

DeWitt Charter Township

Fifth Annual Watershed Management Progress Report

October 2007 to September 2008

Submitted to:

**State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Water Bureau**



Greater Lansing Regional Committee (GLRC)
for Stormwater Management

September 2008

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1.0 General Information

This fifth annual progress report is being submitted by the DeWitt Charter Township in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Phase II Stormwater National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Watershed Permit. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) requires that by October 1 each year; a report be submitted on the implementation status of the previously submitted permit application.

2.0 GLRC

The Greater Lansing Regional Committee (GLRC) for stormwater management is a guiding body comprised of participating Phase II communities within the Greater Lansing Region. The committee has been established to guide the implementation of the Phase II Program for the communities within three identified urbanized watersheds; the Grand River, the Red Cedar River and the Looking Glass River watersheds.

2.1 GLRC Background

Beginning in November 1999, nine communities and three counties in the Greater Lansing Area organized to discuss the Federal Regulations for the Stormwater Phase II Program. The result of this organization was an agreement to pool resources on a regional basis to fulfill the requirements of the program. Initially, based on 1990 census population data, these nine communities and three counties were the only entities in the Greater Lansing Area that were designated to participate in the Phase II “Voluntary Permit Program” by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). Following several meetings of this group during late 1999 and early 2000, a resolution was drafted to establish the “Greater Lansing Area Regional NPDES Phase II Stormwater Regulations Committee” and representatives from each jurisdiction were named to serve on the committee.

Soon after the organization of the committee in 2000, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) began to assist the committee in providing contractual, fiduciary, and administrative support. At the same time, the committee began requesting and entertaining proposals from four consulting firms for assistance on the Phase II requirements. Ultimately, Tetra Tech MPS was selected to produce a permit strategy study, and later to prepare the Voluntary Grant Permit Applications for each community. Again in 2002, Tetra Tech MPS was retained to prepare watershed management plans (WMPs) for the Grand River and Red Cedar River watershed areas, and would later prepare a WMP for the Looking Glass River watershed area.

Based on the increased population data following the release of the 2000 Census, ten additional communities were designated to meet the Stormwater Phase II requirements under Federal and State regulations. Ultimately, seventeen communities and the three counties agreed to participate in a regional approach until April 30, 2008. Most recently the GLRC’s Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was updated to align with the upcoming permit cycle (2008 – 2013). The updated MOA was adopted by GLRC members and therefore establishes the GLRC legally through 2013. There are also a number of interested parties that are consistently involved with the planning activities associated with this project such as county drain and road commissioners, school districts, utility authorities, and transportation authorities. The participating communities

recognize the substantial benefits that can be derived through cooperative management of the watersheds and in providing mutual assistance in meeting the stormwater permit requirements.

2.2 GLRC Members

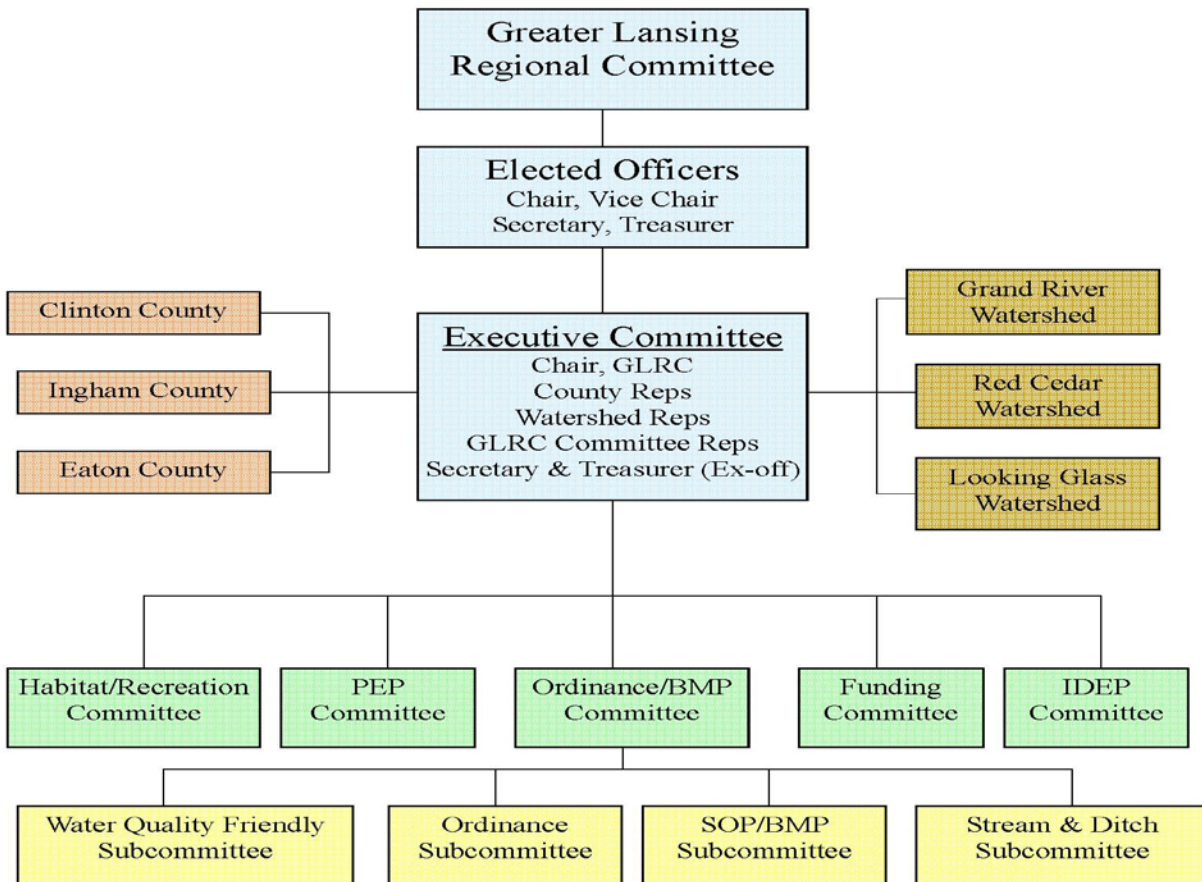
The participating Phase II entities that make up the GLRC are as follows:

