

Allen County Annual Report to IDEM Addendum Text document

MS4 Annual Report: Attachment A

Name: Matt Jarrett

Date: 2/27/2023

Part D: PROGRAM MANAGEMENT - 327 IAC 15-13-18

16. Provide a summary of the following program management activities performed during the reporting period:

a) If this is a co-permit, list all permittees and operators responsible for permit implementation for each entity.

Co-permittee contacts for Allen County co-permit:

- 1.) Allen County – Matt Jarrett, MS4 Coordinator
Allen County Surveyor's Office
200 East Berry Street, Suite 350, Fort Wayne, IN 46802
260-449-3612; matt.jarrett@co.allen.in.us

- 2.) Town of Leo-Cedarville – Rodd Hale, Town Manager
13909 Pony Express Run, P.O. Box 408, Leo, IN 46765
260-627-6321; townmanager@leocedarville.com

- 3.) Town of Huntertown - Beth Shellman, Town Manager
15617 Lima Road, P.O. Box 95, Huntertown, IN 46748
260-637-5058; townmanager@huntertown.in.gov

b) Identify changes to the MS4 area boundaries, including areas added or lost to the MS4 area via annexation or other similar means.

The Town of Huntertown and the City of New Haven annexed some areas into the town limits, thereby changing their MS4 boundary. Some of these areas were part of the Allen County MS4 area. As a result of these changes and the new 2020 census data, Allen County had Christopher Burke Engineering update the Allen County Co-Permit MS4 area map. There were some minor changes to the Allen County MS4 area as a result of this update. There were no changes to the Leo-Cedarville MS4 area. The updated map was submitted to IDEM in the updated Stormwater Quality Management Plan (last page of that document) that was turned in on January 6, 2023 to meet the due date requirement stipulated within the MS4 General Permit.

c) Identify follow-up or additional water quality characterizations completed during the reporting period if applicable.

The Allen County Co-Permit is in the process of having Christopher Burke Engineering complete an updated Water Quality Characterization Report to meet the new MS4 General permit requirements. Updates and determinations of changes in the county's water quality characterization will be provided within this report. The 303(d) lists and TMDL lists will be compared to determine if there were major changes or additions in the listings for Allen County in the Finalized IDEM 303(d) list of impaired waters for 2022 versus the approved IDEM 2020 303(d) list of impaired waters, as provided at <https://www.in.gov/idem/nps/2647.htm>. TMDL

listings will also be compared. This will help determine any water quality characterization changes that may be occurring in the county's waterways.

The Flatrock Creek/Auglaize River Watershed Management Plan Project Committee performed water sampling and testing, stream bank erosion assessments, and a filter strip inventory for the Flatrock Creek Watershed in southeastern Allen County as part of preparing the watershed management plan for approval. Since water sampling sites have been established where the stream comes into Indiana from Ohio and where it exits back into Ohio, the water sampling test data will help provide additional water quality characterizations within this watershed and show what pollutants are coming into the watershed from Ohio and what pollutants are being added here in Allen County before the stream meanders back into Ohio. The sampling will also identify how many samples of certain pollutant and other testing elements exceed the water quality target levels.

The Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District, the City of Fort Wayne, and the Upper Maumee River Watershed Group performed water quality sampling and testing within the Maumee River and its tributaries at various locations within Allen County. These test results will help provide a picture as to how the various test parameters have changed in value/concentration since the baseline testing was performed. Parameters that were tested include DO, E. Coli, Nitrate, pH, Phosphorus, Temperature, TDS, Turbidity, Alachlor, Atrazine, Metolachlor, Macroinvertebrates, and Habitat.

d) Provide updated receiving water information completed during the reporting period if applicable.

The following drain outfalls were newly identified within the Allen County MS4 area since the last reporting period of 2020 as a result of new construction:

<u>Outfall I.D.</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>Subdivision</u>	<u>Pipe Material</u>	<u>Pipe Size In Inches</u>	<u>Receiving Water</u>
pe36voc3du	Perry	SR1 Road Drainage	HDPE	24	Natural Drain
pe36voc9ad	Perry	SR1 Road Drainage	HDPE	12	Natural Drain
pe36voc9af	Perry	SR1 Road Drainage	HDPE	12	Natural Drain
sj12low011	St. Joseph	Lakes at Woodfield I	RCP	12	Roadside Ditch
sj12low11e	St. Joseph	Lakes at Woodfield I	CMP	35"x24"	Roadside Ditch
pe36cphP1x	Perry	Copper Horse	HDPE	12	Roadside Ditch
pe30asp0H1	Perry	Aspen Meadows Elementary	RCP	24	Geller Drain
pe21balP4x	Perry	Balmoral I	HDPE	30	McComb Drain
ab24ret10b	Aboite	Allen County Retinal Surgeons - 7551 West Jefferson	HDPE	18	D'Andrea Drain

wa09hsp701	Washington	Holly Springs	RCP	24	Hanauer Drain
wa04kdi701	Washington	KDI & Sullivan Square	HDPE	18	Huguenard No. 2
pe17wil04a	Perry	Willows Restaurant	HDPE	18	Roadside Ditch
pe17hrd003	Perry	Hunters Ridge	PVC-SDR35	12	Roadside Ditch
pe20phl0A1	Perry	Phil's One Stop Gas Station	HDPE	12	Willow Creek Br. 7
pl06amz211	Pleasant	Amazon Distribution Center - Smith Road	HDPE	30	Robinson-Brindle Drain
pe20gpc02L	Perry	Grand Pointe at Copper Creek	HDPE	24	Willow Creek Br. 7
pe09qryP3x	Perry	Preserves at the Quarry I	HDPE	18	Natural Drain

e) Identify funding sources (utility fees, grants, enforcement fines, etc.) utilized for MS4 program implementation during this reporting period.

The Allen County MS4 program obtains its funding from the County General Fund for materials, equipment, and supplies in addition to continued departmental budgetary funding for salaries and benefits for MS4 program staff. The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality obtains funding from the Allen County General Fund and from monetary contributions from the Towns of Hometown and Leo-Cedarville for the Partnership to assist them with public education and involvement.

f) Provide a list of new active industrial sites identified during this reporting period.

There were no new active industrial sites added during this reporting period.

g) Provide a list of facilities owned and operated by the MS4 that require Rule 6 (industrial storm water) permits.

None to report.

h) Provide a summary of complaints received and follow-up investigation results related to storm water quality issues during this reporting period.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office has a Complaint Flow Process document that outlines step-by-step office procedures to handle complaints received by the office.

Erosion and Sediment Control Complaints:

Allen County received several complaints and public informational requests concerning poor erosion control during this reporting period. The county promptly responded to these complaints and informed the caller of the subsequent action taken on each complaint or request.

Typically, for an erosion and sediment control complaint, the Allen County Inspector assigned to the complaint will do a preliminary inspection of the site in question to verify the complaint is legitimate. If issues are confirmed on the site, the county inspector will set up an appointment with the person in charge of the erosion and sediment control of the project site to review the issues discovered on the site. Project site violations will be noted and documented within the Allen County Site Inspection & Maintenance Report form at the construction site. Pictures of the violations will also be taken and filed with the complaint.

The county inspector will make sure the project site representative understands why the site is in violation and the timeframe that will be given for those violations to be corrected. The inspection form will be filed with the project and complaint as a hard copy and electronically. The county inspector will then schedule a follow-up inspection to verify the issues have been corrected. The timeframe that is provided for the site representative to correct the violations will be dependent on the severity and type of violation (some violations such as improper dewatering must be corrected immediately) and the general permit regulatory requirements. Typically, a follow-up inspection will be conducted after seven days.

If during the follow-up inspection it is determined that the site owner or project site representative failed to rectify the violation within the timeframe stipulated, a Notice of Violation second warning notice will be provided via certified mail that will detail a timeframe of when the violations are to be corrected before a fine or stop work order will be issued. A second follow-up inspection will be scheduled by the county inspector after the stipulated violation timeframe to determine if the site owner or agent rectified the violation(s) properly and to make sure the rest of the site has remained in compliance. The construction site inspection form will again be completed by the inspector and will be filed with the project and the previous inspection. Additional enforcement measures will be enacted if site erosion and sediment control issues persist, such as stop work orders or fines.

For the reporting period of 2022, Allen County received 8 complaints regarding poor erosion and sediment control on sites. Many of the complaints centered around mud on the streets or a lack of silt fence or inlet protection measures. All of the complaints were investigated immediately, and the site erosion and sediment control issues were brought into compliance for all complaints.

Illicit Discharge Complaints:

Allen County received several complaints from the public concerning illicit discharges. The county promptly responded to these complaints and informed the caller of the subsequent action taken on each complaint. All complaints from citizens concerning illicit discharges are logged by the Allen County Surveyor's Office in a Microsoft Access Database by the Surveyor's Office Administrative Assistant. Queries can be performed to isolate a complaint or certain types of complaints. A certain address can also be searched for in our historical records to determine whether past violations were found at a particular site.

For illicit discharge complaints, typically, the Allen County Inspector assigned to the complaint will do an inspection of the site in question to determine if an illicit discharge exists and will determine the source of the discharge. Once the source of an illicit discharge has been

identified, steps will be taken to fix or eliminate the discharge. First, the party or parties responsible for making repairs or changes to eliminate the illicit discharge will be identified. Next, the responsible party or parties will be notified of the illicit discharge with the issuance of a Notice of Violation letter being sent to each party that explains what illicit discharge was found, educates the party or parties as to why this illicit discharge is harmful, and stipulates that the illicit discharge must be eliminated in a specific time frame. The timeframe provided will be reasonable but not excessive. The financial responsibility for source removal will fall on the property owner or parties responsible.

At the end of the timeframe specified in the Notice of Violation, the inspection field staff will conduct an inspection of the outfall and the source site to determine if the illicit discharge has been corrected and eliminated. If the illicit discharge persists, a second Notice of Violation letter will be sent to each party that contains the same information and a new timeframe for eliminating the discharge. The letter will state that if the discharge is not eliminated in that timeframe that a potential fine will be levied and/or the county will correct the illicit discharge if possible and bill the property owner or the party responsible for those costs. Enforcement measures will continue until the illicit discharge is eliminated.

For the reporting period of 2022, Allen County received 9 complaints regarding illicit discharges. Some of the complaints centered around sewage discharges. Sewage discharges were forwarded to the Fort Wayne/Allen County Health Department for investigation and enforcement. All of the complaints were investigated immediately, and illicit discharges discovered were brought into compliance for all complaints.

Enforcement Actions Taken:

There were several instances where site issues moved past the normal construction site inspection report being provided into an enforcement measure. For three construction sites in 2022, the Allen County Surveyor's Office put a hold on the signing of the plat (two subdivisions) and held up occupancy on another project (apartment project) until the site was brought into compliance. This proved to be an effective enforcement measure.

On the illicit discharge side, there were four Notices of Violation for confirmed illicit discharges that were issued to site owners. Two of them involved employees of a hotel and assisted living unit dumping grease from the grease traps into the storm drains, one involved a broken float on a well pump that was pumping well water and newly added pond dye straight out of a detention pond and into a stream, and the other involved a horse manure pile that was causing contaminated flow to run offsite to a nearby pond. All of these discharges were addressed or eliminated, and some sites added further best management practices.

i) Other:

The Allen County Co-Permit keeps a current list of Retail Gas Stations in the Allen County MS4 Area as follows:

Name	Address	City	State	Zip
Clark Gas Station	14836 State Road 1	Leo	Indiana	46765
BP Gas Station	14309 Leo Road	Leo	Indiana	46765
Marathon Gas Station	15509 Lima Road	Huntertown	Indiana	46748
Shell Gas Station	10226 Old Leo Road	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46825
Marathon Gas Station	10330 Old Leo Road	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46825
Sunoco Gas Station	12635 Coldwater Road	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46845
Rickers Gas Station	12012 Lima Road	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46845
Marathon Gas Station	8717 U.S. Highway 24 West	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46804
BP Sparky Mart Gas Station	4200 Bostick Road	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46816
Marathon Service Center	433 Lower Huntington Road	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46819
Kroger Gas Station	10230 Chestnut Plaza Drive	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46814
National Oil & Gas	3005 Hillegas Road	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46808
Bridgewater Gas Station	13935 Illinois Road	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46814
Phil's One Stop Copper Creek	1960 Copper Mine Passage	Fort Wayne	Indiana	46818

17. Identify the best management practices (BMPs) for public education and outreach included in your Storm Water Quality Management Plan (SWQMP) Part C and then respond to the following:

Note: Items 17a and 17d will be combined and answered together in the section that follows.

a) Identify progress made towards development and implementation of each BMP for this minimum control measure (MCM) including timetables and measurable goals during this reporting period.

d) Identify storm water BMPs installed or initiated for this MCM during this reporting period.

BMPs identified in most recent revision of SWQMP Part C and responses on progress as follows:

BMP 1 – Allen County Partnership for Water Quality = maintain and improve upon the use of the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality to satisfy the requirements of Minimum Control Measures 1 and 2.

Progress -

In July 2002, Allen County MS4 municipal entities partnered to express their commitment to water resource education by creating the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality (ACPWQ). The activities of this Water Quality Partnership are utilized heavily to fulfill the Public Education and Public Involvement requirements for the NPDES Phase II requirements. As such, Allen County and the co-permits (Town of Leo-Cedarville and the Town of Huntertown) have developed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the ACPWQ for assistance with implementation of the MS4 General Permit Minimum Control Measures 1 and 2.

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality utilizes a part-time Water Resource Education Coordinator to educate the public and media on water resource issues. The ACPWQ focuses its

educational efforts on stormwater pollution, watershed issues, and improving stormwater quality. The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality staff and volunteers provide watershed, water quality, and pollution prevention education to adults and children by participating in many community events and providing presentations, workshops, and training sessions at various venues throughout the county (such as area schools, youth groups, civic groups, fairs and festivals, etc.). The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality part-time educator now resides in the Allen County Department of Environmental Management (ACDEM) to allow networking of resources with the ACDEM recycling/reuse/household hazardous waste Communications and Outreach Coordinator, who provides public education to county constituents.

Lastly, the Partnership for Water Quality part-time educator left for another job position in August of the reporting period. A new educator was hired in late November to replace her. The job market was such that it took longer than anticipated to find and hire another replacement educator. Because of this, some of the educational goals for 2022 were not able to be met.

BMP 2 – Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Board Meetings = utilize Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Board Meetings to guide and ensure the effective development and implementation of educational and participation initiatives.

Progress -

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Advisory Committee meets quarterly to review the activities of the Partnership and to assess current and future goals to maintain an effective pollution prevention educational program and to increase public participation and involvement. During the meetings, networking opportunities are provided for the part-time educator as county-wide partners with environmental interests are able to provide information on area community events and activities that the educator could attend to further the educational goals of the Partnership. Partner and community requests for service are also evaluated to see if they meet the goals of the Partnership and are the best use of the Partnership resources. Attendees of each meeting are tracked with a sign-in sheet. Meetings are open to the public.

The Partnership for Water Quality updated the Water Quality Environmental Education Coordinator Work Plan of Activities and Milestones for the new 5-year permit term from 2022-2026. This document outlines the work activities and goals that need to be completed by the Partnership to meet the public education and involvement regulatory requirements.

BMP 3 – Printed Materials = develop and publish at least one new brochure each year. Update existing brochures. Brochures will be disseminated via mass mailings within priority watersheds, at local places of business, at County offices, and at area events and festivals. Copies of the brochures along with the total number of brochures distributed will be documented.

Progress –

During the reporting period, the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality (ACPWQ) produced a new Illicit Discharge brochure, a General Stormwater brochure, a new Adopt-A-Drain Storm Drain booklet for volunteers, waiver forms for Adopt-A-Drain volunteers, updated the Green Landscaping Practices handout, and distributed our new water quality playing cards as a give-away.

The new illicit discharge brochure was entitled “Identifying Illegal Dumping – Taking Action to Improve Water Quality.” This brochure provides information on what constitutes illegal dumping, how illegal dumping can negatively impact water quality in our streams and also provides five practices the public can take to prevent pollutants from entering our streams and waterways. This brochure will be disseminated to the public to provide educational information, contacts, and best management practices to residents on pollution prevention measures.

A second brochure was created entitled “Stormwater - General Information to Improve Water Quality.” This brochure provides information to inform the general public on stormwater, why preventing stormwater pollution matters, and three ways residents can protect our rivers and streams.

The ACPWQ also created a Native Plant Tri-fold educational display. This display has information about the Partnership for Water Quality and its mission, why it is important to plant native plants, and contains a diagram showing the different root structures between a non-native plant and a native plant. This display will be utilized at various events where the Partnership has a display booth to provide education to people attending these events.

The ACPWQ created a new, updated 8-page Stormwater Activity Booklet to help teach local youth about local watersheds and water quality issues. This booklet can be downloaded from the Partnership website at www.acwater.org and can be found at the Partnership booth at various festivals and events. This booklet was translated into Spanish and this Spanish booklet is also available for handout at area festivals and events and can be found for download at <http://www.acwater.org/content/educator-resources>.

Additionally, existing brochures are reviewed and revised prior to their next printing to keep contact information updated.

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality provides the public with brochures and booklets which explain many water resource issues. The Partnership distributed the following brochures:

- “Stormwater Pollution”
- “Household Hazardous Waste”
- “Combined Sewer Overflow”
- “Drinking Water”
- “Green Landscaping”
- “Septic System Maintenance”
- “What is the ACPWQ”
- “Pet Waste”
- “Fertilizer and Algae”
- “Wetlands”
- “Don’t Feed the Storm Drain”
- “Urban Practices”
- “Owners Guide to Regulated Drains”
- “Identifying Illegal Dumping – Taking Action to Improve Water Quality”
- “Stormwater - General Information to Improve Water Quality”

These brochures can be found and downloaded by the public within the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality website at www.acwater.org.

The Partnership for Water Quality distributes brochures at area festivals and events and provides brochures to the Town Hall buildings for both Leo-Cedarville and Hometown. Please see the document attached entitled "Allen County Co-Permit - Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Activity Tracking Sheet" that shows the number of brochures distributed.

BMP 4 – Educator Training = develop and provide 1 event each year to train educators (traditional and non-traditional) regarding water quality. Topics may include Project WET, Hoosier Riverwatch, etc.

Progress –

The following workshops were provided to train educators regarding water quality:

Hoosier Riverwatch/E. Coli Workshops/Project WET Trainings

March 24, 2022 – the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Educator took part in instructor training to learn how to conduct Hoosier Riverwatch events and to train public volunteers.

August 14, 2022 - a Hoosier Riverwatch Full-Day Basic Training workshop was provided with the help of the Partnership for Water Quality educator as one of the instructors. There were 17 public volunteers that attended this training event.

- ACPWQ used Project WET during certain programs such as the YMCA After School program and at Girl Scout events (Educators were present at all programs)

The Project WET modules in the Partnership library have continued as an excellent resource for presentations. The integration of several Project WET activities into general presentations has helped improve the impact of storm water as a theme. Please see the attached spreadsheet of Partnership Activities for the different events and activities that the Partnership for Water Quality participated in or sponsored where a Project WET module was utilized during the presentations.

Where My River Runs Watershed Curriculum - In an attempt to reach decision making adults through their children, as well as to teach the next generation of consumers, the St. Joseph Watershed Initiative has created a five-day watershed curriculum for the mid-elementary school students. The curriculum explores the physical watershed of the St. Joseph River, where the water originates and where it flows. It includes lessons on water quality and how human activity affects that quality, as well as how the rivers and streams have impacted local history. It also includes an opportunity for students to assume the roles of various landowners and other stakeholders in determining how they will protect and improve their local water resources. This education module is being updated and will be distributed to teachers and educators at training events to incorporate the curriculum into their classrooms as part of the Lower St. Joseph River - Bear Creek Watershed activity requirements.

Project WET Summary:

Year 2022 – Total of number of times a Project WET module was utilized during a presentation = 6

BMP 5- Water Quality PSA = provide one public service announcement per year via an optimal outlet (radio, TV, billboard, etc.) as determined by the ACPWQ Advisory Committee regarding water quality and aligned with an annual "theme."

Progress –

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality contacted and utilized media outlets such as newspaper, facebook, websites, and YouTube to help educate the public on water quality issues. This report term, the ACPWQ's annual theme and focus was on proper fertilization and pet waste removal. Many of the Partnerships monthly tips, articles, and presentations focus on this target.

PSA/newspaper BMPs utilized over the reporting period are as follows:

PSA's:

None to report on radio or television.

