

Serving Boone, DeKalb, and Ogle Counties

Extension Advisory Council Agenda
Natural Resources, Environment, and Energy (NREE)
March 26, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Our Mission: To help our communities recognize their sustainability is directly related to the sustainability of their natural resources.

1. **Welcome** – Peggy Anesi, Educator, NREE
2. **Members**–
 - Boone County –Barb Wych – **Suggested Boone Co. Health Dept. and Boone SWCD**
 - DeKalb County – Jodi Gudewicz, *Anita Zurbrugg*, and Jeff Woodyatt
 - Ogle County – (SWCD not likely available)
3. **NREC Staff Update** -
 - **Summer Internship** filled – Sophia Moran, Rockton. U of I Student
 - **DeKalb County Forest Preserve is creating an extra help position to cover the school year for the 2025-26 school year.** – Please consider people you know, an active retiree.
4. **NREE Programming and Updates** –
 - **KinderFest**– April - DeKalb School District.
We will see all their kindergarteners over four days at Russell Woods.
Dates: April 22, 24, 29, and May 1. Rain dates are May 6 and 13.
 - **NatureFest** April 26, 2025 – Volunteers always needed, reach out to Marian Termini @ NREC 815-784-2000.
 - **Mother’s Day Flower Walk** – FREE - May 10 at NREC (no need to RSVP)
 - Guided walks on the hour between 10 a.m. and last walk at 1 p.m.
 - **Summer Camp** – June, July, and August
5. **Grants** -
 - Wheaton Franciscan Grant – DeKalb
 - Paddle & Learn, a train-the-trainer for teachers will be week of July 14, 2024
6. **Annual Agreements** –
 - Forest Preserve
 - Soil and Water
 - Solid Waste

7. Watershed Programs Update for 2025

- Watershed Stewards (**Boone last fall, DeKalb 2025**)
- Watershed Stewardship for Leaders – **DeKalb 2025 with Ogle guests -WHO**
- Rainscaping – **Boone/DeKalb combined** – best way to reach people?

8. Suggestions from the Council –

- Additional members -Who can reach out to someone? Community water education and youth environmental education are the most relative areas.

9. Next Steps –

- Paddle & Learn – Jodi?
- Review watershed organizations and their marketing-
 - by April 17
- Review other watershed organizations – media use (i.e. what is working) – by April 17

10. Discuss 2024 meeting dates and times

- July 2 @ 6:30 pm via Zoom (thoughts due to the holiday later in the week)
- **September TBD @ 6:00 pm in person entire unit advisory. Location TBD**
- December 3 @ 6:30 pm via Zoom or face to face.

My contact information:

Peggy S. Anesi

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If you need reasonable accommodation to participate, please contact the meeting coordinator.
Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow time to meet your needs.

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