

**MEETING AGENDA**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**

January 25, 2023

10:00 am

VIA VIRTUAL MTG



**Member Communities**

Allen Park  
Belleville  
Dearborn Heights  
Ecorse  
Flat Rock  
Gibraltar  
Grosse Ile Township  
Inkster  
Lincoln Park  
Melvindale  
Riverview  
Rockwood  
Romulus  
Southgate  
Sumpter Township  
Taylor  
Van Buren Township  
WayneCounty  
Westland  
Woodhaven  
Woodhaven-  
Brownstown School  
District  
Wyandotte

**Facilitator**

OHM Advisors  
Vicki M. Putala, PE  
Director of Environmental  
& Water Resources  
D 734.466.4479  
O 734.522.6711  
vicki.putala@ohm-advisors.com

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Review Agenda**
- 3. Housekeeping**
  - a. 2022 invoicing and payments
  - b. 2023 contracts and sub agreements
  - c. Trenton - ADW needs to know by February 1 if Trenton wants included as part of Collaborative IDEP. OHM will follow up with EGLE about how to manage a new member coming on board.
- 4. Collaborative ADW Plans – update in time for WC Permit (April 2023)**
  - a. Discuss Priority Areas
  - b. Collaborative IDEP Approach on February Full ADW agenda
- 5. Biennial Reports Due April 2023 (October 2021-February 1, 2023)**
  - i. To ADW members first week of March
  - ii. Assignments
  - iii. Elizabeth send out email to ADW members with reminders
- 6. Updates (if any)**
  - a. Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project - McKenzi
  - b. SEMCOG Green Infrastructure Grant Application
  - c. IDEP and Monitoring Activities – including e. coli tracking
    - i. EGLE Monitoring + Dye Testing Comments – Flat Rock
    - ii. Taylor and Romulus coordination
    - iii. Dye Testing
  - d. Collaborative GSI
  - e. Potential New Members – Trenton (Brent)
  - f. ADW Leadership Communication – E-newsletter + Presentations
  - g. ADW Green Schools Outreach
  - h. Pledge Campaign – Fall 2023
  - i. 2024 Calendars - Print 2023
  - j. Photo Contest
  - k. Resident Survey - 2022
  - l. ADW Website
  - m. Regional Partnerships
  - n. Stream Crossing/Road Signage – 2023 Fabricate
- 7. Next Meeting**

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
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**Attendees:** Valerie Novaes, OHM; Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; John Danci, Sumpter Township; Brent Florek, Charles Raines Co; Ric Lawson, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Kelly McRobb-Ackland, Wade Trim; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM; Erica Clites, MSU Extension

- **Housekeeping**

- **Invoicing/Payments-** All invoices are working their way through the process.
- **2023 Contracts –** Sub agreements are in final review and will be sent out shortly. OHM/ADW contract is also close to finalizing.
- **Trenton –** It's unclear at this time if they're wanting to join the ADW. The ADW will include a statement in our re-application that says "If Trenton decides to join, then...."

- **Collaborative ADW Plans**

- Wayne County permit is due April 2023
- **Priority Areas –** HRWC, OHM, and Wayne County met to review existing priority areas, current data, and discussed if priority area revisions were needed. It was determined that Priority Areas should continue as is with a couple of areas added to expand a little further upstream with targeted dry weather screening within the priority areas. Dry weather screening in priority areas would be new in the next permit cycle. Need to determine how to do targeted dry weather screening – perhaps add some investigative monitoring sites, grab samples, etc. It was discussed to use Year 1 of the new permits to determine how to narrow things down – i.e. if ecoli hit in dry weather screen, it would be sent to be sourced to determine if canine, bovine, human. It would be ideal to have a trained team do dry weather screening for consistency across the watershed. Then, if something is found, the community would get involved in dye testing, etc. It would be good to have the local DPS send one staff person to tag along with the team, offer equipment, etc. OHM will share the most recent priority area maps with the ADW Team as well as a summary of the proposal. The Collaborative IDEP approach will be an agenda item for discussion at the February ADW meeting.
- OHM will draft a letter signed by each ADW member about the benefits of the watershed/collaborative approach to send to EGLE.
- Collaborative PEP recommendations will be shared by HRWC with the ADW team next week and then at the full ADW meeting in February.
- All Collaborative Plan drafts will need to be done by March 1 and then email vote on them by ADW members prior to April 1.