Newspaper Articles:

The Partnership uses newspaper announcements to advertise and promote upcoming events and to provide water quality education to the public. Many newspaper articles were provided by the ACPWQ regarding water quality education. For example, the *East Allen Courier* published a "Keep Deicers Light" article that was provided by the Partnership discussing the importance of applying deicers properly and reducing salt as an ice treatment.

For a listing of newspaper articles provided by the ACPWQ and published in local newspapers, please see the document attached entitled "Allen County Co-Permit - Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Activity Tracking Sheet."

Press Releases:

The ACPWQ and the partners of the ACPWQ have issued media press releases announcing such items as the Fort Wayne Farm Show, the SWCD Annual Meeting, the Allen County Department of Environmental Management events, and certain upcoming water quality presentations. For example, a press release for the Hoosier Riverwatch training event in August of 2022 was published in three local newspapers where the newspapers were distributed to an estimated 21,000 residents.

Lastly, there are other county agencies and local groups that publish water quality related information in local newspapers such as the Maumee River Basin Commission, Save Maumee, Maumee Watershed Alliance, Friends of the Rivers, and the Allen County Department of Environmental Management, to name a few.

Summary:

The county through the Partnership for Water Quality completed its PSA/newspaper article goals for Public Education for this reporting period as 9 articles were published in local newspapers.

Additionally, the Partnership will look to work more closely with the Allen County SWCD to help target rural areas of the county on agricultural/rural best management practices to help with the Western Lake Erie Basin initiative of reducing phosphorus and resulting algae blooms in Lake Erie. The Partnership believes that media uses are an integral part of providing education to large numbers of people and henceforth will continue to play a large part in our goals for the future.

BMP 6 – Website/Social Media Use =

- Maintain and update the ACPWQ website with new detailed stormwater information continually.
- Allow questions to be submitted via the website.

- Provide announcements on social media sites and update the ACPWQ website events calendar on an on-going basis.
- Respond to public questions (phone and email questions) on a routine basis and track the number of hits to the site.

Progress –

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality created a website that went on-line in 2005 containing water quality information in order to promote better public awareness. The website can be found at www.acwater.org. The website features information about the Partnership itself but is also a source for information about water resources in general. Teachers, students, neighborhood associations, realtors, and others can find information on the website tailored to meet their needs. The website also features the Partnership's series of brochures and newsletter articles. The website has an email function by which an individual could ask a question regarding the County's Stormwater Program or stormwater in general. The website also provides addresses and phone numbers to enable the individual to contact the Partnership with further questions. The website includes a calendar of events that lists dates, times, and sponsors of stormwater related events such as workshops and clean-up events and also includes volunteer opportunities related to stormwater along with a list of ways residents can get involved in improving water quality. The calendar of events on the ACPWQ website is updated weekly.

The content within the website is continually updated with educational information and contact information. The main ribbon of the website is updated with a monthly water quality tip. This program entails a targeted monthly message and provides different seasonal articles on what homeowners can do to help improve water quality. Distribution of the monthly tip articles has been primarily through the ACPWQ Facebook Page, the website, through several Homeowner's Association Newsletters, and for distribution to our co-permits to input into their website and newspaper/newsletters. Additionally, the Partnership has started the process of creating a new Annual Report that lists the activities and accomplishments of the Partnership. These reports are now available on the website along with the latest Water Spout newsletters that are geared to provide updates twice a year to the county elected officials on what the Partnership is doing.

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality website can track the number of visits by residents to the website per month or on a daily basis and the average stay of each person on the website (in number of minutes). It also tracks the number of different pages within the website that are viewed by each visitor and the percent of visits that were unique. For the statistics of the Partnership website usage during this reporting period, please see the document attached entitled "Allen County Co-Permit - Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Activity Tracking Sheet."

The ACPWQ website also provides links to partner websites and to websites of other organizations that provide information about water resources and water quality improvement. Information about the watersheds and the watershed concerns within Allen County can also be found within the website, along with information on organizations within the area that focus on water quality improvements for specific watersheds such as the St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative and the Maumee River Basin Commission.

With regard to the Allen County website (www.co.allen.in.us), the Surveyor's Office has placed information within the Surveyor's Office link of the county website that includes the Stormwater Management Ordinance, the Stormwater Fee Ordinance, past IDEM Water Quality Annual Reports submitted, the county Stormwater Management Plan Review and Application Forms and guidance

documents, the county's Part C Stormwater Quality Management Plan and SWQMP Part B Baseline Characterization Report, and the Technical Standards Specifications document along with the minutes of past Drainage Board meetings for the public's use. The Surveyor's Office is currently working to update the website with updated information, forms, and documents. This includes an updated Stormwater Quality Management Plan and an updated Water Quality Characterization Report. Additionally, within the Surveyor's Office link, there is educational information on water quality and links to further educational material, Report-A-Polluter information and form, IDEM and NPDES permit forms and approvals, the background information on the NPDES program, and listings for volunteer opportunities. Contact information is also available on the website for anyone with further questions.

Questions from the public submitted through the Partnership website via email or phone are addressed by the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Water Resources Education Coordinator, if the question concerns general water quality information. More specific questions or questions that can be better handled by one of the partners are forwarded to that specific partner to address. The number of public questions and concerns are tracked within the activity tracking sheets each year.

Social Media Use:

Facebook:

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality is currently on Facebook. This provides an opportunity for the public to follow the activities, events, and water quality information available through the Partnership for Water Quality. Monthly water quality tips are posted along with weekly informational posts. Distribution of the monthly tip articles has been primarily through the ACPWQ Facebook Page, the website, through several Homeowner's Association Newsletters, and for distribution to our co-permits to input into their website and newspaper/newsletters. Total reach for the monthly water quality tip program was about 6060 for the year 2022.

@ACPWQ Facebook page is organically grown as the Partnership has not been able to pay to reach more viewers. All the Partnerships reach, or views, is a direct result of the Partnerships followers sharing the information. The Partnerships Facebook page has grown to reach about 451 followers.

Each year the number of people visiting and utilizing the information posted on Facebook increases. The Partnership Facebook page has the ability to keep track of gender, age, and location of those people that "Like" the page.

YouTube Video:

There is a YouTube video created by the Partnership for Water Quality that explains the importance of our rivers as a resource and explains what the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality does and how it is available as a resource to the citizens of Allen County.

Instagram

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality currently has an Instagram page. This allows the sharing of our poster pictures that have water quality messages. This page is available from the Partnership for Water Quality website. The number of views, followers, and posts can be found on our ACPWQ Annual Report spreadsheet.

Videos:

The Partnership for Water Quality continues to distribute copies of the two videos that were produced (“A Watershed Mentality” documentary & “Green Sells” construction BMP video to address erosion and sediment control).

BMP 7 - Municipal Employee Training = develop and conduct 1 training related to stormwater issues, pollutants, programming, etc. for municipal employees.

Progress -

The training opportunities that were provided to municipal employees for the reporting period can be found in sections 19a (BMP 4), 20e, and 22d below.

BMP 8 – Newsletter Articles =

- Provide a new newsletter article each year that can be utilized by anyone requesting them, such as neighborhood associations. These articles will contain information related to water quality impacts from stormwater. Document the total number of articles published, the topics of each article, and the total number of groups receiving the articles.
- Provide newsletter articles that are emailed and distributed to 1.) the elected officials and 2.) to interested citizens and interest groups within the public.

Progress –

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality (ACPWQ) has available a series of newsletter articles entitled *Water Matters*. Each of the *Water Matters* articles addresses a different water related topic. Every month, the Partnership has a new focus for Allen County residents to help promote water quality in our area and downstream. These monthly tip articles provide residences with one task each month to focus on to help them fight stormwater pollution and improve the health of our waterways. This monthly program started in March 2019.

The *Water Matters* articles/monthly tips are supplied to neighborhood associations or other civic groups that would like to include them in their newsletters and are also available for download on the Partnership’s website (www.acwater.org). These articles are also posted on Facebook and are distributed to our co-permits for their use in local media outlets.

For the reporting period, there were 7 new *Water Matters*/monthly tips newsletter articles published on the website. *Water Matters* articles were distributed to one Homeowners Association and to Leo-Cedarville and Huntertown for their use during the reporting period. The list of *Water Matters* articles available to the public can be found on the ACPWQ website: www.acwater.org.

Employee Newsletter – the county produces an employee newsletter every two months. The Partnership for Water Quality published water quality related articles within this newsletter to educate county employees on water quality. The Allen County Department of Environmental Management input several educational articles in the Allen County Employee Newsletter in 2022 regarding recycling and proper disposal of hazardous waste and trash.

Internal Newsletter - The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality continues to produce an Inter-Agency Newsletter entitled “Water Spout.” The intent of this newsletter is to provide updates and information to key co-workers and elected officials of the activities of the Partnership for Water Quality and to act as an inter-departmental communication to promote and educate agencies, departments, and elected officials of new research and interesting news and information pertaining to water quality.

This newsletter is produced twice a year. The Allen County Commissioners and County Council are on the mailing list for this newsletter, along with the County Auditor, the Allen County Surveyor, the Director of the Allen County Parks Department, the Allen County Department of Environmental Management Supervisor, the County Extension Director, and the Leo-Cedarville and Hometown co-permittee elected officials.

Soil & Water Conservation Newsletter:

The Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District sends quarterly newsletters to county residents that advertise various water quality events and activities and provide valuable information on various soil and water conservation topics.

This fulfilled our measurable goal of developing and disseminating newsletter articles for public education purposes.

BMP 9 – Public Meetings =

- Conduct public meetings or activities where stormwater information and issues are discussed.
- Provide the attendees the opportunity to verbally comment for the record.

Progress –

The following opportunities were provided to Allen County constituents to participate in and comment on water quality related goals and activities:

Drainage Board - Allen County conducts Drainage Board meetings that are held on the second and fourth Thursday of every month to discuss drainage related issues and approvals. These Drainage Board meetings are now recorded and shown on public access television for the public to view and can be found live or taped on Facebook and the county website. Allen County accepts public input from constituents at these meetings, and issues such as drainage problems, erosion and sediment control requirements, and post construction practices are discussed. The up-coming schedule for all drainage board meetings is posted on the Allen County website within the Surveyor's Office link. Public Notices of the meetings are also sent out to people in the watershed where a project or a petition will be brought forth that affects property owners within that watershed. About 10-15 people on average attend the drainage board meetings. Additionally, Allen County accepts input and discussion on the Technical Standards and Ordinances from developers, contractors, and engineers when updating or revising the Ordinance and Technical Standards Manual.

Purdue Cooperative County Extension - the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service conducts quarterly meetings that are open to the public. Additionally, the Purdue Extension offers various educational activities, programs, and presentations that are open to the public.

The Saint Joseph River Watershed Initiative (SJRWI) holds regular meetings of the watershed Board of Directors for citizens within the St. Joseph River Watershed. The Initiative's Annual Meeting is regularly held in December and brings together board members, employees, stakeholders and public officials to celebrate the accomplishments of the year. The public is welcome to attend any of these meetings. These meetings will continue to be announced on the SJRWI website, in local news outlets, and by email. The northern portion of Allen County falls within this watershed. About 10-15 people attend these meetings. The SJRWI also provides presentations that are made to the public upon request. This outreach to the community enables everyone to become more aware of what they can do to improve

the water quality of the river and how the St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative can help them achieve their goals.

Lower St. Joseph River – Bear Creek Water Quality Improvement Program

The St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative has implemented grant-funded water quality improvements in portions of central and northern Fort Wayne, Leo-Cedarville and Grabill. As part of a \$274,000 grant received from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the St. Joe Initiative offered to share the cost of backyard conservation practices in several critical areas. The project aimed at protecting water quality in the St. Joseph River -- the source of drinking water for more than 300,000 people in the Fort Wayne area and a vital economic and recreational asset. The water quality improvement was guided by a steering committee of residents. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator was a part of this steering committee. Cost share funds were available to assist property owners in critical areas who would like to install backyard conservation measures including rain barrels and rain gardens. Funding was also available to assist neighborhood associations with projects to deter nuisance geese, since geese are a major source of bacterial pollution in Indiana's ponds, lakes, streams and rivers.

Flatrock Creek/Auglaize River Watershed Management Plan Project

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator and an Allen County Drainage Project Manager volunteered to be on the Project Steering Committee for the creation of a Watershed Management Plan for the Flatrock Creek watershed in southeastern Allen County. This is funded through an IDEM 319 grant. The Allen County Surveyor's Office also committed to helping promote and assist with the educational efforts of this watershed group. There were about 10-15 people from the general public who live within the watershed who participated in the steering committee meetings, providing public involvement and participation for the construction of the plan.

Upper Maumee River Partnership Group - The Upper Maumee River Watershed Partnership is a locally-led group of concerned citizens and organizations whose primary goal is the improvement of water quality throughout the Upper Maumee River Watershed (covers a portion of Allen County) and ultimately throughout the Western Lake Erie Basin. The group encourages public input/participation at all general steering committee meetings. Stakeholders who regularly attend the meetings represent agriculture, business, construction, conservation, government, education, and residents. The group meets on the 1st Wednesday of odd months with about 10-15 people attending the meetings.

Western Lake Erie Basin DAP Meetings – an advisory committee was created to establish Indiana's Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) Domestic Action Plan (DAP) for the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB) to reduce phosphorus to Lake Erie. Regular meetings continue to be held to document progress made in implementing programs, projects, outreach, and management practices that will advance the phosphorus reduction goals.

Save Maumee Grassroots Organization - this organization focuses on trying to improve the water quality of the Maumee River. Save Maumee holds various events for anyone interested in improving the water quality of our area rivers. The group has monthly meetings and the meetings are open to the public. Save Maumee holds annual river clean-up events in which volunteers pick up many different types of trash and debris from the river. Meth lab materials that are found are reported to local police. The group also holds periodic fund-raisers featuring food, music, and door prizes that raise money for riverbank restoration materials.

The Save Maumee non-for-profit organization works with the Allen County Surveyor's Office to implement riparian buffers along streams within the Upper Maumee River watershed. The riparian

reforesting efforts of these projects enable the public to help plant and protect native species of trees and plants that lie next to these perennial streams and remove invasive species. The following are additional activities of this organization that helped Allen County with their water quality improvement efforts:

- Save Maumee’s Annual Member Meeting (December 1st, 2022)
- 15th Annual Canoe Clean Up (09/18/22) – cleanup of debris along river.
- First Save Maumee Bio Blitz! (08/28/22), Rose Ave Rehab – project to restore riparian buffer along the Maumee River in their newly acquired land.
- Save Maumee’s Annual Fundraiser 6/26/22 - raised money for future water quality projects.

Maumee Watershed Alliance

The mission of the Maumee Watershed Alliance is to sustain healthy watersheds that support thriving communities and strong economies evidenced by improved water quality with increased recreational and business opportunities. The Maumee Watershed Alliance continues to forge partnerships in the interest of sustaining healthy watersheds. The Alliance has done educational presentations to students and other interested groups throughout the year.

The Maumee Watershed Alliance provides monthly newsletters for interested stakeholders to stay up to date on the activities and events of this group. The former Partnership for Water Quality Educator took a position with this group to help with grant writing and educational efforts. In 2022 the Alliance has had students visit the rivers, have provided an Ecology Tour, and has had classroom presentations to help students understand what a watershed is, and how land use can affect the water quality within a given watershed.

The Allen County SWCD sponsors public meetings that address land use conservation and water quality improvement topics.

Each of the watershed groups listed above have their own website with detailed information about the watershed and educational information, along with information on times and locations of upcoming meetings.

Additional Opportunities Public Meetings and Public Participation -

Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Public Meetings

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Advisory Committee holds quarterly meetings that are open to the public to discuss the future educational goals and activities of the Partnership to enable the county MS4 co-permit to continue to satisfy the federal, state, and local water quality public education and outreach/public participation and involvement regulatory requirements. The Partnership meetings usually average about 10-12 people in attendance and meeting sign-in sheets are utilized.

Allen County SWCD Coffee and..... Series

Allen County SWCD offers early morning educational meetings every 3rd Tuesday of the month to discuss relevant topics related to agriculture and invites professionals in the field to share their knowledge and expertise with the public.

March 17, 2022 – Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting

This all-day event focused on several aspects of nutrient management, including new technologies, that help farmers safeguard the environment.

July 16, 2022 - Pedal, Paddle, Play Event on the River

This public event was a scavenger hunt throughout the area that you can do by foot, bike, or on the river.

August 16, 2022 – Day at the Lake

This was a field trip open to the public where residents could take a bus trip to Lake Erie and take a tour of an open lab on the lake to see demonstrations of water quality tests performed by Ohio State University faculty on the lake waters. Presentations on water quality topics were also provided by Ohio State faculty. There were 3 people from the Allen County Surveyor’s Office that went on this trip along with the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Educator. There were 53 residents that went on this day long bus trip.

August 31, 2022 – Indiana Farm Bureau Drainage School

This one-day workshop promotes an understanding of the laws and regulations impacting drainage decisions in Indiana. This workshop was attended virtually by the Allen County MS4 Coordinator and 4 members of the Allen County Surveyor’s Office as training.

September 2, 2022 – Board of Commissioners Legislative Session

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided information about the new IDEM General Permits, and the necessary Allen County Stormwater Management Ordinance and Technical Standards updates that are required to be completed to address the new General Permit requirements. This is a public meeting that is broadcast via public access television and social media, thereby providing public education and involvement.

October 14, 2022 – Board of Commissioners Legislative Session

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided information about the new IDEM General Permits and the Water Quality Characterization Report that is required to be completed to address the new General Permit requirements. This is a public meeting that is broadcast via public access television and social media, thereby providing public education and involvement.

November 3-4, 2022 – Sands County Foundation, Leadership for Midwestern Watersheds Conference

This annual two-day conference featured presentations and facilitated discussions on subjects essential to successful watershed projects. Examples include farmer engagement, geospatial planning tools, project financing, and water quality monitoring.

BMP 10 – Stormwater Assessment = develop targeted on-going assessments throughout permit term to better target stormwater education and outreach involvement activities. These assessments may be conducted prior to and following an event to gauge the knowledge of the participants and the effectiveness of the event.

Progress –

At the beginning of every presentation with kids (and to some extent adults), the Partnership for Water Quality educator always asks questions relevant to the presentation to see what the kids know so that

she can build the presentation from that knowledge base. At the end of each presentation, the educator always does an informal question and answer session to see if their knowledge has expanded.

The following is a list of events where the Partnership for Water Quality Educator did a verbal pre/post assessment:

- February-March: YMCA After School Program
- June 9: Conservation Crew
- June 13: Boys and Girls Club Presentation
- June 22: Science Central Girl Scout Event

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality continues to look for ways to better assess our educational efforts.

BMP 11 – Allen County Department of Environmental Management Activities (formerly Allen County Solid Waste Management District) =

- Promote the activities of the Allen County Department of Environmental Management.
- Encourage residents and staff to use existing Household Hazardous Waste drop-off locations for proper disposal and encourage participation in curbside recycling programs.
- Educate the community on the importance of pollution prevention and recycling programs.
- Track the amount of material collected at HHW facilities and track the number of stormwater brochures distributed on an annual basis.

Progress -

The Partnership for Water Quality promotes the activities of the Allen County Department of Environmental Management (formerly Allen County Solid Waste Management District) by listing upcoming events on the events calendar and by distributing brochures on Household Hazardous Waste disposal. The number of brochures distributed is tracked annually. The Allen County Surveyor's Office website has a link to the Department of Environmental Management website.

The Allen County Department of Environmental Management (ACDEM) educates the Allen County community in ways to reduce their environmental impact. The department maintained a focus on teaching Allen County to reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost. ACDEM promotes their events through media outlets such as radio and television and through the local newspapers. Weekly Tox-Away Tuesdays held at the ACDEM Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 2260 Carroll Road, Fort Wayne are promoted heavily via radio and television to encourage residents to utilize these events for proper disposal. ACDEM has a Community Education Coordinator who provides education to the public about the importance of proper HHW disposal and recycling programs.

ACDEM keeps track of the amount of waste collected and publishes this information in an annual report booklet that is available to the public for view and download. ACDEM collected the following material amounts in 2022:

Amount of material collected from Household Hazardous Waste Collections & Constituent Participation –

Batteries Collected (tons) = 13.5

Electronics (tons) = 145.76

Fluorescent Tubes Collected (ft.) = 117,023

Light Bulbs Collected (tons) = 15

HHW Material Collected (tons) = 112

Tires Collected = 3,853

Organic Waste Material Received (tons) = 17,111.36

Community Drop-off Trailer Materials Received (tons) = 497.5

Weekly Tox-Away Tuesday Participation = 2,726 cars dropped off material at ACDEM's HHW Facility
(Note there were 4 Tox-Away Saturday events in 2022 in addition to the weekly Tuesday drop-off day)

ACDEM reached 40,617 people via Facebook and gained 134 new followers.

