

## MEETING AGENDA

### ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS

#### Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting

January 28, 2025

11:30 am Virtual



#### Member Communities

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

- **Introductions**
- **Review Agenda**
- **Housekeeping**
  - Invoicing and payments
  - 2025 Contracts
- **Permit Applications and Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
  - Any recent updates or feedback? Pivoting from wet weather screening rqts? Should ADW remove from submitted TMDL Plan?
- **Biennial Reports (due April 1)**
  - Feb 2023 – 2024
  - MiEnviro Submittal (questions/format same as two years ago)
  - Sub-section assignments – February 17
  - Out to ADW members by March 3
- **Updates/Discussion (if any)**
  - Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project – McKenzi
  - IDEP and Monitoring Activities
  - Dry Weather Outfall Screening in Priority Areas
  - E-newsletter
  - Calendar and Photo Contest
  - School Support/Outreach
  - Schools For Clean Water Contest (October 2025)
  - Rain Catchers Collective
  - Regional Partnerships
- **Next Meeting**

#### Facilitator

OHM Advisors  
Valerie Novaes, PE  
Principal  
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O 734.522.6711  
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**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**  
January 28, 2025  
11:30 am Virtual



**Attendees:** Valerie Novaes, OHM; Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; Andrea Paine, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Maaikie Wielenga, HRWC; Ric Lawson, HRWC; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM; Renne Mulcrone, OHM; Brent Florek, Charles Raines Co.; Kaitlyn Steeves (AEG); Ron Akers, Van Buren Township; Don Straub, Romulus; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Kelly McRobb-Ackland, Wade Trim; Noel Mullett, ECT

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- **Housekeeping**
  - **Invoicing** – One outstanding invoice in payment process with ADW
  - **Contracts** – 2025 contracts are drafted between ADW and OHM as well as between OHM and sub contractors. Drafts will go out soon for review.
  
- **Permit Applications + Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
  - EGLE had ARC revise collaborative plans. ARC permits are requiring screening all outfalls for dry weather in a 7-8 yr period plus 400 outfalls for wet weather screening twice during the same 7-8 period.
  - Multi-regional group is still meeting to discuss TMDL requirements.
  - Great Lakes Environmental Law Center has been hired by SEMCOG to research what other states are doing and how prescriptive other states are being.
  - Until ADW hears from EGLE or regional efforts say otherwise, the ADW will wait and stay the course until further feedback is received.
  
- **Biennial Reports + Annual Post Construction Report**

ADW Biennial Reports are due April 1<sup>st</sup> via MiEnvrio portal. The ADW is working on preparing materials documenting the collaborative ADW efforts that each MS4 can include in their individual Biennial Reports. Drafts should be completed by team members February 17<sup>th</sup> and Leah will compile for distribution by OHM to ADW members by March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The following will take the lead but coordination and input will be required by various people to complete. Shared files were made available via Google Drive for group editing.

  - Leah – Directions and Q&A
  - Leah – ERP
  - Leah - PPP
  - Pam/Maaikie – PEP
  - OHM – IDEP (with input from HRWC and Sue)
  - Elizabeth – Post Construction Controls
  - Leah – Pollution Prevention
  - Ric/Andrea - TMDL

Elizabeth will send an email to the ADW members this week with several reminders including upcoming full ADW meeting, Biennial Report deadline, and annual post construction reporting. Val will follow up with SEMCOG to confirm if each community needs an individual report or the Wayne County submittal will suffice.

