



## SPRING CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

*A grassroots stakeholder initiative*

### Agenda

Spring Creek Watershed Association June 19, 2012 Meeting

7:30 AM to 9:00 AM

Patton Township Municipal Building

Tuesday – 7:30 AM

Attendees: Kristen Saake Blunk, Barbara Fisher, Bob Eberhart, Paul Bartley, Bob Donaldson, Bill Sharp, Mike Schmidt, Ann Donovan, Rob Cooper, and Nick Schipanski

Discussion focused on development of formal proposal for development of a Spring Creek watershed Recharge Map. After discussion, Kristen circulation draft proposal for comment. Final proposal follows:

**Project/Product:** Spring Creek Watershed Recharge Map

**Purpose:** The Spring Creek Watershed Recharge Map will identify the areas of recharge across the entire watershed based upon scientific and technical consideration of four core components: slope, land use, soils, and bedrock. For the purposes of this effort, “recharge” is defined as the return of surface water (stemming from precipitation, resultant runoff, and land-based activities) to the underground aquifers that supply essential base flow to area streams and serve as the primary source of drinking water for human consumption in the watershed.

The Spring Creek Watershed Recharge Map will be of value to the community for several reasons including:

- Education of decision makers, including residents, about the connections between surface water and land activities and groundwater.
- Considerations by municipalities, residents, and developers for future land use choices.
- Reliance of our community on groundwater as a source of drinking water.

**Limitations** The Spring Creek Watershed Recharge Map will identify areas of recharge but will not prioritize important or critical areas and will not provide specific recommendations for protection of recharge areas.

**Approach:** A scientific and technical panel of approximately five individuals will be established to conduct and support the activities necessary for creating the Spring Creek Watershed Map. The steps outlined by the lead scientist who will facilitate this process on behalf of the Spring Creek Watershed Association (Todd Giddings, hydrologist) for the development of the products are:

1. Obtain use of GIS (geographic information system) data layers for current slope, land use, soil series, and bed rock formation

2. Assemble the scientific and technical panel to make necessary science-based decisions on consideration of these components and their relative contributions to facilitating recharge.
3. Create the Spring Creek Watershed Recharge Map.
4. Develop a user-friendly guide to understanding and utilizing the Spring Creek Watershed Recharge Map.
5. Invite scientific and technical review of the product by other area experts prior to product release.