ACDEM website was viewed 97,405 times.

Reached 5,108 individuals through 31 in-person outreach programs.

Reached 8,522 individuals on Instagram and gained 17 new followers.

There were 5,616 newsletter emails that were sent to 642 subscribers and gained 36 newsletter subscribers.

See attached 2022 ACDEM Annual Report for further details.

Program Highlights/Further Information:

- ACDEM's educational programs were offered free of charge.
- ACDEM provided 6 live Christmas tree recycling locations throughout the county in an effort to divert organic material from the landfill.
- ACDEM provides the City of Fort Wayne and the Allen County Highway Department with tire trailers to assist with illegal tire dumping and tires found along roads in Allen County.
- Many auto service businesses in Allen County now accept used and worn tires, offering more opportunities for residents to dispose of their tires properly. ACDEM connects residents looking to dispose of tires to local businesses who offer tire recycling year-round.
- ACDEM recognizes businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals who go the extra mile to promote sustainable practices in Allen County.
- ACDEM can be found on Facebook and Twitter. ACDEM uses these social media sites for residents to keep up on their events.
- Wal-Greens Pharmacy in New Haven and Fort Wayne has specific days advertised where they will accept unwanted medications as a means of disposal.
- There are four year-round disposal sites in Allen County for residents to dispose of unwanted medications. The drop boxes are part of an effort to keep drugs out of the hands of children and prevent water pollution caused by flushing medications down drains or tossing them in the trash. Allen County TRIAD is a partnership of law enforcement, senior citizens and community groups that sponsor the drop boxes. A medication drop box is in the Rousseau Centre (formerly the City-County Building), another box is located in the Huntertown Town Hall, one is located at the New Haven Police Station, and the other at the Indiana State Police Post on Ellison Road.

Number of constituent drop-off centers –

The following area locations, in accordance with ACDEM, provide drop-off centers for automotive fluid/component recycling:

Hires Auto Parts

7111 South Anthony Boulevard, Fort Wayne, IN 46816

Phone: 447-2586

1620 Northland Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Phone: 489-5734

****All Hires locations also accept antifreeze, transmission & power steering fluids & motor oil.****

Doehrman Repair Service Inc.

22319 Hickory Street, Woodburn, IN 46797

Phone: 632-5330

J&S Liquid Waste Service, Inc.

4030 Option Pass, Fort Wayne, IN 46818

Phone: 489-6021

Safety Kleen Systems, Inc.

2112 Production Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Phone: 484-8034

Business Collections Only

Macy's NAPA Auto Parts

310 Collins Road

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Phone: 483-7120

Recycle automotive batteries

Goodyear Auto Service

4512 Maplecrest Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46835

486-4075

For further information, please see the ACDEM website: <http://www.acwastewatcher.org/>

BMP 12 – Allen County Soil & Water Conservation District Activities =

- The Allen County SWCD will educate and encourage agricultural producers to use BMPs.
- Publish stormwater articles in quarterly newsletters.
- Track the number of stormwater related articles published.
- Track the number and type of educational programs and activities conducted targeting the agricultural community.
- Document dates, times, and attendance at all workshops and trainings focused on stormwater quality related issues.

Progress –

The Soil and Water Conservation District provides a Water Resources Booth to help provide water quality education during the annual Fort Wayne Farm Show. The SWCD held several tours and field days at area farms to educate farmers on various aspects of conservation BMPs such as cover crops, two-stage ditches, Auto-steer systems, new equipment, nutrient management, and plant and soil health. The Allen County Soil & Water Conservation District helps support and administers area watershed groups

such as the Flatrock Creek/Auglaize River Watershed Group, St. Joseph River Watershed Group, Upper Maumee River Watershed Group, and the Maumee Watershed Alliance.

The Soil and Water Conservation District purchased an educational learning trailer that will be set up with educational learning displays on the inside and outside of the trailer. Students at New Tech school are designing the educational displays for the Allen County SWCD. The displays will target various educational objectives of the SWCD pertaining to pollution prevention and improving water quality.

Water Sampling:

The Allen County SWCD provides long-term water quality sampling and testing in various watersheds around Allen County. Twenty-eight streams are monitored weekly during the growing season (April through October). Streams and collection points were selected based on where staff expected problems. Sampling started in the St. Joseph River watershed in 1995. Fort Wayne's drinking water comes from the St. Joseph River and is processed through the Fort Wayne Water Filtration Plant. The program expanded monitoring to the St. Marys River and upper Maumee River watersheds, and later to the Auglaize watershed in recent years. It is estimated that over \$100,000 in staff time and materials among cooperating groups is devoted to this water-monitoring project annually. Funding comes from various sources, including the Allen County SWCD, the Natural Resources Conservation Service through various grants, Fort Wayne City Utilities and Purdue University Fort Wayne. Three Allen County SWCD employees are responsible for actual sample collections each week. USDA's Agricultural Research Service and the U.S. Geological Survey are also key partners with the Allen County SWCD in this project.

Soil & Water Conservation Newsletter:

The Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District sends quarterly newsletters to county residents that advertise various water quality events and activities and provide valuable information on various soil and water conservation topics. The SWCD also produces an Annual Report for the public describing their activities for the year.

The following are activities pertaining to stormwater quality that the Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District sponsored or participated in for the current reporting period.

March 17, 2022 – Going Green for Agriculture Presentations and Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Meeting

This all-day event focused on several aspects of nutrient management, including new technologies, that help farmers safeguard the environment. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator attended the afternoon sessions.

July 29, 2022 – Allen County Fair Ag Day

Presentations were provided on Making the Most of your Farming Operation and Cover Crops and Soil Health at the County Fair.

August 16, 2022 – Day at the Lake

This was a field trip open to the public that was organized by the Allen County SWCD where residents could take a bus trip to Lake Erie and take a tour of an open lab on the lake to see demonstrations of water quality tests performed by Ohio State University faculty on the lake waters. Presentations on water quality topics were also provided by Ohio State faculty. There were 3 people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office that went on this trip along with the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Educator. There were 53 residents that went on this day long bus trip.

September 7, 2022 – Soil Health Field Day

Expert speakers provided a workshop that discussed a wide variety of topics regarding soil health and cover crops in educational breakout sessions.

2022: Allen County SWCD Coffee and..... Series

Allen County SWCD offers early morning educational meetings every 3rd Tuesday of the month to discuss relevant topics related to agriculture and invites professionals in the field to share their knowledge and expertise with the public. Seminars that took place in 2022 are as follows:

February 15 – Coffee and Urban Soils

March 15 – Coffee and Cover Crop Termination

April 19 – Coffee and Soil Testing

May 18 - Coffee and Mulching

July 19 – Coffee and Pest Management

August 17 – Coffee and Fall Cover Crops

November 16 – Coffee and Invasive Species Management

The Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District is working on a Contribution Agreement with NRCS that focuses on urban and small farms in the Indiana portion of the Western Lake Erie Basin. The agreement allows the District to offer the community education through events and workshops and through educational materials.

Booklet and Pamphlet Display

Since 2010 the District has had available a display that holds 24 pamphlet size and 12 booklet size flyers to help inform the public as they enter the Districts' office.

The Allen County Soil & Water Conservation District also participates in and sponsors many activities and events associated with the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality and serves on the Partnership Advisory Committee. A description of these activities and the public participation involved in these activities can be seen in the document attached entitled "Allen County Co-Permit - Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Activity Tracking Sheet."

BMP 13 – Rule 13 Public Participation List =

- Develop a list of volunteer activities such as water quality monitoring, storm drain marking, and community clean-up events to provide opportunities for constituents and volunteers to participate in the water quality program.
- Identify groups and individuals likely to have an interest in participating in stormwater quality programs.

Progress –

Allen County has completed a list of individuals and groups likely to participate in Stormwater Programs and updates this list annually as additional groups come forward. The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality keeps a list of upcoming volunteer opportunities that are currently available to the public. The Partnership has an event calendar on the Partnership website where volunteer opportunities related to stormwater are posted. Volunteer opportunities are also posted on the Partnership for Water Quality facebook page. Emails are also sent to potential volunteers to help staff water quality booths when needed.

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality implemented an Adopt-A-Drain program for Allen County. This program adoption included creating a liability waiver form that volunteers must sign before they get started with the program. An eight-page booklet was created that explains the program and the duties necessary. With this program, volunteers have the opportunity to clean and mark storm drains and learn about the negative impacts of urban stormwater on water quality for neighbors downstream.

During the reporting period, the Partnership provided volunteer opportunities at various festivals and events such as the Leo-Cedarville BloomFest, Hoosier Riverwatch Training, EcoFest, the Pedal Paddle and Play event, the Farm Show, Little River Wetlands Project Earth Day event, volunteer opportunities with the county Storm Drain Marking Program, and through watershed and nature group activities and events, to name a few. Allen County has a regular group of Hoosier Riverwatch volunteers that do water testing as a result of the training workshops that are hosted by the county every year. For a detailed listing of volunteer hours logged for each event and to see a complete list of events or activities where volunteer opportunities were available for each year within the reporting period, please see the document attached entitled "Allen County Co-Permit - Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Activity Tracking Sheet."

The City of Fort Wayne sponsors a Great American Clean Up annually where volunteers throughout the City of Fort Wayne and the county remove trash and debris from neighborhoods and from streams and rivers.

List of Individuals with Interest in Stormwater Program -

Allen County has completed a list of individuals and groups likely to participate in Stormwater Programs and will update this list as additional groups come forward. The list is as follows:

Allen County 4-H

Future Farmers of America

Anthony Wayne Area Council Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts

Allen County High Schools and area High School Teachers

Purdue at Fort Wayne

Saint Joseph River Watershed Initiative

Maumee River Basin Commission

Flatrock Creek/Auglaize River Watershed Group

Upper Maumee River Watershed Group

Maumee Watershed Alliance

Hoosier Riverwatch Volunteers

Girl Scouts

Retired Volunteer Senior Corp Program

Young Leaders of Northeast Indiana

Friends of the Rivers and Save Maumee not-for-profit environmental groups

Save Maumee Grass Roots Organization – this organization focuses on trying to improve the water quality of the Maumee River. For instance, Save Maumee holds river clean up events annually in which volunteers pick up many different types of trash and debris from the river. The group also holds fundraisers staffed by volunteers featuring food, music, and door prizes that raise money for riverbank restoration materials. These materials are then utilized in annual riverbank restoration events, tree plantings, and seeding projects. The group also obtains volunteers to help with invasive plant removal projects along stream and river banks.

BMP 14 – Report A Polluter Program =

- Utilize a Report-A-Polluter program to field complaints from the public on illicit discharges, poor erosion control, and other activities impacting stormwater.
- Include promotional materials and brochures with phone numbers for the public to utilize to contact appropriate agencies.
- Respond to complaints following office complaint flow process.
- Document the number of complaints received.

Progress –

Allen County has adopted a Report-A-Polluter form and has placed it on the Allen County Website to enable residents to report any illicit discharges, erosion control issues, or other stormwater issues discovered. Additionally, phone numbers are listed on the Surveyor’s Office website and on all brochures and educational materials for residents to call the Surveyor’s Office or the ACPWQ to report complaints.

All complaints from citizens are logged by the Allen County Surveyor’s Office in a Microsoft Access Database by the Surveyor’s Office Administrative Assistant. The Allen County Surveyor’s Office has a Complaint Flow Process document that outlines step-by-step office procedures to handle complaints received by the office. Queries can be performed to isolate a complaint or certain types of complaints. A certain address can also be searched for in our historical records to determine whether past violations were found at a particular site. Our standard office complaint form is also typed up that provides the location, caller phone number and address information, date, a description of the complaint, and who the complaint is assigned to. Once the investigation is complete and the complaint is resolved, the investigative results are input into the Microsoft Access Database and typed onto the complaint form along with when the complaint is closed out. These complaint forms are logged in a filing cabinet for future reference. See item 16h above for the number of complaints received and addressed by the county.

b) Describe implementation problems encountered and changes made due to ineffectiveness or infeasibility during this reporting period.

Since the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality is utilized heavily to fulfill the Public Education and Public Involvement requirements, the problems encountered and any changes made as a result of those problems within the Partnership during this reporting period will be discussed.

- i.) The biggest issue encountered during this reporting period concerning the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality and the public education and involvement efforts centered on the fact that the Partnership part-time educator left for another job position in August. A new educator was hired in late November to replace her. The job market was such that it took longer than anticipated to find and hire another replacement educator. The main issue for the educator leaving was the low pay for the position. To add to this implementation problem, it also takes time to train a new person to get them up to speed on the job duties and the output expected of the position. Because of this void in educational output, some of the educational goals for 2022 were not able to be met.

c) Describe program BMPs that went beyond those identified in the SWQMP.

The following is a list of activities and accomplishments for the reporting period that were accomplished for water quality public education that go beyond the requirements of the county's SWQMP:

Matt Jarrett (Allen County MS4) leads the Partnership for Water Quality Advisory Committee and sets up all meetings and creates the meeting agendas.

Stormwater Activity Book

The ACPWQ created an 8-page Stormwater Activity Booklet to help teach local youth about local watersheds and water quality issues. This booklet can be downloaded from the Partnership website at www.acwater.org and is handed out at the Partnership booth at various festivals and events. In addition, these booklets can be distributed in bulk to requesting schools and organizations in Allen County and around the state. This activity booklet was also translated to Spanish to satisfy the goal of having materials available in a second language. This Spanish activity booklet is also available on the website and is distributed at the Partnership booth at various festivals and events or upon request.

For the list of events where Stormwater Activity Books were distributed and the number of Stormwater Activity Books distributed, please see the document attached entitled "Allen County Co-Permit - Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Activity Tracking Sheet."

Educational Posters, Stickers, Magnets, and Bookmarks

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality produces monthly water quality tips that entails a targeted monthly water quality message in the form of a short informational article. The Partnership has shortened down versions of these that have been made into posters (with a colorful picture illustrating the monthly tip message) and stickers, magnets, and bookmarks. These materials are handed out at local community events, fairs, and festivals.

Seed Paper and Playing Cards

The ACPWQ created seed paper handouts. The paper material within this handout is embedded with native plant seeds and contains a water quality educational message. These educational items are distributed at area festivals and events.

The ACPWQ created playing cards where each card contains a different water quality message. The different suites within the cards each have a different theme. For instance, all the clubs have a theme that centers around conserving water. These playing cards are distributed as a prize for people that engage the Partnership booth and answer a water quality-related question correctly.

Storm Drain Marking

The ACPWQ advertises the storm drain marking program at events and on the Partnership website as a means for the community to get involved in cleaning up the area storm conveyance systems and preventing pollution from entering these systems. The Allen County Surveyor's Office produced several documents/forms to provide information and to aid in the volunteer storm drain marking program. Allen County established a storm drain marking Application Form that volunteers must complete in order to participate in the county's storm drain marking program. A Liability Waiver Form was also created that each volunteer must sign before they can mark the storm drains. This is to limit the county's liability in case of accident, injury, or property damage. The Surveyor's Office also created a Storm Drain Marking Guide and Storm Marker Installation Instructions for volunteers. Additionally, the Surveyor's Office created a flyer that provides information on the county's storm drain marking program

that can be distributed at various events and activities. The locations of all inlets and manholes are available on GIS and GIS maps are provided to volunteers to aid in the storm drain marking.

The Surveyor's Office Storm Drain marking program consists of using adhesive to apply plastic circular markers with the message "No Dumping, Drains to Stream." These markers are purchased from Das Manufacturing Inc. The Surveyor's Office also had Das Manufacturing make a rectangular marker that is more flexible than their standard markers with holes punched into the sides to apply these markers on yard beehive type inlets. These markers are attached with a zip tie wrapped around the inlet rib and through the holes punched in the marker. Das Manufacturing stated that very few people mark the yard inlets as Allen County is doing.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office internal staff went out and placed storm drain markers on the drains at various locations throughout the county MS4 area as a means of providing public awareness. Allen County internal staff marked 1063 storm structures. Leo-Cedarville and Huntertown staff marked an additional 230 street and yard inlets within their communities, and **there were 128 storm drains marked by volunteers in residential subdivisions. Allen County now has a total of 1421 inlets and manholes that have been marked with plastic decals with the message of "No Dumping, Drains to Stream."** These decals were placed on manholes and inlets located within residential, commercial, and industrial developments.

Additionally, during storm sewer mapping, the Surveyor's Office has noted that there are at least 5,830 inlets and manholes that have a clean water message stamped within the casting of the inlet or manhole. The Allen County Surveyor's Office Technical Standards Manual requires all new manhole and inlet castings for new construction projects be pre-stamped with an appropriate "clean water" message that states no dumping is allowed because the storm inlets drain to the stream/river.

Miscellaneous Public Education:

The Purdue Cooperative Extension Service Master Gardner program touches on water quality through education of proper application and ways to reduce herbicides, pesticides, and other chemical applications in lawns and gardens. The Extension Office has several educators working in Allen County. They have an educator that works with the 4-H youth program, and have educators in agriculture and natural resources, horticulture, and health and human science. All of the educators are involved with community development as well.

The Fort Wayne - Allen County Department of Health provides a brochure for citizens entitled "Inquire Before You Are a Buyer." The brochure is a guide to septic system evaluations for prospective home buyers that discusses what a septic system is, what to do if you are planning to buy a home with a septic system, describes what a certified septic evaluation entails, the steps involved and why it's important to have this done before buying a home, and describes how to maintain a septic system.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office has a big screen TV monitor in the public waiting area where a pollution prevention educational message slide show runs on the screen saver of the TV for the public to view. The messages are seasonal and are updated on a regular basis to fit each season.

Wellhead Protection Areas

A wellhead protection area is located north of the Leo-Cedarville MS4 area and serves the Honeysuckle and Tullymore subdivisions. The City of Fort Wayne developed a Wellhead Protection Plan to help protect groundwater quality in this area. The City of Fort Wayne maintains this 3,000-foot radius

wellhead protection area and has a plant to supply water via two wells and a treatment facility to supply treated well water to 25 homes. They are required to do education, are responsible for implementing best management practices to protect the wells and have a pollution prevention plan for this wellhead protection area. The City regularly holds public meetings of the Local Planning Team that includes an open house that allows residents to learn more about the wellhead protection plan. The City also distributes educational information regarding household hazardous waste and pollution prevention information to the residents. The City is required to test the water at this site and make sure it meets filtration plant standards.

Little River Wetland Project:

The mission of Little River Wetlands Project, Inc. and Eagle Marsh is to facilitate the restoration of wetlands in the historical Little River watershed and provide educational opportunities that inspire and challenge individuals to be good stewards of all natural resources.

The programs of Eagle Marsh educate people of all ages about wetlands and related nature topics. People regularly volunteer at the events. This organization is also a good neighbor, supplying consultation to private parties who wish to preserve or restore their land, opportunities for scientific study to nearby universities, and recreation in the form of hiking, birding, and nature photography for the 375,000 residents of Allen County and surrounding areas. The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality and the Little River Wetland Project staff mutually promote each other's events. Staff from the Little River Wetlands Project regularly attend the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Advisory Committee meetings.

The Little River Wetlands non-for-profit has an educator on staff that offers different training and public educational opportunities. The following training and educational opportunities are offered regularly to the public concerning environmental issues:

Breakfast at the Marsh - this is a monthly training event for nature lovers 50 and over where there are different topics and speakers for each monthly meeting. For example, on April 14th, 2022, there was an event called Teaching Wild Edibles where a presentation was given on how food can be foraged in northeast Indiana.

March 2, 2022: World Wetlands Trivia Night and Presentation by Purdue Fort Wayne on Wetland Flowers

March 5, 2022: Sandhill Cranes Presentation

March 27, 2022: INaturalist App Training and Biodiversity Data Collection

First Wednesday of Every Month: Volunteering Event and Training

April 9, 2022: Spring Clean-up Removing Trash from the Marsh

April 16, 2022: Invertebrates and Water Quality Workshop

April 24, 2022: Earth Day Event (afternoon event with speakers discussing wetlands and wildlife, ecological restoration, and pollinators). Over 1000 people attended. There were 311 volunteer hours for the event.

