



November 22, 2013

GVMC Environmental Programs Update

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Activities

Communities in the Lower Grand River Watershed required to have a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) municipal stormwater permit are joining a collaborative effort led by GVMC to apply for funding through the Stormwater, Asset Management and Wastewater (SAW) grant program. This funding will be used to update each of the 19 participating permittees' current Stormwater Pollution Prevention Initiative (SWPPI) to a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), which is a required component of the new permit to be issued in 2016. Some of the tasks include conducting a comprehensive public awareness survey to

evaluate the public education activities, creating a complete storm sewer system map with prioritization of high-risk areas, updating the model stormwater ordinance, customizing procedures for pollution prevention and good housekeeping, identifying total maximum daily load (TMDL) pollutant load reductions required for permittees and developing monitoring plans to assess progress. The total grant request is for \$574,133. The grant application is due to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) on December 2, 2013.

Lower Grand River Watershed (LGROW) Activities

The Ottawa Conservation District received funding from the MDEQ through the Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Program to address sources of *E. coli* in the Bass River and Deer Creek watersheds. GVMC is participating in the project by serving on the Steering Committee, assisting with selection of best management practices, estimating pollutant load reductions, and overall coordination of the project with the Lower Grand River Watershed Management Plan. More information on this project and additional updates on other activities, are posted on the LGROW website, at www.lgrow.org.

December Board Meeting

Our December Board of Directors Meeting will be held on December 5th at 8:30 am at East Grand Rapids City Hall.

Our agenda will include a presentation regarding an emerging issue in our region pertaining to work that is being done by several municipalities to create an ambulance consortium. The Board will be updated on this effort by representatives of the cities of Grand Rapids, Wyoming, Kentwood, East Grand Rapids, Grandville and Rockford. Also participating in early planning for the consortium is Plainfield Township.

As you know, managing emerging issues is one of our key strategic initiatives. GVMC is not directly involved in this effort and we bring this topic to the agenda in order to insure that all our members are updated on this emerging issue in our region.

Board Meeting Reminder

**Our Next Board of
Directors Meeting will
be on December 5th at
8:30 am.**

East Grand Rapids City Hall

**750 Lakeside Dr. SE
949-2110**

