

# Phase II Municipalities Public Education Reporting

On behalf of:

Burton
Davison Twp
Flint Twp
Genesee County
Mt. Morris
Vienna Twp

Clio Davison
Fenton Fenton Twp
Flushing Genesee Twp
Grand Blanc Linden
Mt Morris Twp Swartz Creek
Grand Blanc Twp (joined 1/1/2023)

March 1, 2022 – March 1, 2023 Reporting Period

#### Prepared by:

The Genesee County Drain Commissioner SWM
On behalf of Genesee County and contracted Communities

This report summarizes activities completed for the period from March 1, 2022, to March 1, 2023, by the Genesee County Drain Commissioner's Office and the contracted Phase II Municipalities to meet the requirements of their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. This report is broken into sections to coincide with the MI Waters website.

- PPP
- PEP- Public Education Activities
- IDEP
- General Permit Requirements

#### Permit Requirements

- **A.** (topic 1 in progress report) Promote public responsibility and stewardship in the applicant's watershed(s).
- **B.** (topic 2 in progress report) Inform and educate the public about the connection of the MS4 to area waterbodies and the potential impacts discharges could have on surface waters of the state
- **C**. **(topic 3 in progress report)** Educate the public on illicit discharges and promote public reporting of illicit discharges and improper disposal of materials into the MS4.
- **D**. **(topic 4 in progress report)** Promote preferred cleaning materials and procedures for car, pavement, and power washing.
- E. (topic 5 in progress report) Inform and educate the public on proper application and disposal of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers.
- **F.** (topic 6 in progress report) Promote proper disposal practices for grass clippings, leaf litter, and animal wastes that may enter in the MS4.
- **G**. **(topic 7 in progress report)** Identify and promote the availability, location, and requirements of facilities for collection or disposal of household hazardous wastes, travel trailer sanitary wastes, chemicals, and motor vehicle fluids.
- **H**. **(topic 8 in progress report)** Inform and educate the public on proper septic system care and maintenance, and how to recognize system failure.
- I. (topic 9 in progress report) Educate the public on, and promote the benefits of, green infrastructure and Low Impact Development.
- **J**. Promote methods for managing riparian lands to protect water quality.
- **K**. **(topic 10 in progress report)** Identify and educate commercial, industrial, and institutional entities likely to contribute pollutants to stormwater runoff.

# Flint River Watershed Coalition: On behalf of the of the Phase II permitees, the Flint River Watershed Coalition (FRWC) was contracted by the GCDC to provide several services, including:

- Speaker Materials and Presentations: PowerPoint presentations on storm water education for adult audiences such as municipal officials, rotary clubs, neighborhood associations, lake associations, etc.
- Hosting canoe trips on the Flint River described in the Activities Update.
- Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (GREEN): described in the Activities Update.
   NOTE although this program is part of Monitoring and Mapping, there are education components to it.
- Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Program: described in the Activities Update. NOTE although this program is part of Monitoring and Mapping, there are education components to it.
- The FRWC was involved in the *Storm Drain Stenciling* program described in the Activities Update.

# Keeper of the Shiawassee: On behalf of the Permittee, "The Keepers of the Shiawassee" (Keepers) was contracted by the GCDC to provide Benthic monitoring:

• Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Program: described in the Activities Update. NOTE although this program is part of Monitoring and Mapping, there are education components to it.

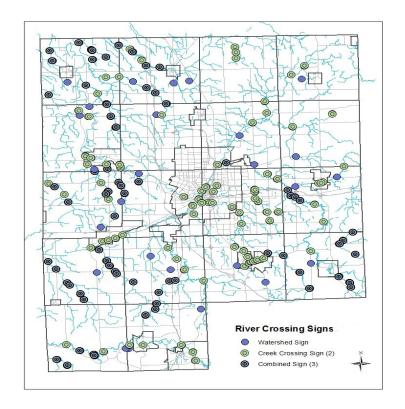
# Genesee Conservation District: On behalf of the Of the Phase II permitees, the GCD was contracted by the GCDC to provide several services, including:

- The GCD was involved in the *Storm Drain Stenciling* program described in the Activities Update.
- Operate and staff the "Our Water" Information *Display booth* at the County Fair and other events described in the Activities Update.
- The GCD continues to *educate children* on storm water issues using the Enviroscape and craft projects that reinforce storm water messages as described in the Activities Update.
- Facilitate and staff display booth at public events: GCD schedules the display booth. Provide staff or training for volunteers.