May 7, 2022: Public Hike

May 11, 2022: Invasive Garlic Mustard Plant Removal Public Event

June 6, 2022: Invasive Species Training

June 9, 2022: The Importance of Land Trusts Presentation

June 11, 2022: Invasive Species Identification Hike

June 11, 2022: Native Plant Swap

June 15, 2022: Being Creative Outdoors Workshop

June 26, 2022: Urban Turtle Festival
June 7, 14, 21, 28 of 2022: Arrowhead Preserves Nature Hikes
July 20, 2022: Pollinators Workshop
July 22, 2022: INaturalist Moth Count Event
September 8, 2022: Botany, Ecology, and our Relationship with Both Presentation
September 11, 2022: Monarch Butterfly Festival
September 19, 2022: Native Planting Party at the Marsh
September 23 & October 15, 2022: Public Hike
October 13, 2022: Indiana: Everglades of the North Presentation
October 23, 2022: Native Plant Propagation Series: Seed Collecting Hike
November 2, 2022: Trash Pick-Up Event
November 13, 2022: LC Nature Park Restoration and Management Presentation
November 18, 2022: Beavers in the Marsh
November 19, 2022: Weed Removal
Every Tuesday: Ramblers Hike through the Marsh
Short Hikes for Short Legs Program - April 20, 2022: Wetland Wonders, May 18, 2022: Seed to Eagle Marsh, October 19, 2022: Animal Encounters, November 16, 2022: Leaf Decomposition (This is a kids' program for children ages three to five that occurs monthly on different topics with the goal of educating them on the importance of wetlands and native habitats)

In summary – 233 programs were held that incorporated the Seed to Marsh program and directly impacted over 7000 people in the community. Thousands of invasive plants were removed, 7 research projects and surveys were conducted, and 1500 native plants were grown and 500 were planted in the marsh, with the remaining given to the public. 1304 acres of wetland in the Little River Wetlands non-for-profit continue to be protected and restored. This wetland area is within the Allen County MS4 area.

Videos

The Partnership distributes videos to address erosion and sediment control and water pollution as follows:

"A Watershed Mentality" Documentary:

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality received a grant from the Great Lakes Commission and produced a documentary on soil erosion and sedimentation in the Maumee River Basin. PBS television channel 39 in Fort Wayne helped in the production of the video. The video shows footage of pollution of our area waterways, shows the impacts of environmental destruction on our ecosystem, shows the damage to the economy and jobs, shows some success stories on controlling erosion and improving water quality, and describes how public attitudes toward the environment have changed. Additionally, interviews with various mayors and public officials, laypeople, and other professionals were done. The video aired on PBS Channel 39 for several nights when it was released. It has been adopted by National PBS for distribution to other affiliates.

"A Watershed Mentality" has been cited by the Great Lakes Commission as being the "...new standard in erosion and sediment education" for their agency. This video also gathered awards and nominations for its' content. Among these was the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence in the field of Outreach or Education. This makes the second time the Partnership has won this award (first was the Storm Water Activity Book). The award recognizes Indiana's leaders who have implemented outstanding environmental strategies into their operations and decision-making processes. This video was provided to all Allen County libraries.

Septic Systems: Out of Sight, Not Out of Mind Parts 1-5

These five videos were produced by the Fort Wayne/Allen County Health Department and the St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative. These videos explain what a septic system is, what it does, and how problems can be prevented through regular inspection and proper upkeep. Copies are available at the health departments and soil and water conservation districts in Allen, Noble and DeKalb counties. Allen County provides the first video to all homes that have installed a new septic system or replaced a septic system.

To watch any of these videos online, visit Allen County's YouTube channel at [youtube.com/user/allencountyinfo](https://www.youtube.com/user/allencountyinfo)

"Green Sells" Construction BMP Video:

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality received a grant from the Great Lakes Commission to produce a video for developers and contractors on best management practices for reducing sedimentation and erosion. The 15-minute video focuses on the cost-benefits of compliance with the NPDES regulations and on the project management needed to comply. The video is available to view through the www.acwater.org website. This video was provided to all Allen County libraries.

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality staff and volunteers provided watershed, water quality, and pollution prevention education to adults and children by participating in many community events and providing presentations, workshops, and training sessions at various venues throughout the county during the year 2022. The list of community events, presentations, workshops, training sessions, and activities where the Partnership provided public education and outreach can be viewed in the document attached entitled "Allen County Co-Permit - Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Activity Tracking Sheet." This document describes the events that the Partnership sponsored or participated in and provides information on the number of people present at the event along with the numbers of brochures, Stormwater Activity Books, and Project WET Modules used during presentations along with the number of volunteer hours logged.

Overall Summary: For the year, the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality reached over 42,758 people in direct contact through the activities and events that the Partnership sponsored or participated in and distributed around 100 brochures and fliers promoting water quality issues.

d) Identify storm water BMPs installed or initiated for this MCM during this reporting period.

See item 17 (a) above for storm water BMPs installed or initiated for this MCM.

e) Describe program implementation partnerships and explain successes and barriers during this reporting period.

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality utilizes a part-time Water Resource Education Coordinator to educate the public and media on water resource issues. The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality part-time educator now resides in the Allen County Department of Environmental Management (ACDEM) to allow networking of resources with the ACDEM recycling/reuse/household hazardous waste Communications and Outreach Coordinator, who provides public education to county

constituents. The educators work together as a partnership to expand their opportunities and resources and to come up with different educational ideas.

In order to provide further guidance, direction, and networking opportunities for the educator, a Partnership for Water Quality Advisory Committee meets quarterly. This committee is made up of the MS4 co-permits and other county departments and entities with some type of water quality educational goal, such as the Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Health Department, the County Department of Environmental Management (formerly the Solid Waste District), County Parks Department, Purdue at Fort Wayne, and the Little River Wetlands Project representative among a few others. During the meetings, potential educational opportunities are provided for the part-time educator as county-wide partners with environmental interests are able to provide information on area community events and activities that the educator could attend to further the educational goals of the Partnership. Partner and community requests for service are also evaluated to see if they meet the goals of the Partnership and are the best use of the Partnership resources. Attendees of each meeting are tracked with a sign-in sheet. Meetings are open to the public. As a result of these meetings, the Partnership Educator is able to work closely and partner with other entities at events around the county to achieve the required educational goals.

The Partnership had many successes during the reporting period due to the wide array of educational tools available such as playing cards, seed paper handouts, magnets, bookmarks, kids stormwater activity books, brochures, monthly tip articles, display board information, videos, and social media presence. All of these tools were utilized to help fulfill the Partnership's annual goals.

As far as barriers during the reporting period, the biggest issues encountered during this reporting period concerning the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality and the public education and involvement efforts centered on the fact that the Partnership part-time educator left for another job position in August. A new educator was hired in late November to replace her. The job market was such that it took longer than anticipated to find and hire another replacement educator. The main issue for the educator leaving was the low pay for the position. To add to this implementation problem, it also takes time to train a new person to get them up to speed on the job duties and the output expected of the position. Because of this void in educational output, some of the educational goals for 2022 were not able to be met.

f) Other:

Co-Permittee Activities:

Leo-Cedarville

The Town of Leo-Cedarville has the following water quality related activities to report for this reporting period:

February - March, 2022 – Leo-Cedarville Y After Care Program (MCMs 1,2,3)

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality educator provided several presentations pertaining to water quality educational topics to the children in Y-Care at the Leo-Cedarville location.

8/13/2022 – Leo-Cedarville Bloom Fest (MCMs 1,2,3)

The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality educator had an educational booth at this festival. The educator was able to provide educational outreach to about 600 people.

Misc.

The Town of Leo-Cedarville places information on the town’s website that advertises the Allen County Department of Environmental Management Tox-Away Tuesday’s for dropping off Household Hazardous Wastes. The town also placed information on their website on recycling (what can be recycled), yard waste recycling (describing the program), and curb-side leaf pick-up (provided schedule for pick-up).

The Town of Leo-Cedarville utilizes Facebook posts on the towns Facebook page to provide the Partnership for Water Quality monthly water quality educational tips and Water Matters articles to residents.

On-going – monthly minutes published in the local newspaper (Courier) regarding stormwater meetings.

The Town holds monthly public stormwater utility board meetings on the second Tuesday of the month. Residents are invited to attend to express stormwater concerns. The monthly minutes from this meeting are published in the local newspaper (The Courier).

The Grabill library near Leo-Cedarville hands out brochures, activity booklets, and seed packet water quality informational materials during their programs on Tuesday’s and Thursday’s. They distributed approximately 500 seed packets and 500 activity booklets this past reporting period.

Leo-Cedarville Training Activities:

May 2022 – Leo-Cedarville Municipal Facility Site Inspection and Training (MCM’s 1-6)

The Allen County Surveyor’s Office MS4 Coordinator provided training to Leo-Cedarville MS4 staff during a walk-around municipal facility inspection. After the walk-around a meeting was held with the employees to go over the results and to provide training on the new IDEM Construction and MS4 Stormwater General permit requirements. There were 2 people that took part in the inspection and that were trained on the new permit requirements.

LEO-CEDARVILLE IDEM Activity Log 2022

IDEM ACTIVITY 2022		
1/18/2022	Jacob	F350 washed at car wash
2/21/2022	Jacob	F350 washed at car wash
March	Rick	F550 washed at car wash
March	Rick and Jacob	Removed rat guards at 9905 Gerig Road (3)
3/29/2022	Rick	1500 washed at car wash
4/12/2022	Rick and Jacob	street sweep 4 yards dirt and gravel
6/22/2023	Rick and Jacob	pick up trash from ROW
6/27/2022	Rick	wash 1500 car wash
7/11/2022	Rick and Jacob	clean storm drains mostly leaves and gravel 1 yard of debris

August	Rick	50 yards of dirt and gravel waste hauled away
9/2/2022	Rick and Jacob	street sweep 1.5 yards of dirt and gravel
9/19/2022	Jacob	truck wash at car wash F350
12/1/2023	Rick	1500 washed at car wash
12/9/2023	Rick and Jacob	Town leaf vac 100 loads taken to Ringenberg Garten Haus
12/12/2023	Jacob	F350 washed at car wash
12/31/2023	Town	100 tons of salt used

Huntertown

The Town of Huntertown has a wellhead protection area on the south end of town. The Town of Huntertown developed a Wellhead Protection Plan to fulfill the State of Indiana’s Wellhead Protection Rule.

The Town of Huntertown provides a free drop-off area near the town’s maintenance facility for residents to drop off yard waste and small woody vegetation. Residents can also pick up compost from this pile for their use at their leisure. This helps prevent yard waste from being disposed of improperly and helps keep this refuse away from the storm conveyances.

The Town of Huntertown utilizes Facebook posts on the towns Facebook page to provide the Partnership for Water Quality monthly water quality educational tips and Water Matters articles to residents. The Town also provides brochures and educational materials on a table near the entrance of the Town Hall for residents to utilize.

The Town of Huntertown performed smoke testing to determine if there was stormwater infiltration into the town’s sanitary sewer system.

Huntertown maintenance crews make a point to street sweep on a regular basis to pick up litter and inorganic debris to prevent these materials from entering into the storm sewer system. The Town cleans out all catch basins annually.

The Town of Huntertown uses a De-Icing salt for roadways called Sledgehammer that is listed as organic based, bio-degradable and non-toxic to the environment.

2022 MS4 ACTIVITY REPORT for Town of Huntertown

1. Huntertown swept just over 175 miles of streets in 2022. The official INDOT mileage for 2022 is 64.44 miles. Huntertown tries to sweep their streets at least twice annually or when needed.
2. Amount of material collected from street sweeping and roadside storm drain clean-out= Approximately 25 tons but also depends on amount of salt/sand used in winter operations.
3. Roadside drainage projects for 2022 will include Bethel Rd, between Boulder Pass and Hathaway Rd. Also included in the drainage project is Gemini/Mercury/Apollo Drives.
4. All new additions fall under the Allen County Storm Drain Regulations.
5. Storm drains in Huntertown on Lima Rd (north to south) were jetted and cleaned.

6. Facebook Posts – the Town of Huntertown has a Facebook page, and they post all of the water quality literature they receive from the Allen County Surveyor’s Office and the Allen County Department of Environmental Management office.
7. Salt-Sand Management - Huntertown purchases salt and sand from the Allen County Highway Department as per an Inter-local Agreement. They normally use 75 to 200 tons annually. Amounts used depend on weather conditions.
8. Complaints - the town hasn’t received any complaints regarding illegal dumping/illicit discharges or erosion and sediment control issues during this reporting period.
9. Cleaning and Inspection of ALL Road Storm Drainage (Annually)
10. The town does leaf pick up during the fall season. On average 14-yard loads are picked up. Roughly 30 loads +/- annually.
11. Huntertown maintenance employees do utility construction inspections on new sanitary sewer and water main installations. The inspections entail watching contractors properly bed the pipe systems to inspecting the shutoffs at the connection points.

Huntertown Training Activities:

May 2022 – Huntertown Municipal Facility Site Inspection and Training (MCMs 1-6)

The Allen County Surveyor’s Office MS4 Coordinator provided training to Huntertown MS4 staff during a walk-around municipal facility inspection. After the walk-around a meeting was held with the employees to go over the results and to provide training on the new IDEM Construction and MS4 Stormwater General permit requirements. There were 3 people that took part in the inspection and that were trained on the new permit requirements.

Additional Educational Activity:

July 9, 2022 – Allen County Market in Huntertown (MCMs 1,2)

This event provided an opportunity to educate Huntertown residents about water quality. A stormwater flip board was taken to discuss general information about stormwater and pollution prevention. There were about 250 people that received outreach at this event.

18. Identify the best management practices for public participation and involvement included in your SWQMP Part C and then respond to the following:

- a) **Identify progress made towards development and implementation of each BMP for this MCM including timetables and measurable goals during this reporting period.**

See item 17 (a) above as MCM 1 and 2 have both been addressed in section 17 above.

- b) **Describe implementation problems encountered and changes made due to ineffectiveness or infeasibility during this reporting period.**

The biggest issue encountered during this reporting period concerning the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality and the public involvement efforts centered on the fact that the Partnership part-time educator left for another job position in August. A new educator was hired in late November to replace her. The job market was such that it took longer than anticipated to find and hire another replacement

educator. The main issue for the educator leaving was the low pay for the position. To add to this implementation problem, it also takes time to train a new person to get them up to speed on the job duties and the output expected of the position. Because of this void in educational output, some of the educational goals for 2022 were not able to be met.

Additionally, the Allen County Surveyor's Office continues to work with the public and area watershed groups on maintaining valuable trees and riparian corridors along ditches. For instance, groups such as Save Maumee want to plant trees and riparian buffer corridors along county regulated drains. These groups obtain grant money for these projects and use a number of volunteers to help plant these trees. This sometimes conflicts with the Surveyor's Office goals of having maintenance access to the drains and keeping fallen trees and debris out of the flow channel of the ditch. As a result, the Surveyor's Office will continue to work with watershed groups and private landowners that want to leave wanted and valuable trees along ditch banks and to find an amenable way for each party to accomplish their goals.

c) Describe program BMPs that went beyond those identified in the SWQMP.

See item 17 (c) above as MCM 1 and 2 have both been addressed in section 17 above.

d) Identify storm water BMPs installed or initiated for this MCM during this reporting period.

See item 17 (d) above as MCM 1 and 2 have both been addressed in section 17 above.

e) Describe program implementation partnerships and explain successes and barriers during this reporting period.

As a success, the Education Coordinator for the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality has formed contacts and partnerships with other environmental groups, other county departments, local watershed groups, and Little River Wetlands Project educators to assist back and forth with resources where needed for water quality public education and public involvement. The Partnership has established a networking list of contacts for different service groups, agencies, teachers, and clubs that may seek water quality education and has now become sought after to continue to provide education for each of these groups/agencies' annual events.

The barriers for this reporting period are getting new people involved in volunteering for water quality events and activities and taking part in public meetings, as often times it is the same people that attend and volunteer their services. Funding continues to be a barrier as adequate funding is necessary to run a quality program and to provide adequate resources to perform the educational duties required of the educator.

Another barrier is trying to determine the effectiveness of the educational program and in determining areas where the Partnership can improve. For instance, it can be difficult to discern whether students in a classroom educational setting are learning what is being provided by the educator and whether the message content was effectively received. Additionally, it's hard to discern the educational learning that might be happening over social media and how effective the message content is at changing people's behavioral actions toward implementing water quality best management practices.

See item 17 (e) above for further information regarding this item.

f) Other:

See item 17 (f) above as MCM 1 and 2 have both been addressed in section 17 above.

19. Identify the best management practices for illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) included in your SWQMP Part C and then respond to the following:

- a) Identify progress made towards development and implementation of each BMP for this MCM including timetables and measurable goals during this reporting period (mapping, screening, etc.).**

BMP 1 – Stormwater System Mapping

- Enhance existing MS4 maps with additional details regarding locations, sizes, and types of outfalls as the IDDE plan is implemented
- Add new outfalls and conveyance systems to the map for the appropriate jurisdiction per ordinance as-built requirements for new developments

Progress –

As required by the MS4 General Permit, the county has mapped existing storm conveyances within the county's MS4 area and continues to map the locations of all outfalls and conveyances under the MS4 operator's control where new development occurs. Additionally, the county has mapped some areas outside of the MS4 boundaries as time has allowed.

Allen County took this requirement one step further and mapped not only the locations of the outfalls and conveyances, but also the entire stormwater pipe system, including the locations of all stormwater pipes, manholes, inlets, control structures such as weirs and control valves, and grade beam and control outlets. Additionally, the physical aspects of each of these structures was also documented such as the size, casting type, number of inflow and outfall pipes, and whether there are weeper holes, mortar collars, or poured inverts. The county also has documented whether the castings are marked per the requirements of the storm drain marking program. This will help determine where future storm drain marking activities need to be done. Post construction best management practice locations are also being mapped. Pictures of each outfall or post construction BMP were taken and logged in a database and linked to each outfall or post construction BMP location. When viewing each outfall/BMP mapped digitally within GIS, it is possible to click on each outfall/BMP located within the GIS map and bring up a picture of that particular outfall/BMP. These pictures will help serve as a historical reference for each outfall and BMP. Also, within GIS, the county has input and linked the Outfall Reconnaissance Inventory Reports and Illicit Discharge Testing Reports. By clicking on an outfall within GIS, these reports can be brought up within GIS for that particular outfall, providing a historical view of each outfall with respect to illicit discharges.

The county has also began mapping such things as repair points, filter strips, taps, obstructions, beaver dams, bank slides, debrushing areas, sandbars, and debris/log jam areas as time allows.

BMP 2 – IDDE Ordinance

- Periodically review the IDDE language contained in the Ordinance documents for needed updates and to ensure compliance with the MS4 General Permit
- Enforce the IDDE Ordinance requirements

Progress –

The Allen County Stormwater Management Ordinance was passed by the Board of Commissioners of Allen County on April 25th of 2008. This ordinance includes the requirements for the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Minimum Control Measure as specified by the regulatory requirements. The Allen County Stormwater Management Ordinance and IDDE Ordinance section can be found on the Allen County Surveyor's Office website. Allen County uses this Ordinance to enforce the requirements of the Illicit Discharge program.

Allen County's Illicit Discharge Ordinance is currently being reviewed by the Surveyor's Office and the office consultant with the goal of making necessary updates and revisions to meet the IDEM Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements. The goal is to have the county regulatory requirements updated by July 2024 to meet the General Permit deadline for completion of an updated Stormwater Ordinance and Technical Standards Manual. Pertinent stakeholders such as developers, engineers, and contractors are also being given a chance to provide their input on what changes need to be made. All changes to the Ordinance will be approved by the Commissioners. The Allen County Technical Standards Manual is also being reviewed by the above-mentioned parties to provide input on the proposed updates and revisions.

The Illicit Discharge Ordinance is enforced by the Allen County Surveyor's Office. The statutory authority of the Ordinance is referenced in all letters of violation to offenders and provides the authority to issue enforcement actions as necessary.

BMP 3 – IDDE Plan

- Review the IDDE Plan and update as necessary to reflect the proposed actions for illicit discharge detection and elimination in the current permit term
- Implement the IDDE plan to detect, address, and eliminate illicit discharges into the MS4 conveyance system within MS4 jurisdiction

Progress –

The Allen County Co-Permit is in the process of having Christopher Burke Engineering complete an updated Water Quality Characterization Report to meet the new MS4 General permit requirements. Updates and determinations of changes in the county's water quality characterization will be provided within this report. The 303(d) lists and TMDL lists will be compared to determine if there were major changes or additions in the listings for Allen County in the Finalized IDEM 303(d) list of impaired waters for 2022 versus the approved IDEM 2020 303(d) list of impaired waters, as provided at <https://www.in.gov/idem/nps/2647.htm>. TMDL listings will also be compared. This will help determine any water quality characterization changes that may be occurring in the county's waterways. This updated document will be made available on the Allen County Surveyor's Office website.

