



Lower Grand River Watershed Project

MEETING MINUTES

Project:	GVMC/Lower Grand River Watershed	MEETING DATE:	April 22, 2003
Subject:	Urban Subcommittee Meeting	MEETING START:	1:15 p.m.
Meeting Site:	Wyoming Clean Water Plant	MEETING ADJOURN:	3 p.m.
Prepared By:	Ms. E. Wendy Ogilvie	PROJECT No.:	G02408
Attending:	Mr. Mark Rambo - City of Walker Mr. Jim McAllister - Kent County Road Commission Mr. Russ Henckel - City of Wyoming Mr. Roger Laninga - Kent County Drain Commissioner Mr. Larry Silvernail - Byron Township Ms. Janice Tompkins - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Mr. James E. Smalligan, P.E. - Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. (FTC&H) Ms. E. Wendy Ogilvie - FTC&H		

1. Introduction

Ms. E. Wendy Ogilvie welcomed members to the meeting of the Lower Grand River Watershed (Watershed) Urban Subcommittee.

2. Best Management Practice (BMP) Implementation

A spreadsheet was sent to all of the members after the last meeting that categorized and described urban BMPs. Information for the spreadsheet was collected from the Municipal Operations surveys that Phase II communities filled out last year. Members were asked to add BMPs to the list that they are currently using that address urban storm water. Mr. Mark Rambo created a list of commonly used urban BMPs with the link to the MDEQ website that explains each BMP in detail (attached).

3. Technical Subcommittee

Ms. Ogilvie explained that the Technical Subcommittee will be reviewing the BMP recommendations from the Urban Subcommittee to ensure that the BMPs are feasible and practical in the urban communities in the Watershed. The BMP spreadsheet was presented to the Technical Subcommittee at the meeting on April 3, 2003, for their review. The members discussed the BMPs and requested that a similar spreadsheet be completed for managerial BMPs, including preservation and conservation techniques. A draft of this spreadsheet will be developed and sent to the Urban Subcommittee for review before being presented to the Technical Subcommittee.



ABIGAIL MATZKE
(616) 331-3994
matzkea@gvsu.edu



ANDY BOWMAN
(616) 776-3876
andy@gvmc.org



WENDY OGILVIE
(616) 464-3915
ewogilvie@ftch.com

4. Pilot Project Areas

An overview of the watershed management planning process was given to the committee members in order to put their following tasks into context and be able to relate the information to the bigger picture of the Watershed project goals.

The selection process of the urban subwatersheds for the Pilot Project Areas (PPAs) was described. The final selection made by the Steering Committee of the PPAs include three urban areas in the greater Grand Rapids area and Sand Creek Watershed as the representative rural area.

Critical Area

Critical areas of the urban subwatersheds need to be defined. The selected urban subwatersheds for the Watershed Management Plans are very large in which to complete a detailed watershed inventory. Areas that necessitate field inspections need to be identified to be able to focus the efforts of the project in the appropriate areas.

Designated Uses

A table for each urban subwatershed was prepared with information gathered from past studies and reports that were available. The tables listed the designated uses that the State of Michigan has determined that all waters of the state must meet; agriculture, navigation, industrial water supply, warm/cool/coldwater fishery, other indigenous aquatic life and wildlife, partial body contact recreation, total body contact recreation, and public water supply. The Urban Subcommittee members reviewed the list of designated uses and determined whether they were being met, threatened, impaired, or not applicable in each urban subwatershed. The following is a summary of the discussion:

Designated Use	Buck Creek #14 93, #14 94	Grand River #14 89 (York Creek, Lamberton Creek, and Reeds Lake)	Grand River #14 97 (Portfleet, Tallman, and Roy's Creek)
Agriculture	Meeting designated use	Not a use	Not a use
Navigation	Not a use	Grand River meeting designated use	Grand River meeting designated use
Industrial Water Supply	The MDEQ will investigate if surface waters are used for industrial purposes in subwatershed	The MDEQ will investigate if surface waters are used for industrial purposes in subwatershed	The MDEQ will investigate if surface waters are used for industrial purposes in subwatershed
Warmwater fishery	South of 84th Street impaired by sediment	Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) area severely impaired by Polychlorinated Byphenyls (PCBs) and heavy metals Illegal dumping of chemicals and oil might pose a threat to use in Lamberton Creek	Moderately to severely impaired by sediment Severely impaired by extreme seasonal flow regimes
Coolwater fishery	City of Grandville moderately impaired by sediment and slightly impaired by road salt	N/A	N/A



