PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (PPP)



Warren C. Evans
Wayne County Executive

CHARTER COUNTY OF WAYNE
C/O DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES
WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION
400 MONROE, SUITE 400
DETROIT, MI 48226

AUGUST 2019

This document establishes procedures and/or outlines the programs that Wayne County is implementing to invite public involvement and participation in the implementation and periodic review of the County's storm water management program (SWMP). Wayne County's SWMP has been developed and implemented in collaboration with watershed partners including the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC), the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds (ADW), Lake St. Clair Direct Drainage Watershed Advisory Group, Friends of the Rouge (FOTR), Friends of the Detroit River (FDR), Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC), Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC), and other interested parties. Wayne County will continue to work with partners and the public as future revisions to the SWMP are made. Implementation of this Public Participation/Involvement Program will be coordinated by the Wayne County Department of Public (WCDPS) Water Quality Management Division (WQMD).

I. PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AND COMMENT

The County's SWMP will be made available to the public through a variety of mechanisms, including the Wayne County website (www.waynecounty.com) and through support and participation in the Rouge River Collaborative Public Participation/Involvement Program and Alliance of Downriver Watersheds Collaborative Public Participation/Involvement Program. The Rouge River Collaborative PPP is presented in Attachment 1, and identifies how the ARC and its members such as Wayne County will invite public involvement and participation in the collaborative SWMP for the Rouge River Watershed. The ADW's Collaborative PPP is presented in Attachment 2, will be utilized to invite public involvement and participation in the collaborative SWMP for the Wayne County downriver watershed area.

II. MEASURABLES

WCDPS WQMD staff will track and work with ARC and ADW staff to compile and track comments from the public regarding the various elements of the SWMP by documenting the commenter's name, date, and a synopsis of their comment.

III.PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN IMPLEMENTATION

Wayne County's SWMP will remain on the County's website and available throughout the permit cycle. The ARC's and ADW's SWMPs are anticipated to remain on their websites http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com and

http://www.allianceofdownriverwatersheds.com, respectively throughout the permit cycle and WQMD staff will collaborate with the ARC and ADW staff to invite the public to participate in the implementation and periodic review of the SWMP during the permit cycle. Activities will include requesting the FOTR, FDR, HRWC and the CRWC to invite their members to participate in the implementation and comment on the SWMP during the permit cycle.

IV. OTHER

Any questions on this policy and procedure should be directed to the Wayne County Storm Water Program Manager.

V. PROCESS FOR UPDATING/REVISING THIS PROCEDURE

This procedure shall be reviewed at least once during the permit cycle by the Wayne County Storm Water Program Manager for any updates and to improve the procedure.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Rouge River Collaborative Public Involvement/Participation Program

Attachment 2 Alliance of Downriver Watersheds Collaborative Public Involvement/Participation Program

ATTACHMENT 1

ROUGE RIVER COLLABORATIVE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

ROUGE RIVER COLLABORATIVE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (PPP)



Prepared by:

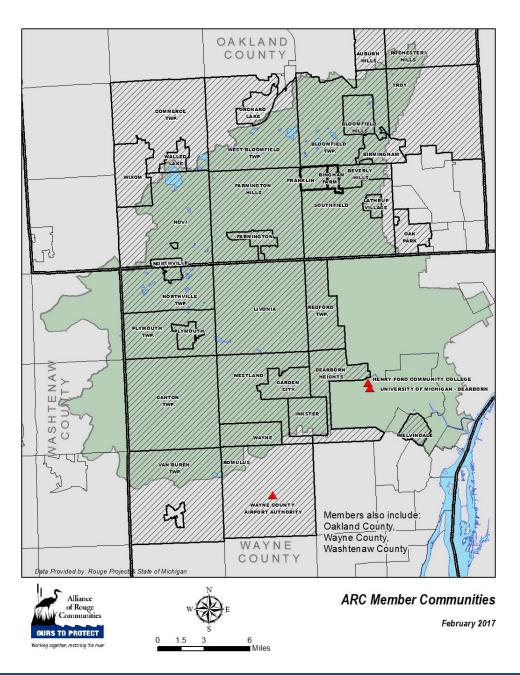


46036 Michigan Ave., Suite 126 Canton, Michigan 48188 www.allianceofrougecommunities.com Approved by MDEQ on March 28, 2017

INTRODUCTION

The Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC), a 501(c)(3) organization, is a voluntary public watershed entity currently comprised of municipal governments, counties, schools, and cooperating partners (see Figure 1) as authorized by Part 312 (Watershed Alliances) of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) as amended by Act No. 517, Public Acts of 2004. The purpose of the ARC is to provide an institutional mechanism to encourage watershed-wide cooperation and mutual support to meet water quality permit requirements and to restore beneficial uses of the Rouge River to the area residents.

