforts for implementing management practices that are both practical and feasible for the watershed.

The Illinois Nonpoint Source Management Program, administered by the Illinois EPA, was developed to meet the requirements of Section 319 in the Clean Water Act (CWA) in order to financially assist watershed planning and implementation efforts. Section 319 focuses on the importance of controlling nonpoint sources of pollution through best management practices and education. The program encourages local entities to develop watershed implementation plans that will identify specific measures to achieve water quality-based objectives. Cost share monetary assistance is available through this program for watershed planning, best management practices implementation, and education. For more information, visit the web site at: http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/financial-assistance/non-point.html

Questions regarding this TMDL watershed can be directed to Jennifer Clarke or me at 217/782-3362. Questions regarding the Illinois Nonpoint Source Management Program can be directed to Amy Walkenbach at 217/782-3362.

Sincerely,

Dean Studer, P.E. Planning Unit Manager

Watershed Management Section

Bureau of Water

UNITED COUNTIES COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS

W. MICHAEL McCREERY, executive director

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ROBERT DURBIN

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TREASURER TONY ARDUINI Please mark your calendar and plan to join us!

UCCI LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

February 26, 2008

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UNITYERSHITY OF ILLINOIS EDUCATION SEMIMAR

February 27, 2008

Our annual reception for members of the Illinois General Assembly will be held at the Sangamo Club, 227 East Adams in Springfield, on Tuesday, February 26, 2008, from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M.

This reception has proven to be a great opportunity to review legislative issues with county board members from across the state and with the members of the Illinois General Assembly. Please join us - encourage your fellow board members to attend - and call your Representative and Senator and ask them to meet you at the reception.

In cooperation with the University of Illinois, Institute of Government and Public Affairs, we will be conducting an educational seminar the following morning, February 27, 2008, also at the Sangamo Club. The program will include a general session of interest to you as a local elected official and will assist you in dealing with those tough issues you face every day as an elected county board member.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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FEBRUARY 26-27, 2008

UCCI LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION and

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EDUCATION SEMINAR

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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TAZEWELL DAVID ZIMMERMAN

WASHINGTON DAVID MEYER

WHITESIDE TONY ARDUINI

Legislative Reception

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February 26 5:00-7:00 P.M. Sangamo Club 227 East Adams Street Springfield, Illinois

University of Illinois Education Seminar

February 27 8:30-12:00 Noon Sangamo Club 227 East Adams Street Springfield, Illinois

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Please note there is no fee for attendance at either of these events.

Hotel reservations are your responsibility.

UCCI will pay member attendees of the seminar \$75.00 for prior night's lodging, of their choice, with a limit of five rooms per county.

Government rates may be available at the following hotels

State House Inn, 101 East Adams - 217-528-5100

President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, 701 East Adams – 217-544-8800 (formerly known as Renaissance Hotel)

Hilton Springfield, 7th and Adams - 217-789-1530



Rod R. Blagojevich

Jack Lavin, Director

Roxanne Nava, Assistant Director

Central Region E-Letter

January 22, 2008

<u>Latest News</u> | <u>Legislative Update</u> | <u>Grants Opportunities</u> | <u>Training and Events</u> Helpful Links | <u>Contact us</u>

Regional Feature

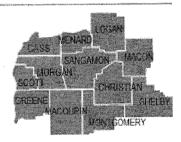
Regional Economic Development Names Interim Board of Directors

 Regional Economic Development for Greene, Jersey, Macoupin and Montgomery counties is moving closer to reality with the formation of an interim board of directors that is currently laying the foundation of the group. Meeting before Christmas, the 16-member board elected Macoupin County member Lea Hudson as the interim board chair and quickly set goals, and a timeline for the board...more

Latest News

Gov. Blagojevich applauds General Assembly for approving plan to avert CTA doomsday and provide free public transportation to seniors...more

Illinois Lottery Launches Golden Tee Instant Ticket
Illinois leads the nation in partnership with locally-owned firm for newest game...more



Contact Us:

Shari Albrecht — Business Relationship Manager Shari.Albrecht@illlinois.gov

Links for You:

Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

DCEO Business Development

Illinois Business Portal

Illinois Entrepreneurship Network

Buy Illinois Network

Affordable Health Care For All

IEN Connect

II Treasurer - Programs and

<u>Services</u>

Federal Business Opportunities

Topics included in January 14, 2008 IEN Connect

USDA Rural Development

DIGITAL DIVIDE PROGRAM – 2008, SBA 504 LOAN PROGRAM, NEW TBED ENTREPRENEURSHIP INITIATIVES, NEW FEATURES – BUSINESS.GOV, WEBSITE OF THE WEEK - www.zopa.com, RESOURCE OF THE WEEK - CenterConnect, MOVES AND NEWS...more

Location One

Illinois Clean Energy Foundation

Federal Regulatory Alerts Webpage:

Illinois Depart of Agriculture

Illinois Finance Authority

Illinois Municipal League

DNR Grants

Legislative Update

PROPOSED STATE OF ILLINOIS RULES AFFECTING SMALL BUSINESS

Following are proposed rules of possible interest to small businesses published in the January 4, 2008 *Illinois Register*. During the 45-day comment period, individuals have an opportunity to express their support or opposition to the rule...more

Grants Opportunities

Community Wireless Broadband Pilot Application...more

Bridging The Digital Divide Grants...more

IDNR Announces Biodiversity Field Trip Grant Program ... more

Bicycle Trail Grant Applications are being Accepted ... more

Illinois Zero Waste Schools Grant Program ...more

2008 Rain Garden Initiative Grant...more

Grants ...more

Training and Events

GET YOUR TAXES DONE FREE! January 27 - February 10...more

Illinois Nature Preserves Commission will Host Public Meeting

The Illinois Nature Preserves Commission will meet on Thurs., Jan. 31 at the IDNR Headquarters, One Natural Resources Way, on the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield at 10 a.m. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, phone 217/785-8686.

DCEO to Host Workshops to Explain the Bridging The Digital Divide Grant Program

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 15, 2008

Several information sessions will be held to outline the parameters of the application. Attendance is not required but is recommended. The information sessions will be held at the locations and times listed below. The information sessions are open to the public and reservations are not required. Please note that photo identification may be required by building security. Central Illinois Workshops are scheduled for the following locations:

January 23, 2008: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, DCEO Springfield, 620 East Adams Street, 1st Floor Theatre, Springfield, Illinois

February 1, 2008: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Will County Government Office, 302 N. Chicago Street, 2nd Floor , Joliet, Illinois

Copies of the funding application may be obtained via download on the Department's web site at

http://www.illinoisbiz.biz/dceo/Bureaus/Technology/Technology+Grants+Programs/1-Eliminate+the+Digital+Divide.htm

.Printed copies of the application are available upon request. Questions and requests pertaining to this program should be directed to John Barr, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, 100 West Randolph Suite 3-400, Chicago, IL 60601, Telephone: (312) 814-2259 or via e-mail john.w.barr@illinois.gov.

Starting Your Own Business Seminar

Starting Your Business in Illinois" seminar will be held February 6, 2008 at Illinois Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at University of Illinois Extension from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The SBDC is located at 2525 Federal Drive, Suite 1105, in Decatur.

Topics to be discussed:

- Reasons to Start a Business
- Evaluation: Do You Have What It Takes?
- · Home Based Business Criteria
- Sources of Funding
- Understanding Your Market
- Deciding on a Legal Entity for Your Business
- Naming & Registering Your Business

Seminar sponsors include the SBDC and Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce. Al Luchetti, director and extension educator, will be the speaker. Seating is limited, so preregistration is requested. The registration fee is \$20.00 per person. Phone 217/875-4004 or visit www.extension.uiuc.edu/sbdc. ...more

STILL TIME TO REGISTER.....Workshop Offered: Strategies for Building Locally Based Food Systems in Illinois Communities

A one-day workshop for anyone interested in strengthening their community and its economy by creating a vibrant local food system . . . including economic development directors, agricultural producers, landowners, elected and appointed officials . . . all are invited! TWO dates at TWO locations are being offered:

February 11th, 2008 Starved Rock Lodge State Park, Utica Illinois or February 13th, 2008, University of Illinois Springfield, Illinois

This workshop will introduce a newly developed resource guide on building local food systems for both rural and urban communities. This "how to" process outlines, step by step, how to encourage a local food system and provides Illinois examples of success. Participants will learn to:

- 1) Assess the state of the food system in their region,
- 2) Access existing knowledge about local food system activities and initiatives in Illinois,
- 3) Identify activities and projects that can help communities get started in building a locally based food system, and
- 4) Explore roles for stakeholders in the food system.

