

**APPENDIX B -**

**COMMUNITY INPUT SURVEY RESULTS**

## APPENDIX B – COMMUNITY INPUT SURVEY RESULTS

In early 2021, a survey was distributed to Highland Silver Lake watershed residents for their input to the watershed plan update. The goal of the survey was to determine potential flooding, erosion, or water quality issues in the watershed, determine types of BMPs installed previously by landowners, gauge interest in installing future BMPs, and increase awareness among landowners about the types of grants available for BMP implementation assistance following the completion of the watershed plans.

Only seven people replied to the survey as of October 2021. The low response rate is likely due to a small population living in the watershed, as well as many of the land owners met with the project team in person and provided information. A summary of responses is included in the table below.

*Table B-1. A summary of the 2021 Highland Silver Lake Watershed Community Input Survey results (as of October 2021).*

<b>What type of property was at this address?</b>	
Residential, lot smaller than 5 acres	71.4%
Residential, lot larger than 5 acres	14.3%
Agricultural	14.3%
<b>Has this property been flooded in the last 10 years?</b>	
Yes	28.6%
No	57.1%
N/A	14.3%
<b>What was the cause of flooding that affected this property?</b>	
Heavy rainstorm	100%
Flooding from nearby river, stream, lake, ditch, or pond.	50%
Logjam or other obstruction in nearby river, stream, lake, ditch, or pond	50%
<b>Has your property experienced any erosion or sedimentation issues over the past 10 years?</b>	
Yes	85.7%
No	14.3%
<b>Please identify the types of erosion on your property.</b>	
Gully erosion	66.7%
Erosion in cropland	83.3%
Streambank erosion	33.3%
Stream channel erosion	16.7%
Existing conservation practices not functioning	16.7%
<b>Please identify the types of sedimentation on your property.</b>	
Culverts	16.7%
Road & Field Ditches	16.7%
Grassed waterways	50%
Ponds	33.3%
Other – field drainage tiles	33.3%

Table B-1 continued. A summary of the 2021 Highland Silver Lake Watershed Community Input Survey results (as of October 2021).

<b>Have you experienced any water quality issues (i.e., excess algae in lake) on your property?</b>	
Yes	50%
No	50%
<b>Describe water quality issues</b>	
Excessive moss/algae in ponds, lakes	100%
<b>Have any of the following practices been installed on your property in past 10 years</b>	
Grassed waterways	42.9%
Water and sediment control basins	14.3%
Ponds	0%
Wetlands	0%
Shoreline stabilization	14.3%
Streambank stabilization	0%
Cover crops	14.3%
No-till planting	14.3%
Bioswales	0%
Rain Garden	0%
<b>Did you receive funding assistance to install these practices?</b>	
No	100%
<b>Are you interested in installing any of the following practices on your property?</b>	
Grassed waterways	28.6%
Water and sediment control basins	57.1%
Ponds	28.6%
Wetlands	14.3%
Shoreline stabilization	14.3%
Streambank stabilization	42.9%
Cover crops	28.6%
No-till planting	28.6%
Bioswales	14.3%
Rain Garden	14.3%



# Highland Silver Lake Watershed Plan Update

- Community Input Survey



*City of Highland*

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Highland Silver Lake is the main source of water for residents in the Highland Silver Lake watershed. Studies have shown the lake has been receiving excess sediment from the watershed which is negatively impacting water storage as well as water quality. To identify areas that are experiencing erosion, sedimentation, flooding, and water quality issues which may also be affecting Silver Lake, we ask you to please complete the attached or online survey. Typically, an Open House event would be held to gather information but to protect the health of the community the watershed planning group we are conducting a written and online survey. Thank you in advance for taking the time to fill out this survey. Your response is greatly appreciated.

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**

The City of Highland, HeartLands Conservancy, and Andreas Consulting are updating the current Highland Silver Lake Watershed Plan, previously completed in 2011. Watershed plans are created to strategically address stormwater-related issues and provide voluntary recommendations for water quality protection, erosion reduction, and flood mitigation efforts.