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### • Updates

- *EGLE Watershed Support Grants* are out and do in early December. There is no match requirement and maximum request of \$40,000. Projects must be completed in one year. ADW has not been awarded one of these grants in the past. *The ADW did not submit an application because an individual EIN number is required to be the applicant. OHM will follow up with Dave Greco to see the level of effort, tax implications, reporting, etc. related to getting ADW own EIN and bank account.*
- *Ecorse Creek Committee*
  - FDR – completed Phase I and II – identified 85 projects and prioritized 11 to move forward. Submitted EGLE watershed support grant application for 2 concept designs. Also submitted NOI for 319 funding for design and construction of a project.
  - DCC – continuing efforts on North Branch project. 1 mile is at 30% design in Dearborn Heights along Hanover Rd – these are FEMA properties that were purchased and demolished for green space. Looking into FEMA Brick Funding support and North Branch Strategy team/plan
  - Wayne County – North Branch Drain Maintenance for Reach 1 is done and has been hydroseeded with native seeds along the banks. Reach 2 will begin soon.
  - Ecorse Creek Cleanup Sub Committee – will be held second Saturday's of July-September. Also planning paddle trip to ID areas for cleanups.
  - Council Point Park tree planting – submitted grant to plant 20 native trees
- *Monitoring* – volunteer signup is open. Orientation will be March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the International Wildlife Refuge. A toolkit is being developed for ADW to post about volunteer opportunity. SHVUA will again be testing samples for ADW. Looking for investigative monitoring sites for 2025. Let Andrea know of any by March.
- *Rain Catchers Collective* – Master Rain Gardeners Course has 90 registered students. *Team will see if able to determine how many of the 90 are coming from ADW area in order to determine if there are other local methods to promote.*
- *E-News* next one will go out March 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- *ADW Calendar* – 2026 Calendars will be produced this year and will go out to members in the Fall for distribution. Photos from the ADW photo contest will be used.
- *Schools For Clean Water Contest* – planned to happen again in Fall 2025.
- *Schools Outreach* – last year the ADW covered bussing for several schools to get to the Detroit Water Festival. This year the Festival will be held May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> (two days instead of one). The plan is for the ADW to again use this budget item to support the event. *Maaike will work with FDR on the details. If you're interested in volunteering at the event, let Maaike know.*
- *ADW Displays* – They were out at 4 libraries in 2024. In addition, City of Gibraltar had the display out for much of the year. One display set is now at Riverview Library/City Hall. HRWC will continue to manage the displays in 2025.

**The next PE/Tech meeting will be held March 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am (virtual).**

## MEETING AGENDA

### ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS

#### Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting

March 11, 2025

11:00 am Virtual



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- **Introductions**
- **Review Agenda**
- **Housekeeping**
  - 2025 Contracts
  - Invoicing and payments
  - ADW EIN/bank account/tax implications (Dave Greco?)
- **Permit Applications and Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
  - Any recent updates or feedback?
  - Multi-regional coordination / Great Lakes Environmental Law Center
- **Biennial Reports (due April 1)**
  - Feb 2023 – December 2024 reporting period
  - MiEnviro Submittal (questions/format same as two years ago)
  - Went out to ADW members via email March 3<sup>rd</sup>
- **Updates/Discussion (if any)**
  - Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project – *McKenzi*
  - IDEP and Monitoring Activities
  - Dry Weather Outfall Screening in Priority Areas
  - E-newsletter
  - Calendar and Photo Contest
  - School Support/Outreach – *supporting costs associated with Downriver Water Festival May 6/7 @ International Wildlife Refuge*
  - Schools For Clean Water Contest (October 2025)
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- **Housekeeping**
  - **Invoicing** – Processing sub invoices but will hold until ADW/OHM contract is approved
  - **Contracts** – 2025 sub-contracts are all set. ADW/OHM contract is in for review by ADW attorney Dave Greco. **Elizabeth will follow up with Dave via mobile phone.**
  - **ADW EIN/bank account** - **Elizabeth will follow up with Dave via mobile phone to ask for pros/cons/process.**
- **Permit Applications + Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
  - Great Lakes Environmental Law Center has been hired by SEMCOG to research what other states are doing and how prescriptive other states are being. GLELC has made good progress on researching federal and state laws. Will present findings of legal research in the Spring.
  - Until ADW hears from EGLE or regional efforts say otherwise, the ADW will wait and stay the course until further feedback is received.
- **Biennial Reports**
  - ADW Biennial Reports are due April 1<sup>st</sup> via MiEnvrio portal. An email was sent out March 3<sup>rd</sup> to the ADW members with instructions and links to collaborative files for each MS4s use. **Elizabeth will send a reminder email again next week.**
- **Updates**
  - The next full ADW meeting is scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm. The meeting will again be held in person (as was done for last years May meeting) at the Wade Trim Taylor office. **Elizabeth will add this to the ADW members and facilitation team calendars and also email out in-person reminder a week or two prior to the meeting.**
  - *Ecorse Creek Committee*
    - Earth Day Clean Up – April 26<sup>th</sup> @ Dingle Park
    - DCC – received NFWF grant for east of Telegraph to bring plans from 30-90% design as well as a section in Romulus
    - Wayne County – North Branch Drain Maintenance Reach 2 will begin soon with same contractor.
    - Ecorse Creek Cleanup Sub Committee – will be held second Saturday's of July-September.
    - Council Point Park tree planting – submitted grant to plant 20 native trees