In order to determine the potential severity for illicit discharges within Allen County, the Allen County Surveyor's Office performed a Desktop Assessment of Illicit Discharge Potential. This Desktop Assessment was used as a guide for initial field screening and is used to identify high priority areas to focus the IDDE program resources. Allen County is in the process of creating a GIS map that shows high priority areas for illicit discharge screening and field inspections within the Allen County Co-Permit MS4 area. The high priority areas were determined with the help of the Desktop Assessment of Illicit Discharge Potential and past violations and complaints.

The county developed an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Plan and Procedure Guide that details the county's plan to locate, eliminate, and prevent illicit discharges. This guide manual is a 20-page document that the Surveyor's Office put together that details a step-by-step process and plan for establishing the county's IDDE program and then performing the necessary steps for detecting and eliminating illicit discharges. Additionally, several forms were created to allow test results and investigative results to be documented. Furthermore, a field guide was created for staff to provide a procedural guide for Allen County inspectors to utilize and aid in performing Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) program requirements.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Plan is reviewed annually to update and review what program plan elements are working and where improvements may be needed. Currently, the county is updating this IDDE plan document to reflect the additional requirements found within the MS4 General Permit in the timeline stipulated in the Permit (the first year of permit coverage).

The county's illicit discharge detection and elimination strategies are constantly adjusted to reflect knowledge gained from field screenings, citizen complaints, and other monitoring information. Priority watershed areas for future dry weather screening activities are modified based upon past complaints and screening results. Educational efforts through the Surveyor's Office and the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality concerning illicit discharges are also tailored based upon past screening efforts and complaints.

The county regularly updates the outfall receiving waters within the Allen County Co-Permit MS4 area. Currently, every outfall that is GPS mapped is also dry weather screened for illicit discharges during mapping as the county has a specific question addressing this within the GPS meters. Currently, there have been about 2,582 outfalls screened for illicit discharges. These include outfalls that discharge to detention ponds and swales. An Outfall Reconnaissance Inventory Report is completed for outfalls that are noted as having a potential illicit discharge at the time of dry weather screening. These outfalls are also marked in GIS as having a potential illicit discharge and the ORI report is linked to that particular outfall. Pictures of each outfall are taken and logged into a database for future reference to show that illicit discharges did or did not appear at the time the picture was taken and what the outfall looked like at that particular point in time. Outfalls documented as having potential illicit discharges and their locations are then logged into a spreadsheet for future water testing to determine if an illicit discharge is present.

Outfalls where an obvious illicit discharge is present are investigated immediately to determine the source of the discharge and to correct the discharge. Complaints of illicit discharges are also investigated immediately to determine if an illicit discharge is present and if so, correct and eliminate the source of the discharge.

BMP 4 - IDDE, Good Housekeeping, and Pollution Prevention Staff Training

- Train appropriate staff members on hazards associated with illicit discharges, improper disposal of waste, and other Good Housekeeping & Pollution Prevention Practices
- Conduct annual refresher training to appropriate departments and staff
- Document number of staff trained, number of training events held, and the curriculum covered in each training session

The following training opportunities regarding IDDE and Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention were provided to Allen County municipal staff, along with the number of staff members attending each event. IDDE education is also provided to the public with the help of the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality.

February 10, 2022 – Purdue LTAP Stormwater Drainage Conference (MCMs 3,4,5,6)

This conference had sessions dealing with the IDEM Construction Stormwater General Permit and MS4 General Permit, Implementing the Self-Monitoring Program on Construction Sites, Implementing a New Stormwater Ordinance, and a presentation on Post Construction BMP Inspections, to name a few. There were four people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office that attended and 3 people from the Allen County Highway Department, including the Highway Director that attended. There were several engineers from Allen County that attended.

February 15 & 16, 2022 – MS4 Compliance & Enforcement Certified Inspector Training (Training for MCMs 1-6)

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator and the Allen County Surveyor both took this training class provided by the NPDES Training Institute with the instructor being Luke Owen. Both employees passed the exam, obtained certification of completion of the course, and obtained the MS4 Compliance & Enforcement Certified Inspector (MS4CECI) certification. There were 15 professional development hours obtained for this.

April 28, 2022 – The New Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit Webinar (MCMs 1-6)

This webinar provided by Lori Gates of Christopher Burke Engineering provided an overview of the new MS4 General Permit. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator attended.

May 10, 2022 - Indiana MS4 Partnership Annual Meeting (MCMs 1-6)

The Allen County Surveyor's Office attended the IDEM annual MS4 meeting to be trained on information concerning the regulatory requirements of the MS4 programs. Allen County MS4 Coordinator Matt Jarrett attended as did Jackie Buck from the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality.

August 16, 2022 – Day at the Lake (MCMs 1-6)

This was a field trip open to the public where residents could take a bus trip to Lake Erie and take a tour of an open lab on the lake to see demonstrations of water quality tests performed by Ohio State University faculty on the lake waters. Presentations on water quality topics were also provided by Ohio State faculty. There were 3 people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office that went on this trip along with the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Educator. There were 53 residents that went on this day long bus trip.

September 14-16, 2022 – INAFSM Annual Conference (MCMs 1-6)

This conference provided presentations on varying water quality and stormwater topics that covered training on all the minimum control measures. Many of the presentations discussed the new IDEM Construction and MS4 General Permits. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator and Allen County Surveyor attended. Additionally, a new Northeast Indiana MS4 Group had their initial meeting at the conference to provide networking opportunities and resources to the MS4s of northeast Indiana.

October 5, 2022 – Northern Indiana Construction Site Stormwater Management Workshop (MCMs 1-6)

The City of Fort Wayne hosted a daylong water quality workshop for engineers, contractors, developers, and municipal employees where presentations were provided on the new IDEM General Permit Regulatory Requirements, Stormwater BMPs, an Owner’s Approach to Stormwater, Concrete Washouts, Polymer Use in Stormwater, and Engineering Ethics. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided a presentation at this workshop on the new Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements and the changes Allen County will require to remain in compliance with the water quality regulatory requirements. This presentation will satisfy the annual training for contractors, engineers, developers, and homebuilders along with employee training. There were PDHs available to participants at this workshop. There were about 50-70 people at this workshop including 5 people from the Allen County Surveyor’s Office.

October 14, 2022 – Board of Commissioners Legislative Session (MCMs 1-3)

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided information about the new IDEM General Permits and the Water Quality Characterization Report that is required to be completed to address the new General Permit requirements. This is a public meeting that is broadcast via public access television and social media, thereby providing public education and involvement.

November 3-4, 2022 – Sands County Foundation, Leadership for Midwestern Watersheds Conference (MCMs 1-6)

This annual two-day conference featured presentations and facilitated discussions on subjects essential to successful watershed projects. Examples include farmer engagement, geospatial planning tools, project financing, and water quality monitoring.

BMP 5 – Storm Drain Castings

- Include the message “Dump No Waste, Drains to River” (or similar message) on all new installed cast iron inlets and beehives
- Track the number and location of all marked inlets

Progress –

The ACPWQ advertises the storm drain marking program at events and on the Partnership website as a means for the community to get involved in cleaning up the area storm conveyance systems and preventing pollution from entering these systems. Brochures are available from the Partnership that provide details on the storm drain marking program. The Allen County Surveyor’s Office produced several documents/forms to provide information and to aid in the volunteer storm drain marking program. Examples of forms created for this program include a storm drain marking Application Form, a Liability Waiver Form, a Storm Drain Marking Guide, a Storm Drain Marking Flyer, and Storm Marker Installation Instructions. The locations of all inlets and manholes are available on GIS and GIS maps are provided to volunteers to aid in storm drain marking.

The Allen County Surveyor’s Office requires all new manhole and inlet castings for new construction be installed with a pre-stamped message of “Dump No Waste, Drains to River” (or similar message) to help educate residents that the storm inlets drain to a stream or river. This requirement is found within the Allen County Technical Standards Manual. During storm conveyance system GPS mapping, the Surveyor’s Office logs whether the inlet/manhole is marked with a water quality message and whether the message is pre-stamped on the casting or whether it is marked with a Surveyor’s Office decal. The Surveyor’s Office internal staff has marked storm drains with decals as a means of providing public awareness. The Surveyor’s Office Storm Drain Marking program consists of using adhesive to apply

plastic circular markers with the message “No Dumping, Drains to Stream.” The Surveyor’s Office also has a rectangular marker that is more flexible than the standard markers with holes punched into the sides to apply these markers on yard beehive type inlets. These markers are attached with a zip tie wrapped around the inlet rib and through the holes punched in the marker. This is a custom-made marker. There have been a total of 1421 inlets and manholes that have been marked with water quality decals.

BMP 6 – Report-A-Polluter Program = Establish a Report-A-Polluter Program.

Allen County has adopted a Report-A-Polluter form and has placed it on the Allen County Website to enable residents to report any illicit discharges discovered. Additionally, phone numbers are listed on the website for residents to call the Surveyor’s Office with complaints of Illicit Discharges. Brochures that are distributed at fairs and community events have phone numbers to call to report illicit discharges. The Allen County Partnership for Water Quality also has a phone number listed on the Partnership website to call the Water Quality Educator to report pollution activities. See Complaints listing above for further information on the illicit discharge complaints received.

BMP 7 – Allen County Department of Environmental Management (formerly Solid Waste Management District) Promotions = see item 17(a) above

b) Describe implementation problems or challenges encountered, particularly as it relates to mapping and screening of outfalls during this reporting period.

Implementation problems or challenges include having staff availability to do screening of outfalls and to walk ditches during times of the year when foliage is off, and the weather is not harsh. These times of the year make it easier to locate outfalls in the weeds and brush. Otherwise, tremendous amounts of time can be spent trying to locate or relocate outfalls.

Obtaining funding for testing equipment and dedicated IDDE staff/inspectors is also a constant challenge to overcome. Currently, staffing resources are very limited in being able to find time to do the necessary screening of outfalls. Constant construction and development taking place within the MS4 area means continued mapping of the storm sewer system of these newly developed areas must take place continually. Again, staffing resources are limited in being able to find time to do GPS mapping on the new development sites.

Additionally, during this reporting period, the Allen County Surveyor’s Office lost three inspectors that were involved in helping with GPS storm mapping and outfall screening. The Allen County Surveyor also retired mid-year leaving a leadership vacancy for a period of time. In addition, the main GPS unit that was used in mapping became obsolete due to the fact it was operating on a 3G network that went obsolete. Therefore, the Surveyor’s Office purchased new belt clip GPS units that were smaller but less accurate in the locates. Due to the staff shortfall, the goals for field screening and new development GPS mapping were not met for this period. The Surveyor’s Office has job listings posted and hopes to be able to fill the open inspector positions to replenish our staff resources and meet the screening and mapping goals for 2023.

c) Identify changes made to the IDDE Plan during this reporting period if applicable.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Plan is reviewed annually to update and review what program plan elements are working and where improvements may be needed. Currently, the county is updating this IDDE plan document to reflect the additional requirements found within the MS4 General Permit in the timeline stipulated in the Permit (the first year of permit coverage).

The county's illicit discharge detection and elimination strategies are adjusted to reflect knowledge gained from field screenings, citizen complaints, and other monitoring information. Priority watershed areas for future dry weather screening activities are modified based upon past complaints and screening results. Educational efforts through the Surveyor's Office and the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality concerning illicit discharges are also tailored based upon past screening efforts and complaints.

Updates to the type of information that is gathered through GPS mapping and within the GIS system are made as needed. For instance, in addition to mapping the stormwater pipe conveyance systems, outfalls, and the locations of post construction best management practices, the county has begun mapping such things as repair points, sinkholes, filter strips, taps, obstructions, beaver dams, bank slides/washouts, debrising areas, sandbars, and debris/log jam areas as time allows. The county is trying to obtain a clearer picture of regulated drain areas and conveyance systems that are in need of maintenance and reconstruction and areas where there may be ditch embankment erosion. Pictures of each of these things can be taken and attached to the point for view in GIS. These areas may be contributing sediment to the storm conveyance system which in turn is an illicit discharge of sediment. The IDDE plan has been updated to reflect this change in mapping and collection protocol.

Water testing parameters are reviewed to determine if the correct parameters are being looked at and if additional parameters may need to be tested to aid in the detection process. The listing for Active Industrial Facilities within the MS4 area is updated annually and the gas station listing is also updated annually. The last section of the IDDE Plan discusses future goals for the county's IDDE program. As these goals are completed, modifications to the county's future IDDE goals will be made within this section.

d) Identify updates or revisions to IDDE ordinance or other regulatory mechanism made during this reporting period.

No revisions to the IDDE Ordinance were made during this reporting period. However, Allen County's Illicit Discharge Ordinance is currently being reviewed by the Surveyor's Office and the office consultant with the goal of making necessary updates and revisions to meet the IDEM Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements. The goal is to have the county regulatory requirements updated by July 2024 to meet the General Permit deadline for completion of an updated Stormwater Ordinance and Technical Standards Manual. Pertinent stakeholders such as developers, engineers, and contractors are also being given a chance to provide their input on what changes need to be made. All changes to the Ordinance will be approved by the Commissioners. The Allen County Technical Standards Manual is also being reviewed by the above-mentioned parties to provide input on the proposed updates and revisions.

e) Describe level of mapping and screening completed to date. If there are unmapped or unscreened outfalls, provide a plan and a timetable for completion.

With the use of Trimble GPS units with sub-meter accuracy and the use of a handheld Leica GPS/GIS data collector with one inch accuracy, the Surveyor's Office has mapped the stormwater conveyance systems and pipe systems within the county's MS4 area. Our office has input this mapping data into our GIS system which has allowed us to develop a storm sewer system map that identifies the locations of all outfalls, pipe systems, and conveyances under the MS4 operator's control.

During our field mapping, we GPS located all inlets, manholes, pipe, trash racks, outfalls, and control structures such as grade beams. The Surveyor's Office also maps locations of post construction best management practices such as water quality separator units and maps repair point locations for areas where repair of the conveyance system is needed. As mentioned previously, the county has begun mapping such things as sinkholes, filter strips, taps, obstructions, beaver dams, bank slides/washouts, debrushing areas, sandbars, and debris/log jam areas as time allows. Currently, we have mapped outfalls with a pipe diameter of four inches or larger and open ditches with a two foot or larger bottom width. Open ditch systems and county regulated tile have also been identified and are shown on the county's GIS system.

Pictures of each outfall illustrating the size, material, and discharge of the outfall were taken and logged in a database and linked to each outfall location. When viewing each outfall mapped digitally within GIS, it is possible to click on an outfall within the GIS map and bring up a picture of that particular outfall. Outfalls that are not readily visible or are submerged in water such as in a detention pond have a picture taken of where the outfall is believed to be. A comment is also provided in the Comments data listing that describes that the outfall is submerged and not visible.

Even though older existing areas have been GPS mapped, we still continue to do GPS mapping of storm conveyance systems on an on-going basis for new construction projects occurring within our MS4 area. New construction projects are logged into a spreadsheet to keep track of areas that require mapping and inspection of BMPs and once the project is completed, the Surveyor's Office GPS maps the system and inputs it into GIS.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office has done field screening for all the outfalls within the MS4 area. Currently, every outfall that is GPS mapped is also dry weather screened for illicit discharges during GPS mapping as the county has a specific question addressing this within the GPS meters. Currently, there have been about 2,582 outfalls county-wide screened for illicit discharges. These include outfalls that discharge to detention ponds and swales. The county has around 811 MS4 area outfalls that discharge to streams, rivers, or roadside ditches and an additional 1140 in the MS4 area that discharge to detention ponds or other storm management facilities.

Outfalls documented as having potential illicit discharges and their locations are logged into a spreadsheet for future water testing to determine if an illicit discharge is present. Currently, the county has test equipment to test for conductivity, pH, total chlorine, free chlorine, total hardness, total alkalinity, ammonia-nitrogen, temperature, phosphorus/orthophosphate, total dissolved solids, and detergent. Test results are recorded within the Allen County Surveyor's Office Water Sample Testing Results Form, which is then linked to the outfall within GIS.

The Towns of Leo-Cedarville and Hometown do their own outfall screening for illicit discharges for their municipally owned pipe systems and outfalls. Both towns also provide outfall stabilization remediation where increased scour protection is needed. Furthermore, both towns also respond to illicit discharge

complaints submitted to the town and investigate and require corrective actions for illicit discharges detected.

Within the MS4 area, Allen County will perform dry weather screening applications in order to comply with the MS4 General Permit requirements for MS4 owned outfalls. Allen County will look to expand dry weather screening applications to areas outside of the county's MS4 area in tandem with GIS mapping of these areas.

f) Other:

The Allen County Surveyor's Office requires new gas station facilities to implement Best Management Practices to capture their potential pollutants. Post Construction BMPs that are required for plan approval for new gas station facilities include the following:

- A hydrodynamic separator unit that is capable of removing oils and hydrocarbons
- A Maintenance Agreement must be signed and recorded by the owner or representative.
- An Operations and Maintenance Manual that provides maintenance procedures for the BMPs that serves as a guide for the property owner.

Allen County keeps a listing of all Gas Station locations within the MS4 area along with a description of the BMP that is utilized for that Gas Station if it was recently constructed or retrofitted. Gas station locations within Allen County's MS4 area can also be seen on GIS.

The Surveyor's Office also regulates horse and buggy hitching posts as these are deemed as potentially high pollutant generators. BMP's that are required for plan approval that address horse and buggy hitching posts include the following:

- Post Construction Best Management Practices must be incorporated that contain the horse manure and urine on the site and allow for maintenance to remove the build-up of these materials or to treat these waste products before they leave the site.
- A Maintenance Agreement must be signed and recorded by the owner or representative with a recorded copy provided to the Allen County Surveyor's Office.
- An Operations and Maintenance Manual must be established and provided to the owner that provides maintenance procedures for the Best Management Practices installed.

Facility Locations

Active industrial facilities, Rule 6 permit holders, and gas station facilities within the county's MS4 area and outside of the MS4 area have also been located and identified on the county GIS system to aid in illicit discharge detection and elimination. The county also has the location of confined animal feeding operations on GIS. The county maintains a spreadsheet listing of these facilities by address and this listing is updated annually.

Additional Water Testing Performed -

Since 1996, the St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative has been monitoring the quality of the water in the St. Joseph River and its tributaries through weekly grab sampling at locations across the watershed during the recreational season, April through October. This river runs through the northeast part of the county. Water sampling measurements are done in the field with a Hydrolab sonde. The Initiative measures water temperature, dissolved oxygen (DO), conductivity, pH, and turbidity. The air temperature and cloud cover are also recorded. The Initiative does not measure stream flow but does take a measurement of the water level from the bridge at each site, which gives a general idea of stream depth above or below the average at each site.

In addition to field measurements, samples are collected from each site and taken to the certified laboratory of the Fort Wayne Three Rivers Water Filtration Plant, where they are analyzed for the pesticide atrazine and for E. coli bacteria. Samples are also delivered to the EPA-certified laboratory of the Fort Wayne Wastewater Treatment Plant, where they are analyzed for total phosphorus. A nitrate analysis is also carried out by A&L Laboratories in Fort Wayne.

An electronic database of the water quality monitoring results is maintained by the Initiative in cooperation with the Environmental Resources Center at Purdue-Fort Wayne and with Fort Wayne City Utilities. The database dates back to 1996 when the Initiative began their river water quality monitoring program. Information from the database is available to the public via the Initiatives' website. Annual water quality reports for the St. Joseph River watershed, based on the Initiative's water quality monitoring information, are available in PDF format.

Wellhead Protection Programs

A wellhead protection area is located north of the Leo-Cedarville MS4 area and serves the Honeysuckle and Tullymore subdivisions. The City of Fort Wayne developed a Wellhead Protection Plan to help protect groundwater quality in this area. The City of Fort Wayne maintains this 3,000-foot radius wellhead protection area and has a plant to supply water via two wells and a treatment facility to supply treated well water to 25 homes. They are required to do education, are responsible for implementing best management practices to protect the wells and have a pollution prevention plan for this wellhead protection area. The City regularly holds public meetings of the Local Planning Team that includes an open house that allows residents to learn more about the wellhead protection plan. The City also distributes educational information regarding household hazardous waste and pollution prevention information to the residents. The City is required to test the water at this site and make sure it meets filtration plant standards.

The Town of Huntertown has a wellhead protection area on the south end of town. The Town of Huntertown developed a Wellhead Protection Plan to fulfill the State of Indiana's Wellhead Protection Rule.

20. List the best management practices for the construction site storm water run-off program identified in your SWQMP Part C and then respond to the following:

- a) Identify progress made towards development and implementation of each BMP for this MCM including timetables and measurable goals during this reporting period.**

BMP 1 – Construction Stormwater General Permit Compliance = Comply with the Construction Stormwater General Permit on each MS4 owned and operated project that disturbs land equal to 1 acre or larger in size.