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- **Biennial Reports**

- Due April 1<sup>st</sup> and will cover the period between October 2021-February 1, 2023). Leah reviewed the draft sections and MiEnviro setup. **Leah will send a link to the reporting team that includes all of the draft WORD files as well as a pdf of the MiEnviro questions. Draft sections are targeted for completion by February 11<sup>th</sup> to ensure time for formatting, assembly and overall coordination.**

- **Updates**

- Chemistry/Flow Monitoring
  - Registration is open for volunteers
  - Working to identify a lab partner for the upcoming year – looking for a contact at U of M Dearborn. Will work with private lab if no luck.
  - Start thinking about investigative sites for 2023 – 2 to 3 sites are budgeted.
- Macroinvertebrate monitoring and analysis – Paul has developed a strategy to move forward. **Paul will present at the next ADW meeting.**
- SEMCOG GI Grant Application – no match required. \$100k request. Due February 21<sup>st</sup>. Needs to come directly from an ADW member. **OHM will push the opportunity out with key highlights of the program to the ADW membership and include GI concepts already developed and offer ADW support to put the application together.**
- ADW Facility Dye Testing – 2 in Flat Rock, 1 Riverview, 2 in Grosse Ile. No illicit connections were found.
- Collaborative GSI Group – working on MOU for organizations and what products and services organizations can offer. Marketing and website to come sometime this summer. Master Rain Gardener course is in February.
- Pledge Campaign – Pam, Leah, and Marisa met to discuss. HRWC could do pledge campaign with it being moved to the Fall and keeping adopt-a-storm drain. Planned for October 2023. Avia, formerly with WWTW could contract with ADW to do some of the work for us.
- E-newsletter –Next newsletter scheduled to go out March 1. There was discussion that others could be invited to attend the full ADW meetings via e-news announcements – would need to think through the format.
- 2024 calendars will be designed in Q1 and distributed in Q4.
- Website – **Elizabeth will coordinate with Wendy to add SEMCOG training module links and to correct the broken or incorrect links on the Member Resources Tab.**
- Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project Update
  - Public engagement will begin in March with a survey available until the end of June
  - SeaGrant is doing an article and press release
  - An article will be included in the March 1<sup>st</sup> ADW newsletter

**The next PE/Tech meeting will be held March 1<sup>st</sup> @ 12:30pm (virtual).**

**MEETING AGENDA**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**  
March 1, 2023  
12:30 pm

VIA VIRTUAL MTG



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- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Review Agenda**
- 3. Housekeeping**
  - a. 2022 invoicing and payments
  - b. 2023 contracts and sub agreements
- 4. Collaborative ADW Plans – update in time for WC Permit (April 2023)**
  - a. Collaborative IDEP
  - b. Collaborative PEP
  - c. Collaborative PPP
- 5. Biennial Reports Due April 2023 (October 2021-February 1, 2023)**
  - a. To ADW members first week of March
  - b. Assignments/Follow Up
- 6. Updates (if any)**
  - a. Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project - McKenzi
  - b. SEMCOG Green Infrastructure Grant Application
  - c. IDEP and Monitoring Activities
    - i. Taylor and Romulus coordination
    - ii. Pet Waste Letter
    - iii. Dye Testing
    - iv. Additional Investigative Sites
  - d. Collaborative GSI
  - e. ADW Leadership Communication – E-newsletter + Presentations
  - f. ADW Green Schools Outreach
  - g. Resident Survey - 2022
  - h. Pledge Campaign – Fall 2023
  - i. 2024 Calendars - Print 2023
  - j. Photo Contest
  - k. ADW Website
  - l. Regional Partnerships
  - m. Stream Crossing/Road Signage – 2023 Fabricate
- 7. Next Meeting**

