

Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	2
Table of Contents.....	4
List of Figures.....	6
List of Tables.....	7
Acknowledgements.....	8
Introduction.....	9
Rationale.....	10
Justification.....	12
Study Area.....	13
Process.....	15
Background & Inventory.....	19
Environmental Characteristics.....	20
Geology.....	20
Soils.....	21
Hydrology.....	25
Watersheds.....	25
Hydrography.....	25
Wetlands.....	30
Water Quality.....	30
Climate.....	33
Natural Region.....	34
Ecoregions.....	34
Flora & Fauna.....	37
History.....	39
Land Use.....	41
Recreational Opportunities.....	46
Transportation Inventory.....	49
Existing Utilities.....	54
Demographics.....	57
Introduction.....	58
Delaware County Population Trends.....	58
Delaware County Age Distribution.....	59
Delaware County Education Statistics.....	60



Delaware County Labor Force Statistics.....	62
Delaware County Income & Poverty Statistics.....	62
Delaware County Employment Statistics.....	63
Delaware County Housing Statistics.....	64
Delaware County Agriculture Statistics.....	66
Perceptions.....	69
Surveying the Public.....	70
Focus Groups.....	73
Conservation & Environment Focus Group.....	74
Economic Development Focus Group.....	76
Recreation Focus Group.....	78
The Public Meeting.....	80
Master Plan.....	83
Mission Statement.....	84
Goals & Objectives.....	84
In-depth Explanation of the Objectives.....	88
Goal A & Objectives.....	88
Goal B & Objectives.....	90
Goal C & Objectives.....	100
Goal D & Objectives.....	104
Goal E & Objectives.....	107
Goal F & Objectives.....	111
Land Use Comparison.....	114
Implementation.....	117
Conclusion.....	127
Appendices.....	131
A: Water Quality Assessment of Prairie Creek Reservoir.....	132
B: Sewage Disposal and Soil Characteristics.....	146
C: Endangered Species List for Delaware County.....	155
D: Conservation Practices from NRCS FOTG.....	157
E: NRCS Conservation Practice Standard- Filter Strip.....	161
F: Steering Committee S.W.O.T. Analysis.....	168
G: The Public Survey.....	170
H: Mail Back Survey Results.....	174
I: Online Survey Results.....	180
J: Public Meeting Sign-In.....	184
K: Public Meeting Results.....	189
L: Newspaper Articles.....	198



List of Figures

Figure 1: Study Area.....	14
Figure 2: Delaware County’s Geologic Eras.....	20
Figure 3: Soil Productivity Capacity Classification.....	22
Figure 4: Soil Drainage Capacity Classification.....	23
Figure 5: Soil Rated for Septic Tank Absorption Fields.....	24
Figure 6: Watershed Boundaries in Indiana.....	27
Figure 7: Hydrography of the Prairie Creek Watershed.....	28
Figure 8: Wetlands in the Prairie Creek Watershed.....	29
Figure 9: Sampling Points for the WRWP Phase 1.....	31
Figure 10: Sampling Points for the 2005-2006 study conducted by Dr. Jarka Popovicova.....	32
Figure 11: Natural Regions of Indiana.....	35
Figure 12: Ecoregions of Indiana.....	36
Figure 13: Fish found in Prairie Creek Reservoir.....	38
Figure 14: Pre-reservoir topographic map from 1952.....	40
Figure 15: Land Use breakdown in the Prairie Creek Watershed.....	41
Figure 16: Land Cover in the Prairie Creek Watershed area.....	42
Figure 17: Zoning in the Prairie Creek Watershed area.....	43
Figure 18: Development in the Prairie Creek Watershed area.....	44
Figure 19: Prairie Creek Park Facilities and Recreational Opportunities.....	47
Figure 20: Recreational Trails and Routes in the Prairie Creek area.....	48
Figure 21: Roads in Delaware County.....	50
Figure 22: Road Inventory.....	51
Figure 23: Scheduled Improvements through the Transportation Improvement Plan.....	53
Figure 24: Existing Utilities in the Prairie Creek Watershed area.....	54
Figure 25: Aerial of Perry Twp. and part of Liberty Twp. (2005).....	55
Figure 26: Delaware County Population Trends and Projections.....	58
Figure 27: Delaware County 2004 Population Estimates by Age.....	59
Figure 28: Liberty-Perry School Corporation Population Trends.....	61
Figure 29: Change in Number of Farms in Delaware County between 1997 & 2002.....	66
Figure 30: Change in Farm Acreage in Delaware County between 1997 & 2002.....	67
Figure 31: Recommendations by the Conservation / Environment Focus Group.....	75
Figure 32: Recommendations by the Economic Development Focus Group.....	77
Figure 33: Recommendations by the Recreation Focus Group.....	79
Figure 34: Viewshed from the “ring roads”.....	97



