

Challenges to Sustainability in Central Illinois

Public Seminars Sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church of Urbana

11 a.m. Sundays, April 8, 15 & 22

From the time European immigrants first settled the rich prairies of Central Illinois, the area has offered its inhabitants a viable environment with diverse flora and fauna, highly productive farmland, space for development, and abundant clean water. But the ecosystem that has sustained both the human and natural community is increasingly threatened. This seminar series will explore some of the threats and consider how citizens can engage to reduce them.

Sunday, April 8 - Threatened and Endangered Amphibians and Reptiles in Illinois: Who are they, what habitat changes impact them, and why does their status matter?

Chris A. Phillips, Herpetologist, Illinois Natural History Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois, former member of the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board.

Sunday, April 15 - The Mahomet Aquifer, Our Source of Abundant Fresh Water: Does a growing human population, increasing agricultural and industrial use, and contamination threaten sustainability of the aquifer?

Alan Mahmood, former head of the Groundwater Section of the Illinois State Water Survey and currently a Senior Groundwater Engineer with INTERA Incorporated.

Sunday, April 22 - Development in Champaign County: Does the county's Land Resource Management Plan protect the long-term viability of agriculture and the land resource base, ensure urban development that is compact and contiguous to already developed areas, and guarantee social and economically desirable use of these resources?

Frank Dillman, retired Director of Planning and Community Development with the Champaign Regional Planning Commission and currently a member of the Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals.

In the Fellowship Hall of First Presbyterian Church at 502 West Green Street, Urbana

Parking available in a church lot across Orchard Street from the hall.

www.firstpreschurchofurbana.org