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**Attendees:** Valerie Novaes, OHM; Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; John Danci, Sumpter Township; Brent Florek, Charles Raines Co; Ric Lawson, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Andrea Paine, HRWC; Marisa Salice, HRWC; Noel Mullett, Wayne County; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Kelly McRobb-Ackland, Wade Trim; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM

- **Housekeeping**

- **Invoicing/Payments-** All invoices are working their way through the process. Final 2022 payment is in process. The finance person at HRWC is out for an extended leave – Let Pam/Ric know if there are any issues and they will follow up
- **2023 Contracts** – The OHM/ADW contract has been executed. Draft sub agreements were discussed and edits/modifications made. **The final Sub agreements will be sent out shortly.**

- **Post Construction Reporting**

ADW members have their first post construction reporting due to EGLE April 1<sup>st</sup>. Many members are unaware/confused/unsure how to proceed. SEMCOG held a webinar last week and EGLE sent out guidance that was developed a year ago. SEMCOG is working on a letter that will be made available to ADW members for loading into their individual MiEnviro account. The letter will generally state that they're working with a regional group on post constructing tracking and reporting. EGLE has indicated that this will suffice for now. The SEMCOG webinar is supposed to be posted to SEMCOGs website – Katie Grantham and Kelly Karl are coordinating. **Leah and OHM will work to get a meeting setup with the ARC and SEMCOG leadership to further discuss the post construction reporting approach. Include Katie Grantham and Kelly Karl from SEMCOG.**

- **Collaborative ADW Plans**

- Wayne County, Westland, Dearborn Heights permits are due April 2023 under the ARC schedule.
- The ADW is currently in Year 3 of current Collaborative Plans. Next Collaborative Plans won't be in effect until 10/2025.
- **Val will call Christie Allman at EGLE to confirm whether to roll existing plans into new plans, or have new plans attached when new permits get issued.**
- **OHM and HRWC will review ARC and other IDEP/PEP plans to look at cost effective/benefit of items in relation to ADW and see what is 'acceptable' to EGLE.**
- **OHM/HRWC will get draft collaborative elements out to the facilitation team by March 7<sup>th</sup>**
- **OHM will get collaborative elements out to ADW by March 17<sup>th</sup> with comments back by March 24<sup>th</sup>. Include a summary/highlights of changes for easier review. Include all collaborative plans together to ADW so they get all of them at once.**
- **Work to get collaborative elements approved by ADW via email by end of March/early April.**



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- **Biennial Reports**

- Due April 1<sup>st</sup> and will cover the period between October 2021-February 1, 2023). All sections have been completed and reviewed with the exception of the IDEP section. OHM will develop the outfall map and get updated outfall table information to Ric. Ric will finalize and also will include the OHM memo in the body of the WORD document. Leah will develop email language for Elizabeth to send out to the ADW members with links to all of the Biennial reporting elements.

- **Updates**

- Chemistry/Flow Monitoring
  - S Huron Valley Water Authority is doing sampling for ADW this year
  - Give Andrea any investigative site recommendations by March 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Volunteer sign up is 3/25 and getting good numbers from downriver
  - Andrea will share monitoring data with Sue Thompson from this past year.
- E-News – went out March 1<sup>st</sup>. All e-news editions are archived on the ADW website and ADW members can link to the e-news material on their websites if desired.
- Resident survey – working on a presentation of the survey results to share with the team and ADW membership
- Staffing update – Marisa is finishing up her Masters Degree and is leaving HRWC for another opportunity. Her last day is March 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Pam will get Pet Waste letter comments to Val next week.
- Elizabeth will add to the Full ADW meeting agenda a standing line item of 'EGLE Audit Support' to remind the members that they're not alone in the process and they can ask for ADW facilitation team support if they get audited.

