

FIVE WATERSHED PRINCIPLES:

PREAMBLE: We recommend that KWO foster a collaborative partnership approach to water resource issues across Kansas by utilizing the following key principles:

- Partnerships - Every federal, state and local agency will work together in partnership for the benefit of water resources. This will require these organizations to work cooperatively in order to coordinate programs, funding and technical resources to achieve shared water resource goals.
- Action is Grassroots – Actions to achieve water resource goals should initiate from and be carried out at the grassroots level (i.e. locally). Property owners in targeted regions must play an integral part of the process and their input informs the prioritization of projects for watersheds. “Action is Grassroots” means that all projects are voluntary, and that local landowners continue to work through existing systems to coordinate, encourage, and commit to high priority projects. Mechanisms that allow for bottom-up decision-making will be central to action in the Kansas Region as local landowners utilize their knowledge of the region to determine what projects are best and workable for the area.
- Watershed Based – All projects and associated funding are prioritized based on the needs in the watershed rather than on political boundaries.
- Prioritization Based on Science – All projects and associated funding are prioritized through a science-based system within the watershed that emphasizes targeting for the greatest impact.
- Outreach – Critical projects within a watershed are identified, and outreach is conducted to encourage and support participation by key (high priority in the watershed based on science-based analysis) property owners in the watershed.