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Description of Key Projects

Sustainable Watershed Action Team (SWAT)

Through a grant from the Chicago Wilderness Grant, EPSI provides technical assistance to local governments and developers in northeastern Illinois in designing and implementing environmentally sensitive construction projects or developing comprehensive plans. EPSI serves as the coordinator of the SWAT effort, identifying suitable projects, assembling and leading the team of experts, and preparing final reports. Thus far, SWAT has provided the following services:

- Working directly with the development community in reviewing subdivision plans and posing recommendations to promote conservation design
- Providing technical assistance to local governments:
 - Comprehensive planning
 - Annexation agreement language for stormwater management and use of native vegetation
 - Wetland regulations
- Participating in a Community Charettes
- Sponsoring educational workshops for elected officials and technical staff to encourage the adoption of best management practices and to update comprehensive plans. A workshop is currently underway with the Lake County (Illinois) Stormwater Management Commission.

Click here for an article published in the March 2006 [Chicago Wilderness Journal](#), entitled “*The Sustainable Watershed Action Team (SWAT) – Providing Technical Assistance to Local Governments*”. (Note: link to the file: [CWJournalVol4No1-pg19-24](#))