



## Lower DuPage River Watershed Pollutant Load Analysis

### Frequently Asked Questions



We have received questions about the modeling RFP and in an effort to receive the best, most directed proposals possible, we have prepared a list of the questions and the answers to them below. In general, this portion of the Lower DuPage River Watershed Planning effort is seen as expert driven. The stakeholders in the watershed would like to hear recommendations from the consulting community on how to best complete the modeling portion of the watershed planning process. While we have set certain parameters to guide the proposal and consultant selection process, within those parameters what is the best way in which to accomplish the modeling task? If you were given a clean slate as a modeler, how would you accomplish the pollutant load analysis task?

#### **What temporal resolution should the modeling output be in?**

Temporal resolution should be based on the consultant's recommendations. We understand that temporal resolution, like many other aspects of modeling, is largely dependent on the data that goes into the model. There is a wide range of possible temporal resolution for the output. We would like something useful and as accurate as possible. For example, estimating chloride levels on an annual basis doesn't provide us with enough information to changing loadings, but chloride levels on an hourly basis is over the top.

#### **What GIS capabilities do you have?**

We are currently doing GIS work ourselves using ArcMap 9.3.1. We do not have spatial analyst, but if this would be useful we may purchase it in the future. It is possible that we might seek consultant assistance with GIS in the future.

#### **What pollutants are you interested in seeing modeled?**

TMDLs are being developed for chloride, fecal coliform, silver and DO. Pollutants to be modeled should be based on the consultant's recommendations. We are interested in the pollutants that TMDLs are being developed and other pollutants that are likely to be in the watershed given the dominance of agricultural and residential land uses.

#### **Why is the RFP for \$30,000?**

Of the entire budget for the Lower DuPage River Watershed Planning project, a certain amount of money has been allocated to hire an outside consultant to use their expertise to help us accomplish the task. The Coalition has decided that we would like the modeling effort to give us as much information as possible given the limited data we have to input into the model. The modeling effort must satisfy the requirement for the nine elements of watershed plans for Clean Water Act Section 319. The remainder of the money allocated for consulting in the project budget will be used to complete a baseline data collection effort.