- City of DeWitt
- City of Grand Ledge
- City of Mason
- Delhi Charter Township
- Delta Charter Township
- DeWitt Charter Township
- City of East Lansing
- Lansing Charter Township
- City of Lansing
- Meridian Charter Township
- Oneida Charter Township
- Dewitt Public Schools
- Lansing Public Schools
- Village of Dimondale
- Windsor Charter Township
- Clinton County
- Eaton County
- Ingham County

In addition, Michigan State University holds an Ex-Officio position with the GLRC. Due to a recent court case with MDEQ and Kalamazoo and Comstock Park Townships, many townships no longer need to meet Phase II requirements. Therefore, Bath Charter Township and Watertown Charter Township have halted participation with the GLRC. Fortunately, Oneida Charter Township and Windsor Charter Township have remained associate members of the GLRC in order to benefit from the group's efforts to improve stormwater management and reduce pollution within the region. They also benefit from the public education materials developed by the GLRC.

2.3 GLRC Organization

Within the GLRC, a number of committees have been established to guide various components of the Phase II Program. Other committees may be established as needed throughout the course of the project. A list of the committees and subcommittees including a brief description of their responsibilities follows.



Executive Committee

The GLRC Executive Committee is comprised of a maximum of twelve voting members consisting of the Chair of the GLRC, one representative from each of the three counties, one representative from each of the three watersheds, and the chairs of the Illicit Discharge Elimination Program (IDEP), Public Education Program (PEP), Ordinance/Best Management Practices (BMP), Habitat and Recreation, and Funding Committees. In addition to the voting members, there are two non-voting ex-officio members: the GLRC treasurer (Executive Director of TCRPC) and the GLRC secretary. The role of the Executive Committee is to seek consensus on program-related issues brought before it.

Watershed Committees

The Watershed Committees guide the development of the watershed management plan and the implementation of the Public Participation Process. The committees consist of representatives from each community that has land use authority in the watershed. The committees continue to meet regularly during the watershed planning process. Three committees have been established as part of the GLRC to address each watershed:

- Looking Glass River Watershed Committee
- Red Cedar River Watershed Committee
- Grand River Watershed Committee

Over the last few years, the watershed management planning effort has shifted from the planning phase, to an implementation phase. There are 5 implementation committees listed below. Some of the implementation committees may have subcommittees to address more targeted activities.

Public Education Program Committee

The Public Education Program Committee guides the overall public education, participation, outreach, and involvement process for the watershed management planning effort. This also includes evaluation and assessment of public knowledge and activities.

Illicit Discharge Elimination Program Committee

The IDEP Committee guides the organization and implementation of the illicit discharge elimination program, mapping guidelines, field-sampling protocols, and how the watershed will be monitored for progress. The IDEP Committee is also reviewing pet waste reduction techniques, septic tank maintenance issues, and IDEP ordinances.

Habitat and Recreation Committee

The Habitat and Recreation Committee focuses on wetland inventory and protection; restoration and ecosystem monitoring; volunteer monitoring efforts; and identifying impairments in the watersheds in order to improve water quality throughout the stream and river systems. The recreation component focuses on enhancing access to the river systems in order to improve activities such as canoeing, hiking, fishing etc.

Funding Committee

The Funding Committee focuses on providing information about equitable and sustainable funding mechanisms for the implementation and maintenance of the Watershed Management Plans indefinitely.

Ordinance/Best Management Practice Committee

The Ordinance/BMP Committee is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations on updating existing ordinances to make sure that they are consistent with the required EPA elements. This committee has created 4 subcommittees to implement many of the committees charges, these include:

Water Quality Friendly (WQF) Subcommittee:

This subcommittee provides guidance material regarding development standards for WQF and low impact development practices to be adopted and practiced by the GLRC members.

