

Watershed Oversight Committee Report

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The McLean County Watershed Oversight Committee met on March 12 at Davis Lodge, Lake Bloomington. Following are highlights of that meeting:

- The demonstration site at Lake Evergreen is nearing completion and will include 600 feet of shoreline.
- Master Naturalists are assisting with developing an interpretive trail at COMLARA Park. It will include natural plantings and include a yet-to-be constructed bridge. Brochures will be printed for promotion and for an educational guide.
- Friends of EverBloom have met a few times. Committees addressing watershed and erosion, dock repair/construction and vegetation have been formed. Anyone wanting to become a member of the organization should contact Jackie Kraft at McLean County Soil and Water in Normal.
- Items and new projects suggested included: forest restoration to control invasive trees and restore ephemeral woodlands, a survey to gauge the use of Lake Bloomington and Evergreen Lake by visitors, possible recycling roll off at the Lake Bloomington water plant, and investigate grant opportunities for planting and conservation training.
- The committee has decided to begin reviewing both watershed plans for Lake Bloomington and Evergreen Lake for possible future updates.
- Explored sponsoring a one-day symposium for the public updating them on progress in the watersheds. Dates in late Fall 2013 will be discussed for this event.