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- **Updates**

- *Monitoring* – Volunteer Orientation will be March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Lake Erie Metropark with 25 volunteers. SHVUA will again be testing samples for ADW. Looking for investigative monitoring sites for 2025. Let Andrea know of any within the next few days.
- *Dry Weather Screening* – shared map of planned ~30 outfalls in the ADW that will be screened during dry weather this season. Depending on findings and how much effort is needed to investigate, the list may change some.
- *IDEP Testing ADW Facilities* – Elizabeth and Sue met to review. **Elizabeth will email ADW members with the planned list, ask for any updates and then come up with a plan for 2025.**
- *Rain Catchers Collective* –Master Rain Gardeners Course completed with 90 registered students. Talking with legislators at the state level for further support.
- *E-News* went out March 3<sup>rd</sup> with a 35% open rate and 9% click rate. Next one will go out in June.
- *ADW Calendar* – 2026 Calendars will be produced this year and will go out to members in the Fall for distribution. Photos from the ADW photo contest will be used. Coordinating with printer regarding paper type and size due to significant cost increases.
- *Schools For Clean Water Contest* – planned to happen again in Fall 2025.
- *Schools Outreach* – Detroit Water Festival will be held May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> (two days instead of one). The plan is for the ADW to again use this budget item to support the event with a focus on covering transportation costs for schools in ADW member boundaries.
- *ADW Displays* –One display set is now at Riverview Library/City Hall. HRWC will continue to manage the displays in 2025.

**The next PE/Tech meeting will be held May 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am (virtual).**

### Facilitator

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## MEETING AGENDA

### ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS

#### Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting

May 29, 2025

11:00 am Virtual



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- **Introductions**
- **Review Agenda**
- **Housekeeping**
  - 2025 Contracts, invoicing and payments
  - ADW EIN/bank account/tax implications (Dave Greco?)
- **Permit Applications and Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
  - Recent EGLE Feedback
  - Permit Time Period and Next Application
  - Budget
  - Multi-regional coordination / Great Lakes Environmental Law Center
- **Updates/Discussion (if any)**
  - Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project – *McKenzi*
  - Monitoring Activities
  - Dry Weather Outfall Screening in Priority Areas
  - IDEP Testing ADW Facilities
  - E-newsletter
  - Calendar and Photo Contest
  - School Support/Outreach – *supporting costs associated with Downriver Water Festival May 6/7 @ International Wildlife Refuge*
  - Schools For Clean Water Contest (October 2025)
  - Storage/Check In/Check Out ADW Displays
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  - Regional Partnerships
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**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**  
May 29, 2025  
11:00 am Virtual



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**Housekeeping**

- **Invoicing** – All outstanding invoices were just paid by ADW. Subs will be paid within the next 2 weeks.
- **Contracts** – All 2025 contracts have been executed
- **ADW EIN/bank account** – Dave Greco didn't have any advice – he suggested talking with an accountant. **Kelly will ask her WT staff for input on EIN ADW question.**