#### Reporting Period update of implementation of Table 2

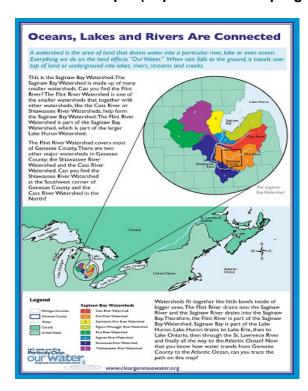
#### Road and Stream Crossings and Watershed Signs (Topics 1 & 2 in progress report)

- Signage installation target was 200 sites with more than 400 signs. There are 216 sites with 409 signs.
- In this reporting period, no additional signs were placed.
- All other signs reviewed. No repairs necessary in this reporting period.
- Signage increases public awareness.
- Private organizations have been placing "adopt a river" signs along the Shiawassee.





#### Watershed Maps: (Topics 1 thru 6 in progress report)



- Series of 8 posters
- For school education
- Distributed hard copy by request. None in this reporting period.
- Available electronically at <u>http://www.cleargeneseewa</u> <u>ter.org/teachers.html</u> none uploaded in this reporting period. all website data is located starting on page 21.
- Below are examples of #1, #2 & #4

#### How you can help keep our water clean

There are seven simple steps to clean wate How many of these seven simple steps did you do this week?

#### 1. Practice good car care.

I. Practice gove see
Have you ever noticed a rainbow colored
puddle on a parking lot or the street? The
rainbow colors that you see are caused by
petroleum



oil when they are broken. A single drop of oil can pollute many gallons of water! To keep our water clean, keep cars fixed.

#### 2. Fertilize sparingly & caringly.

Storm drains found in streets and yards go into our lakes and streams. So, when we fertilize our lawn we could also be fertilizing our lakes and streams. Fertilizer is good for our lawn, but it is bad for our water.

#### 3. Clean up after your pet.

Did you know that pet waste has bad bacteria



#### 4. Save water.

When we put too much water on our yards, the extra water carries pollution into storm drains that lead to our rivers and lakes.

Remember, storm drains lead to our lakes and rivers!

#### 5. Choose earth-friendly landscaping.



The chemicals The chemical we put on our lawns and gardens to kill weeds can pollute our lakes and rivers if washed into storm drains.

#### Carefully store & dispose of household cleaners, chemicals, & oil.

Did you know that many household cleaners and chemicals can be dangerous to us, our pets, and the environment if they are not thrown away properly? These materials pollute our waterways if washed or dumped into storm drains.



### 7. Keep pollution out of storm drains.

Storm drains and roadside ditches lead to



storm drain will get into our lakes and streams.

The car oil I spill on the parking lot and the napkin I drop in the street are not a lot. When added to everyone else's spills and litter, it adds up to create a big problem!



www.cleargeneseewater.org

#### In What Sub-Watershed Is Your School Located?

This map shows your school. Can you find it? Are there any nearby rivers, streams or creeks?

In what sub-watershed is your school located?

As townships, towns and cities grow, more roads and parking lots have to be built. However, when it rains or snows, pavement does not soak up water. Do you see any paved parking lots or roads outside your school?



#### Legend School Locations Roads Waterbodies Communities School Districts

Unfortunately, as clean rain or snow melt (also called storm water) flows over pavement or the ground, it picks up and carries with it pollution like dirt, litter, oil, leaves and animal waste into storm drains. Where does storm water go after it flows into a storm drain?

The storm water that enters storm drains flows directly to our lakes, rivers and streams, carrying all the pollution it has picked up along the way. Common pollutants that wash into our lakes, rivers and streams in storm water include:

- · Car fluids such as motor oil or gas
- · Chemicals used to kill weeds or fertilizers to grow lawns and gardens
- · Pet wastes
- Litter
- Soil from bare ground where vegetation has been removed or killed

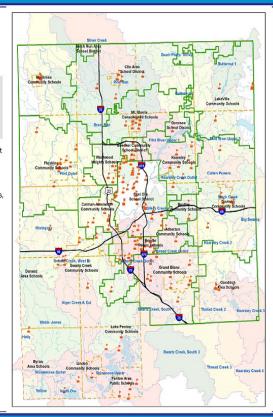
When polluted storm water enters our lakes and rivers, it can cause many problems:

- The plants and animals that live nearby may become sick.
- The humans who drink the water or use it for swimming may become sick.
- The humans who live next to water may notice a bad odor or excessive growth
- The humans or animals that eat the fish from that polluted water might get sick.