Standard Operating Procedure/Best Management Practices (SOP/BMP) Subcommittee:

This subcommittee provides guidance material regarding SOPs for municipal activities such as catch basin cleaning, vehicle maintenance, etc. The subcommittee will also research and provide guidance materials regarding BMPs for the local region.

Ordinance Subcommittee:

The Ordinance Subcommittee focuses on local ordinances that are relevant to watershed management efforts and that will help improve the water quality in the region. Many aspects of proposed ordinances will be reviewed by the subcommittee, they include: enforcement, viability, challenges, adoption processes, template and model language.

Stream and Ditch Subcommittee:

The Stream/Ditch Subcommittee focuses on researching and establishing a set of stream/ditch management techniques that can be adopted throughout the region to improve water quality.

Many of these committees have been meeting on a rotating schedule. Some committees will meet on an “as needed” basis as implementation activities are accomplished. As of September, 2008 the committees and subcommittees are meeting on the following schedule:

Red Cedar Watershed Committee	As needed/TBD
Looking Glass Watershed Committee	As needed (meeting periodically regarding CMI plan update)
Grand River Watershed Committee	As needed (meeting periodically regarding CMI plan update)
Executive Committee	Fourth Friday of every other month
GLRC Full Committee	Semi-annually

Implementation Committees:

PEP Committee	Every other month
IDEP Committee	Every other month
Habitat and Recreation Committee	Every other month
Funding Committee	Currently as needed
Ordinance/BMP Committee	Quarterly
WQF Subcommittee	Currently as needed
SOP/BMP Subcommittee	Currently as needed
Ordinance Subcommittee	Currently as needed
Stream and Ditch Subcommittee	Currently as needed

3.0 Implementation Committee Reports

3.1 PEP Committee

The Public Education Committee met on the following occasions:

- October 18, 2007
- December 6, 2007
- February 8, 2008
- April 23, 2008

Committee Activities:

Regional Water Quality Survey – A statistically valid regional water quality survey has been completed for the GLRC. The results of this survey are helping the committee determine where educational efforts should be focused, both geographically and specific behavioral categories. The survey and findings report has also provided a solid assessment from which to show improvement in the future. The survey results have been posted to the website. The GLRC Coordinator has also discussed the survey results with an adjacent watershed group, the Looking Glass River 319 group. Collaboration between adjacent watershed groups is essential for protection of the watershed. The survey results continue to be used as a tool for the PEP Committee regarding all educational efforts and public participation. It is clear that a true multi-media campaign is needed in order to really reach the public in the region. The survey results clearly show this and have really helped the committee understand the best way to relay information.

Brochures – The committee has developed a watershed fact brochure that details the definition of a watershed and includes fun facts about the urbanized watersheds of the Red Cedar, Looking Glass, and Grand Rivers. The purpose of the brochure is to help the public understand the basic principles of what a watershed is and why it is important, it also highlights basic steps that individual can do to help protect the watershed from pollution.

GLRC Watershed Display – The committee has developed a traveling watershed display to use at local workshops, conferences, etc. When the display is not being used for a special event, it

will travel throughout the region at each GLRC member's offices. It may be displayed at City Hall, or the Public Works lobby, local libraries, etc. The display folds out onto a 8 foot table and is approximately 7 feet tall (including the table). Three panels show a regional (and locator) map of the watersheds and jurisdictional boundaries. One panel highlights our website address with local pictures of the Grand, Red Cedar, and Looking Glass Rivers. Recreational activities for all seasons are highlighted on this panel of the display. The third panel lists the 10 basic steps people can take to help protect our water resources from pollution. In addition to the display itself, copies of the watershed management plans, GLRC publications and watershed brochures are handed out to interested parties.

Education and Outreach Library – The library was developed on the website to allow members to post electronic files to be shared for education purposes. These files include brochures, presentations, press releases and other information that municipalities may wish to use to promote our purpose. The website continues to be updated regularly to include many educational materials to encourage public involvement and education.

“For Educators” Website Page – The PEP Committee added a webpage to the website just for educators in the region. The page serves as a resource guide for local teachers, workshop leaders, or anyone interested in environmental education. State and federal environmental curriculum is highlighted as well as links to local resources for field trips, in-classroom presentations, etc. It includes resources and example projects that the schools can integrate into their current activities. The new webpage also serves as a toolbox for teachers and school district officials that are required to meet Phase II stormwater requirements.

Environmental Education Curriculum – MDEQ has produced a program called Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support (MEECS) that provides environmental curriculum (following MEAP standards) to all school districts in Michigan. The PEP Committee corresponded with all local school districts to encourage them to participate in the MEECS Workshops and receive the curriculum at no or very little cost. In this effort, a database has been created to provide contact information for local school district contacts. Most recently the database has grown to include additional contacts and updated contact information for all areas schools districts. The database continues to be maintained and the MEECS curriculum is posted to the GLRC website.

