

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



April 15, 2008  
10:30 am – 11:30 am

Allen Park  
Belleville  
Berlin Township  
Brownstown Township  
Dearborn Heights  
Ecorse  
Flat Rock  
Gibraltar  
Grosse Ile Township  
Huron Township  
Lincoln Park  
Melvindale  
Riverview  
Rockwood  
Romulus  
Southgate  
South Rockwood  
Sumpter Township  
Taylor  
Van Buren Township  
Wayne County  
Wayne County  
Airport Authority  
Westland  
Woodhaven  
Woodhaven-Brownstown  
School District  
Wyandotte

The Alliance of Downriver Watersheds Public Education and Technical Committees held a joint meeting on April 15, 2008.

**Attendance:**

Matt Best	Wayne County
Noel Mullet	Wayne County
Nancy Gregor	Wayne County
Sue Thompson	Wayne County
Craig Lyon	City of Taylor
Neil Greene	Woodhaven-Brownstown Schools
Robert Burns	Friends of the Detroit River
Ric Lawson	HRWC
Dan Swallow	Van Buren Township
Brent Florek	Charles E. Raines, Co.
Leah Groya	Wade Trim
Kelly Karll	ECT for WCAA

**1) Status of Grow Zone Sites**

There were 2 Grow Zone Sites that have some outstanding issues to resolve, however progress is being made. The Dearborn Heights Telegraph Road site – Wayne County is having discussions with MDOT and WC Roads to get approvals. The Beaver Park site in Wyandotte has a meeting set up to discuss the project because of the possible landfill issue. All other Grow Zone Sites are on track to begin design once a consultant is selected.

**2) Grow Zone Design Proposals**

The proposals will be reviewed and a recommendation will be made by a Selection Committee comprised of Craig Lyon, Brent Florek, Ric Lawson, Dan Swallow, and Noel Mullett. Proposal packets were distributed to the Selection Committee at today's meeting. They will meet on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 am at the Wayne County DOE office to discuss with a decision made no later than May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Five proposals were submitted that ranged from \$26K to \$43K. Submitters included Dietrich Bailey, JJR, ASTI/Hamilton, Wade Trim and ECT.

**Action Item:** Selection Committee meet on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 am to discuss and make recommendation.

### 3) Detention Pond Workshop

A public workshop will be held at the end of July in the City of Taylor and one at the end of August in the City of Flat Rock. They will most likely be held in the evening (Wednesday or Thursday) from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Wayne County is ready to order the Detention Pond Manuals for the ADW communities and for distribution at the 2 workshops. The manuals and workshops are geared toward residential detention ponds. Wayne County received quotes for printing the manual. Initial thought was to order 350 manuals for \$1,240.50. After discussion, the Technical Committee would like to order 1,000 manuals for the price of \$1,647. A lot more manuals could be printed for a relatively small dollar increase. It is anticipated that approximately 100 would be handed out at the workshops with the remainder distributed to the ADW communities to distribute to their Homeowner's Associations, etc.

It was also indicated that SEMCOG is planning a detention pond workshop this summer and might be interested in purchasing the manuals as well.

#### **Action Items:**

- Kelly Karll will check with SEMCOG regarding their interest in participating in purchasing the manuals.
- Noel Mullett will develop and distribute an email to the ADW explaining the desire to purchase 1000 manuals and the printing cost opportunity.
- Craig Lyon will get back to Nancy Gregor dates/locations in Taylor to hold the workshop (end of July).
- Nancy Gregor will order manuals once final amount is approved by ADW.

### 4) Landcover Mapping / Green Infrastructure

The ADW approved moving forward with Sanborn to create the Green Infrastructure mapping for the watersheds. It will cover the entire ADW, approximately 204 square miles at a cost of approximately \$200/square mile. It will be leaf off data to get a good idea of imperviousness and grow zone data. Some border communities may be interested in getting their entire community mapped. Noel is working on a revised spreadsheet and contract to do so.

**Action Item:** Noel Mullett to revise spreadsheet and costs for border communities.

### 5) Other Public Education Activities

#### **a) Upcoming Events**

Several events were announced including:

- i. City of Taylor 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on May 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Event will include environmental booth with watershed information, etc. A river clean up will also take place.
- ii. Van Buren is holding a media event on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 pm at the Lower Huron Metropark to officially rename Riggs Drain to Woods Creek.
- iii. Van Buren is holding a river-friendly lawn care workshop on April 29<sup>th</sup> to help to address the high phosphorus levels in Woods Creek.
- iv. Friends of Detroit River is holding a Detroit River Clean up on April 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Trenton Rotary Park in Trenton.

Event flyers can be posted to the ADW website if anyone would like. Please forward a .pdf to Leah Groya for posting.

**b) Storm Drain Labeling**

Friends of the Detroit River has sent out information to ADW members to gauge interest in bulk ordering storm drain labels again. Looking to place an order in May. Grants are being sought to offset the costs again. Discussion took place regarding the development of a “standard – standard” for storm drain and manhole covers that incorporate a “Drains to River” message. It would be ideal if the standard specification was the same across the entire ADW including Wayne County Roads. Then when new construction/reconstruction projects are taking place, the new covers would be specified and included in the project cost. Could also consider Joint Purchasing Powers for covers. However, it was agreed that there is some value in motorists being able to see and recognize the colored labels on the curbs and the educational value of volunteer groups helping to affix them.

**Action Item:** Bob Burns will research the pre-cast grates and report back on opportunities and constraints related to the ADW.

**c) Advertisements**

The Wayne County advertising strategy for April/May is confirmed. Added the Inkster Ledger and removed the Sunday Times. The Earth Friendly ad will go in the local papers that cover the entire ADW. Wayne County is covering the cost for the Spring ads, but are looking for funds to run ads in the Fall as well. Wayne County needs approximately 2-3 weeks lead time to get the ads in the papers. Need to know by mid-August if ADW wants to do Fall ads.

The Lower Huron WAG voted to use some of their discretionary funds for advertisements. HRWC is developing a proposal for their approval.

SEMCOG has video and radio PSAs on their website that can be downloaded and used for cable television, etc.

The Michigan Green Industry has info on their website regarding commercial fertilizer applications.

**Action Item:** Wayne County will coordinate with Leah Groya to get the earth-friendly image on the ADW website and when someone clicks on it, they’ll be directed to the Wayne County website.

**6) 2008 Monitoring Strategy**

Comments have been received back on the QAPP and are relatively minor in nature. Those will be addressed and monitoring will move forward. Wayne County has ordered equipment to be used to start monitoring. It will be used in both the Rouge and ADW. It would be ideal to get equipment out ASAP and start collecting data. Need to get volunteers and training scheduled for the Grow Zone Sites. Wayne County will have staff on site with volunteers assisting. Develop a sign in sheet for distribution at the Detention Ponds Workshops to get an email list of interested volunteers going. HRWC and Wayne County will coordinate.

**Action Item:** Ric Lawson to develop volunteer sign-up sheet for communities to have at community events to help recruit volunteers for monitoring and Grow Zone installation events.

**7) Next Meeting**

- Christine Alexander from the DEQ would like to hold a public meeting to present the Ecorse Creek TMDL. This will be held on either May 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup>. Craig Lyon will check on availability of Taylor Meadows to hold the meeting and will get back to Noel ASAP so that it can be scheduled and advertised. This will be the only agenda item at the meeting
- The Next Tech/Pub Ed Committee meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 am at the Wayne County DOE-Wayne Office.