This is why we need to work together and follow the seven simple steps to keep our water clean!

www.cleargeneseewater.org



#### Benthic Monitoring Program (Topics 1 & 2 progress report)

- Bi annual testing is performed by volunteers.
- FRWC provides coordination and training
- Testing is done at 30 sites throughout the Flint Water Shed (16 within Genesee County)
- 2-4 sites were added for the Shiawassee River located within Genesee County and are done by Keepers of the Shiawassee. Data collected will be used with other information to provide an assessment of water quality.
- Project GREEN also introduces Benthic Monitoring to the students.
- Detailed information on sites tested and surveyed are in attachement named 2022-2023 effect.







#### Water Monitoring

FRWC hosts annual trainings for those interested in joining our team of volunteer water monitors. After the training, which includes basic identifications of the critters we collect during monitoring, volunteers may sign up to be a citizen scientist at any of our 35 monitoring sites.

Trainings available spring through fall as weather permits

#### Winter Stonefly Hunt

Environmental monitoring happens year round, as certain stoneflies emerge in the winter to mate. This is the best time to find the bio-indicators. They don't fly, rather they crawl along surfaces and attract mates by drumming their abdomens on the surface of rocks.

Look for more information on our Winter Stonefly

#### Vernal Pool Patrol

Vernal pools, also called vernal ponds or ephemeral pools, are seasonal pools of water that provide habitat for distinctive plants and animals. By monitoring these wetlands, we can determine the overall health of our watershed - but we can't do it without your help.

Check back each spring for more details on our Vernal Pool Patrols.

#### **Project GREEN Water Quality Monitoring Program (topic 1 thru 7 in progress report)**

- Annual testing of the Flint and Shiawassee Rivers by students
- Mentors go into the classrooms and talk about water health, watersheds, how we impact water.
- Teachers and mentors take students out to river to do chemical testing on water.
- Testing results are compiled and analyzed.
- Students got together at a virtual symposium and share results in presentations drawing conclusions to why the results show good or bad results.
- Additional education on www.flintriverGREEN.org See Below for screen shots.
- Additional information on the Flint River Watershed Coalition visits www.FlintRiver.org
- Number of Hits on Clear Genesee Water.org for this program. All website data is located starting on page 21.

# **SUMMIT SCHEDULE:**



MAY 16 - 25

Recorded Expert
Presentations



**MAY 19** 

**LIVE Expert Presentations** 



MAY 23 - 25

LIVE Student
Presentations

#### **2022 Flint River GREEN Virtual Student Summit**

MONDAY, MAY 23

10:30 am - 11:00 am

Birch Run Water Quality Class & Kearsley 7th Grade.

11:25 am - 11:55 am

Montrose 6th Grade

1:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Mt. Morris 7th Grade & Montrose 6th Grade

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Montrose 6th Grade

TUESDAY, MAY 24

8:00 am - 8:30 am

Genesee Career Institute

8:40 am - 9:10 am

Chatfield 8th Grade & Montrose 6th Grade

9:10 am - 9:40 am

Genesee Career Institute & St. John Vianney

1:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Davison 7th Grade Honors

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

10:30 am - 11:00 am

Mt. Morris 7th Grade & Atherton 8th Grade

1:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Hamady 7th Grade & Kearsley 8th Grade

Visit <u>www.flintrivergreen.org</u> to learn more about the program. We hope to see you or a representative next week!

Warm Regards,

Autumn Mitchell, Education Programs Manager

Flint River Watershed Coalition







### **GREEN**

This flagship citizen science program provides training and resources to teachers who engage students in scientific inquiry at their local streams. View past years' data <a href="here">here</a>.

