



**GREATER LANSING
REGIONAL COMMITTEE**
FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

www.mywatersheds.org

July 2018
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
ISSUE #33

Committee Update



Summer is heating up and so is the activity of the GLRC. Recently, we've focused on the continued education of our members. In June, we hosted the GLRC Stormwater Seminar where members listened to expert presentations and discussed innovative new strategies to improve and fund their stormwater programs. In late July, we are holding an Illicit Discharge Elimination training event to refresh municipal staff on IDEP requirements and to ensure members are properly addressing illegal connections, dumping, and spills. The Public Education Committee has also been busy, revamping the GLRC's shared public education plan to better address knowledge gaps within the watershed, and our Regional Water Quality Survey was completed by over 600 residents and provides us insights to inform our future outreach strategies. We'll be sharing this data with our regional partners at a future event.

MDEQ is also working hard to issue our next round of stormwater permits and assess on-going operations. They anticipate that GLRC members will be issued new permits this fall and are in the process of evaluating programs through MS4 audits, inspections, and site visits. Two members have been inspected so far, and we anticipate a couple more before years end. These audits provide permittees the opportunity to identify their strengths and areas that need improvement. Feedback is shared with the rest of the GLRC to help improve all programs and to assist our internal mock audit training events.

As the GLRC continues to do our part in protecting our region's water resources, we encourage the public to do the same. Summer is a great time to recycle hazardous household waste and to help municipalities identify illicit discharges and illegal dumping activities. More information on both is located on the following pages.

If you're interested in what we're up to, events we'll be participating in, or how you can help improve our area's water quality, visit www.MyWatersheds.org and find us on Facebook!

Happy Summer!

Local Recycling Events

When stored or disposed of improperly, hazardous household waste can enter and impact our shared water resources. Paints, motor oils, and cleaners that are dumped, spilled, or leaked can discharge into our rivers and streams via storm drains. Old, expired, used, or otherwise unneeded hazardous household waste should be disposed of at a local waste collection facility or event. Check out these resources to help you properly dispose of these items:

Ingham County

Ingham County Health Department Household Hazardous Waste Facility- 5303 South Cedar Street, Lansing, MI 517-887-4312. Drop off items on Tuesdays and Thursday: 2:00pm to 6:00pm from May to September. <http://hd.ingham.org/forparents/healthyhomes/hazardoushouseholdwaste.aspx>

Eaton County

"Recycle Palooza" Eaton County Department of Resource Recovery- Charlotte, MI 517-543-3686 August 25, 2018 9:00am to 2:00pm. Registration required. Exact event location to be released upon completing registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-recycle-palooza-registration-36415524815>

Clinton County

"Free for Fall" September 15th. Granger. 16980 Wood Road, Drive #5 8:00am to 1:00pm <https://www.clinton-county.org/535/Free-For-Fall>

GLRC Coordinator Cliff Walls assisted Ingham Conservation District with a Rain Barrel Workshop in May! The GLRC, River Network, and Coca Cola sponsored the event. Over 20 rain barrels were created to be installed at public locations throughout Ingham County!





Illicit Discharges

You might not be able to see the stream or lake from your house, but it's there! It might be a small stream or ditch or even a storm drain in the street. All of these lead directly to our lakes and streams, meaning what we do at home impacts water resources throughout our watershed and beyond. Any oil, pet waste, leaves or dirty water from washing your car that enters a storm drain discharges into our lakes and rivers without being treated. This is known as an illicit discharge.

An illicit discharge is anything that drains to a storm drain or directly to the river and is not stormwater or clean groundwater. An illicit discharge can be an illegal pipe draining directly to the river, a failing onsite septic system, or even a spill that goes into the storm drain or water body. As a community member, you play a large role in identifying and reducing illicit discharges in your community.

Stormwater drainage systems should only be discharging during or following wet weather events. If you notice flow exiting a stormwater outfall when it hasn't rained in days, it could indicate the presence of an illegal connection, spill, or that someone dumped something into a catch basin. Sheens, suds, smells, or discoloration during any weather, wet or dry, can also be a sign.

If you see someone dumping anything into a storm drain or see an illicit connection to a river, report it to your local public works department.

What Can You Do About Illicit Discharges?

Sweep it: Sweep excess fertilizer and grass clippings from pavement back onto your lawn so that they don't wash into storm drains. Hosing your driveway sends these pollutants into storm drains that lead directly to our lakes and rivers.

Keep it clean: Whether in the street or in your yard, remember to keep leaves, grass clippings, trash, and fertilizers away from storm drains.

Only Rain in the Drain: Never dump motor oil, chemicals, pet waste, dirty or soapy water, or anything else down the storm drain. All of these materials pollute our water resources!

Pick it up: Pick up after your pet to reduce the amount of pet waste (and its bacteria) that travels to local waterways.

Dispose of it properly: Take household hazardous waste (paint, motor oil, etc) to a local collection event. See schedule on page two.

Wash responsibly: When you wash a vehicle in the street or driveway, dirty water, automotive fluids, and soap suds will flow off the pavement, into drains, and discharge into rivers and lakes. Use a commercial car wash facility or park over the grass to help pollutants filter out in the soil.

Report it!: If you see someone dumping something into a storm drain or see a direct connection to the river that may be pollution, you are encouraged to report it. Contact your local public works department or call the Michigan Pollution Emergency Alerting System (PEAS) at (800) 292-4702.

Upcoming Meetings

GLRC Executive Committee Meeting

September 13th, 2018
8:30am
Large Conference Room
3135 Pine Tree Road Suite 2C
Lansing, MI 48911

GLRC Executive Committee Meeting

December 13th, 2018
8:00am
Large Conference Room
3135 Pine Tree Road Suite 2C
Lansing, MI 48911

GLRC Full Committee Meeting

December 13th, 2018
9:30am
Large Conference Room
3135 Pine Tree Road Suite 2C
Lansing, MI 48911

Training Events

GLRC IDEP Field Screening Training

July 24th, 2018. 9:00am to 11:00am. Kestrel Shelter, Hawk Island County Park
1601 E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing MI

The GLRC will be holding an outfall screening session to fulfill municipal staff's IDEP training requirements. Spicer Group will be providing the training. Contact GLRC Coordinator Cliff Walls for more information.
cwalls@mitcrpc.org 517-393-0342 x 20

GLRC Members:

Clinton County
Delhi Charter Township
Delta Charter Township
DeWitt Charter Township
City of DeWitt
City of East Lansing
Eaton County
City of Grand Ledge

Ingham County
Lansing Charter Township
Lansing School District
City of Lansing
City of Mason
Meridian Charter Township
Michigan State University
Waverly Community Schools



**TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Administrative Support:
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
3135 Pine Tree Road Suite 2C
Lansing MI 48911
517-393-0342

Photo Recap



The GLRC at the "Big Green Gig", an Earth Day event hosted by MSU student groups



GLRC Coordinator Cliff Walls exhibiting at the annual BWL Adopt-a-River event



GLRC members at the 2018 GLRC Stormwater Seminar!

Produced by the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission



Stay Connected.

Follow the GLRC and TCRPC online for updates on regional planning and stormwater management!



@GLRC4Stormwater
@TriCountyPlanning



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@MI_TCRPC



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