



For Immediate Release
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SETTLEMENT SECURES NEEDED FUNDS FOR MADISON COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Chicago - Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced that a settlement between her office and a Madison County developer will provide financial help for several area environmental projects and requires the developer to ensure that the erosion control in place at its development site is in compliance the law.

The Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB) approved the settlement in October. Under the terms of the settlement, Four S Properties, Inc., of Edwardsville, is required to pay a civil penalty of \$2,500 and required to contribute an additional \$2,565 to the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District, which will distribute the money to three local environmental projects:

- Envirothon (\$1,115) - An environmental competition for teams of high school students. Each team of five students receives hands-on training in five natural resource areas. The competition is part of a statewide event sponsored by local soil and water conservation districts. Students will take an exam to test their knowledge with the winning school team moving on to a statewide competition.
- Nature Day (\$500) - An outdoor event for Madison County fifth-graders. Students have the opportunity to hear from natural resource professionals about subjects that include recycling, rocks and minerals, soils, fishing, wildlife habitat and more. As part of the presentation, the World Bird Sanctuary will show the students live birds of prey.
- Erosion and Sediment Control Field Day (\$950) - An annual demonstration at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville where developers, contractors and municipal employees are invited to participate in a field demonstration of current erosion control and sediment retention techniques.

The settlement resolves a complaint that Madigan's office filed in August 2007 with the ICPB alleging that Four S Properties violated its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit by failing to put adequate erosion control measures in place during construction of Madison County Commons. The development is situated on 13 acres of steep, sloped terrain along Illinois Route 159 and Glenwood Drive in Glen Carbon.

Beginning in March 2004, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency inspectors visiting the Madison County Commons site observed erosion and silt-laden discharges into a ditch which leads to Cahokia Creek. On one occasion, according to the complaint, the Illinois Department of Transportation was called to remove mud from the highway shoulders and ditches due to the runoff from Madison County Commons.

Assistant Attorney General Jennifer Bonkowski is handling the case for Madigan's Springfield Environmental Bureau.

-30-

[Return to November 2007 Press Releases](#)