Progress –

All County owned and operated projects that require Construction Stormwater General Permit review are submitted to the Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District or directly to IDEM for review approval and inspection. Additionally, the Surveyor’s Office may require a CSGP quality control erosion and sediment control review for county owned and operated projects that disturb land equal to 1 acre or larger in size. Quality control inspections are also performed on county owned projects for erosion and sediment control. Surveyor’s Office projects have an inspector on site every day to monitor the site to verify it conforms to our plans and specifications. The county reviews the construction site stormwater runoff program annually to determine if program changes or changes in requirements may be necessary to improve the program. For example, quality control plan review requirements are modified based on the results of inspections on sites in the field.

BMP 2 – Stormwater Management Ordinance = Review the active construction and post-construction site language contained in the Stormwater Management Ordinance for needed updates and to ensure compliance with current Construction and MS4 General Permit language. Enforce the Stormwater Management Ordinance.

Progress –

The Allen County Stormwater Management Ordinance was passed by the Board of Commissioners of Allen County on April 25th of 2008. This ordinance includes the requirements for the Erosion and Sediment Control Construction Site Minimum Control Measure as specified by the regulatory requirements.

No changes to the Stormwater Management Ordinance occurred during this reporting period. However, Allen County’s Stormwater Management Ordinance is currently being reviewed by the Surveyor’s Office and the office consultant with the goal of making necessary updates and revisions to meet the IDEM Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements. The goal is to have the county regulatory requirements updated by July 2024 to meet the General Permit deadline for completion of an updated Stormwater Ordinance and Technical Standards Manual. Pertinent stakeholders such as developers, engineers, and contractors are also being given a chance to provide their input on what changes need to be made. All changes to the Ordinance will be approved by the Commissioners.

The Stormwater Management Ordinance is enforced by the Allen County Surveyor’s Office. The statutory authority of the Ordinance is referenced in all letters of violation to offenders and provides the authority to issue enforcement actions as necessary.

BMP 3 – Stormwater Technical Standards

- Review the active construction and post-construction site language contained in the County Stormwater Technical Standards
- Review and approve proposed new and redevelopment projects for compliance with the Stormwater Technical Standards
- Enforce the Allen County Technical Standards Manual

Progress -

No changes to the Allen County Technical Standards Manual occurred during this reporting period. However, Allen County's Technical Standards Manual is currently being reviewed by the Surveyor's Office and the office consultant with the goal of making necessary updates and revisions to meet the IDEM Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements. The goal is to have the county regulatory requirements updated by July 2024 to meet the General Permit deadline for completion of an updated Stormwater Ordinance and Technical Standards Manual. Pertinent stakeholders such as developers, engineers, and contractors are also being given a chance to provide their input on what changes need to be made.

When updates are made to the Technical Standards Manual, an email is sent to area developers, engineers, and contractors to alert them of important changes. Additionally, all projects are reviewed to make sure they are in compliance with the Allen County Technical Standards Manual, which provides the detailed requirements for erosion and sediment control and pollution prevention measures along with stormwater management requirements. The statutory authority of the Technical Standards is referenced at times in construction site review comments and letters of violation to offenders.

BMP 4 – Plan Review, Site Inspection, and Enforcement

- Review and approve proposed new and redevelopment projects
- Review 100% of construction plans and inspect sites per the MS4 General Permit Requirements

Progress -

Plan reviews for erosion and sediment control are performed by the MS4 Coordinator for every project meeting the Ordinance requirements. Stormwater quantity reviews are also performed by the Surveyor's Office Engineering staff for each project meeting the Ordinance requirements. The Surveyor's Office goes above and beyond the General Permit regulatory requirements and requires all non-residential construction sites with proposed land disturbances greater than 10,000 square feet to submit a stormwater management plan (encompassing an erosion and sediment control plan and stormwater drainage plan) for review and approval. Subdivisions and individual residential lot construction sites meeting the Ordinance requirements are also reviewed for erosion and sediment control compliance.

Erosion and sediment control inspections are performed on a regular basis for each active construction site project. The Surveyor's Office is striving to meet the new MS4 General Permit inspection frequency requirements, however, additional staff resources will be needed to meet this requirement. Construction site inspections continue to be prioritized in accordance with the County's Construction Site Inspection Prioritization document. During this reporting period, construction site inspections were performed by the MS4 Coordinator with the help of the Surveyor's office trained office inspector that is utilized as time allows in his schedule to do site erosion control inspections and complaint investigations.

BMP 5 – Staff Training = Provide annual training to all staff responsible for plan review, site inspection, and enforcement related to construction and post-construction requirements.

Progress –

There were many training sessions attended by Surveyor's office staff during this reporting period. See listing in item (e) below.

BMP 6 – Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Manuals = Require O&M Manuals be submitted for all post-construction BMPs identified as part of a project submittal package.

Progress –

The Allen County Surveyor's Office requires an Operations and Maintenance Manual be provided for all project sites where post construction best management practices are required. Per the Allen County Stormwater Management Ordinance, post construction BMPs are required for non-residential sites with total land disturbance of one acre or more, and certain residential sites that do not meet the regulatory exemption requirements. The requirement for the submittal of an Operations and Maintenance Manual can be found in the Allen County Technical Standards Manual. The Operations and Maintenance Manual must include maintenance guidelines and a timeline or schedule for when maintenance inspections must occur for the post construction amenities, contact information for the person or entity responsible for maintenance of the post construction BMPs, a statement that the owner is responsible for all costs associated with maintaining the post construction BMPs, a right-of-entry statement allowing county personnel to inspect and maintain the BMPs if necessary, and a site locational map showing the location of the post construction BMPs.

BMP 7 - Erosion and Sediment Control and Post-Construction BMP Tracking Database

- Track the status of construction projects, erosion and sediment control activities, and post-construction BMPs in Accela
- Track violations, complaints, and public information requests

Progress –

The Surveyor's Office uses Microsoft Access, Microsoft Excel, and Accela to provide tracking of the status of projects, inspections, enforcement actions, and complaints concerning erosion and sediment control. Accela software is utilized county-wide as a permitting tool to track the status of projects. The public can log into this software to view statuses and view review comments/deficiencies for any plan submittal. Since the system is county-wide, any office can look at a project to see which department is holding up a project and what plan issues they are waiting to get resolved before issuing an approval. The software system requires all departments to approve the project before an ILP or Certificate of Occupancy is issued.

Additionally, the Surveyor's Office logs every paper, plan, application, document, etc. that comes into the office. The Surveyor's Office can then print specific reports utilizing the data logged. The review and approval status of construction projects is also logged in a spreadsheet by the Surveyor's Office Administrative Assistant. Erosion and Sediment Control inspection reports for sites under construction are logged in a file for future reference and can also be logged into the Accela software and stored with that project. Post Construction BMPs and their inspection timetables are logged in a database file by the Administrative Assistant. Post Construction BMPs can also be logged into Accela for each project for future reference.

All complaints and violations submitted to the Allen County Surveyor's Office are logged in a Microsoft Access Database by the Surveyor's Office Administrative Assistant. The Allen County Surveyor's Office established a Complaint Flow Process document that outlines step-by-step office procedures to handle complaints received by the office. Queries can be performed to isolate all erosion and sediment control complaints from other complaints. The Surveyor's Office can also search for a particular address in the historical records to determine whether past violations were found at a particular site. The standard office complaint form is also typed up that provides the location, caller phone number and address information, date, a description of the complaint, and who the complaint is assigned to. Once the investigation is complete and the complaint is resolved, the investigative results are also input into the

form along with when the complaint is closed out. These complaint forms are logged in a filing cabinet for future reference. Notices of Violation and enforcement actions are also logged in the Microsoft Access database and in a separate binder.

BMP 8 - Procedure for Prioritizing Program Activities

- Inspect active construction sites per the MS4 General Permit Requirements
- Re-inspect and follow-up on prioritized sites having identified problem areas and/or concerns

Progress –

Erosion and sediment control inspections are performed on a regular basis for each active construction site project. The Surveyor's Office is striving to meet the new MS4 General Permit inspection frequency requirements, however, additional staff resources will be needed to meet this requirement.

Construction site inspections are prioritized in accordance with the County's Construction Site Inspection Prioritization document. This document provides the Allen County Erosion and Sediment Control Inspectors with a priority listing of sites with characteristics that will require the site to be inspected sooner or more often than other construction sites. Sites are prioritized based on characteristics such as size, sensitive areas or slopes, past history of issues, past complaints, last inspection date, development stage of project, etc.

An inspection checklist form is completed for every site where an erosion and sediment control inspection takes place. The Surveyor's Office is looking to obtain software and tablets that will enable inspection reports to be completed in the field onsite and sent to the necessary contacts from the site. All inspection forms will continue to be filed for future reference. The inspection results along with any noted deficiencies are sent immediately to the project site owner and contractor to be corrected by the date specified in the report. Follow-up inspections are performed to determine if the site deficiencies are corrected. A follow-up inspection report is completed and sent to the property owner and contractor. Follow-up inspections are continued until the site deficiencies are corrected. If deficiencies persist the county could issue fines, a stop work order, or other enforcement measures such as withholding plat signing or certificate of occupancy. Copies of all follow-up inspection reports are also filed for future reference.

b) Describe program implementation partnerships and explain successes and barriers during this reporting period.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office typically partners and speaks at the Fort Wayne City Utilities annual Construction Site and Post Construction BMP Training workshop for construction professionals and staff. This partnership allows information to be provided on illicit discharge, construction site, and post construction requirements for both the city and county at the same time in one meeting. The City of Fort Wayne and the Surveyor's Office often help advertise each other's training workshops to increase attendance at these events and the two entities work together on projects that cross jurisdictional boundaries within the confines of the site.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office and the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality work with local watershed groups and other environmental groups to promote their goals and activities. Some of the goals of the local watershed groups include the promotion of cost-share-program best management practices such as buffer zones, riparian corridors, two-stage ditches, and filter strips to name a few.

These practices fit well with the post construction BMP practices required for construction projects to remove 80% total suspended solids.

Barriers for this MCM include limited funding from both the Partnership for Water Quality and the Surveyor's Office to greatly expand the activities of this MCM and the post construction MCM. During this reporting period, the Allen County Surveyor's Office lost three inspectors that were involved in helping with erosion and sediment control inspections and long-term post construction BMP inspections. The Allen County Surveyor also retired mid-year leaving a leadership vacancy for a period of time. Due to the staff shortfall, the goals for field inspections for erosion and sediment control and post construction were not met for this period. The Surveyor's Office has job listings posted and hopes to be able to fill the open inspector positions to replenish our staff resources and meet the construction and post construction inspection goals for 2023.

Lastly, another barrier is working with other departments to implement regulations that promote LID and other green practices. It can be difficult to get engineers and developers on board with implementing LID designs and green practices for new development projects, since this is a change in the way they have designed projects in the past.

- c) Identify the number of construction sites permitted during this reporting period and identify the number and type of enforcement actions taken against construction site operators during the same period.**

During this reporting period, the number of construction sites permitted during this period and the number and type of enforcement actions taken against construction site operators were as follows:

2022: 67 sites permitted, 15 Inspection Corrective Action Reports sent, and no Stop Work Orders issued.

As far as enforcement actions during the reporting period, there were several instances where site issues moved past the normal construction site inspection report being provided into an enforcement measure. For three construction sites in 2022, the Allen County Surveyor's Office put a hold on the signing of the plat (two subdivisions) due to erosion and sediment control issues persisting on the site and held up occupancy on another project (apartment project) until the site was brought into compliance. This proved to be an effective enforcement measure.

All other construction site deficiencies were addressed with the issuance of an inspection corrective action report providing a listing of the site issues discovered or by calling or meeting with the contractor to discuss the report and at times meeting the contractor on site to explain where the deficiencies were located and providing suggestions on how to correct the issue.

See item 16 (h) above for the number of erosion and sediment control complaints.

- d) Identify the number and types of training opportunities that were provided to contractors, developers, and builders during this permit period.**

There were several training opportunities that were provided to contractors, developers, and builders during this reporting period. This fulfilled our measurable goal of providing a local construction and development community education program. The trainings are as follows:

February 10, 2022 – Purdue LTAP Stormwater Drainage Conference (MCMs 3,4,5,6)

This conference had sessions dealing with the IDEM Construction Stormwater General Permit and MS4 General Permit, Implementing the Self-Monitoring Program on Construction Sites, Implementing a New Stormwater Ordinance, and a presentation on Post Construction BMP Inspections, to name a few. There were four people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office that attended and 3 people from the Allen County Highway Department, including the Highway Director that attended. There were several engineers from Allen County that attended.

March 15-16, 2022 – Purdue Road School (MCMs 4,5)

This conference event had multiple technical sessions on a variety of roadway construction topics, including some sessions that discussed water quality related topics such sediment control/rolled filtration devices and wetland permitting. The Allen County Surveyor attended this conference and five people from Allen County Highway Department attended along with several contractors and engineers from Allen County.

August 31, 2022 – Indiana Farm Bureau Drainage School (MCMs 4-5)

This one-day workshop promotes an understanding of the laws and regulations impacting drainage decisions in Indiana. This workshop was attended virtually by the Allen County MS4 Coordinator and 4 members of the Allen County Surveyor's Office as training.

October 5, 2022 – Northern Indiana Construction Site Stormwater Management Workshop (MCMs 1-6)

The City of Fort Wayne hosted a daylong water quality workshop for engineers, contractors, developers, and municipal employees where presentations were provided on the new IDEM General Permit Regulatory Requirements, Stormwater BMPs, an Owner's Approach to Stormwater, Concrete Washouts, Polymer Use in Stormwater, and Engineering Ethics. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided a presentation at this workshop on the new Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements and the changes Allen County will require to remain in compliance with the water quality regulatory requirements. This presentation will satisfy the annual training for contractors, engineers, developers, and homebuilders along with employee training. There were PDHs available to participants at this workshop. There were about 50-70 people at this workshop including 5 people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office.

- e) MS4 personnel responsible for plan review, inspection, and enforcement of construction activities shall receive, at a minimum, annual training addressing appropriate control measures, inspection protocol, and enforcement procedures. Identify training provided to MS4 personnel responsible for these activities during this reporting period.**

The following are staff training opportunities for the construction and post construction minimum control measures along with general training opportunities regarding stormwater quality.

February 10, 2022 – Purdue LTAP Stormwater Drainage Conference (MCMs 3,4,5,6)

This conference had sessions dealing with the IDEM Construction Stormwater General Permit and MS4 General Permit, Implementing the Self-Monitoring Program on Construction Sites, Implementing a New Stormwater Ordinance, and a presentation on Post Construction BMP Inspections, to name a few. There were four people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office that attended and 3 people from the Allen County Highway Department, including the Highway Director that attended. There were several engineers from Allen County that attended.

February 15 & 16, 2022 – MS4 Compliance & Enforcement Certified Inspector Training (Training for MCMs 1-6)

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator and the Allen County Surveyor both took this training class provided by the NPDES Training Institute with the instructor being Luke Owen. Both employees passed the exam, obtained certification of completion of the course, and obtained the MS4 Compliance & Enforcement Certified Inspector (MS4CECI) certification. There were 15 professional development hours obtained for this.

March 15-16, 2022 – Purdue Road School (MCMs 4,5)

This conference event had multiple technical sessions on a variety of roadway construction topics, including some sessions that discussed water quality related topics such sediment control/rolled filtration devices and wetland permitting. The Allen County Surveyor attended this conference and five people from Allen County Highway Department attended along with several contractors and engineers from Allen County.

April 20, 2022 – MS4 Informational Session: Public Notice and Notice of Intent Submission Webinar (MCMs 4,5)

This webinar provided information on the MS4 General Permit Notice of Intent form and public notice process. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator attended.

April 28, 2022 – The New Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit Webinar (MCMs 1-6)

This webinar provided by Lori Gates of Christopher Burke Engineering provided an overview of the new MS4 General Permit. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator attended.

May 10, 2022 - Indiana MS4 Partnership Annual Meeting (MCMs 1-6)

The Allen County Surveyor's Office attended the IDEM annual MS4 meeting to be trained on information concerning the regulatory requirements of the MS4 programs. Allen County MS4 Coordinator Matt Jarrett attended as did Jackie Buck from the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality.

August 16, 2022 – Day at the Lake (MCMs 1-6)

This was a field trip open to the public where residents could take a bus trip to Lake Erie and take a tour of an open lab on the lake to see demonstrations of water quality tests performed by Ohio State University faculty on the lake waters. Presentations on water quality topics were also provided by Ohio State faculty. There were 3 people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office that went on this trip along with the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Educator. There were 53 residents that went on this day long bus trip.

August 25, 2022 – Navigating Environmental Permitting and Mitigation (MCMs 4-6)

This webinar discussed the permitting requirements, mitigation requirements, and the timeframes for IDEM, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and IDNR in regard to wetlands and waters of the state/U.S. waterways. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator attended.

August 31, 2022 – Indiana Farm Bureau Drainage School (MCMs 4-5)

This one-day workshop promotes an understanding of the laws and regulations impacting drainage decisions in Indiana. This workshop was attended virtually by the Allen County MS4 Coordinator and 4 members of the Allen County Surveyor's Office as training.

September 2, 2022 – Board of Commissioners Legislative Session (MCMs 1-2, 4, 5)

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided information about the new IDEM General Permits, and the necessary Allen County Stormwater Management Ordinance and Technical Standards updates that are required to be completed to address the new General Permit requirements. This is a public meeting that is broadcast via public access television and social media, thereby providing public education and involvement.

September 14-16, 2022 – INAFSM Annual Conference (MCMs 1-6)

This conference provided presentations on varying water quality and stormwater topics that covered training on all the minimum control measures. Many of the presentations discussed the new IDEM Construction and MS4 General Permits. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator and Allen County Surveyor attended. Additionally, a new Northeast Indiana MS4 Group had their initial meeting at the conference to provide networking opportunities and resources to the MS4s of northeast Indiana.

October 5, 2022 – Northern Indiana Construction Site Stormwater Management Workshop (MCMs 1-6)

The City of Fort Wayne hosted a daylong water quality workshop for engineers, contractors, developers, and municipal employees where presentations were provided on the new IDEM General Permit Regulatory Requirements, Stormwater BMPs, an Owner's Approach to Stormwater, Concrete Washouts, Polymer Use in Stormwater, and Engineering Ethics. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided a presentation at this workshop on the new Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements and the changes Allen County will require to remain in compliance with the water quality regulatory requirements. This presentation will satisfy the annual training for contractors, engineers, developers, and homebuilders along with employee training. There were PDHs available to participants at this workshop. There were about 50-70 people at this workshop including 5 people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office.

October 14, 2022 – Board of Commissioners Legislative Session (MCMs 1-2, 4, 5)

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided information about the new IDEM General Permits and the Water Quality Characterization Report that is required to be completed to address the new General Permit requirements. This is a public meeting that is broadcast via public access television and social media, thereby providing public education and involvement.

November 3-4, 2022 – Sands County Foundation, Leadership for Midwestern Watersheds Conference (MCMs 1-6)

This annual two-day conference featured presentations and facilitated discussions on subjects essential to successful watershed projects. Examples include farmer engagement, geospatial planning tools, project financing, and water quality monitoring.

f) Identify updates or revisions to the storm water construction ordinance or other regulatory mechanism made during this reporting period.

The Allen County Stormwater Management Ordinance was passed by the Board of Commissioners of Allen County on April 25th of 2008. This ordinance includes the requirements for the Erosion and Sediment Control Construction Site Minimum Control Measure as specified by the regulatory requirements.

No changes to the Stormwater Management Ordinance occurred during this reporting period. However, Allen County's Stormwater Management Ordinance is currently being reviewed by the Surveyor's Office and the office consultant with the goal of making necessary updates and revisions to meet the IDEM Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements. The goal is to have the county regulatory requirements updated by July 2024 to meet the General Permit deadline for completion of an updated Stormwater Ordinance and Technical Standards Manual. Pertinent stakeholders such as developers, engineers, and contractors are also being given a chance to provide their input on what changes need to be made. All changes to the Ordinance will be approved by the Commissioners.

The Stormwater Management Ordinance is enforced by the Allen County Surveyor's Office. The statutory authority of the Ordinance is referenced in all letters of violation to offenders and provides the authority to issue enforcement actions as necessary.

Additionally, no changes to the Allen County Technical Standards Manual occurred during this reporting period. However, Allen County's Technical Standards Manual is currently being reviewed by the Surveyor's Office and the office consultant with the goal of making necessary updates and revisions to meet the IDEM Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements. As mentioned previously, the goal is to have the county regulatory requirements updated by July 2024 to meet the General Permit deadline for completion of an updated Stormwater Ordinance and Technical Standards Manual. Pertinent stakeholders such as developers, engineers, and contractors are also being given a chance to provide their input on what changes need to be made.