Template News Articles – The committee has developed a series of news articles that are posted on the GLRC website for use by GLRC members, they are expected to include these articles periodically in their local community newspapers. The committee has developed news articles to address the following topics:

- What is a watershed
- Who/what the GLRC is
- Fertilizer article
- Pet waste article
- Car washing article
- Illicit discharges article

- Riparian article
- Onsite septic system article
- Vehicle maintenance article
- Storm vs. sanitary sewer article
- Adopt your catch basin article
- Wetlands article

In order to encourage publication of the articles the PEP Committee directly contacted the local community newspapers and all GLRC members providing hard and electronic copies in various formats. GLRC members were encouraged to contact their local newspapers and use the articles in their community publications and daily interactions with the public.

Children's Water Festival – The Tri-County Regional Planning Commission's Groundwater Management Board holds an annual Children's Water Festival (May). The festival educates nearly 2,000 students each year through hands-on activities related to surface and groundwater protection and conservation. The PEP Committee encouraged all GLRC members to participate in the festival by either being a volunteer or presenter, or through donations.

Adopt A River – The committee provided a template press release to all GLRC members regarding the Adopt A River program, including volunteer activities, dates, times, and contact information. GLRC members can then include the notice in their community newspapers and post them on bulletin boards in public buildings to encourage residents or businesses to participate in the Adopt A River program. The Adopt A River websites are also linked on the GLRC website.

GLRC Checklist – The PEP Committee wanted to see how the materials being created are actually be outreached in the community and used by GLRC members. A quick survey was completed to gauge how much members were using the suggestions and materials from the PEP Committee and other committees as well. This information has been gathered and helps each implementation committee target members that may be struggling or need assistance with a specific task. This information helps us work more closely with one another to achieve goals and objectives of the GLRC, specifically the watershed management plans.

Billboard Public Service Announcement – The PEP Committee worked closely with a design/advertising firm and Delhi Township to develop an educational eye opening billboard. The billboard displayed a fish (real pictures of a salmon) with a burnt out cigarette with the tag line "It all ends up in the Grand River". The website logo was featured on the billboard also. The purpose was to get the public to understand that everything they put on the ground will eventually end up in the local river. Delhi Township purchased space on a billboard in their community and a billboard in south Lansing also featured the public service announcement. The artwork/design is owned by Delhi Township and available for all GLRC members to use. The PEP Committee may purchase additional announcement space in the future.

General Outreach Efforts – The PEP Committee materials are often viewed by surrounding regions and copies are requested. In the past year we have provided the poster series to the City of Cadillac to post in their local municipal buildings.

GLRC Website: www.mywatersheds.org – The public website for the GLRC is being maintained and updated on a regular basis. The website includes a significant amount of information relating to watersheds, stormwater stewardship, educational information, links to other environmental organizations and much more. Most recently the website has been updated to include additional resources (links) including state, federal, non-profit, watershed groups, local resources, etc. This information can be useful not only to the public but to GLRC members as well. The website has also been updated to include more graphics and pictures, which will hopefully spark a greater interest from the public. The GLRC website began tracking website activity in September 2006. As of August 29, 2008, the GLRC website has received 7,103 hosts, and 31,715 hits. The number of hosts refers to the number of unique visitors that have gone to the website in total. Hits, refers to the number of times anyone has visited the site in total, even if one person has been to the site multiple times. If a single individual goes to the site twice in one day, it is considered one host and two hits.

3.2 IDEP Committee

The purpose of the IDEP Committee has evolved over the last few years. With many communities implementing their IDEP programs, as required by their permit, the IDEP Committee has focused on reviewing pet waste reduction techniques, on-site septic system management, and IDEP ordinance examples. The committee has developed and distributed their recommendations and guidelines to the individual GLRC members. While the IDEP Committee has completed all the assigned tasks, the group felt that it was important to provide recommendations and guidelines regarding other topics listed in the action plan.

During the report period the IDEP Committee met on the following dates:

February 19, 2008
March 14, 2008

Committee Activities:

Onsite Septic System Tracking – The committee has reviewed different techniques to track those residents in the watershed that have onsite septic systems. Barry Eaton District Health Department recently passed a Time of Sale or Transfer Program to help manage onsite septic systems in Barry and Eaton Counties (July 2007). The GLRC provided comment at public meetings in support of the regulation. The IDEP Committee is exploring ways to continue these efforts into Clinton County.

Ingham County Surface Water Program (E. Coli) – The Ingham County Health Department tests regular sites for E. Coli, they have been sampling through this program for over 5 years. They provided a presentation on the details of their findings and their anticipated next steps.

They would like to work toward determining sources of E. Coli contamination, the GLRC could assist with this effort. Future collaboration is intended.