The cost is \$30 per person and covers lunch (featuring local food), snacks and beverages and a copy of the Resource Guide, "Beyond the Farmers' Market: Planning for Local Food Systems." Registration is limited to 40 at each site, so please register soon. Deadline to register is FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2008. To register, contact: Dee (Laboratory for Community and Economic Development staff) at 217.244.0120 or deedavis@u

2008 Environmental Workshops Continue

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Small Business Environmental Assistance Program along with the Illinois EPA, Department of Public Health, Emergency Management Agency, Department of Natural Resources and numerous industry co-

sponsors will be holding eight workshops around the state in January - March to educate the construction industry and other related industries about requirements for asbestos, lead, radon, mold, floodplains, endangered species and safety and health. In addition, participants will learn about recycling options and energy efficient building. Commercial & Residential Contractors, Demolition Contractors, Realtors, Property Managers, Building Maintenance Providers, Architects, Home Inspectors, Local Building & Zoning Officials & Inspectors are urged to attend. A \$35 nonrefundable fee will be charged to cover meal expenses.

Remaining workshops will be held from 8:30-4:30 in the following cities on the dates below:

February 7, 2008 Springfield February 20, 2008 Joliet February 26, 2008 Moline February 27, 2008 East Peoria March 4, 2008 Downers Grove March 5, 2008 Arlington Heights

Registration and location details may be found at www.ienconnect.com/enviro. If you have questions or would like to register for one of the workshops, please contact the Illinois Small Business Environmental Assistance Helpline at 800.252.3998, or send an e-mail to dceo.sbeap@illinois.gov.

The Illinois Office of Trade & Investment Infrastructure Trade Mission to China March 2008

The Illinois Office of Trade & Investment (OTI) would like to invite you to join the Infrastructure Trade Mission to Guangzhou, Shanghai, Shenyang, and Beijing, China in March 2008. The sectors include environmental technology and architecture design services...more

Greetings from the Illinois SBDC International Trade Center!

Is your business establishing or expanding its international trade? If so, invest five minutes in giving the International Trade Center (ITC) a call today. The ITC is a not-for-profit export information center designed to assist Illinois businesses successfully sell their products/services abroad. We are funded by the Illinois Department of Commerce and SIUE to serve exporters in the 45 southernmost counties of our state. Here are some of the ways the ITC can help to promote your firm in the global marketplace:

- One-on-one free export counseling;
- International market analysis to identify the most advantageous trading opportunities;

- Identification of foreign buyers, agents and/or distributors through trade leads;
- Seminars on international business practices, export procedures, distribution strategies, and

methods of payment, as well as the latest exporting trends;

- Incoming and outgoing business missions, providing opportunities to establish valuable international business contacts and prospective customers;
- Export finance assistance in coordination with the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EX-IM Bank) and SBA's Export Working Capital Program (EWCP); and
- Access to extensive export trade reference material and the International Trade Data Bank.

The Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at SIUE is one of six Illinois trade centers that altogether contributed to over \$100 million in export sales in 2006. And with five additional ITCs, two NAFTA Opportunity Centers (resource centers specializing in export opportunities to Mexico and Canada) and ten foreign offices, virtually no foreign market or trade related question goes unanswered.

We will be more than happy to explain more in detail how the International Trade Center at SIUE can assist in helping your business grow internationally and answer any questions you may have. Feel free to contact us at (618) 650-3851 or by e-mail at International-Trade-Center@siue.edu. You can also visit our Web site at www.siue.edu/ITC. We look forward to working with you. Happy Exporting!