On the Map: Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region

Mid-America Regional Council
February 18, 2005
Regional Land Cover

Legend

Land Cover Class
- Open Water
- Lowland Hardwood Forest and Woodland
- Marsh and Wet Herbaceous Vegetation
- Deciduous Forest
- Mixed Evergreen - Deciduous Forest
- Deciduous Woodland and Immature Forest
- Grassland
- Urban Forest
- Cultural Grassland
- Agriculture
- Cultivated Land
- Developed Land
- Unclassified

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region
Elements of a Regional Conservation Vision

- **Maps** of important conservation areas
- Multi-purpose **policies** and **plans**
- **Funding** program
- Dynamic geographic **database**
- Strong community **participation**
Goals of the Planning Process

• Develop Regional Data
• Assess Resource Priorities
• Establish Policy Framework
Outcomes of the Planning Process

- Natural Resource Mapping
- Policy and Planning Framework at Local/Regional Scales
- Community Support
Water Resources

- Lakes
- Rivers
- Streams
- Wetlands

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region

MARCC
Mid-America Regional Council
Water Resources

Lakes
Rivers
Streams
Wetlands
100-Year Flood Plain

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region
Water Resources

Lakes
Rivers
Streams
Wetlands
100-Year Flood Plain
Lowland Vegetation

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region

MARCC Mid-America Regional Council
Water Resources Compilation

- Lakes
- Rivers
- Streams
- Wetlands
- 100-Year Flood Plain
- Lowland Vegetation

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region

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Upland Resources

Forests and Woodlands

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region
Upland Resources

Forests and Woodlands
Grasslands

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region
Upland Resources Compilation

- Forests and Woodlands
- Grasslands
- Steep Slopes

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region

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Water and Upland Resources

Water Resources

Upland Resources
Parks and Trails

Parks

Planned & Existing MetroGreen Trails

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region
Conservation Planning Starting Point

Water Resources
Upland Resources
Parks
Planned & Existing MetroGreen Trails

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region
Regional Conservation Planning

- Develop Supportive Regional Policy
- Develop Plans by County and Municipality
- Integrate Plans with Recreation, Economic Development, Stormwater Management, Regional Quality of Life Initiatives
MetroGreen Implementation

Water Resources
Upland Resources
Parks
Planned & Existing MetroGreen Trails
Important Natural Resource Sites

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region

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Conservation Planning Outlook

Water Resources
Upland Resources
Parks
Planned & Existing MetroGreen Trails
Important Natural Resource Sites

On the Map
Conservation Planning for the Kansas City Region
Possible Policy Approaches

**Principle 1:** Think Regionally, Act Locally

**Principle 2:** Protect and Restore Natural Systems

**Principle 3:** Integrate resource protection into development plans and regulations
Possible Policy Approaches

**Principle 1: Think Regionally, Act Locally**

- Consider *watershed* implications
- Think *beyond* the city/county line
- Form basin-wide *partnerships*
- *Connect* habitat remnants and corridors
Possible Policy Approaches

**Principle 2: Protect and Restore Natural Systems**

- Conserve *stream corridors*
- Think *multi-use* rather than single use
- Acquire *high-quality resources*
- Include natural areas on *land use maps*
Possible Policy Approaches

**Principle 3:** Integrate resource protection into development plans and regulations

- Review land use, stormwater, park and transportation **plans**
- Guide development to **suitable** sites
- Reduce **impervious** surface
- Provide **incentives** for conservation design
Thank you:

Missouri Department of Conservation
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Kansas Data Access & Support Center
Missouri Spatial Data Information Service
Kansas Biological Survey/Kansas Applied Remote Sensing

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
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Jackson County, Missouri
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