Asist Software – The IDEP Committee hosted a presentation regarding the Asist Software Program. The program specifically tracks anything stormwater related, from illicit discharges to good housekeeping techniques, etc. It is a very comprehensive software designed around Phase II Programs across the country. This informational presentation was made available to all GLRC members.

Upcoming Activities – The IDEP Committee is awaiting issuance of the new permit before additional meetings are set. The Certificate of Coverage will help detail the next steps for the IDEP Committee regarding staff training, outfall mapping information, and IDEP plan update schedules.

3.3 Habitat and Recreation Committee

During the report period the Habitat and Recreation Committee met on the following dates:

October 12, 2007
December 11, 2007
March 28, 2008
May 16, 2008
July 11, 2008
September 5, 2008

Committee Activities:

Volunteer Monitoring Efforts – The Habitat and Recreation Committee is working with Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council (MidMEAC) on volunteer monitoring efforts. Currently MidMEAC has collected data on macroinvertebrates in October 2007 and April 2008. Information regarding this effort and test results can be found at the following web address: http://www.midmeac.org/river_protection.html. Since MidMEAC's grant funding has expired the GLRC will help financially support their volunteer monitoring efforts, paying for half of the program. In order to assist in data collection and monitoring efforts, the committee has developed a new visual assessment data collection sheet.

Water Quality Mapping/Database - Data management is an important part of evaluating success and challenges in the watersheds. The committee proposed a water quality database with GIS capability. The main purpose of the database is to organize past, current, and future water quality data in conjunction with available land use data to help protect and improve water quality in the region. The database will primarily be used for viewing current information in a collaborative, visual format. Possible analysis of the data may be included in the future.

The Habitat and Recreation Committee envisions the database being used by the GLRC to provide recommendations to GLRC members as well as individual members to use in their own community planning. There will need to be different levels of accessibility: for administrators (managers), for those entering new data, and for viewing purposes only. Functions of the tool should include the ability to

review specific layers individually and with other specified layers (the ability to turn different layers on and off). It is also important that the tool allow the group and/or the Institute to do analysis of water quality trends. Currently the tool has mapped locations of all past monitoring locations, we are now working to put the site rankings into the database and link this to the GIS portion of the project. The Committee is working with the Institute of Water Research to develop this.

Recreation Efforts – The committee has reviewed much information about Heritage River Trial Programs and the committee is exploring the possibility of having a Heritage River Trail on the Grand and Red Cedar Rivers. Friends of the Looking Glass River are completing a Heritage River Trail for a portion of the Looking Glass River. Currently the group is in the beginning stages of developing a map and possible poster project regarding all recreational opportunities and access points along the rivers. This will provide a basis to discuss possible additional access sites and help outreach recreational opportunities in the watershed.

Calendar Updates – The committee is continuously updating the GLRC calendar with recreation and clean up activities throughout the watershed. The calendar can be viewed by both GLRC members (can add events also) and the public.

Potential Conservation Area Plan with Value Added Information -

The Eaton Conservation District is currently partnering with Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) and the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission to create a Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report and Value Added Inventory for Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton Counties. The Habitat and Recreation Committee is supporting (with staff and financially) this project as well, specifically Phase II of the project outline listed below. This will help the committee meet many objectives detailed in the watershed management plan.

The Tri-County PCA and Value Added Inventory will identify both potential and “ground truthed” conservation areas in order to prioritize conservation effort and land use planning. Conservation areas provide critical functions such as maintaining water quality and quantity, soil development and stabilization, pollination of cropland, wildlife travel corridors, stopover sites for migratory birds, sources of genetic diversity, and floodwater retention.

This project consists of 3 stages.

Phase 1 – Potential Conservation Area Ranking.

Potential conservation areas are defined as those places on the landscape dominated by native vegetation that have various levels of potential for harboring high quality natural areas. Delineation of the potential conservation areas will be conducted through analysis in a geographical information system (GIS) with emphasis placed on 1) intactness, 2) wetlands and wetland complexes, 3) riparian corridors, and 4) forested tracts.

Phase 2 – Value Added Natural Resource Information

In addition to the Potential Conservation Area Ranking Report, the PCA steering committee has identified the need for additional natural resource data. The Value Added Information incorporates unique natural features of the Tri-County area into a report. Value Added Information report will include:

- Location and summary of rare and declining plants and animals known to occur in area
- Location and summary of rare and/or high quality natural communities known to occur
- Location of potentially unique river segments
- Location of potentially unique lakes and ponds
- Location of potentially high quality river segments
- Location of potentially high quality lakes and ponds
- Evaluation of subwatershed integrity (pollution, habitat fragmentation, land use)
- Summary of land cover change by natural community type (% change since mid 1800's)
- Description and summary of areas within each county that have undergone biggest land cover changes
- Summary of information gaps by each science discipline – helpful in targeting future survey efforts.

Phase 3 – Outreach – publication of materials and report

This data will be summarized in both a written report and GIS layers. This project will result in a report in both print and electronic form. The report will include the methodology, process, conclusions, and recommendations for land use and conservation practices. This report and GIS data will be presented in workshops for local planning and zoning personnel, municipal officials, conservation organizations, and interested citizens. The report will also be available through partner websites.

