

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The vision for the Watershed Improvement Plan is to outline priority water quality improvement and education projects, or BMPs that can be implemented by local stakeholders (residents, landowners, municipalities, government agencies, etc.) to achieve the desired result of reducing the nutrient and bacteria concentrations in our surface waters. This document represents the first phase of Watershed Improvement Planning—data collection, reduction, and analysis. It is a preliminary WIP, meaning that it does not yet classify specific sources, project sites, and BMPs to mitigate pollutant loading. Further monitoring and research is planned in order to achieve the original intent of the WIP. While the “final” WIP is to be released in 2013, it is intended to be a “living” document that can be adapted to reflect advancements in knowledge and community efforts to improve water quality.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The WIC will continue planning activities in Phase II. Proposed activities consist of:

1. Targeted water quality monitoring to further narrow down or “bracket” the primary sources of nutrients and bacteria in priority subwatersheds.
2. BMP development, project site identification, and pollutant load reductions. The WIC will partner with Ecosa Institute, a local 501(c)(3) educational institution in Prescott that provides students with curricula in regenerative ecological design, to develop conceptual designs for multiple BMPs and locations within one or more priority subwatersheds.
3. Researching sustainable local funding sources for watershed improvements.
4. Continuing to educate and engage the community through public workshops and the development of a “Creek Care Guide.”
5. Soliciting public comment on the WIP, revising the document to incorporate feedback and knowledge gained through previous activities.