**Permit Applications + Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**

- ADW facilitation team members met with EGLE at EGLE request to discuss the Collaborative PEP and permit. EGLE would like to see each topic addressed 1-2 times per year. EGLE will get comments on IDEP, TMDL, and PEP within the next 2 months so we'll be able to address the comments collectively. **Elizabeth will put ADW Mtg holds on calendar to be able to discuss EGLE comments.**
- Allen Park had EGLE audit. They need some additional documentation from ADW about screening including a notification process/procedure. **Elizabeth drafted a IDEP collaborative procedure to address EGLE commentary and will pass along to ADW members. Mary will follow up with Brent to respond to EGLE.**
- Great Lakes Environmental Law Center has been hired by SEMCOG to research what other states are doing and how prescriptive other states are being. GLELC legal memo will be done next week. SEMCOG and EGLE are talking and will likely restart the Stateside MS4 Work Group.

**Updates**

- *Ecorse Creek Committee*
  - Community Tree Planting May 31<sup>st</sup> at Council Point Park
  - Concept Plan development starting July for 2 projects in DHT and AP/LP
  - SEMCOG did concept plans at 5 additional locations in Romulus and Taylor.
  - US Army Corps project – plan to build 8' deep basin on 26-acres to assist with flooding. Design should be around 65% complete by May
  - DCC received grant funds for North Branch restoration design. Submitting grant to NFWF for work at Mill Street in Ecorse including streambank stabilization
  - Wayne County Drain Project – reach 2 has begun up to Southfield Freeway. Reach 3 will begin after that. Bids are due for Reaches 4-5. Native seed is included for projects moving forward. Working on more selective clearing. Coordinating with DTE to identify sensitive areas near power lines.



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### Updates

- *Monitoring* – Season is going well with 20 volunteers. Data is uploaded on the chemistry dashboard for viewing.
- *Dry Weather Screening* – 40 outfalls have been completed. 2 had flow in Lincoln Park/Allen Park. Budgeting for DNA tracing. Wayne County staff found a substance at an outfall and are working with EGLE and the local community to cleanup.
- *IDEP Testing ADW Facilities* – All priority areas are done. 50% of the routine areas are done. Now working on what is left. Focusing on fire stations and DPW facilities. 9-10 remain to be done and are being scheduled.
- *Rain Catchers Collective* –Master Rain Gardeners Course completed with 90 registered students. Talking with legislators at the state level for further support.
- *E-News* going out June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Currently 283 subscribers.
- *ADW Calendar* – 2026 Calendars will be produced this year and will go out to members in the Fall for distribution. Photos from the ADW photo contest will be used. New graphic designer on board. Coordinating with printer regarding paper type and size due to significant cost increases.
- *Schools For Clean Water Contest* – planned to happen again in Fall 2025. 14 schools have already signed up across 10 ADW communities.
- *Schools Outreach* – Detroit Water Festival was held May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> (two days instead of one). The ADW covered \$2500 transportation costs for schools. The Friends Group asked if ADW would consider covering costs of tents, chairs, lunches, etc. **The meeting attendees agreed that the ADW can provide additional support up to the budgeted amount that was approved by the ADW.**
- *ADW Displays* – @ Taylor Public Library in August. New TIP cards will go out with the displays.
- *Regional Partnerships* – June 5<sup>th</sup> the DCC, Friends of Detroit River, ADW and SEMCOG are meeting to discuss nature-based solutions analysis.