3.4 Funding Committee

The Funding Committee is not meeting at this time; all action items listed in the action plan have been complete. The committee did meet on October 5, 2007 to address a membership, GLRC budget issue. The committee will continue to serve in this capacity as well as monitor the utility legislation detailed below.

Committee Activities:

Stormwater Utilities –The GLRC continues to support Michigan Water Environmental Association (MWEA) in their efforts to develop stormwater utilities throughout the state of Michigan. Most recently, Senate Bill 1249 was introduced on April 15, 2008 by Senator Birkholz and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs.

Associate Membership Recommendations – The committee met to discuss budget issues within the GLRC, specifically those related to a drop in membership because of the MDEQ/Township court case. In short, some member's permits were terminated yet participation with the GLRC was still requested while others left the group at the time of termination. The Funding Committee adjusted the budget and membership dues policy accordingly to create an Associate Membership category. The committee will continue to assist the group as need regarding financial policy issues.

3.5 Ordinance/Best Management Practices (BMP) Committee

The Ordinance/BMP Committee Subcommittees are not meeting as this time as the majority (if not all) of their specific tasks have been completed. The larger Ordinance/BMP Committee continues to meet.

During the report period the Ordinance/BMP Committee met on the following dates:

December 7, 2007

February 8, 2008 – won't meet until the State Low Impact Development (LID) Manual is available (September 2008, originally scheduled for May 2008)

Committee Activities:

Codes and Ordinances Worksheet (LID Activities) – The subcommittee is developed a codes and ordinances worksheet that was completed by most GLRC members. The worksheet is being used to assess how each community's current development standards and ordinances affect stormwater management efforts. Some of the information gathered includes street widths, setback information, zoning types, reviewing restrictive language, etc. The data has been entered into a database and is currently being compared to national and typical low impact development standards. The committee hopes to discuss possible recommendations with communities to better plan for stormwater management, reduction of impervious surfaces, and overall watershed protection. However, the State LID Manual should provide a large amount of regional guidance and this document will be reviewed in detail before recommendations or suggestions can be made. The manual is due out in September 2008 (originally scheduled for May 2008). This has slowed the progress of this project but will continue on once the manual is available.

Low Impact Development Resource Guide - While awaiting the completion of the State LID Manual, the committee developed a short resource guide to help GLRC members start thinking about ways to develop using LID design. This 4 page flyer provides pictures, definitions, and some state, federal, and local links/resources for basic LID information. The purpose is to provide a quick resource guide to encourage members to education themselves on some basic LID techniques.

Demonstration Project - Carrier Creek Stormwater Management and Restoration Project. www.carriercreek.com. The Carrier Creek Stormwater Management and Restoration Project was developed to address the increasing stormwater demands in the area, while also enhancing the natural resources of the corridor. This project has been highlight on the GLRC website to show an example of how watershed management can be successful.

Demonstration Project Report - The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed outline of innovative stormwater control projects in the Greater Lansing Area. The report will be provided to all GLRC members and surrounding jurisdictions in order to provide information and educate community members, planning commissions, and local elected officials about the importance of

stormwater control and low cost innovative ways to manage stormwater. There are currently 10 projects listed for the report (more may be added), completion is expected for November 2008. The report is organized in an easy to read format with as much information provided as possible.

4.0 Permit-Related Activities

4.1 IDEP (Illicit Discharge Elimination Plan)

- 1) *The permittee shall provide documentation of the actions taken to eliminate illicit discharges and evaluate the effectiveness of the program. For significant illicit discharges, the permittee shall list the pollutant(s) of concern, the estimated volume and load discharged, and the locations of the discharge into both the permittee's separate stormwater sewer system and the receiving water. The permittee shall include certification of any changes made to the IDEP as requested by the Department in Part I.A.3.*

The Township has checked all drains on its complexes and has found no illicit discharges. Please note that the Township's storm water drainage system connects into Clinton County's covered drain system.

To date, DeWitt Charter Township has not made any changes to the IDEP as submitted to the Department. Please review the Township's letter to MDEQ dated August 12, 2008, on this issue.

- 2) *The permittee shall summarize the status of the program to minimize seepage from sanitary sewers and on-site sewage disposal systems into the permittee's separate stormwater drainage system.*

The Township's obligation for this item is only related to our complexes, not the entire Township. The Township Hall and Fire Station are only eight years old. Because of the newness of this facility, the Township believes that the sanitary sewer system is sound.

While the Township's obligation is only related to our complex, we have taken actions on our sanitary sewer system to address this question. Over a period of five years, the Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority (SCCMUA) has cleaned and televised all accessible sanitary sewer within DeWitt Township. DeWitt Charter Township used this information to create a Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Plan. This Plan lists and prioritizes areas of concern within the system. DeWitt Township will use this information to proactively manage the system. Additionally, SCCMUA will continue to clean and televise the system based upon a relative condition and the assessment of the sanitary sewer.

