

MEETING SUMMARY
ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS
Technical / Public Education Committee Meeting
June 25, 2024
10:00 am Virtual



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
Trenton
Van Buren Township
WayneCounty
Westland
Woodhaven-
Brownstown School
District
Wyandotte

Attendees: Valerie Novaes, OHM; Elizabeth Thacker, OHM; Andrea Paine, HRWC; Pam Labadie, HRWC; Maaike Wielenga, HRWC; Sue Thompson, Wayne County; Leah Groya, Consultant; Mary Trzeciak, OHM; Brent Florek, Charles Raines Co.; McKenzi Waliczek, Friends of Detroit River; Ron Akers, Van Buren Township

- **Housekeeping**
 - **Invoicing** – All invoices are in process and should be paid in a few weeks
 - **2024 Contracts** – All contracts are executed
 - **Woodhaven Brownstown Schools** – new rep is ARCH Environmental Group and Kaitlyn Steeves
 - **New EGLE contact for ADW**

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

Some latest regional discussions are revealing that EGLE may only require dry weather sampling for TMDL. Permit cycles – abbreviated cycle this application – will be a 2 year cycle to then allow for a consistent 5 year cycle that will align with Wastewater Permit cycle. Looking at 1, 7-year permit cycle. For IDPE, EGLE will exclude points of discharge but require screening of every outfall in the 7-year permit period.

SEMCOG is coordinating IDEP effectiveness study and EGLE supports this approach.

- **2025 ADW Budget Schedule**
 - August PE/Tech Meeting – 2025 and 2026 budget planning revisions/discussion
 - September – Executive Committee Budget Review
 - October – Full ADW Budget Approval

- **Updates**
 - Monitoring and IDEP
 - Halfway point of season – going well – 20 volunteers and SHVUA doing sampling analysis
 - Frank & Poet TMDL Sampling – is there a list of outfalls from OHM for Frank & Poet to track sampling – end of July to September. **OHM send to Ric for use. Mary will also touch base with Sue at Wayne County for GIS outfall data.**
 - Dry weather outfall screening dates are scheduled into July
 - Holding off on wet weather screening until we hear back from EGLE. **Andrea will share this with Ric.**

Facilitator

OHM Advisors
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- Photo Contest – June 1-August 3. 4 cash prizes. Launched the contest. 70 photo entries were received in 25 days. 19 photographers from 12 Downriver communities.
- Schools for Clean Water contest will run October 14-28 and will be open to all schools in the ADW this year (as opposed to just Wayne County Green Schools). 19 schools signed up during early registration from 12 ADW member communities.
- E-news – June 2024 edition went out with a 27% open rate.
- Rain Catchers Collaborative – waiting to hear back on grant proposals. NOAA Climate Fund awards have been moved to August. Full branding and marketing and press has launched.
- Downriver Community Conference – John Danci did podcast. They are submitting grant information and looking for ADW data.

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The next PE/Tech meeting will be held August 22, 2024 at 1:00pm (virtual).

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