Watershed plans are an effective way of attracting funding for stormwater solutions. In November 2018, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded HeartLands Conservancy a nearly \$500,000 grant with additional funding from the City of Highland, to implement projects that address water quality and stormwater issues in the Highland Silver Lake watershed. To ensure the Highland Silver Lake Watershed can receive additional funding in the future, the plan must be updated approximately every ten years and landowner participation is critically important to completing an accurate watershed plan.

## **PUBLIC INPUT:**

To ensure completion of a successful watershed plan, community input is needed to identify all the problem areas as well as practices that have been installed over the past 10 years. In place of open house events, the watershed planning group is sending out this survey for residents to complete online or filling out and mailing in the pages below. **PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS SURVEY BY May 1st, 2021.**

## **YOU CAN COMPLETE THIS SURVEY TWO WAY:**

1. Find out if you are in the watershed using the attached map or online map:
2. Fill out and return the survey via the enclosed return envelope.
3. Fill out the survey online at: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/HighlandSL\\_survey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HighlandSL_survey)

If you have questions of the survey or the watershed planning process, please contact:

*Tyler Burk, HeartLands Conservancy*

*(618) 566-4451 ext. 25*

*Tyler.burk@heartlandsconservancy.org*

# Start Survey

1. Please provide your address. (NOTE: Addresses will be kept confidential. Giving your address allows the planning team to identify locations of flooding. Follow-up information will only be sent if requested below.)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

- Check here if you would like to be put on our mailing list to receive updates and more information.  
Provide your name, phone, and e-mail below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

2. What type of property is at this address? It will be referred to for the rest of the survey as "this property."

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential, lot smaller than 5 acres | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential, lot larger than 5 acres  | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Commercial                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Civic/Institutional/Non-profit |

Other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

3. Has this property been flooded in the last 10 years?  Yes  No

4. If YES, please describe how often your property floods.

5. Did the flood water damage any structures on your property?

Yes  No

6. What was the cause of the flooding that affected this property? (Select all that apply)

- Heavy rainstorm.
- Flooding from nearby river, stream, lake, ditch, or pond.
- Logjam or other obstruction in nearby river, stream, lake, ditch, or pond.
- Pipe (not sewer), culvert, or ditch that was blocked or needs maintenance.
- Lack of drainage facilities (swales, ditches, storm sewers, etc.) to drain water from the property.
- Sewer backup.
- I don't know.
- Other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

7. Did you report the flooding to anyone? *(Select all that apply)*

- My city/village.
- My township.
- My insurance company.
- I did not report the flooding to anyone.
- Other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Has your property experienced any erosion or sedimentation issues over the past 10 years?

- YES
- NO

9. If YES, please identify the types of erosion on your property. (Check all that apply)

- Gully erosion (end of waterways, streambanks, other)
- Erosion in cropland (sheet and rill)
- Streambank erosion
- Stream channel erosion
- Erosion on urban property
- Existing conservation practices not functioning
- Other

10. If YES, please identify the types of sedimentation issues on your property. (Check all that apply)

- Culverts
- Road & Field ditches
- Grassed waterways
- Ponds
- Other

11. Have you experienced any water quality issues (i.e. excess algae in lake) on your property?

- YES
- NO

12. If YES, please describe these water quality issues.

13. Has any of the following practices been installed on your property in the past 10 years? (Check all that apply)

- Grassed Waterways
- Water and Sediment Control Basins
- Ponds
- Wetlands
- Shoreline Stabilization
- Streambank Stabilization.
- Cover Crops
- No-till planting
- Bioswales
- Rain Garden

14. If you checked at least one box, did you receive funding assistance to install these practices (i.e. 319 Grant Money)?

- YES
- NO

15. If YES, please provide a short description of the project.

16. Are you interested in installing any of the following practices on your property? (Check all that apply)

- Grassed Waterways
- Water and Sediment Control Basins
- Ponds
- Wetlands
- Shoreline Stabilization
- Streambank Stabilization.
- Cover Crops
- No-till planting
- Bioswales
- Rain Garden

---

**Thank you for completing this survey! Your time and input is greatly appreciated.**

Survey responses will be used to help shape the recommendations in the Highland Silver Lake Watershed Plan.  
Please return this survey by **March 1, 2021** via the enclosed envelope or to:  
*Highland Silver Lake Survey – 3 North High Street, Belleville, IL 6220*