Figure 1: ARC Members



The two primary goals of the Rouge River Watershed Management Plan (RRWMP) are Protect Public Health and Reduce Stormwater Runoff Impacts. Bacteria is one of the priority pollutants identified in the RRWMP. The ARC's collaborative program presents a watershed-wide plan that is being implemented to effectively and efficiently address *E. coli* levels in the Rouge River watershed caused by stormwater runoff. This plan consists of existing and planned activities and strategies that members of the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) are individually and collectively implementing.

This plan was developed by the ARC through its Public Involvement and Education Committee (PIE) in coordination with the ARC Technical Committee in response to the findings and recommendations of the RRWMP as well as the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's (MDEQ) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) assessment for *E. coli* in the Rouge River Watershed. This plan is intended to meet the Public Participation/Involvement Program (PPP) element required by ARC members' NPDES permits for stormwater discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). Those entities that are submitting a separate NPDES permit application, in lieu of this collaborative document, will continue to promote and participate in the activities identified in this plan as a member of the ARC.

This plan will be implemented collaboratively by the ARC participating communities and partners through September 30, 2022, which is the end of the permit cycle for the Rouge River watershed. The list of permittees participating in this Plan include:

Beverly Hills, Village of Lathrup Village Walled Lake
Bingham Farms, Village of Livonia Wayne
Birmingham Melvindale Westland

Bloomfield Hills Northville West Bloomfield Twp.

Bloomfield Twp. Oakland County*

Canton Twp. Novi Washtenaw County*

Dearborn Heights Oak Park Wayne County

Farmington Plymouth Henry Ford College

Farmington Hills Plymouth Twp. *Participating but this plan is Franklin, Village of Redford Twp. not part of their pending Garden City Southfield permit application.

Inkster Troy

The Rouge River Watershed communities have long realized that the public must be engaged in order to have successful restoration activities in the Rouge River watershed. Public involvement and education has been the foundation of Rouge River restoration activities since the inception of the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project in 1992 and continues today through the ARC and its members.

SECTION A – PURPOSE

This plan is to establish procedures for the ARC's Public Participation/Involvement Program (PPP) as required in the Application. The procedure includes a description of the opportunities for the public to participate, comment, and become involved with the implementation of the Stormwater Management Plan.

SECTION B – PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AND COMMENT

As required, the approved Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) will be made available to the public via the ARC website and links on each community's websites throughout the permit cycle. Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) will inform its membership of the link to review the SWMP. The public will also be informed through the ARC's and community's social media that the plan is available for inspection and comment. The ARC will be identified as the point of contact to receive public comments. The ARC will survey its members regarding any local public notice requirements and will meet them as appropriate.

SECTION C – MEASURABLES

The ARC staff will compile and track comments from the public by documenting the commenter's name, date, and synopsis of the comment. ARC staff will document SWMP posting dates on both the ARC and community's websites along with recording links to the SWMP documents and collaborative plans. ARC staff will document dates that the public was invited to participate in implementation and review of the SWMP.

SECTION D – PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

Links to the SWMP and the collaborative plans will be available on both the community's website and the ARC's website and will be available for public comment throughout the permit cycle. Specifically, the ARC and its members will invite the public to participate in the implementation and periodic review of the SWMP at least 2 times during the permit cycle. This will be advertised on the ARC website and links on the community's websites. The ARC will also use social media to promote the public's involvement and will periodically request FOTR to invite its members to participate in the implementation and periodic review of the SWMP during the permit cycle.

ATTACHMENT 2

ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS COLLABORATIVE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

Public Participation Program for the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds MS4s



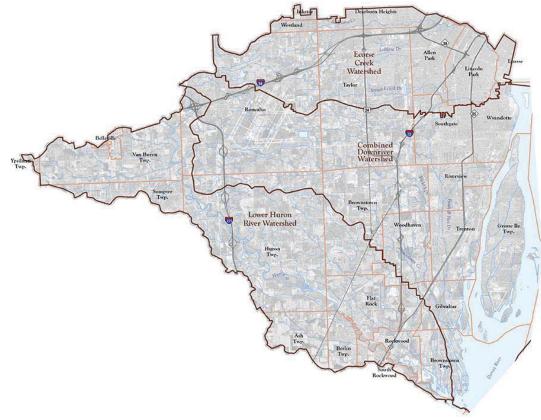
The Public Participation/Involvement Program (PPP) is required by the State of Michigan National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Application for Discharge of Stormwater to Surface Waters of the State from a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).

The purpose of this PPP is to facilitate the involvement of MS4s in the watershed, and the general public in the revision of MS4 Stormwater Management Plans (SWMPs). This PPP is designed to involve all entities in the watersheds identified below with the authority, ability, and desire to carry out the implementation of SWMPs in seeking comment on and implementing those plans.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Alliance of Downriver Watersheds (ADW) is a permanent watershed organization in southeast Michigan and formed under Public Act 517 of the Public Laws of 2004. The ADW was formally established in 2007 but its members have been working together for many years to manage the area's water resources. The ADW consists of 23 public agencies in the Ecorse Creek, Combined Downriver and Lower Huron River Watersheds within Wayne and Monroe Counties. ADW collaborative efforts include long-term water quality monitoring, stormwater permit compliance and reporting to the State, submittal of grant applications for water quality improvements, and public education.