**The next PE/Tech meeting will be held April 19th @ 11:00am (virtual).**



**MEETING AGENDA**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**

April 19, 2023

11:00 am

VIA VIRTUAL MTG



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**1. Introductions**

**2. Review Agenda**

**3. Housekeeping**

- a. 2022 + 2023 invoicing and payments
- b. 2023 sub agreements

**4. Updates (if any)**

- a. Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project - McKenzi
- b. Collaborative ADW Plans – Debrief EGLE conversation and timeline
- c. ARC/ADW/SEMCOG Post Construction Reporting Approach Joint Mtg  
Additional Post Construction Reporting to EGLE – April 1<sup>st</sup> – SEMCOG Tracker  
being developed to assist with reporting requirements.
- d. EGLE Watershed Council Support Grants – due May 17<sup>th</sup> (up to \$40k)
- e. IDEP and Monitoring Activities
  - i. Taylor and Romulus coordination
  - ii. Pet Waste Letter
  - iii. Dye Testing
  - iv. Additional Investigative Sites
- f. Collaborative GSI
- g. ADW Leadership Communication – E-newsletter + Presentations
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- o. Stream Crossing/Road Signage – 2023 Fabricate

**5. Next Meeting**

**Facilitator**

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**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**  
April 19, 2023  
11:00 am

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**Attendees:** Valerie Novaes, OHM; Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; Liz Whiddon, OHM; Brent Florek, Charles Raines Co; Ric Lawson, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Andrea Paine, HRWC; Noel Mullett, Wayne County; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM; McKenzi Waliczek, Friends of Detroit River

- **Housekeeping**
  - **Invoicing/Payments-** All invoices are working their way through the process.
  - **2023 Contracts** – All sub agreements are executed
- **Ecorse Creek Friends of Detroit River Project**
  - virtual public meeting 4/19/23 6-7pm
  - hybrid public meeting in Dearborn Heights May 8<sup>th</sup>
  - public meeting June 13<sup>th</sup>
  - looking for public events in the communities to do more engagement through end of June
- **Collaborative ADW Plans**
  - Val had conversation with EGLE – Collaborative Plans aren't enforceable until ADW members permits are approved. EGLE has 18 months to review once they are submitted. ADW permits are due in April 2024 with permits issued April 2025 which aligns nicely with the current collaborative plans. We should include activities we plan on carrying over into new Collaborative Plans. EGLE is expecting more from ADW Collaborative IDEP Investigations. EGLE may not support the use of monitoring to dictate where to dry weather screening. They want to see more broad screening. ARC is no longer using monitoring in-stream to prioritize screening.
- **Updates**
  - IDEP
    - Would be good if we had lab services for human biomarker to confirm if its human source or not.
    - OHM did desktop analysis and with existing budget can screen 33 outfalls in priority areas in 2023.
    - OU/ARC lab does testing with 100mL of water and can test e.coli results and then determine if they want to run secondary test.
    - If ADW adjusts approach and starts human tracker, will need to run past EGLE and adjust lab relationships as well.
    - ADW providing assistance with sampling if community finds flow during dry weather would be helpful to ADW member communities. ADW members would do some small % of dry weather screening and contact ADW for sampling if flow is discovered.
  - **Pet Waste letter is finalized and will be sent to communities and then to businesses.**
  - **OHM will finalize outfalls with Liz and then work with Ric/Sue on cost and where to send, etc. ADW will do a number of dry weather screenings in priority areas this year under OHMs current budget and support the cost of human genome marker and bovine sampling in 2023.**