In 2008, the Township replaced approximately 1,950 feet of sewer and lined 1,300 feet of sewer.

In an effort to ensure the condition of on-site sewage disposal systems, the GLRC has supported Ingham County Health Department and Barry – Eaton District Health Department with their

recently passed time of sale or transfer ordinances. Currently, Clinton County has not adopted an ordinance that requires the inspection of on-site sewage disposal systems.

- 3) *The permittee shall provide schedules for elimination of illicit connections that have been identified but have yet to be eliminated*

The Township has not been able to identify any illicit connections within the Township's complexes.

4.2 PEP (Public Education Plan)

The permittee shall provide documentation of the public education effort and a summary of the evaluation of its effectiveness. The permittee shall include certification of any changes made to the PEP as requested by the Department in Part I.A.3.

4.2.1 PEP Categories

The PEP is designed to address the following six categories as appropriate to increase awareness and bring about desired behavioral changes:

- 1. Personal watershed stewardship:** *Education of the public about their responsibility and stewardship in their watershed*
- 2. Ultimate stormwater discharge location and potential impacts:** *Education of the public on the location of residential separate stormwater drainage system catch basins, the waters of the state where the system discharges, and potential impacts from pollutants from the separate stormwater drainage system.*
- 3. Public reporting of illicit discharges:** *Encouragement of public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or improper disposal of materials into the applicant's separate stormwater drainage system.*
- 4. Personal actions that can impact the watershed:** *Education of the public on the need to minimize the amount of residential, or non-commercial, wastes washed into nearby catch basins.*
- 5. Waste management assistance:** *Education of the public on the availability, location and requirements of facilities for disposal or drop-off of household hazardous wastes, travel trailer sanitary wastes, chemicals, yard wastes, and motor vehicle fluids.*
- 6. Management of riparian lands:** *Education of the public concerning management of riparian lands to protect water quality.*

4.2.2 Activities by PEP Category

The Township does not control or operate the MS4s located outside its complexes; this is the responsibility of the Clinton County Drain Commissioner. Because the Drain Commissioner controls and operates the MS4s, they have the requirements and responsibilities to provide public education under Phase II, not the Township. Under the Kalamazoo/Comstock case, the Township does not have responsibility outside of its complexes. While the Township does not have a legal responsibility, it supports the efforts of Phase II. The following section describes how we have tried to assist in Phase II by educating the public.

1. Personal watershed stewardship

Education of the public about their responsibility and stewardship in their watershed

Activity: A publicly available website specifically focused on the NPDES stormwater efforts and education has been maintained and continually updated on a regular basis. You can view the website at www.mywatersheds.org.

Target Audience: The target audience includes educators, residents, small business owners and other community stakeholders within the Looking Glass River and Grand River Watershed.

Content of Message: The website includes a significant amount of information relating to watersheds, stormwater stewardship, educational information, links to other environmental organizations and much more.

Effectiveness/Evaluation: The GLRC website began tracking website activity in September, 2006. As of August 29, 2008, the GLRC website has received 7,103 hosts, and 31,715 hits. The number of hosts refers to the number of unique visitors that have gone to the website in total. Hits refers to the number of times anyone has visited the site in total, even if one person has been to the site multiple times. If a single individual goes to the site twice in one day, it is considered one host and two hits.

Activity: Regional Water Quality Survey

Target Audience: The target audience is residents in the urbanized area of the Grand, Looking Glass, and Red Cedar River Watersheds.

Content of Message: The survey has provided valuable information regarding current knowledge base of the public in relation to how they affect water quality and their behavior in relation to water quality.

Effectiveness/Evaluation: With this baseline assessment of the public's knowledge base, public education efforts being targeted to specific topics detailed in the results of the survey. In time, another survey will be completed to demonstrate changes in the public knowledge base regarding water quality.

Activity: Township Website

Target Audience: The target audience is residents in the urbanized area of the Grand, Looking Glass, and Red Cedar River Watersheds.

Content of Message: The website includes a significant amount of information relating to watersheds, stormwater stewardship, educational information, links to other environmental organizations and much more.

Effectiveness/Evaluation: Being a small community, we do not have a way to track the number of website hits under this section.

2. Ultimate stormwater discharge location and potential impacts

Education of the public on the location of residential separate stormwater drainage system catch basins, the waters of the state where the system discharges, and potential impacts from pollutants from the separate stormwater drainage system.

Activity: DeWitt Charter Township participated in a joint effort with the PEP Committee to develop curb markers/storm drain labels and accompanying door hangers with a common message for the region.

Target Audience: The target audience includes residents, small business owners and other community stakeholders within the Grand River and Looking Glass River Watershed.

Content of Message: The four inch round curb markers include the message: “No Dumping – Flows to Waterways.”

Effectiveness/Evaluation: Curb markers have been affixed near storm drains/catch basins within a number of subdivisions.