The ADW is urban in nature consisting of 203.3 square miles and more than 450,000 people (2010 census). Major watercourses within the ADW that drain to the Detroit River and Lake Erie include the Ecorse Creek, Sexton Kilfoil Drain, Frank and Poet Drain, Blakely Drain, Brownstown Creek, Huron River, Smith Creek, Silver Creek and Woods Creek. There are three Watershed



Management Plans

for the ADW area, approved by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in 2012—Ecorse Creek, Combined Downriver and Lower Huron.

This PPP is submitted by the ADW on behalf of the following Phase I and II MS4s within the Ecorse Creek, Combined Downriver and Lower Huron watersheds. Activities will be implemented collaboratively during the permit cycle by the ADW its cooperating partners and these MS4 permittees:

Allen Park Rockwood
Belleville Romulus
Brownstown Township Southgate

Dearborn Heights Sumpter Township

Ecorse Taylor

Flat Rock Van Buren Township
Gibraltar Wayne County
Grosse Ile Township Westland

Inkster Woodhaven

Lincoln Park Woodhaven-Brownstown School

Melvindale District Riverview Wyandotte

II. COMMUNICATION DURING THE SWMP DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The practices listed in this section will be used to solicit public participation during the SWMP development process for each MS4. Public input shall be encouraged in all aspects of the stormwater management program. The following minimum actions shall be taken to encourage public input:

- 1. Each individual MS4 shall follow local public notice requirements, as appropriate, when informing the public that a stormwater management program must be implemented. Copies of the SWMP shall be available for public inspection, and the public shall be notified of when and where it is available.
- 2. Each individual MS4 shall participate in and cooperate with the ADW by informing it of activities under their SWMPs, providing copies of the SWMPs and pursuing public input on them, and seeking ways to meet general permit requirements through ongoing programs for water resource protection and enhancement, including water quality monitoring.

III. PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION, COMMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

The following Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be carried out to meet public participation requirements:

BMP 1.1. Public Notice

<u>Description</u>: Each individual MS4 will provide electronic copies of draft SWMPs to the ADW to share with the general public. The ADW and MS4s will notify the public that SWMPs were developed and encourage public input in the revision process. This will be done primarily through posting SWMPs and forms for collecting public comments on the ADW website and sending out an electronic notice to ADW

public contact lists. Individual MS4s will post links to the SWMPs (housed on the ADW website) on their individual MS4 websites. Additionally, other means of communication will be used for announcing progress on SWMP elements and soliciting input. These may include publication in local news media outlets, announcements to local boards, associations, other interested groups, at public meetings or major public events, articles in local newsletters, or posts on web sites and social networking sites. Each MS4 will follow any public notice requirements specific to their local jurisdiction. The same public notice procedure will be used following any major SWMP revision.

<u>Timeline:</u> Notice will be provided upon release of a draft permit.

Evaluation: Publication of notice in news media, impressions on ADW website.

<u>Responsible Parties</u>: Listed MS4s will provide SWMPs to the ADW and the ADW will notify the public within the ADW area via email distribution and posting to the ADW website. Each MS4 will notify the public in their local jurisdictions.

BMP 1.2 Public Access to SWMPs

<u>Description</u>: The ADW and the MS4s will publish and make available copies of the SWMPs on the ADW website and at each MS4 office.

<u>Timeline</u>: Following review by MDEQ and revision by MS4s, SWMPs will be made available when the draft permit becomes available for public review.

Evaluation: Number of views each of the plans get at each website.

Responsible Parties: The ADW and individual MS4s.

BMP 1.3 SWMP Implementation

<u>Description</u>: The ADW is a watershed implementation group that is open to and encourages public participation. This group meets three times a year (on average). Meeting schedules are posted to the ADW web site and via e-mail distribution lists. Meetings of this group will be the primary point of public input into SWMP implementation and for providing feedback to MS4 representatives.

Timeline: On-going; start in year one of permit.

Evaluation: Document MS4 representative and citizen participation in meetings.

Responsible Parties: MS4 representatives, ADW.

BMP 1.4 SWMP Review

<u>Description</u>: Following public notice of the SWMPs, the ADW and MS4s will accept and consider comments from the public and MDEQ. After revising SWMPs, the ADW and MS4s will post revised drafts and accept public comments before each MS4 finalizes their SWMP.

Timeline: Review completed following initial application and prior to permit issuance.

Evaluation: Comments from the general public.

Responsible Parties: ADW and MS4s.