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- Post Construction Reporting - SEMCOG, ARC, ADW trying to use tracker to get data to SEMCOG for July EGLE report. SEMCOG gave deadline to put info into tracker so SEMCOG has enough time to do the report.
- EGLE Watershed Council support grants – due May 17<sup>th</sup> up to \$40k. ADW would be an eligible applicant. 0% match requirement. Is stormwater permit work allowed to be funded with this? Possibly extend GLWA/ARC effort to do planning for advanced investigations? **OHM will contact Bob Sweet to clarify about grant, permit required projects, and QAPP/social monitoring.**
- Chemistry/Flow Monitoring
  - Volunteers in field today and tomorrow. Good group of 20-30 volunteers
  - Rockwood lab is doing testing in 2023
  - 1 investigative site @ Misner Drain – tributary to Blakely Creek and drains the airport @ Leroy Street
  - WC will be doing dry weather screening and will work with ADW to tweak areas to screen based on priority areas
  - Benthic monitoring starting soon with HRWC/ADW
- Collaborative GSI – finalized MOU and developed RFP for marketing recommendations and materials. Master Rain Gardener 5 week class was held with 72 participants including a fair number of ADW communities. New GSI mapping tool will be put out there. Is ADW an ongoing MOU partner? Ric has represented the ADW but not as a 'formal member'.
- E-news – will go out June 1. Marissa is gone so may look to get feedback on editorial/content calendar moving forward.
- Green Schools Outreach – plan to move forward with a Fall launch. More details to come.
- 2024 Calendars – content and layout is being developed. RFP out to printers. Looking to reduce size and amount due to cost.
- Photo Contest – looking at more targeted contest in 2024 based on digging into how its been going. Shorter time frame and focused on summer months as opposed to monthly submissions.
- **Topic for future discussion – how do we get feedback from members about if they think they're getting benefit from being a member? And how to recruit new members? Also add 2024 budgeting to future agenda.**

**The next PE/Tech meeting will be held June 8<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm (virtual).**

**MEETING AGENDA**  
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**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**

June 23, 2023

11:00 am

@ OHM Office



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- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Review Agenda**
- 3. Housekeeping**
  - a. We miss you already Noel!
  - b. Invoicing and payments
- 4. Collaborative Plans** – schedule, community review
- 5. Plan to Gather Feedback from Members**
  - a. Are they getting value?
  - b. What else do they need?
  - c. Recruit additional members?
- 6. 2024 Budgeting**
  - a. HRWC fiduciary proposal for 2024/2025
  - b. Schedule for approval
- 7. Updates (if any)**
  - a. Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project - McKenzi
  - b. Post Construction Reporting
  - c. IDEP and Monitoring Activities
    - i. Taylor and Romulus coordination
    - ii. Pet Waste Letter
    - iii. Dye Testing
    - iv. Additional Investigative Sites
    - v. Dry Weather Outfall Screening in Priority Areas (33 outfalls?)
  - d. Collaborative GSI
  - e. ADW Leadership Communication – E-newsletter + Presentations
  - f. ADW Green Schools Outreach
  - g. Pledge Campaign – October 16-Nov 3. Announcement went out to schools
  - h. 2024 Calendars - at printer. 20,000 by October
  - i. Photo Contest – 3-month summer contest, revise intake form
  - j. Regional Partnerships
  - k. Stream Crossing/Road Signage – 2023 Fabricate
- 8. Next Meeting**

**Facilitator**

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**MEETING SUMMARY**  
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June 23, 2023  
11:00 am

@OHM Office - Livonia



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- **Housekeeping**

- **We Miss You Noel!** The group had lunch and gave Noel a gift of thanks for his many years at Wayne County and for being part of the leadership of the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds for so many years. Noel's new email is [nmullett@ectinc.com](mailto:nmullett@ectinc.com).
- **Wayne County Rep** – Include Sue Thompson as the WC rep for the ADW moving forward.
- **EGLE Rep** – Kathleen Sexton is the EGLE rep while Jessica is out on maternity leave.
- **Update the ADW letterhead with Val's info**
- **Invoicing** – All is smooth.