Figure 35: Access and Gateways to Prairie Creek Park.....	110
Figure 36: Existing Land Use.....	114
Figure 37: Prairie Creek Master Plan Land Use.....	115

List of Tables

Table 1: Monthly 1971-2000 Mean Temperature Normals for Muncie, IN.....	33
Table 2: Monthly 1971-2000 Precipitation for Muncie, IN.....	34
Table 3: Delaware County Education Statistics.....	60
Table 4: Estimates for Indiana School Districts, 2003.....	60
Table 5: Delaware County Labor Force Statistics.....	62
Table 6: Delaware County Income and Poverty Statistics.....	62
Table 7: Delaware County Employment and Earnings Statistics.....	63
Table 8: Delaware County 2000 General Housing Characteristics.....	64
Table 9: Delaware County 2000 Population, Area, Housing Units, and Density Characteristics.....	64
Table 10: Delaware County 2000 Occupied Housing Characteristics...	65
Table 11: Delaware County Agriculture Statistics.....	66



Publication Notice

This program is the result of tax supported initiatives and as such is not subject to copyright. It has been financed in part through grants from the United States Department of Transportation and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Acknowledgements

Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Plan Commission

David Howell – President Lance Lillie – Vice President
Marta Moody – Executive Director Tom DeWeese - Attorney
Gary Alexander Julius Anderson John Brooke Dave Clamme Michael Denton
Tom Jarvis John Kelley Alison Quirk Deane Rundell Bill Whitehead

Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District

Wayne Bothel – Chairman Don Black – Vice Chairman
Dave Gowin (outgoing member) Dennis Nixon
Ron Orebaugh (incoming member) Doug Scholer

Prairie Creek Steering Committee

* Executive Committee Members
° Project Coordinators, ☞ Project Manager
π Document/Graphic Design & Cartography

Don Black - SWCD	Chanette Harris - Dry Dock Marina at Prairie Creek, Property Owner
Ron Bonham - Muncie Parks	Richard Huyck - Bureau of Water Quality
Angie Brown ° - SWCD	Marta Moody * - DMMPC
Dave Clamme - County Extension Agent	Jarka Popovicova * - BSU (Natural Resources and Environmental Management)
Charles Conwell - Farmer, Property Owner	Jan Van Matre-Reed - Board of Realtors
Jim Craig - Perry Elementary School Corporation	Lorey Stinton ° ☞ π - DMMPC
Jon Creek * - Sierra Club	Dave Wallace - Property Owner
Fred Daniel ° - DMMPC	Joshua Williams - Delaware County Health Department
Michael Denton - County Engineer	Larry Wood - Indiana American Water Company
Dave Ferguson * - BSU (Center for Media Design/Landscape Architecture), Cardinal Greenway	

Specialty Consultants

Barry Banks – Red Tail Conservancy	Mike Lunsford – Coldwell Banker Lunsford Real Estate
Rick Conrad – Bureau of Water Quality (Aquatic Biologist)	Jim Mansfield – Visitor’s Bureau
Mike Hughes - SWCD	Amy Gregg – BSU (Natural Resources and Environmental Management)
David LeBlanc – BSU (Biology)	

