



CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
ENGINEERING DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Marlin and Members of the City Council
FROM: William R. Gray, Public Works Director
Bradley M. Bennett, Assistant City Engineer
Justin M. Swinford, Civil Engineer II
DATE: September 21, 2017
RE: 2017 Boneyard Creek Community Day – Urbana Makeup Date

The purpose of this report is to inform the Mayor and members of the City Council of the Boneyard Creek Community Day – Urbana Makeup Date. The main community-wide event scheduled for April 29, 2017, was canceled due to inclement weather. The community-wide event could not be rescheduled; however, Urbana staff decided to schedule a smaller-scale cleanup in Urbana. Seventeen volunteers turned out on Saturday August 5, 2017, at the Boneyard Creek Crossing for the 9 a.m. to noon makeup date.

One group of volunteers marked 44 storm drains with medallions that said, “No Dumping – Drains to Creek.” Another group walked the Boneyard Creek from Mathews Street to Griggs Street and hauled trash from the creek. Two shoreline miles were covered and roughly three cubic yards of trash were hauled out of the creek. The creek trash included: rebar, steel sign posts, plastic pipe, plastic conduit, a student iCard, realtor signs, construction signs, netting, rope, barbed wire, paper trash, eyeglass case, cigarette butts, metal chair, metal step stool and waterlogged medium density fiberboard (MDF). Some representative photos of the cleanup are included in Attachment A.

The 2018 community-wide event will occur on Saturday, April 7th with a rain date on Saturday, April 21st.

Organizers for the community-wide Boneyard Creek Community Day event include the City of Urbana, City of Champaign, the University of Illinois, Urbana Park District, Champaign Park District, Prairie Rivers Network, Village of Savoy, Champaign County Soil & Water Conservation District, Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club, Champaign Design & Conservation Foundation, Della Perrone Photography, Farnsworth Group and Fehr Graham. The City of Urbana contributes staff time, trash pick-up kits, storm drain marking kits, and T-shirts for the event.

Thank you for your support of this activity.

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Attachment A