3. Public reporting of illicit discharges

Encouragement of public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or improper disposal of materials into the applicant’s separate stormwater drainage system.

Activity: Reporting of Illicit Discharge

Target Audience: The target audience is residents in the urbanized area of the Grand, Looking Glass, and Red Cedar River Watersheds.

Content of Message: The Township has placed information on its website about reporting to the County Drain Commissioner when people see improper disposal of materials into the County’s MS4. Additionally, this information is being placed in its fall 2008 newsletter.

Effectiveness/Evaluation: Being a small community, we do not have away to track the number of website hits under this section. The Township newsletter goes to all households in the Township. This is approximately 5,600 households.

4. Personal actions that can impact the watershed

Education of the public on the need to minimize the amount of residential, or non-commercial, wastes washed into nearby catch basins (this should include the preferred cleaning materials and procedures for car, pavement, or power washing; the acceptable application and disposal of pesticides and fertilizers; and the effects caused by grass clippings, leaf litter, and animal wastes that get flushed into the waterway).

Activity: Newsletter Articles

Target Audience: The target audience is residents in the urbanized area of the Grand, Looking Glass, and Red Cedar River Watersheds.

Content of Message: Since October of 2007, the Township has used its newsletter to educate the public. We have run two different articles about what residents can do to protect their watersheds.

Effectiveness/Evaluation: The Township newsletter goes to all households in the Township. This is approximately 5,600 households.

5. Waste management assistance

Education of the public on the availability, location and requirements of facilities for disposal or drop-off of household hazardous wastes, travel trailer sanitary wastes, chemicals, yard wastes, and motor vehicle fluids.

Activity: Waste Management

Target Audience: The target audience is residents in the urbanized area of the Grand, Looking Glass, and Red Cedar River Watersheds.

Content of Message: The Clinton County Department of Waste Management has the primary responsibility to educate the public on the availability, location and requirements of facilities for disposal or drop-off of household hazardous wastes, travel trailer sanitary wastes, chemicals, yard wastes, and motor vehicle fluids. The Township works with the Department of Waste Management to support this function. In 2008, the Township combined its fall Clean Sweep event with the County's Clean Community event. These events are designed to provide a place for residents to dispose of waste. At the October 4th event, residents will be able to drop off household hazardous waste, electronic waste, appliances, tires, scrap metal and bulk waste.

Effectiveness/Evaluation: At the Township's spring Clean Sweep event, approximately 730 yards of trash, 6,920 pounds of scrap metal, and 59 appliances for Freon removal were collected. In total, we had 300 Township residents sign-up and utilize this free service.

4.3 New Point Source Discharges of Stormwater:

The permittee shall provide the information requested in Part I.A.4. of this permit on the discovery of new stormwater point sources to the separate stormwater drainage system.

The Township has checked all drains on its complexes and has found no illicit discharges. Please note that the Township's Storm water drainage system connects into Clinton County's covered drain system.

4.4 SWPPI (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Initiative):

*The permittee shall describe the compliance status of the permittee-specific SWPPI actions and implementation schedules for the permittee's regulated areas. **This review shall cover all of the permittee's commitments from the WMP, and the SWPPI's conditions for pollution prevention/good housekeeping and post-construction BMPs.***

As this only relates to the Township's complexes, the Township has undertaken the following actions:

A street sweep was used to clean the Township Hall parking lot after the completion of the Herbison Road Sewer project. Additionally, the Township has asked the City of DeWitt to enter into agreement to street sweep the Township's complexes at least twice a year. It is expected that this will begin in the late fall of 2008.

The Township buried four of the Township Hall's downspouts. Previously, this dumped out next to the building. This allowed large amounts of stormwater to run across the Township's lawn before entering into the storm drains. This would allow any pesticides or fertilizers that had been applied to the lawn to wash into the storm drain. These four tiles have now been buried and dump closer to the storm drain.

4.5 Other Actions:

The permittee shall submit any information for any other actions taken to reduce the discharge of pollutants in stormwater.

The Township has plans in 2009 to install a natural buffer around one of its drains at the Township Hall. This buffer would help filter the stormwater coming from the buildings and lawn area on the Township's complex. The buffer would convert 5,300 square feet of existing lawn and grass area to a wild flower planting. After evaluation, the Township has identified other locations where this might be beneficial.

4.6 Nested Drainage System Agreements:

Permittees which are primary jurisdictions shall update the list of each nested jurisdictional area or drainage system that should have its own separate stormwater drainage system permit, originally submitted as part of the application requirements in Part I.A.2.

The Township does not have any nested drainage systems within its complexes.

4.7 Special Reporting Requirements:

The University of Michigan (Ann Arbor Campus), the Michigan Department of Transportation, and the Cities of Ann Arbor, Flint, Grand Rapids, Livonia, Sterling Heights, and Warren shall submit additional information.

This section is not required within the Looking Glass and Grand River Watersheds or the community of DeWitt Charter Township.