When updates are made to the Technical Standards Manual, an email is sent to area developers, engineers, and contractors to alert them of important changes. All projects are reviewed to make sure they are in compliance with the Allen County Technical Standards Manual. The statutory authority of the Technical Standards is referenced at times in construction site review comments and letters of violation to offenders.

g) Other:

The Allen County document entitled "Allen County Schedule of Fines" was established to provide a documented listing of the fine amounts for different types of stormwater pollution prevention violations. This document is currently being reviewed by the office and by the office consultant to come up with a revised fine schedule for the different types of stormwater pollution prevention violations. This fine schedule document is for construction projects. The Surveyor's Office also has a fine schedule for homebuilders and individual building lots. This fine schedule is also being reviewed for revisions. Both fine schedules will be included with the revised Stormwater Technical Standards Manual.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office strives to have all new construction plan reviews completed within 2 weeks of plan submittal. The Surveyor's Office also strives for active construction sites to implement stabilization measures before the end of the growing season during the fall months.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office has established a standard process for inspecting and issuing inspection reports and notices of violations for construction site erosion and sediment control issues. Standard forms have also been established for the construction site review process such as an Allen County Stormwater Plan Submittal Checklist, Application for Stormwater Permit, Project Site Owner Statement of Financial Responsibility, a Detention Basin/Post Construction BMP Maintenance Agreement, and Construction Site Inspection Checklist. All of these forms will be reviewed and updated in the upcoming year to meet the new Construction and MS4 General Permit regulatory requirements and all can be found on the county website.

A standard procedure for construction site review is also outlined in the Surveyor's Office document entitled "Plan Review Process Flow." Lastly, the Surveyor's Office is requiring the applicant to submit a Proof of Publication of Notice of Intent in the local newspaper or on the county website as part of the construction site plan review submittal package to encourage the proper submittal of the Notice of Intent to IDEM.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office inspects every new county regulated development throughout the county to make sure their storm pipe and emergency overflow weirs are adequately installed according to the plans that have been approved. The county also requires as-builts of the stormwater management system on all new construction projects to verify the system was constructed according to plan. The county also inspects all ditches that may have work done to make sure spraying for brush, reconstruction, and dipping of ditches are performed to the contract specifications.

21. List the best management practices for post-construction storm water run-off control identified in your SWQMP Part C and then respond to the following:

a.) Identify progress made towards development and implementation of each BMP in the SWQMP including timetables and measurable goals during this reporting period.

See item 20(a) above as the construction and post construction minimum control measure BMPs were combined for ease of presentation and discussion.

b.) Describe implementation problems encountered and changes due to ineffectiveness or infeasibility during this reporting period.

Implementation problems or challenges include having staff available to do long-term post construction BMP inspections. The number of post construction BMPs being implemented every year continues to rise as new projects are implemented. Meanwhile, the number of staff members available to do long-term post construction inspections for every post construction measure implemented since the Stormwater Ordinance was passed in 2008 continues to remain the same. These post construction measures will have to be inspected for perpetuity, meaning the number of BMPs requiring inspection will continue to increase. The Surveyor's Office is striving to meet the new MS4 General Permit post

construction BMP inspection frequency requirements, however, additional staff resources will be needed to meet this requirement.

As a result, the Allen County Surveyor's Office has increased its receptivity toward allowing more green friendly practices that require little maintenance as opposed to just requiring a hydrodynamic separator unit that requires someone to open manhole lids and probe down inside the unit to determine sediment depths and whether maintenance is required. Post Construction BMPs such as wet and dry basins, vegetated swales, forebays, infiltration trenches, sand filters, rock donuts, and constructed wetlands are easily visible and can quickly be inspected. The Surveyor's Office has worked with developers and engineers to come up with specialized designs for post construction BMPs such as those mentioned previously that are designed in a manner that meet our standards for removing 80% TSS and are cost-friendly, low maintenance measures. The Surveyor's Office realizes that as the numbers of hydrodynamic separator units and other underground BMPs implemented in the field continues to increase, it will be increasingly tougher to inspect these on a regular basis. Also, property owners are more apt to maintain basins and other visible BMPs as opposed to remembering to maintain a BMP that is underground.

As a result of Homeowner's Associations ineffectiveness in maintaining underground hydrodynamic water quality separator units and other post construction BMPs, the Surveyor's Office will look to implement a change in the Allen County Stormwater Management Ordinance that requires all water quality post construction BMPs installed within a regulated, platted subdivision to be incorporated within the regulated storm pipe system and be maintained as part of the regulated drain system.

Lastly, during this reporting period, the Allen County Surveyor's Office lost three inspectors that were involved in helping with long-term post construction BMP inspections. The Allen County Surveyor also retired mid-year leaving a leadership vacancy for a period of time. Due to the staff shortfall, the goals for field inspections for post construction BMPs were not met for this period. The Surveyor's Office has job listings posted and hopes to be able to fill the open inspector positions to replenish our staff resources and meet the post construction inspection goals for 2023.

c.) Describe program implementation partnerships and explain successes and barriers.

See item 20(b) above.

d.) MS4 area personnel responsible for implementation of the post-construction minimum control measure shall receive, at a minimum, annual training. Identify training provided for this minimum control measure during this reporting period.

See item 20(e) above.

e.) Identify updates or revisions to the post-construction storm water ordinance or other regulatory mechanism made during this reporting period.

See item 20(f) above.

f.) Other:

Non-Structural BMPs

Allen County has a post construction technical standard that requires an 80% Total Suspended Solids removal rate of 110 microns or larger. New BMPs individually or in combination as a treatment train must meet this requirement. Allen County requires an Operations and Maintenance Manual be prepared for the future property owner of a site to provide guidelines on routine post construction BMP maintenance and provide a timeline for routine inspections of all post construction BMPs. Additionally, the Surveyor's Office requires the property owner to provide a signed, recorded copy of a Maintenance Agreement that states that the property owner is responsible for maintaining all Post Construction BMPs at the property owners cost and that the Surveyor's Office has the right to inspect the property to verify these BMPs are indeed being maintained. Lastly, the Allen County Surveyor's Office Technical Standards Manual requires all new manhole and inlet castings for new projects to be pre-stamped with an appropriate "clean water" message.

Structural BMPs

The county had many structural BMPs that were installed at many different private construction sites throughout the county.

During this reporting period, there were 102 post construction BMPs installed. These BMPs will be maintained by the property owner or homeowner's association. Allen County has begun to GPS locate and input the Post Construction Structural BMPs for construction projects into our GIS system. The Surveyor's Office also logs all new Post Construction Structural BMPs for each site in an electronic database and maintains a schedule of inspection for these BMPs.

Typical structural post construction BMPs that were installed during this reporting period within construction sites throughout the county include wet and dry detention ponds, forebays, sediment traps, catch basins, micro-pools, hydrodynamic water quality separator units, grassed swales, infiltration trenches, and rock dam donuts.

The Surveyor's Office continues to GPS locate post construction best management practices that have been installed after the passage of the Stormwater Management Ordinance in 2008. This information is then input into the GIS system. This will be utilized to do long-term inspections of the Post Construction BMPs as it will aid in quickly locating the BMPs that need inspected.

22. List the best management practices for municipal operations pollution prevention and good housekeeping identified in your SWQMP Part C and respond to the following:

- a.) Identify progress made towards development and implementation of each BMP in the SWQMP including timetables and measurable goals during this reporting period.**

BMP 1 – MS4 Conveyance System Maintenance Plan and Documentation

- Implement a storm sewer system maintenance schedule and track activities to document the amount of pollution that has been kept out of local receiving waters as a result of the Stormwater Program.

- Document the amount of litter picked up as a result of periodic litter pickup events, the amount of materials removed from the storm sewer system and disposal methods, all improvements made to roadside shoulders and ditches, and all improvements made to stormwater outfalls.

Progress -

Standard Operating Procedures

Allen County and the co-permits have developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Periodic Litter Pickup. The SOP essentially states that Allen County and co-permit staff will periodically inspect priority roadways and storm system structures for litter and debris. Areas with high amounts of litter or with common occurrences of litter will be prioritized for pickup. A tracking system is maintained that details what structures or locational areas and roadways (by name and length) were inspected for litter, the date of the litter pickup, and the amount of material collected.

Allen County and the co-permits have also developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Periodic Storm System Structure Cleaning. This SOP essentially states that Allen County and co-permit staff will repair and clean catch basins, trash racks and other structural components of the County's MS4 conveyance system. A tracking system is maintained that details what structures were inspected, what maintenance activities were performed for each structure that was inspected and maintained, the date of inspection and maintenance, and the number of structures that were inspected or maintained.

Allen County and the co-permits have also developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Roadside Shoulder & Ditch Stabilization. This SOP essentially states that Allen County and co-permit staff will perform roadside shoulder and ditch stabilization activities that will focus on stabilizing unvegetated and eroded portions of the MS4 conveyance system (ditches, swales, and roadside shoulders). A tracking system is maintained that details what roadways, locational areas, and ditches had roadside shoulder and ditch stabilization activities take place along with the dates of those activities.

Allen County and the co-permits have also developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Periodic Pavement Sweeping. This SOP essentially states that Allen County and co-permit staff will perform pavement sweeping activities that will occur on roadways and municipal parking lots to remove debris and residue that has accumulated. A tracking system is maintained that details what roadways and locational areas had pavement sweeping activities take place along with the dates of those activities.

Additionally, Allen County and the co-permits have also developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Stormwater Outfall Scouring Remediation. This SOP essentially states that Allen County and co-permit staff shall develop and prioritize locations of outfalls within the Allen County Co-permit MS4 area that will be periodically inspected for scouring. Outfalls that are found to have scouring must be remediated by adding stabilization measures such as rip rap, rock chutes, pipe outlet extensions to provide a stable outfall, or some other stabilization measure. A tracking system will be maintained that details what outfalls or conveyance systems were inspected or remediated for outfall scouring.

Lastly, Allen County and the co-permits have also developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Roadside Vegetation Management. This SOP essentially states that Allen County and co-permit staff will perform roadside vegetation management activities that will focus on stabilizing unvegetated and disturbed portions of the MS4 conveyance system as a result of construction and drainage improvement activities or maintenance activities. A tracking system will be maintained that details what roadways and locational areas had roadside vegetation activities take place along with the dates of those activities.

For a listing of the amounts of materials collected, number of structures cleaned, number of outfalls remediated for scouring, and length of roadside shoulders, swales, and ditches that have been stabilized with vegetation, please see the attached Allen County Highway Report and Allen County Surveyor's Office Drain Maintenance By Year Through 2022 report.

Further Activities

Periodic Storm Structure Cleaning/Stormwater Outfall Scouring Remediation - During GPS mapping of the storm conveyance system including all inlets and pipe, the Surveyor's Office inspects the storm conveyance system for repair needs or structure cleaning that may be needed. If cleaning or repair needs are found within the conveyance system, the office field maintenance inspector is notified of the issue and provided with a picture. The inspector then investigates the issue, and it is noted and logged. A contractor is then hired to make the necessary repair or cleaning. The county has completed inspections on the storm conveyance systems within the MS4 area along with GPS mapping of the conveyance systems. However, new construction projects continue to be GPS mapped in the field and the storm conveyance system is inspected for repair needs or structure cleaning during this mapping.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office also inspects every new county regulated development throughout the county to make sure their storm pipe systems and emergency overflow weirs are adequately installed according to the plans that have been approved. The inspector is on site every day during which pipe and inlets are installed to verify the storm system is put in correctly according to plan. As-built plans are also requested for projects as needed.

Ditch Stabilization/Vegetation Management - Allen County performs maintenance, debrushes, dips, and sprays along the county ditches to allow for maximum flow rates within the ditches to prevent undue flooding. The county also inspects all ditches that have work done to make sure spraying for brush, reconstruction, and dipping of ditches are performed to the contract specifications. Contractors are required to stabilize areas of reconstruction where disturbed ground is present with erosion control blanket or other stabilization measures per the contract. Outfalls are also required to have rip rap at the outfall point to prevent scouring. All disturbed areas are required to be seeded to Surveyor's Office standards.

The Surveyor's Office documents the linear feet of the County's conveyance system that is cleaned, repaired, and or vegetated as well as the specific locations at which these activities are conducted. This is done in order to provide payment to the contractors that perform the work and in order to prepare for bid submittals that are sought for the work to be done. Please see attached Allen County Surveyor's Office Drain Maintenance By Year Through 2022 document for a general overall summary of drain maintenance activities.

The County Highway Department documents and logs the amount of materials collected from catch basins, trash racks and other structural BMPs, along with street sweeping within their tracking systems. The County Highway Department is required to track the amount of litter picked up and the number of outfalls where stabilization measures were added to prevent scouring. The County Highway also tracks the linear feet of roadside shoulders and ditches stabilized and the linear feet of roadside vegetation applied. County Highway street sweeping is done annually in the spring in subdivisions to remove debris accumulated over the winter and to keep potential pollutants from entering the storm drains. The County has contracted with a waste disposal company to collect and dispose of all materials collected. For amounts of materials collected, see attached Allen County Highway Department Annual Report.

The Town of Leo-Cedarville staff repairs damaged storm structures and conveyances and investigates complaints and other issues around town. During this reporting period, the town inspected storm structures to determine if repair or cleaning activities were needed, created compost bins for biodegradable waste, and performed Leaf Vac services throughout the town. Street cleaners were hired by the Town to clean and sweep debris from the streets. The streets in Town are all swept at least once annually.

The Town of Huntertown has a maintenance crew of about five employees that responds to complaints and performs regular maintenance on the storm conveyance system within the town. Huntertown maintenance crews inspect all storm structures to determine if repair or cleaning activities are needed. Huntertown maintenance crews make a point to street sweep on a regular basis to pick up litter and inorganic debris to prevent these materials from entering into the storm sewer system. The Town of Huntertown has developed their own Street Sweeping Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) that is followed.

BMP 2 – Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs)

- Municipal facilities will establish and update SWPPPs for MS4 owned facilities where potential pollutants are stored
- Include facility inspection sheets, employee training forms, and spill documentation as part of SWPPP
- Develop additional SWPPPs for new facilities or operational areas

Progress –

The Allen County Surveyor's Office created Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) for all municipal facilities (including co-permit facilities) that were deemed to have a reasonable quantity of some sort of hazardous waste or pollutant stored on site. These SWPPPs are all located on the walls within the facility in prominent view for employee reference. These SWPPPs are updated each permit term and contain pollution prevention practices related to Secondary Containment, Salt/Sand Management, Snow Disposal Areas, Spill Prevention and Clean Up, Fertilizer and Herbicide storage practices, Waste Disposal, and Wash Water Management. The Surveyor's Office will review the municipal facility SWPPPs in 2023 to verify they meet the MS4 General Permit requirements.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office has a Facility Pollution Prevention Inspection Checklist Form available for municipal facilities to utilize for their routine facility inspections. Additionally, the Surveyor's Office has provided the municipal facilities with a Spill & Cleanup Form that is to be completed every time there is a spill with a quantity of 5 gallons or more. Lastly, the county has a Municipal Facility Material Inventory listing that provides a listing of materials stored at the various county municipal facilities.

Sand/Salt Storage

Currently sand and salt are stored in four barns with asphalt floors. These are covered facilities. However, before the winter season, there may be times when there is more sand and salt ordered than what can be stored in a couple of these barns. During these times, the County Highway has sand and salt stored outside of the covered barns. A containment berm is placed all the way around the stockpile to minimize runoff of sand and salt. A large tarp was purchased that is utilized to cover the sand/salt storage pile and is fastened down with blocks and straps. The runoff from storage areas at the north barn is directed to a gravel/rip rap swale conveyance system that runs south to a vegetated swale before exiting to a roadside ditch. Any sand and salt that would somehow flow offsite would be captured within the rock-lined swale or the vegetated swale downstream. The south barn has a similar

situation in that there is a stone swale that is downstream of the stockpile containment area. Any particulates that are suspended in storm flows settle within the stone swale. This stone swale also has check dams located at a couple of different points within the swale. For amounts of sand/salt materials used annually, see attached Allen County Highway Department Annual Report. Additionally, Allen County has a Salt and Sand Storage Pile Standard Operating Procedure available that details pollution prevention practices for the storage of salt/sand piles.

Additionally, the Town of Huntertown uses a De-Icing salt for roadways called Sledgehammer that is listed as organic based, bio-degradable and non-toxic to the environment.

Wash Water Management

Currently, all county cars are taken to commercial car washes. The county washes its large trucks in a contained area with a hard surface that drains to a sumped catch basin with a filter insert. This basin and the filter insert are cleaned regularly, and the materials are disposed of by a waste disposal company. Additionally, the SWPPP for the South Highway Barn was updated with language that says if trucks are cleaned outside, no soap will be utilized (per the IDEM audit request). Allen County and the co-permits have developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Vehicle and Equipment Washing. This SOP outlines standard procedures for washing county cars, trucks, and equipment. This SOP provides requirements for wash locations of large trucks and equipment and outlines the best management practices that must be utilized.

Fertilizer and Pesticide Management

The Highway Department does not store or apply any fertilizer or pesticides and only stores and applies herbicides. The Highway Department uses herbicides that are mixed and applied by employees who have been properly trained and are licensed by the State of Indiana. Currently, there are several employees who have applicator licenses at the Highway Department and all spraying is done out of the North Barn. The trained individuals are required by the State of Indiana to take part in training sessions on proper handling, mixing, use, application, proper storage, and documentation of all chemicals used every year. All storage of herbicides takes place in a small, secure room with no floor drains. This room is constructed to meet specifications and requirements of the State of Indiana for its intended use. The Allen County Vector Control facility also stores chemicals and has a secure room with no floor drains that is lower than the outside areas to contain spills. Secondary containment is utilized for the storage of open containers. Allen County Vector Control has four employees with applicator licenses for pesticides to spray for mosquitos and ticks. The license expires every year, and the certification expires every 5 years. To maintain the certification, employees must maintain credits for each category.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office also has two people with a Category 6 applicator license. The Surveyor's Office requires their contractors to have a valid pesticide/herbicide license to do any spraying along the ditches or other projects. Contractors spray a 2-4D type of spray that hits invasive weeds and woody vegetation only and does not kill grasses. The Surveyor's Office requires a copy of a valid license at the time of bidding the project. The Surveyor's Office applies herbicides along ditches to eliminate woody vegetation and invasive plants species and weeds such as thistles from growing along the ditch and having their seeds drift to nearby farm fields and neighbors' yards. The Surveyor's Office prefers to establish native grasses, and sprays in the spring when the green vegetation is starting to sprout. The Surveyor's Office takes care to have the contractor avoid spraying into the ditch as contractors have extension booms that can be lowered to hit the embankment only and not the water. Some have cannons that shoot the spray across the ditch to the opposite embankment.

Vehicle Maintenance Areas

The County utilizes oil and water separators within the Highway Department's two maintenance facilities and has additional water quality separator units at the County Service Center and at the Building Maintenance Storage Building. The oil and water separators are operated and maintained according to the manufacturer's specifications. The County documents all maintenance activities associated with the oil and water separators. A contractor or the City of Fort Wayne is hired to come out and clean the oil and water separator units and dispose of the materials. The oil/water separator units at each facility are cleaned annually and it is documented who cleaned it.

The Surveyor's Office mapped the storm pipe systems and the shop floor drains within the county municipal facilities. The storm pipe system mapping and the locations of the oil and water separators is shown on the facility SWPPP. The internal shop floor drains are marked with a label that states they drain to an oil separator unit.

Waste Disposal

All trash and debris collected along the roadside and from day-to-day operations at county highway facilities is sorted and disposed of through Republic Services, Waste Management or other acceptable service provider. Used oil is disposed of through Safety-Kleen, Inc. Used batteries are typically disposed of through Napa Automotive or other battery vendors. Wood products are ground into mulch. Spoil and accumulated sand and sediments are placed into a contained stockpile and removed on a regular basis by a private contractor.

Allen County and the co-permits have developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Disposal of Waste and Used Materials. This SOP outlines what must be done by Allen County and co-permit staff in regard to disposal of street sweeping materials, trash and litter, catch basin cleaning materials, roadside ditch maintenance spoils, metals, tires, animal carcasses, used oil, used batteries, used absorbents, and internal facility waste materials. A tracking system will be maintained that details the amount of materials collected.

Most stockpiled materials located at the County Highway Barns and other municipal facilities are located away from storm conveyances. Stockpiles located near swales have containment berms such as gravel or sand dams applied to prevent pollutants from running into the swale. Additionally, Allen County established a Stockpile and Composting Materials Storage Standard Operating Procedure that details pollution prevention practices for the storage of miscellaneous stockpiles/composting piles.