**The next PE/Tech meeting will be held July 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm (virtual).**

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- **Review Agenda**
- **Housekeeping**
  - 2025 invoicing
  - ADW EIN/bank account/tax implications (WT accounting staff?)
  - Inkster
- **Permit Applications and Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
  - EGLE Feedback
  - Permit Time Period and Next Application
  - Budget
  - Multi-regional coordination / Great Lakes Environmental Law Center
- **2026 Budgeting + Approval Schedule**
- **Updates/Discussion (if any)**
  - Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River Project – *McKenzi*
  - Monitoring Activities
  - Dry Weather Outfall Screening in Priority Areas
  - IDEP Testing ADW Facilities
  - E-newsletter
  - Calendar and Photo Contest
  - School Support/Outreach – *supported costs associated with Downriver Water Festival May 6/7 @ International Wildlife Refuge*
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#### Housekeeping

- **Invoicing** – 1 outstanding invoice just got approved
- **ADW EIN/bank account** – Dave Greco didn't have any advice – he suggested talking with an accountant. **Kelly will ask her WT staff for input on EIN ADW question.**
- **Inkster** – 4<sup>th</sup> year of outstanding dues. **Elizabeth will draft email for Ron to send to Inkster and cc Val and the Inkster leadership indicating formal removal from ADW. Will also need to update website, letter head, Collaborative Plans, etc. to remove Inkster.**

#### Permit Applications + Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)

- The ADW received comments from EGLE on the PPP, PEP, and IDEP. To summarize, the Collaborative IDEP needs to reflect every dry weather outfall will be screened for every permit cycle. Individual communities will need to do this in house, hire their own consultant, or amend their dues and have the facilitation team do outfall screening. EGLE is also now requiring the whole system of catch basins be inspected every 3 years (per Brent).
  - Elizabeth will follow up with Noel on status of TMDL in Rouge – meeting with the ARC in mid-August.
  - Elizabeth will send the ADW an email with status updates. i.e. received EGLE comments, asking for extension, etc.
  - Val will draft an extension request letter to EGLE for end of October and indicate need to receive TMDL comments.
  - Val will put all Collaborative Plans on a sharepoint and send out to the team.
  - Elizabeth will revise Collaborative Plans, send documents out for ADW review by late September, for approval at October meeting, and send to EGLE by October.
- Great Lakes Environmental Law Center memo is complete. EGLE has broad authority under existing law. EPA Guidelines are meant to be a minimum – states can go above. Law has language such as “feasibility” – which can include technically feasible, economically feasible, etc. State can't require something arbitrary, has to have rational. Broad use of stormwater utilities. SEMCOG is drafting a memo to EGLE and attaching the GLLC memo.

#### 2026 Budget Approval Schedule

- Elizabeth send out draft table to team members
- Team members fill in
- Review at PE Tech meeting in August
- Executive Committee in late September
- Approve budget at October ADW meeting

#### Facilitator

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## Updates



### Member Communities

Allen Park  
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- *Friends of Detroit River/Ecorse Creek Committee*
  - 1 yr grant – concepts for 2 locations. 1 in DHT and 2 in AP/LP
  - DCC received grant funds for North Branch restoration design. Starting 90% design for 1 mile section in Dearborn Heights. Starting design for Romulus.
- *Monitoring* – 2025 season is half done. 20 volunteers collecting samples every other week. Data through May is available on line dashboard. Chloride/salt test strips are being piloted.
- *IDEP Testing ADW Facilities* – All priority areas are done. 50% of the routine areas are done. Now working on what is left. Allen Park facility was dye tested. Trenton has 5 facilities that need to be tested.
- *E-News* going out in early September.
- *ADW Calendar* – 2026 Calendars will be produced this year and will go out to members in the Fall for distribution. Photos from the ADW photo contest will be used. Mock ups are currently being reviewed.
- *Schools For Clean Water Contest* – planned to happen in October 2025. 15 schools have already signed up across 10 ADW communities.
- *ADW Displays* – @ Taylor Public Library in August. New TIP cards will go out with the displays. The Display that is in Allen Park will go to Grosse Ile – Brent will facilitate. Contact Maaikie if you'd like the display in your community.
- *Regional Partnerships* – There is a bipartisan bill drafted that may provide \$12M for the Rain Catchers Collective.

