



# Big Creek Watershed Plan

Public Workshop #2

December 8, 2009





**5:30 p.m.**

**Open House**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Presentation : Introduction to the Big Creek  
Watershed Plan**

*A question and answer period will follow each presentation*

**6:05 p.m.**

**Water Quantity Presentation**

**6:20 p.m.**

**Water Quality Presentation**

**6:35 p.m.**

**Natural Heritage Presentation**

**6:50 p.m.**

**Questions and Answers**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Breakout Session**

**7:35 p.m.**

**Reporting/Group Discussion**

**8:00 p.m.**

**Next Steps and Adjourn**

*Technical Staff will be available following the public meeting  
in order to answer questions.*





# *Steering Committee Membership*

Dr. David Coates, Community Representative

Ed Faucher, Community Representative

Rick Fryer, Town Council/ERCA Board Representative

Carl Gibb, Community Representative

Rick Visser, Ministry of Natural Resources

Teri Gilbert, Ministry of the Environment

Allan Parks, Amherstburg Committee on the Environment

Ari Varsa, Community Representative

Marie-Claire Doyle, Environment Canada

Jackie Hubbs, Steering Committee Co-Chair, Town of Amherstburg

Matthew Child, Steering Committee Co-Chair, Essex Region Conservation Authority



## *What is a watershed?*

A watershed is an area that is drained by a river, creek or stream. Watersheds connect us all – what is done upstream affects downstream locations. We all live downstream from someone else.

In the Essex Region, we have three main watersheds: Lake St.Clair, Lake Erie and the Detroit River. The Big Creek watershed drains to Lake Erie.




## *Why is Watershed Planning Important?*

Watershed planning is important because it helps us to better understand problem areas, focus resource management actions to where they are needed most, and track progress over time. It also helps us to understand which projects are working well, and which are not achieving their desired environmental benefits.



# *Phases in the development of a watershed plan*

*There are four phases to development of the plan:*

- 1) Issue identification, data gathering and understanding of the watershed;*
-  *2) Analysis and development of the plan;*
- 3) Implementation, and;*
- 4) Monitoring.*



# *Water Quantity Presentation*

*Tirupati Bolisetti*

*&*

*Stan Taylor*



# ***Water Quality Presentation***

***Raj Bejankiwar***



# *Natural Heritage Presentation*

*Dan Lebedyk &*

*Dave Martin &*

*Erin Sanders*



## ***Break Out Session Instructions***

1. Divide into groups of 8 to 10
2. Each group needs two volunteers; one to record all comments and one to report on the group's discussion. If no one volunteers, the group facilitator can complete these tasks.
3. Each group should answer the 3 questions provided. Ten minutes should be spent on each question.
4. The group should select one of the questions to report out on.



## *Break Out Session Questions*

1. What best represents the Big Creek Watershed for you? What do you like most about the Big Creek watershed?
2. Based on the information presented tonight, where do you think the Watershed Plan should provide direction, for example habitat restoration, water quality enhancement, education and awareness, etc.?
3. Do you have any recommended changes to the Table of Contents?



## *Next Steps*

1. The feedback received tonight will help to focus priority areas for the development of the Watershed Plan.
2. Additional workshops will be held to obtain further community input throughout the process.