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Designated Use	Buck Creek #14 93, #14 94	Grand River #14 89 (York Creek, Lamberton Creek, and Reeds Lake)	Grand River #14 97 (Portfleet, Tallman, and Roy's Creek)
Coldwater fishery	North of 84th Street to limits of City of Grandville moderately impaired by sediment, severely impaired by sediment in Lemery Park and Burlingame Avenue areas temperature might pose a threat	York Creek moderately impaired by sediment, severely impaired from flashy flows	Portfleet Creek is severely impaired by seasonal flow regimes, limiting depth and riffle quality of stream
Other indigenous aquatic life and wildlife	Habitats are moderately to severely impaired by sediment	Habitats are moderately impaired by sediment	Habitats are severely impaired by sediment and extreme seasonal flow regimes
Partial body contact recreation	Fishing opportunities are impaired by <i>E. coli</i> Leaching septic systems might pose a threat to recreational use	Meeting designated use	TMDL area on Grand River impaired by <i>E. coli</i>
Total body contact recreation	Swimming (wading at Palmer Park) is impaired by <i>E. coli</i> Leaching septic systems might pose a threat to recreational use	Meeting designated use	TMDL area on Grand River impaired by <i>E. coli</i>
Public water supply	Not a use	Not a use	Not a use

Pollutants and Impairments

The possible pollutants discussed include sediment, seasonal flow regimes, pathogens, PCBs, heavy metals, and temperature. The upcoming watershed inventory will identify these potential pollutants and verify if they are impairing the water quality. The inventory will also identify additional impairments to the Watershed, such as nutrients.

Sources and Causes

The investigation of the condition of the subwatersheds will verify the sources and causes of the impairments. BMP recommendations will be based on the underlying cause of the sources of the impairments.

Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives for the subwatersheds will be discussed at the next meeting when some of the inventory has been completed and causes of sources of impairments have been identified.



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5. Other Business

The 11th National Nonpoint Source Monitoring Workshop titled "Monitoring and Modeling: Urban Environment" will be held in Dearborn, Michigan on September 8 through September 11. Session topics include urban stream restoration, nonpoint source modeling, BMPs tracking and monitoring techniques, low impact development approaches, stream buffers, and public information and education. The website for further information is: www.ctic.purdue.edu/npsworkshop.html

Ms. Janice Tompkins announced that a meeting was being organized to discuss the possibility of the City of Grand Rapids (City) conducting the MDEQ road/stream crossing inventories within the City limits. The City of Wyoming was also interested in assisting with the inventories. Ms. Tompkins invited the members of the Urban Subcommittee to attend. The date and time will be announced.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 5, 2003, at the office of FTC&H, from 10:30 a.m. to Noon.

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Attachment
By email

DISTRIBUTION:

Attendees

Mr. Aaron Bodbyl - Ottawa County Planning Department
Mr. Frank Wash - Alpine Township
Mr. Jim Beelen - Allendale Township
Mr. Jim Beke - City of Kentwood
Mr. Steven Kepley - City of Kentwood
Mr. Jim Miedema - Jamestown Township
Ms. Angie Latvaitis - Kent County Drain Commissioner's Office
Mr. Doug Kadzban - City of East Grand Rapids
Mr. Brad Boomstra - Kent County Drain Commissioner's Office
Ms. Connie Smith - Fruitport Township
Mr. Shawn Wessell - West Michigan Environmental Action Council
Mr. Dan Czarnecki - City of Grand Haven
Ms. Melissa Eldridge - Ionia Conservation District
Ms. Elizabeth Robins - Ionia County
Mr. Richard Edmonds - Tallmadge Township
Mr. Tom Lurtzma - Lake Rushmore Association
Mr. Andy Bowman - Grand Valley Metro Council
Mr. John Koches - GVSU Annis Water Resource Institute (AWRI)
Ms. Abigail Matzke - AWRI
Ms. Laurie Beth Nederveld - AWRI
Mr. Jason E. Buck - FTC&H



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