

The pages in this document were taken from the "Millers Creek Watershed Improvement Plan" published in April 2004. The entire document can be found at <http://www.aamillerscreek.org/Findings.htm>.

# Millers Creek Watershed Improvement Plan

**Excerpt Showing an Example of How to  
Document Watershed Goals and Objectives**

**April 2004**

## **6. IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

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The mission of the MCAT is to work together to establish and implement socially, environmentally, and economically sustainable watershed management standards and practices that will improve the quality of the Millers Creek Watershed. The emphasis of this mission statement is based on two broad goals for the watershed: 1) creation of sustainable watershed standards and practices, and 2) improvement of the watershed and the creek.

This Millers Creek Watershed Improvement Plan contains a core list of watershed improvement opportunities. Rather than first identifying a select set of specific implementation projects, the project team identified as many reasonable opportunities for improving Millers Creek and then prioritized a subset of those opportunities for the ten-year implementation plan.

The use of the term opportunity is a deliberate characterization of the activities identified in this plan. This plan and the identified opportunities are not mandatory actions that stakeholders must implement, but rather a set of recommended options for achieving the plan objectives. The costs for implementing all the recommended opportunities currently exceed the funding capacity of all watershed stakeholders. Implementation, particularly significant structural best management practices (BMPs), will have to rely on leveraging opportunities as they arise, both from outside funding sources and in response to changing circumstances within the watershed such as redevelopment or property ownership transitions.

Both qualitative and quantitative assessment measures were used to evaluate the feasibility and impacts of proposed improvements. The qualitative assessment judged feasibility on the adversity of technological challenges, engineering design requirements (e.g., level of complexity), property ownership and management, public acceptance, and potential site constraints. The calibrated hydrology, hydraulic and water quality models were used to quantify the extent to which the flow and water quality objectives were met by the major improvements identified by this plan.

For the quantitative assessment, five alternative evaluation scenarios were developed. The first alternative scenario was simply an assumed, completely built-out condition. The next three alternative scenarios were variations of deployment strategies for a series of BMPs in the watershed. The fifth alternative scenario consisted of analysis and consideration of various stream bed and stream bank restoration scenarios.

The improvement opportunities were presented to the public during the last Millers Creek public meeting on July 23, 2003. The public was asked to discuss the improvement opportunities with the project team and provide feedback. MCAT received some encouraging discussion with workshop participants on specific recommendations. One specific recommendation from the workshop participants that the project team worked to re-emphasize is recreational opportunities. The Millers Creek action team will continue to provide the public with opportunities to comment and work on specific projects as they are considered for implementation.