- **Collaborative ADW Plans**

- Val had conversation with EGLE – the collaborative plans need to be uploaded to the Wayne County permit. All of the plans are in good shape, just need to accept changes and get them out to the member communities for final review. Plan is to distribute to the ADW members by end of June and give until July 21<sup>st</sup> for review and comment. The County will then upload to MiWaters in early August. In PEP, identify permit required items vs. non permit required items. **OHM will distribute the plans by next Friday.**

- **Gathering Feedback from Members**

Some discussion took place regarding an on-going topic about how to determine if members feel they are getting value by being an ADW member, what other support might they need, and about recruiting additional ADW members. A number of ideas were discussed. As a first step, **OHM will setup a conversation with Kathy Hood and Sumpter Township to see what they think and any suggestions they might have.** *Note: Kathy Hood has since retired.*



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- **Updates**

- Pet Waste letter went out to several member communities with list of addresses to send it out to.
- Post Construction Reporting – SEMCOG will be sending each community their summary.
- Chemistry/Flow Monitoring
  - Half way through the season – it's been very dry. SWUA partnership for lab work is going well.
- Collaborative GSI – RFP for marketing consultant and branding is out
- E-news – 32% open rate in June. Next one will go out in early September.
- Great Lakes Restoration Celebration will be September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Val is submitting info to ARC staff. The ADW will be having a table and slides in a video.
- Green Schools – Sue Thompson is happy to help promote, review materials and communicate with the schools as needed.

**The next PE/Tech meeting will be held August 31<sup>st</sup> at 11:30am (virtual).**

## MEETING AGENDA

### ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS

#### Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting

August 31, 2023

11:30 am

Virtual via Zoom



#### Member Communities

Allen Park  
Belleville  
Dearborn Heights  
Ecorse  
Flat Rock  
Gibraltar  
Grosse Ile Township  
Inkster  
Lincoln Park  
Melvindale  
Riverview  
Rockwood  
Romulus  
Southgate  
Sumpter Township  
Taylor  
Van Buren Township  
WayneCounty  
Westland  
Woodhaven-  
Brownstown School  
District  
Wyandotte

- **Introductions**
- **Review Agenda**
- **Housekeeping**
  - Invoicing and payments
  - Kathy Hood retired
  - Trenton – new member
  - NPS Grant App – 9/7 webinar
- **Collaborative Plans Update**
- **2024 Budgeting**
  - Review draft
  - Schedule for approval
- **Updates (if any)**
  - Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project - McKenzi
  - Post Construction Reporting
  - IDEP and Monitoring Activities
    - Taylor and Romulus coordination
    - Dye Testing
    - Additional Investigative Sites
    - Dry Weather Outfall Screening in Priority Areas (33 outfalls?)
  - Collaborative GSI
  - ADW Leadership Communication – E-newsletter + Presentations
  - Pledge Campaign – October 16-Nov 3. Announcement went out to schools
  - 2024 Calendars - 20,000 out by October
  - Photo Contest – 3-month summer contest, revise intake form
  - Regional Partnerships
    - Detroit River Water Festival
    - GLRI Celebration – September 22
  - Stream Crossing/Road Signage – 2023 Fabricate

#### Facilitator

OHM Advisors  
Valerie Novaes, PE  
Principal  
D 734.466.4567  
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O 734.522.6711  
valerie.novaes@ohm-advisors.com

- **Next Meeting**

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**

August 31, 2023  
11:30 am

Virtual



**Member Communities**

Allen Park  
Belleville  
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**Attendees:** Valerie Novaes, OHM; Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; Liz Whiddon, OHM; Andrea Paine, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Maaikie Wielenga, HRWC; Ric Lawson, HRWC; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM; Brent Florek, Charles Raines Co.

