



Glacial Hills Chapter

Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams

Happenings

WEBSITE - WWW.KAWS.ORG

Our Purpose:

The Chapter serves as a clearinghouse for wetlands and riparian areas information and activities, promotes educational opportunities with a variety of targeted audiences, and facilitates project implementation for wetland and riparian area projects within the participating counties.

Our Mission:

To ensure the future of wetlands, streams, and their adjacent riparian areas as an integral part of our Kansas heritage and landscape.

Our Vision:

A public that is well informed and involved in activities that foster the protection, enhancement, and establishment of wetlands and riparian areas in Kansas.

Steering Committee

Gary Satter, Glacial Hills RC&D
Robertta Spencer, Jackson Co CD
Janice Eylar, NRCS
Barb Oltjen, Wolf River
Watershed
Randy Whitaker, KDWP

Membership is free and open to any interested individual, organization or agency interested in wetland and riparian area conservation. For more information on KAWS and its activities please contact:

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October 2 Meeting Review

KAWS Coordinator's Report

Review minutes of the last meeting – John provided a quick review of the items covered at the last meeting on June 14 at the Red Rock Ranch in Jackson County. All action items were completed.

WRAPS update — John provided a handout showing all the WRAPS projects that KAWS had budgeted for statewide. They had to go through each individual WRAPS due to the new KDHE online application for statewide service providers. If statewide service providers wanted funding, they had to work through each of the WRAPS sponsors to be included in their application. He also discussed the \$821,000 new dollars available as of July 1 for implementation through the SCC. Projects will go through the conservation district offices, but the applications had to go through the WRAPS sponsors.

Middle Kansas WRAPS update - John provided an update on the Middle Kansas WRAPS. He also discussed the development of a leadership team and its planned structure. The next phase will involve some assessment and development of the Implementation Plan. The Middle Ks has been approved at \$75,000 and we hope to use about \$20,000 for demo projects in the watershed. John also discussed the 2008 budget request and the targeted areas. The next meeting is scheduled for October 24.

Lower Kansas WRAPS update – This WRAPS has \$60,000 for 2007. Frank Norman was introduced as the new coordinator for the WRAPS and provided the group some background on himself. A kickoff event is being planned for November 2 in Lawrence. The group discussed potential agenda items which include TMDL's, Ks River concerns, urban sprawl, water supply concerns, assessments and modeling, hazardous wastes, and GIS.

Coordinator's Report (cont. from page 1)

Delaware and Missouri WRAPS – Gary Satter provided a short briefing on the Missouri WRAPS kickoff meetings that were held. Marlene Bosworth provided an update on the new application for the Delaware WRAPS, educational programs planned, new multi-county waste coalition being formed, etc. A Delaware WRAPS meeting was being held after lunch in the same meeting room.

Discussion on future of the Glacial Hills Chapter and WRAPS – The group discussed potential options to include dissolving the chapter, continuing on as before or integrating into the WRAPS. The group would like to maintain the chapter and use it as a conduit to coordinate WRAPS efforts in the chapter area. They would like to hold an annual meeting with all the WRAPS located in the chapter to share ideas and concerns.

Action Needed: John will run this idea by the Board at the November meeting.

Chapter projects – A project spreadsheet was handed out and discussed. Three new projects were added to the list and ranked by the Steering Committee. (Hills LWS, William LWS and Macha buffer project). The Hayworth project has been approved for funding since the last meeting and is underway. The Macha project has been approved through the Middle Ks WRAPS so can be removed from the chapter list.

Update on Current grants and project dollars – John discussed the current WRAPS dollars available for each WRAPS in the chapter area. Gary Satter provided a

Chapter Business

briefing on the Watershed Improvement Grant that is underway in the watershed. Saving Time and Money booklets and CD's were provided to those needing some.

Farm Bill – John provided a briefing on the changes being recommended on the new farm bill. There are plans to combine many of the programs and try to simplify the processes. There is a new site where you can keep track of the farm bill as it progresses. (www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome)

Update on KAWS activities – The CPR III Conference was held on September 20-22 in Overland Park. John spent some time discussing the Rapanos decision made by the Supreme Court, which will affect wetlands US wide.

John discussed the new Executive Director position that is open for KAWS. If you know of someone that is interested, please let him know right away.

Partner Updates – No partner updates were provided.

Next meeting dates – **The next meeting date will be determined by the Steering Committee. We will plan to have it in the Spring with WRAPS Coordination being the primary objective.**

We would like to send special thanks out to the Jackson County Conservation District for hosting the meeting.

Upcoming Chapter meetings, activities, and events

NEXT Glacial Hills Chapter meeting – To be announce next spring

Middle Ks WRAPS meeting – Oct 24
Delaware WRAPS meeting – Dec 5

Lower Ks Kickoff – November 2, Lawrence
KAWS Board meeting – November 5-6