### **BRIDGES**

This middle school curriculum and teacher coaching program immerses students in their communities for 12 weeks as they use claim, evidence and reasoning to solve environmental issues

### AFTER SCHOOL

This abbreviated program allows after school groups to engage in STEM skills while building community awareness of our water resources alongside trained educators

School	Grade Level	Class	Mentor Requests	Mentor Organization	Mentor: GREEN TopicsThat Most Interest You
Armstrong Middle School	6-8	3	careers in environmental/STEM fields	Parks - For-Mar	Teaching students water chemistry testing procedures prior to a stream
Atherton Jr/Sr High School	8th	2 Bridges	careers in environmental/STEM fields	General Motors	testing procedures prior to a stream visit, Assisting teachers and students
Bendle High School	9-12	9	water quality and the Flint River		
Clio Middle School	8th	1	students water chemistry testing	District	Assisting teachers and students with identifying and communicating with
Davison Middle School	7th	2	students water chemistry testing	Parks - For-Mar	Teaching students water chemistry testing procedures prior to a stream
Genesee Career Institute	11 and 12	3	careers in environmental/STEM fields	General Motors	Teaching students water chemistry testing procedures prior to a stream
Hamady Middle School	7	5 Bridges	water quality and the Flint River	District	Assisting teachers and students with identifying and communicating with
Kuehn-Haven Middle School	6th	4 Bridges	careers in environmental/STEM fields	Coalition	identifying and communicating with other community partners, anything you
LakeVille Memorial High School	11 and 12	1 Bridges Lite	students water chemistry testing	Coalition	Teaching students water chemistry testing procedures prior to a stream
Marshall Greene Middle	7/8	1 Bridges	students water chemistry testing	Environment, Great	testing procedures prior to a stream visit, Assisting teachers and students
Mt. Morris Middle School	7th and 8th	10 Bridges	water quality and the Flint River	Commission and Flint	Teaching students water chemistry testing procedures prior to a stream
North Branch High School	10th	5 Bridges	careers in environmental/STEM fields	Nicole Kopas	Assisting teachers and students with data analysis following the stream
Powers Catholic High School	11-12	3	students water chemistry testing	Pollution Control	Teaching students water chemistry testing procedures prior to a stream
St. John Vianney	8th	1	students water chemistry testing	General Motors	Teaching students water chemistry testing procedures prior to a stream
Swartz Creek Middle School	7th	10	students water chemistry testing	University Extension	River, Teaching students water chemistry testing procedures prior to a

Number of	Number of		
Students	Classes	Grade Level/Subject	
33	1	Aquatic Biology teacher	
23	2	Science	
22	3	Math, Science, & Elective teacher	
		Science and Academically Talented	
32	2	Science	
30	9	Science	
15	1	Science	
32	2	Honors Science	
15	3	Teacher/Agriscience	
150	5	MS science teacher/department head	
4	4	Science Teacher	
1	1	Conservation and Ecology (Elective)	
1	1	STEM Elective	
10	10	Science	
5	5	Biology	
3	3	AP Sciences	
16	1	Science	
30	10	Science 7th graders	
25	4	Science	

## 2022-2023 Flint River GREEN Program



#### IMPORTANT DATES:

- The deadline to register for spring is January 27, 2023. Note: Late registrations
  are welcome, but supplies and mentors are available on a first-come, first-served
  basis after this deadline.
- GREEN Professional Development will be held on February 20, 2023, 9-3 pm
- Face-to-Face water quality testing refresher and mentor meetup will be on
   March 7, 2023, 4-6:30 pm
- Spring testing supplies will be delivered at testing refresher or no later than March 10, 2023.
- Spring testing window: Collect stream data any time between April 17 May 5,
   2023. This is a strict window.
- Student Summit will be in late May 25, 2023
- All supplies are due back to the FRWC office, and all field data should be submitted to the website no later than June 9, 2023.

#### Display Booth for Events (Topics 1 thru 8 in progress report)

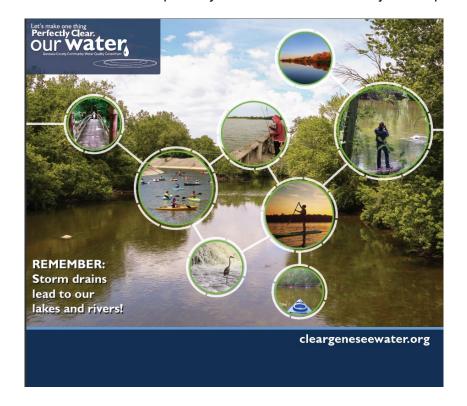
- Conservation district takes an education booth to events throughout the County and year Staff/ volunteer engage the public by offering them a giveaway if they answer a question
- It does not matter if the answer is right or wrong, it allows the Staff a chance to impart water education and a pamphlet

In 2021 the booth went through an update by Tetra Tech. We are excited to be doing events with the new look. Image of background below. Note all images are taken within Genesee County. Thanks to Genesee County Parks for their assistance.