- **Housekeeping**

- **Invoicing** – All is up to date
- Add “Chairperson” to October ADW Agenda due to Kathy Hood retiring from Romulus. OHM work with John Danci so he can send out an email to try and get a member to volunteer for officer position.
- Trenton wants to become a member of the ADW. Kevin Sargent is DPS Director. OHM provide a letter from ADW to indicate dues and official welcome package. Pro-rate dues for 2023 and provide 2024 amount with general statement on how dues are collected. Trenton has a City Council meeting in late September to finalize.
- NPS Grant Webinar – Liz from OHM will attend on 9/7/23 to learn more. Due September 20<sup>th</sup>. OHM will further research past grants and will contact Bob Sweet and formulate a few ideas. Will also reconnect with McKenzi at Friends of Detroit River to see if any of their EC projects make sense for 319 funding. A few PE Tech members will reconvene via zoom on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 to discuss whether or not an application for ADW makes sense.

- **Collaborative ADW Plans**

- The revised IDEP was sent to ADW membership – OHM is finalizing a few items and will then send to EGLE. Trying to get all Collaborative Plans into EGLE by this Fall. Pam will set up a virtual meeting with several PE Tech members to review latest draft of Collaborative PEP on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. Ric will review the TMDL Collaborative Plan again after a discussion with EGLE. It will be less prescriptive than originally thought. EGLE wants to see some ability to measure progress and need to actively doing things to address TMDLs.

- **2024 Budget**

A draft budget was reviewed with a few updates and notations. OHM will revise per discussion and review with Executive Committee prior to presentation to the ADW membership at the full meeting in October. Pam and Wade Trim will discuss the website needs and get the budget figures to Elizabeth.





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- **Updates**

- Collaborative GSI – Working on marketing and a new name for the group – perhaps Rain Catchers Collective.
- ADW is supporting the Detroit River Water Festival – Maaiké will be attending on ADW behalf.
- PE folks are looking at establishing a small grant program for field trips and activities for schools to get from ADW.
- Schools for Clean Water pledge campaign is launching October 16<sup>th</sup> through November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- E-news is going out tomorrow.
- A new staff person at HRWC will be helping with volunteer coordination.

**The next PE/Tech meeting will be held November 2, 2023 at 9:00am (virtual).**

## MEETING AGENDA

### ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS

#### Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting

November 2, 2023

9:00am Virtual



#### Member Communities

Allen Park  
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- **Introductions**
- **Review Agenda**
- **Housekeeping**
  - Invoicing and payments
  - Trenton – new member
  - Officer Vacancies
  - May 2024 In Person ADW Meeting
- **Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
- **Updates (if any)**
  - Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project - McKenzi
    - Letter of support requested from ADW
  - IDEP and Monitoring Activities
    - Taylor and Romulus coordination
    - Dye Testing
    - Additional Investigative Sites
    - Dry Weather Outfall Screening in Priority Areas (33 outfalls?)
  - Collaborative GSI
  - ADW Leadership Communication – E-newsletter + Presentations
  - Pledge Campaign – October 16-Nov 3.
  - 2024 Calendars - 20,000 out in October
  - Small Grant Program – School Field Trips
  - Stream Crossing/Road Signage – 2023 Fabricate
  - Regional Partnerships
- **Next Meeting**

#### Facilitator

OHM Advisors  
Valerie Novaes, PE  
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**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**

November 2, 2023

9:00 am

Virtual



**Member Communities**

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**Attendees:** Valerie Novaes, OHM; Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; Liz Whiddon, OHM; Andrea Paine, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Maaikie Wielenga, HRWC; Ric Lawson, HRWC; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM; Brent Florek, Charles Raines Co.; Kelly McRobb-Ackland, Wade Trim; McKenzi Waliczek, Friends of Detroit River; Ron Akers, Van Buren Township; John Danci, Sumpter Township