The Leo-Cedarville community recycling program placed community recycling trailers at their Schwartz Road location.

The Town of Hometown provides a free drop-off area near the town's maintenance facility for residents to drop off yard waste and small woody vegetation. Residents can also pick up compost from this pile for their use at their leisure. This helps prevent yard waste from being disposed of improperly and helps keep this refuse away from the storm conveyances.

BMP 3 – Chemical Spill Response Plan

- Implement and post spill response plans at all facilities where refueling activities occur or hazardous materials or other chemicals are used, mixed, and/or stored
- Document all facilities where the response plan is posted

Progress –

County municipal facilities such as the highway barns, the Vehicle Service Center, the Building Maintenance Storage Facility, the Hometown and Leo-Cedarville Maintenance Garages, Vector Control, Fox Island and Metea Parks, the Sign Shop, the City-County Rousseau Building, and Community Corrections were deemed to have a pollutant contribution potential of moderate or higher. The Surveyor's Office provided each of the county facilities that were deemed to have a reasonable quantity of some sort of hazardous waste or pollutant stored on site with a large Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to hang on the wall along with posters for Spill Prevention, Vehicle Maintenance, Road Repair, and Grounds Maintenance. The SWPPP and the wall posters provide spill response procedures and phone numbers for the necessary agencies to call in case of a spill. Additionally, these facilities were provided with an 8 and a half by 11 copy of a Spill Prevention and Control Plan and Solid Waste Management Plan as part of the overall SWPPP. These facilities also had their storm pipe conveyances GPS mapped along with their internal floor drains for use within their SWPPPs.

Those facilities with a low potential to contribute pollutants to the storm conveyance systems received an 8 and a half by 11 copy of a booklet with General Stormwater Pollution Prevention Measures along with a Spill Prevention and Control Plan and Solid Waste Management Plan.

The Surveyor's Office has performed onsite inspections of the county facilities and corrective actions by the facilities were taken in response to these inspections. The facilities have installed best management practices to treat runoff before it flows off-site, and they have installed secondary containment for the storage of pollutants to prevent any potential contaminants from being able to enter into nearby storm conveyances. Berming has been added around stockpiles to prevent material from the stockpiles from running off. Old and unused containers have been discarded. Storage tanks have been updated to double-walled tanks. Absorbents have been added for use in areas where fueling will take place and spill kits have been added where needed. Additionally, Allen County has available a Fueling Standard Operating Procedure that details pollution prevention practices and the proper method of fueling vehicles at municipal fueling stations.

The Allen County Surveyor's Office created a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan for both the North and South Highway Barns. Each of these facilities has their own plan. The facilities were deemed to meet the requirements for a Tier I Qualified Facility. The SPCC Plans were signed by the Highway Director and each of the Highway Barn Supervisors. These plans will be followed to help prevent a spill of oil-based pollutants into storm conveyance systems and to minimize the potential for spills to contaminate stormwater runoff.

BMP 4 – Annual Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention Staff Training

- Provide or promote annual training to appropriate staff on good housekeeping and pollution prevention topics
- Complete an annual walk-through of high priority MS4 facilities to follow-up on self-monitoring and to utilize as a training opportunity

Progress –

See section (d) below.

The Surveyor's Office performed an annual onsite pollution prevention inspection of the county facilities as required by the MS4 General Permit and corrective actions by the facilities were taken in response to these inspections. The facilities have installed best management practices to treat runoff before it flows

off-site, and they have installed secondary containment for the storage of pollutants to prevent any potential contaminants from being able to enter into nearby storm conveyances.

BMP 5 – Flood Management Projects = The County will assess new county-owned flood management projects for incorporation of water quality devices or practices.

Progress –

Allen County assesses all new county-owned flood management projects for incorporation of water quality devices or practices. For example, detention was required for a past road reconstruction project at Till and Huguenard Roads as a dry detention basin was established that incorporated vegetation of tall native grasses for water quality. All outfalls within this basin were stabilized with rip rap at the end of the respective pipe system. Additionally, the highway department east salt and sand storage barn had a bioretention basin incorporated as a water quality best management practice.

Projects involving county ditch reconstruction or new construction of conveyances to prevent flooding are reviewed to see if practices can be incorporated or modified to address the reduction of pollutants associated with stormwater runoff. An inspector is on-site during construction to verify the project is constructed according to plan. Filter strips along the ditch banks are required and grassed waterways to convey flow are incorporated.

All existing county-owned detention basins and post-construction water quality best management practices are inspected regularly to determine if repairs or maintenance are needed within these structures. Repair and maintenance activities that are needed are documented in an inspection report form that is logged and filed for future reference. Pictures are taken and filed of any repairs or maintenance that may be needed. The county department owning the structure that needs repaired or maintained is then tasked with completing the necessary repair or maintenance.

Allen County and the co-permits have developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Flood Management Project Review. This SOP outlines the requirement that all new municipal flood management projects must be reviewed and assessed for their impacts on water quality. Additionally, the SOP describes the requirement that any project resulting in the disturbance of 1 acre or more of total land area is subject to post construction requirements. Furthermore, all existing flood management projects will be examined for incorporation of additional water quality protection devices or practices. A tracking system will be maintained that details the location and a listing of post construction best management practices for each municipal-owned flood management project site.

Non-county owned projects:

Allen County reviews all privately owned projects with a disturbance of 1 acre or more to verify if post construction best management practices are proposed within the project that meet the counties' 80% Total Suspended Solids removal requirement.

Eagle Marsh – this greater than 1300-acre nature reserve was once part of a swamp that was drained in the late 1800s and is being restored from farmland back to natural wetlands. This restoration of wetlands will have a significant impact on flood control and water quality in the county, as well as downstream to the Wabash and St. Marys Rivers. The Army Corp of Engineers constructed a large berm in Eagle Marsh to prevent the migration of Asian Carp from the Wabash/Little River system into the Great Lakes watershed conveyance system. This berm will prevent this migration during flooding events since this is the watershed divide.

BMP 6 – Canine Park Location =

- Review any proposed projects for Canine Parks to ensure that all Canine Parks are sited at least one hundred fifty (150) feet away from a surface waterbody. The County will track the number and location of Canine Parks sited at least one hundred fifty (150) feet away from a surface waterbody.

Progress –

The county does not currently own or operate any canine parks. No canine park projects have occurred during this reporting period or any of the previous reporting periods.

b.) Describe implementation problems encountered and changes due to ineffectiveness or infeasibility as it relates to pollution prevention and good housekeeping at MS4 owned and operated facilities during this reporting period.

The County Highway Department outsources erosion and sediment control plan designs and stormwater pollution prevention plans to an outside consulting firm for county highway road projects. It was felt that due to lack of staff time and availability and the ability of outside firms to generate cost effective erosion and sediment control plans, that this would provide an unbiased and better option toward generating these plans. The Allen County Surveyor's Office has updated the procedure for generating SWPPP plans for projects based on the complexity and size of the project. The Surveyor's Office generally outsources stormwater pollution prevention plans for large or complex projects. The SWPPP for smaller projects are typically generated internally. All projects that require an approved SWPPP are sent to the appropriate review authority for SWPPP approval. A quality control review on the SWPPP may also be done internally by the Allen County MS4 Coordinator to make sure the SWPPP plan is adequate.

An implementation problem that currently exists at this point is trying to get municipal employees to document and log water quality data/activities and do this on a regular, consistent basis for input into the IDEM MS4 Annual Reports. The county purchased the ASIST database to help with this process, but there is still an issue with getting documentation and information input into the ASIST database or another database.

Another implementation problem is finding the staff resources to inspect and assess the county regulated storm conveyance systems to determine where repairs are needed and what projects get priority. The county has thousands of miles of regulated drain systems to monitor throughout the expanse of the county. Many of these older regulated drain systems are broken down and are in need of reconstruction. With limited staff and monetary resources, the Surveyor's Office must prioritize the drain projects where funding is available and where there is support from the watershed to pay the necessary watershed assessments to fund the project. Many times, it is difficult to determine which projects warrant priority.

Another implementation problem is trying to generate interest in investigating the use of alternative de-icing methods for snow and ice removal from roadways. Currently, the anti-icing materials used are sand, salt, stone chips, and calcium chloride. Calcium chloride mixed with sand and salt is used on roads that need to be cleaned to bare pavement. Stone chips are used on gravel roads when they become

slippery. There are 30-40 trucks outfitted with systems that dispense liquid calcium chloride onto the salt-sand mixture.

Lastly, funding for water quality BMPs continues to be heavily scrutinized for proposed projects. Best Management Practices that are cost-effective will have to be looked at and utilized in order to stay within budget and ensure water quality protection is maintained.

c.) Identify storm water BMPs installed or initiated at MS4 owned and operated facilities.

See item (a) above.

Additionally, all county municipal facilities that store hazardous materials or other pollutants have implemented secondary containment measures such as storage totes to store these materials. Most fuel tanks or other chemical storage tanks at county facilities were updated to a dual walled tank. Tanks that were not updated have secondary containment. Berming has been added around stockpiles to prevent material from the stockpiles from running off. Old and unused containers have been discarded. Spill kits were purchased for each highway barn and are visibly labeled. Absorbents and signage have been added for use in areas where fueling will take place. Storm drains have been GPS mapped and marked with storm drain markers.

The highway barns implemented rock swales and vegetated swales with tall grasses to help capture pollutants from runoff that was originating from the stockpile storage areas and the sand/salt storage areas on-site. Plantings were investigated and chosen based on their tolerance to salt/sand and filtering capabilities. Check dams were implemented in the rock swales to slow the flow to allow settling to occur. A large tarp to cover the sand/salt storage piles that are located outside of covered areas was purchased and is utilized. A sediment trap and rock channel was implemented at the North Barn on the southwest corner to prevent scour from runoff draining down a sloped area to the offsite roadside ditch. The North Barn also input sumped catch basins near areas where large trucks and equipment are washed in place of regular inlets to allow the potential for sediments to be captured. These sumped catch basins also have an ADS Flexstorm inlet filter to capture pollutants. These sumped catch basins and the filter are on schedule to be cleaned weekly.

The Allen County Vector Control facility also stores chemicals and has a secure room with no floor drains that is lower than the outside areas to contain spills. Secondary containment is utilized for the storage of open containers.

The County Highway East salt/sand storage barn has a bio-retention basin installed as a post construction best management practice to help remove sands, salts, and sediments. The watershed area around the barn all drains to the bio-retention area. The bio-retention area has a stone/sand trench with an underdrain to help further remove pollutants. The bio-retention area then drains to a vegetated swale for further pollutant removal. Also, the county developed a shovel-ready business park that has several post construction best management practices installed for pollution prevention. Post construction best management practices installed on this site include a hydrodynamic separator unit, two dry basins, a sediment forebay, three gabion basket check dams and energy dissipaters, a stone/vegetated swale, and a micro-pool. Additionally, the county has post construction best management practices in the form of dry detention basins with native tall grasses and catch basins at a few other municipally owned facilities.

**d.) Identify and describe appropriate storm water training provided to MS4 employees.
Employees are required to have a minimum training once per year.**

The following storm water training opportunities were provided to municipal facility employees during the reporting period.

February 10, 2022 – Purdue LTAP Stormwater Drainage Conference (MCMs 3,4,5,6)

This conference had sessions dealing with the IDEM Construction Stormwater General Permit and MS4 General Permit, Implementing the Self-Monitoring Program on Construction Sites, Implementing a New Stormwater Ordinance, and a presentation on Post Construction BMP Inspections, to name a few. There were four people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office that attended and 3 people from the Allen County Highway Department, including the Highway Director that attended. There were several engineers from Allen County that attended.

February 15 & 16, 2022 – MS4 Compliance & Enforcement Certified Inspector Training (Training for MCMs 1-6)

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator and the Allen County Surveyor both took this training class provided by the NPDES Training Institute with the instructor being Luke Owen. Both employees passed the exam, obtained certification of completion of the course, and obtained the MS4 Compliance & Enforcement Certified Inspector (MS4CECI) certification. There were 15 professional development hours obtained for this.

March 15-16, 2022 – Purdue Road School (MCMs 4,5)

This conference event had multiple technical sessions on a variety of roadway construction topics, including some sessions that discussed water quality related topics such sediment control/rolled filtration devices and wetland permitting. The Allen County Surveyor attended this conference and five people from Allen County Highway Department attended along with several contractors and engineers from Allen County.

April 20, 2022 – MS4 Informational Session: Public Notice and Notice of Intent Submission Webinar (MCMs 4,5)

This webinar provided information on the MS4 General Permit Notice of Intent form and public notice process. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator attended.

April 28, 2022 – The New Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit Webinar (MCMs 1-6)

This webinar provided by Lori Gates of Christopher Burke Engineering provided an overview of the new MS4 General Permit. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator attended.

May 10, 2022 - Indiana MS4 Partnership Annual Meeting (MCMs 1-6)

The Allen County Surveyor's Office attended the IDEM annual MS4 meeting to be trained on information concerning the regulatory requirements of the MS4 programs. Allen County MS4 Coordinator Matt Jarrett attended as did Jackie Buck from the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality.

May 2022 - North/South Barn/Service Center Walk Around Training

The Allen County Surveyor's Office MS4 Coordinator provided training to County Highway Barn staff during a walk-around highway barn inspection for both the north and south barns. After the walk-

around a meeting was held at each barn to go over the results and to provide training on the new IDEM Construction and MS4 Stormwater General permit requirements. There were 7 people that took part in the walk-arounds and that were trained on the new permit requirements. An inspection and training session was also provided at the Allen County Service Center where there were 2 people that took part in the inspection and that were trained on the new permit requirements.

May 2022 – Hometown Municipal Facility Site Inspection and Training

The Allen County Surveyor's Office MS4 Coordinator provided training to Hometown MS4 staff during a walk-around municipal facility inspection. After the walk-around a meeting was held with the employees to go over the results and to provide training on the new IDEM Construction and MS4 Stormwater General permit requirements. There were 3 people that took part in the inspection and that were trained on the new permit requirements.

May 2022 – Leo-Cedarville Municipal Facility Site Inspection and Training

The Allen County Surveyor's Office MS4 Coordinator provided training to Leo-Cedarville MS4 staff during a walk-around municipal facility inspection. After the walk-around a meeting was held with the employees to go over the results and to provide training on the new IDEM Construction and MS4 Stormwater General permit requirements. There were 2 people that took part in the inspection and that were trained on the new permit requirements.

June 14, 2022 – Highway Department Main Office Training

The Allen County Surveyor's Office MS4 Coordinator provided training on the new IDEM Construction and MS4 Stormwater General permit requirements to the county highway department central office employees. There were 6 highway employees trained.

August 16, 2022 – Day at the Lake (MCMs 1-6)

This was a field trip open to the public where residents could take a bus trip to Lake Erie and take a tour of an open lab on the lake to see demonstrations of water quality tests performed by Ohio State University faculty on the lake waters. Presentations on water quality topics were also provided by Ohio State faculty. There were 3 people from the Allen County Surveyor's Office that went on this trip along with the Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Educator. There were 53 residents that went on this day long bus trip.

August 25, 2022 – Navigating Environmental Permitting and Mitigation (MCMs 4-6)

This webinar discussed the permitting requirements, mitigation requirements, and the timeframes for IDEM, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and IDNR in regard to wetlands and waters of the state/U.S. waterways. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator attended.

August 31, 2022 – Indiana Farm Bureau Drainage School (MCMs 4-5)

This one-day workshop promotes an understanding of the laws and regulations impacting drainage decisions in Indiana. This workshop was attended virtually by the Allen County MS4 Coordinator and 4 members of the Allen County Surveyor's Office as training.

September 2, 2022 – Board of Commissioners Legislative Session (MCMs 1-2, 4, 5)

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided information to the County Commissioners about the new IDEM General Permits, and the necessary Allen County Stormwater Management Ordinance and Technical Standards updates that are required to be completed to address the new General Permit requirements.

September 14-16, 2022 – INAFSM Annual Conference (MCMs 1-6)

This conference provided presentations on varying water quality and stormwater topics that covered training on all the minimum control measures. Many of the presentations discussed the new IDEM Construction and MS4 General Permits. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator and Allen County Surveyor attended. Additionally, a new Northeast Indiana MS4 Group had their initial meeting at the conference to provide networking opportunities and resources to the MS4s of northeast Indiana.

October 5, 2022 – Northern Indiana Construction Site Stormwater Management Workshop (MCMs 1-6)

The City of Fort Wayne hosted a daylong water quality workshop for engineers, contractors, developers, and municipal employees where presentations were provided on the new IDEM General Permit Regulatory Requirements, Stormwater BMPs, an Owner’s Approach to Stormwater, Concrete Washouts, Polymer Use in Stormwater, and Engineering Ethics. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided a presentation at this workshop on the new Construction and MS4 General Permit requirements and the changes Allen County will require to remain in compliance with the water quality regulatory requirements. This presentation will satisfy the annual training for contractors, engineers, developers, and homebuilders along with employee training. There were PDHs available to participants at this workshop. There were about 50-70 people at this workshop including 5 people from the Allen County Surveyor’s Office.

October 14, 2022 – Board of Commissioners Legislative Session (MCMs 1-3)

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator provided information to the County Commissioners about the new IDEM General Permits and the Water Quality Characterization Report that is required to be completed to address the new General Permit requirements.

November 3-4, 2022 – Sands County Foundation, Leadership for Midwestern Watersheds Conference (MCMs 1-6)

This annual two-day conference featured presentations and facilitated discussions on subjects essential to successful watershed projects. Examples include farmer engagement, geospatial planning tools, project financing, and water quality monitoring.

e.) Other:

Allen County Vector Control has a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Mosquito Control Chemical Safety that outlines how the chemicals are to be stored, the required training of the applicators, how often the chemicals are applied, how the application areas are chosen, the measures taken to prevent chemical contamination of waterways, and the procedure for transport of chemicals to the site. Additionally, Vector Control has a Standard Operating Procedure for Rodent Control Chemical Safety that outlines how the chemicals are to be stored, the required training of the applicators, how often the chemicals are applied, how the application areas are chosen, and the measures taken to prevent chemical contamination of our waterways.

The Allen County Surveyor’s Office also created a Standard Operating Procedure for Illegal Dumping Areas. This SOP details what municipal employees should do if they find an illicit discharge in the field. Allen County’s Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Plan is also included within this SOP as an

appendix to provide information on the step-by-step procedures for detecting and eliminating illicit discharges.

The Allen County MS4 Coordinator has GPS located and mapped the inlets, manholes, pipe, control structures, outfalls, and water quality separator units of the Allen County Municipal facilities. The manholes for each facility were stenciled with spray paint that described if the conveyance system drained to a sand and oil separator or if they were sanitary lines. Storm inlets were marked with a “No Dumping, Drains to Stream” plastic decal. The Allen County MS4 Coordinator utilized the mapping to produce a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for each facility. The plan incorporated a GIS map showing the pipe and outfalls and showed where hot spot areas were located within each facility where pollution prevention measures were of a high priority. Representatives of each facility were trained on the use of their SWPPPs.

The County Highway Department purchased ten stainless steel boxes for dispensing anti-icing materials. Because the boxes hold a greater capacity of material, downtime for traveling to and from maintenance barns to reload is reduced. In addition, a new state-of-the-art dispensing and distribution system will help de-ice the roads more quickly and efficiently. This system dispenses and monitors salt dispersion and application more efficiently meaning less salt is applied to the roads and into the environment.

The Allen County Highway Department uses anti-icing materials such as sand, salt, calcium and magnesium chloride, and stone chips. A sand-salt mixture is used on most roads. Calcium/magnesium chloride mixed with sand and salt is used on roads that need to be cleaned to bare pavement. Stone chips are used on gravel roads when they become slippery. On higher traffic count highways, liquid calcium/magnesium chloride is applied along with a salt-sand mixture. 36 trucks are outfitted with systems that dispense the liquid onto the salt and sand. The calcium/magnesium chloride solution speeds the chemical reaction of the salt, which in turn melts snow and ice much quicker.

The Allen County North Highway Barn and the Allen County South Highway Barn purchased spill kits to address potential large spills. Other county departments were contacted to alert them that the county barns were equipped with these spill kits that could be of use as a resource for large spills located anywhere throughout the county. The Highway Barns each have one Eagle M#1690 95-gallon spill kit with 20 ten-foot absorbent socks and 2 gloves. They also have 2 Pig spill kits (M202) with absorbency of 60 gallons and spill volume of 50 to 79 gallons. They have assorted socks and mats and disposal bags in them.