**The next PE/Tech meeting will be held September 4<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30.** *Since the conclusion of today's meeting, an additional PE/Tech meeting has been scheduled for August 15<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 am to discuss collaborative plan revisions/submittals.*

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## MEETING AGENDA

### ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS

#### Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting

August 15, 2025

9:30 am Virtual



#### Member Communities

Allen Park  
Belleville  
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- **Introductions**
- **Review Agenda**
- **Housekeeping**
  - 2025 invoicing
  - ADW EIN/bank account/tax implications (WT accounting staff?)
- **Permit Applications and Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
  - Review revisions to Collaborative Plans based on EGLE Feedback
  - Due to EGLE September 1
  - ADW Member review/approval prior to September 1
- **2026 Budgeting + Approval Schedule**
- **Next Meeting**
  - September 4<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm

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**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
**Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting**  
August 15, 2025  
9:30am Virtual



**Member Communities**

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**Attendees:** Valerie Novaes, OHM; Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; Andrea Paine, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Maaikie Wielenga, HRWC; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM; Brent Florek, Charles Raines; Ron Akers, Van Buren Twp; Don Straub, Romulus; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Kaitlyn Steeves; Noel Mullet, ECT

**Permit Applications + Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**

- Val met with EGLE to continue discussions on revisions and due dates. All revised Collaborative Plans are due to EGLE by September 30. In addition, Ric and Andrea met with EGLE to specifically discuss the TMDL comments and options. IDEP will include screening of all outfalls once in the 7-year time frame. TMDL will include 17% of outfalls in the 7-year time frame. With that in mind, the following schedule was discussed:
  - September 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm - PE Tech team meet to review all revisions together
  - September 16<sup>th</sup> – Schedule Full ADW meeting - Get all revised drafts (along with summary of changes) in front of the full ADW for final review prior to submittal
- IDEP - Elizabeth is leading revisions
- PEP/PPP – Pam is leading revisions
- TMDL – Ric and Andrea are leading revisions
- A discussion also took place about continuing to focus and review with the ADW what the ADW can collectively do to assist with meeting permit requirements. A few ideas from members included:
  - Give a quick review of dry weather outfalls, what screening entails, and the process communities will have to do to meet their permit.
  - Develop a quick checklist of permit requirements to make it as simple as possible for staff to follow, execute, and document
  - Summary checklist of Collaborative Plans
  - Decision tree of screening dry weather outfalls and what to do if flow is observed
  - Build out Attachment B in Collaborative IDEP

**2026 Budget Approval Schedule**

For the budget conversation, the team will be projecting out several years based on the pending permits and collaborative plans and illustrate how it compares to the ADW dues and already projected increases. Budget spreadsheet is drafted and was shared for continued review. Elizabeth will send out and ask for input/feedback from the various team members.

- Review draft budget with Executive Committee in late September
- Review budget for approval at October 14<sup>th</sup> ADW meeting

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## MEETING AGENDA

### ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS

#### Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting

September 4, 2025

1:30pm Virtual



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- **Introductions**
- **Review Agenda**
- **Housekeeping**
  - 2025 invoicing
  - ADW EIN/bank account/tax implications (WT accounting staff?)
  - Great Lakes Law Center Memo Shared to EGLE
- **Permit Applications and Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
  - Review revisions to Collaborative Plans based on EGLE Feedback
  - Due to EGLE September 30
  - ADW Member review/approval prior to September 30
  - Remove non-members from all documents prior to submittal
- **2026 Budgeting Update + Approval Schedule**
- **Next Meeting**
  - Full ADW Meeting September 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am
  -

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

September 4, 2025

1:30pm Virtual



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**Attendees:** Valerie Novaes, OHM; Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; Andrea Paine, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Maaike Wielenga, HRWC; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM; Brent Florek, Charles Raines; Ron Akers, Van Buren Twp; Don Straub, Romulus; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Kaitlyn Steeves; Noel Mullet, ECT; Kelly McRobb-Ackland, Wade Trim

**Great Lakes Law Center Memo**

SEMCOG developed a cover letter, attached it to the completed Great Lakes Law Center memo and sent it to EGLE. **Elizabeth will send the SEMCOG letter and Law Center memo to the ADW membership as an FYI.**

**Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**

- All revised Collaborative Plans are due to EGLE by September 30.
- The Permit Cycle will be a 2-yr abbreviated permit and then a 5-yr permit for a total of 7 years
- TMDL –
  - Reviewed and discussed with Casey at EGLE several times over the past month. Permittees need to take either a monitoring approach for outfalls like ARC is doing or an implementation approach. Suggesting ADW take an implementation approach
  - A high level overview of revised TMDL was done with some minor suggestions such as modifying language for TMDL #1 to not commit implementation on ADW member communities, change language from HRWC to ADW, etc.
- IDEP –
  - Reviewed summary table of changes that will be sent to ADW members
- PEP –
  - Reviewed summary of changes with most significant one working to address EGLE comment to add 11<sup>th</sup> activity – a broad based activity to distribute information to the business community.
- **Team members will send all revised docs to Elizabeth by 9/8**
- **Elizabeth will send out to ADW members by 9/9:**
  - **Revised collaborative plans and summary changes**
  - **Summary of how/why we are where we are**
  - **9/16 Agenda packet**
  - **Draft budget**

**2026 Budget Approval Schedule**

While the budget is drafted, it was decided to wait until the ADW December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting for approval in case additional changes came from EGLE on the Collaborative Plans. The team reviewed the draft Budget spreadsheet.

- **Pam will send Elizabeth text/labeling changes for the budget**
- **Elizabeth will update all of the titles**

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## MEETING AGENDA

### ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS

#### Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting

November 14, 2025

1:30pm Virtual



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- **Introductions**
- **Review Agenda**
- **Housekeeping**
  - Invoicing
  - ADW EIN/bank account/tax implications (WT accounting staff?)
- **Permit Applications and Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**
  - EGLE Comments
  - Re-Submittals
  - Communication to ADW membership?
- **2026 Budgeting Update + Approval Schedule**
  - Review and make any final edits
  - Distribute to ADW memberships for approval at December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting
- **Next Meeting**
  - Full ADW Meeting December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30am
  - PE Tech Meeting – schedule for late January

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

November 14, 2025

1:00pm Virtual



**Attendees:** Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; Andrea Paine, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Maaïke Wielenga, HRWC; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM; Brent Florek, Charles Raines; Ron Akers, Van Buren Twp; Don Straub, Romulus; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Kaitlyn Steeves; Noel Mullet, ECT; Kelly McRobb-Ackland, Wade Trim

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**Collaborative Plans (TMDL/IDEP/PEP)**

- EGLE has approved the PPP & IDEP
- EGLE had minor comments on PEP. Those were addressed, submitted and EGLE has approved
- EGLE has comments on the TMDL – revisions were sent to EGLE this week and awaiting response. TMDL:
  - Team met with EGLE and discussed comments
  - Added detail about effectiveness of residential rain gardens
  - Shifted priority areas over to Frank & Poet to cover more ADW area
- Elizabeth will send out communication to full ADW by the 24<sup>th</sup> including
  - Meeting reminder
  - EGLE status/submittals
  - Proposed budget

**2026 Budget Approval Schedule**

The team reviewed the draft Budget spreadsheet. It will be reviewed and voted on at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> full ADW meeting. The associated write ups for the various tasks needs to accompany the table.

- Appropriate team members will draft the text write ups for the 2025 tasks and get them to Elizabeth to compile by 11/21.

**Updates**

- Adopt a storm drain pledge program with the ADW schools is complete and got nearly 2000 pledges. Full report will be shared at the 12/2 ADW meeting.
- ADW E-News will go out 12/8 including announcement that EGLE approved Collaborative Plans
- EGLE MS4 Stakeholder Group will begin meeting again in 2026. A survey will be sent out to gather feedback about the group.
- EGLE is shifting MS4 reporting back to Annual. For ADW members, this will begin in 2027. Casey from EGLE will attend the 12/2 meeting to give an update.

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**The next ADW PE Tech Meeting will be held virtually January 29, 2026 at 9:30am.**