

Nine Elements of a Watershed-based Plan

To be successful, watershed-based plans have to address the nine minimum elements required by the EPA. The elements are as follows:

- I. Identify Causes and Sources of Pollution
- II. Estimate Load Reductions Expected from Best Management Practices
- III. Describe the Nonpoint Source Best Management Practices
- IV. Identify the Technical and Financial Assistance Needed to Implement the Plan
- V. Develop and Information and Education Component
- VI. Develop a Schedule for Implementing the Nonpoint Source Best Management Practices in the Plan
- VII. Describe Interim Measurable Milestones to Monitor Management Measures
- VIII. Develop Criteria to Measure Progress of Loading Reductions
- IX. Develop a Monitoring Component that Evaluates the Efficacy of Management Measures

Hurricane Creek

Watershed-based Plan



Herrin Old Lake

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What is a Watershed-based Plan?

A watershed-based plan is a collaborative effort that addresses nonpoint source pollution to improve water quality. These plans are prepared to: assess existing conditions, identify pollutants, develop best management practices (BMPs) to address pollutants, determine costs, and develop implementation and evaluation indicators.

Hurricane Creek Watershed-based Plan

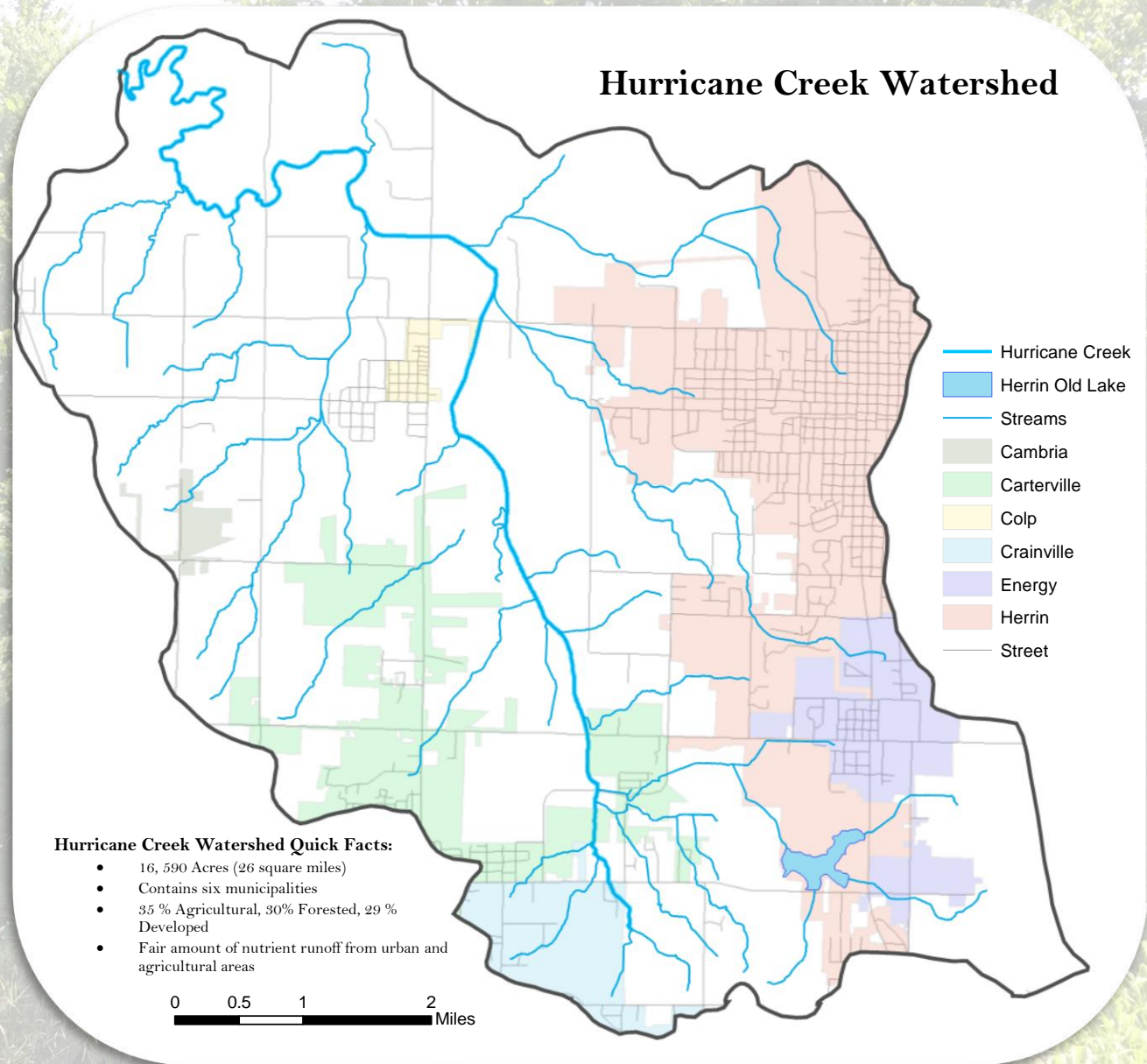
Planning efforts began in 2015 with the development of a watershed inventory. This characterized the watershed by defining many components such as: geography, soils, demographics, land use, streambank and lake assessment, and water quality assessment.

An initial stakeholders meeting was held to raise awareness of planning efforts and to garner membership of the Hurricane Creek Watershed Council. The Council provided guidance throughout the planning phase including recommending BMPs to address water quality impairments.

Two waterbodies in the watershed have been placed on the EPA's 303d list of Impaired Waters. Hurricane Creek has been placed on the list because of problems with sedimentation and siltation. Herrin Old Lake exhibits many other impairments including: mercury, PCBs, total suspended solids, phosphorus, and algae. These impairments are largely due to agricultural practices and urban runoff.

To improve water quality in the waterbodies and the watershed, BMPs were suggested. Some of the proposed BMPs include: streambank and shoreline stabilization, filter strips, and grassed waterways. BMP implementation is dependent on Section 319(h) funding under the Clean Water Act.

Hurricane Creek Watershed



Applying for CWA Section 319(h) Funding:

Applications for grants that address nonpoint source pollution can be awarded through Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act. Section 319(h) grants generally have a 60/40 match. This means that the EPA can cover up to 60 percent of the grant costs while the applicant is responsible for the remaining 40 percent.

If you are interested in plan implementation, CWA Section 319(h) funding, or would like more information, please contact Tyler Carpenter at the Greater Egypt Regional Planning and Development Commission. Contact information can be found on the back of this document.