- **Housekeeping**

- **Invoicing** – All is up to date and running smoothly
- **Trenton** – the ADW received a signed resolution from the Trenton City Council dated 10/9/23 stating Trenton's desire to become a member of the ADW. Trenton worked with EGLE to have their current permit adjusted so it will expire with the ADW and be on the same cycle.
  - **OHM will:**
    - get dues letter to Trenton for 2024 and work with Jennifer at HRWC regarding invoicing, etc.
    - Add Trenton to Collaborative IDEP/TMDL and update any related maps to show Trenton as a member.
    - OHM will provide Wayne County and EGLE with latest version of IDEP including Trenton for upload to MiEnviro.
    - Pam will update letterhead to include Trenton and also include Trenton in updated PEP Collaborative Plan.
    - Leah will coordinate with WT to update the ADW website.
- **ADW Officers** – Ron Akers, Van Buren Township has volunteered to help lead and serve the ADW. Ron and John Danci will get together in the next week or so to discuss roles and brainstorm recruiting an additional ADW member representative to assist with managing the group. OHM will get Ron and John (and McKenzi) an updated list of member representatives.
- **May 21<sup>st</sup> (10-noon) 2024 In Person Full ADW Meeting** – OHM will send out meeting invite to hold the date/time and put IN PERSON in subject line.

- **Collaborative ADW Plans**

- The IDEP Plan was submitted to EGLE and Wayne County. OHM will update it to include Trenton and send back out. OHM and HRWC will finish up the TMDL plan. HRWC will update the PEP language based on September small group meeting discussion and will share out a draft later this month/early December. The goal is to provide the full ADW membership with drafts of the PEP and TMDL by mid-January to review and comment prior to submitting permit applications in Spring 2024.

- **Updates**

- Ecorse Creek Project/FDR – they are submitting a NOAA grant application in mid-December and seeking a letter of support from the ADW. Application is for capacity building and design/construction of yet to be determined restoration project. Implementation would be 2025. Elizabeth will draft a letter of support and send to the ADW Chair for signature.



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- Monitoring and IDEP -doing data analysis now on chemistry and flow monitoring. Would like to send a thank you letter to the South Huron Valley Utility Authority for the great partnership with their lab. **Elizabeth will draft a thank you letter for ADW Chair signature.** Screening of outfalls was done in the Targeted Areas with a focus on larger size outfalls in Industrial areas. 29 outfalls were field checked for dry weather flow. 4 had flow that are being sampled and tested. MS4s will need to be engaged in any response that may be necessary in a timely manner in line with reporting requirements. **HRWC asked for GIS outfall mapping data to be shared. OHM will get a list to Sue at Wayne County of the few municipal facilities that still need to be dye tested. One outfall in Westland needs to be dye tested in a residential area.**
- GSI has been renamed Rain Catchers Collective and have a new marketing and branding toolkit. They have been invited to submit a full proposal to NOAA climate resiliency grant program.
- ADW E-news will go out in early December. Andrea has been managing. Lots of possible topics including Trenton joining, Green Schools Pledge program, re-cap water festival and GLRI celebration, Household Hazardous Waste program, etc. A draft will go out prior to Thanksgiving for review. Also starting to think about the e-news also going out to those that adopted a storm drain via the pledge.
- Green Schools Pledge campaign ran 10/16-11/3 this year. It'll end Friday. Extra credit activities to get more involvement have been successful with a lot of social media posts and activity.
- 20,000 calendars went out the week of October 11<sup>th</sup> along with a marketing toolkit for the members to promote the calendars and a calendar landing page on the website.
- Thinking about a small grant program for schools to replace the river residency program that was taking place prior to COVID. Small reimbursement grants from ADW to schools for water related field trip expenses. **Coordinate with FDR as they are looking to get EJ schools to the 2024 Water Festival at the Wildlife Refuge.**
- Watershed Signs – proven to be more difficult than anticipated. Sign inventory is 5 years old, some signs are no longer there, some just need a panel replacement and not a post replacement, posts longer than 8' requiring freight shipping, 8' posts are really too short. **Leah will continue to work to wrap this up.**
- Detroit River Water Festival and GLRI Celebration – both had ADW presence and were great events and brand building opportunities. Carol Thompson from news may be interested in ADW stories. FDR is planning a Spring 2024 Water Festival at the Wildlife Refuge.

The next PE/Tech meeting will be held January 12, 2024 at 1:00pm (virtual).