United States Environmental Protection Agency

This document is one of the project summaries from the EPA's Targeted Watershed Grants 2005 Annual Report published in December 2005. The reference number is EPA 840-R-06-001. You can find the entire document at **http://www.epa.gov/twg**.

EPA'S TARGETED WATERSHED GRANTS 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

December 2005

Cumberland Basin

TN, KY

2003 Grantee **UPDATE**

MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

- Increased development and impervious surfaces
- Water shortages due to rapid stormwater runoff
- Excessive sediment and erosion

Collecting macroinvertebrates to measure stream quality.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The Cumberland River Compact's (CRC) Building Outside the Box (BOB) Project promotes sustainable building techniques and low impact development principles through partnerships and education. Developers are embracing the project to such a degree that impacts are expanding beyond the BOB sites to across the region. CRC achievements, thus far, are wide ranging.

- Now successfully launched, BOB boasts a list of participating professions that has grown from 30 to more than 110 members, including many private, public, and nonprofit organizations.
- Sustainable building workshops have been held for more than 60 homebuilders.
- The project has educated a host of professional associations about BOB Model Site Design principles focused on protecting water quality.
- The first certified low-impact house has been built and a multiple-family residence project completed.
- BOB development sites have increased from two to four and a second partnering developer with a 600-acre, 1,000-home development site has joined the project.
- A matching grant to carry out groundbreaking site runoff monitoring on BOB sites has been secured.

A BOB housing development incorporates low impact principles.

- The Southeast Watershed Assistance Network, an interactive website (www.watershed-assistance.net) to transfer success stories and lessons learned to watershed groups and developers in the southeast and across the nation, is up and running.

"We're excited and encouraged about the level of interest and commitment to water-friendly, low-impact housing from the development community."

– Margo Farnsworth
Executive Director
Cumberland River Compact