Stormwater Management Public Education Program.

Month	Event	Individuals reached	City
2/11/22-	Back to the Bricks- Chrome	243 individuals	Flint, MI
2/13/22	and fire		Dort Event Center
6/4/2022	Genesee County Day	159 individuals	Genesee Twp, MI
8/11/22	Back to the Bricks	93 individuals	Fenton, MI
8/13/22	Back 2 School Event	131 individuals	Genesee Twp, MI
8/22/22-	Genesee County Fair	353 individuals	Mt. Morris, MI
8/28/22	·		·
9/12/22	Dragon Cruise- Downtown	30 individuals	Swartz Cr, MI
9/22/22	Dragon Cruise- American Legion	50 individuals	Swartz Cr, MI

2023 has not been reported yet. Those will be in next year's report.



**Booth Backdrop** 

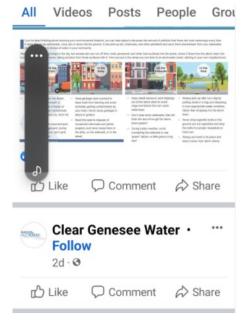
#### Our Water Webpage (Topics 1 thru 10 in progress report)

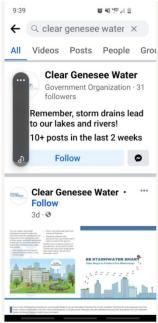
- www.ClearGeneseeWater.org website was redesigned for content and went live May 2022.
- Currently hosted by Tetra tech & updated at GCDC-SWM Office.
- Content is set around the "Seven Storm Water elements."
- Additional content on <u>www.GCDCSWM.com</u> the Drain Commissioner's website for permittees. Much of this information has been moved over to Cleargeneseewater.org but also remains on The GCDC website.

Month-Year	Hits to Teachers page link to Watershed Maps	Hits to Teachers page link to Project GREEN	*Household Hazardous Waste (including medical and personal waste)	Hits to septic brochure	Hits to Green infrastructure page	Hits to Seven simple Steps Brochure	Total Hits to website
4/30/22 thru 3/9/23	52/12	52/9	11	16	10	60	980

- Webpage may have more than 1 link to same information. Those will have + between count for each path—
- All the statistic pages that table information was compiled from are available at the GCDC-SWM office upon request.
- Website was moved to a server that perform statistics on it at end of April 2021.

**Facebook:** in 2022 we created the cleargeneseewater facebook page with the intent to populate with content and drive viewers to webpage.

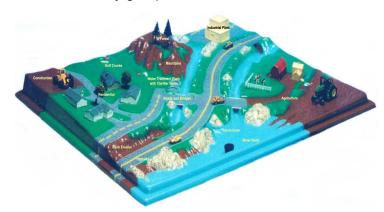




#### **Conservation District Youth Education (Topics 1 thru 7 & 9 in progress report)**

- Conservation District Staff goes into Schools to do youth education.
- Programs can include Enviroscapes or other games:
  - Online Games (DiscoverWater.org)
  - Water cycle relay race
  - Filter the Pollution
  - A-maze-ing water
  - o Hands on activities- build your own watershed.
  - Water trivia games (who wants to be a millionaire, a watershed game, the environmental council, conservation Style, and environmental jeopardy)
- GCDC-SWM has four "Enviroscape" interactive models that demonstrate how pollutants can reach bodies of water. These can be checked out by groups or teachers.





 Conservation District went thru staff changes but are up and running again for this and other programs.

Breakdown of Conservation District Water Quality Presentations in Fiscal Years 2022-2023 In-person and virtual classes were held.

	School aged children					
Month			Community Children are from:			
1/18/22 to 3/22/22	Elms Rd Elementary	393 Students 13 Classes	Flushing Twp & City, Mt Morris Twp			
3/18/2022	Dieck Elementary	91 Students 3 Classes	City Swartz Creek, Clayton Twp			
2/2/2022	U of M Flint	24 Students 1 Class	County Wide			
3/9/2022	Great Lake Academy	13 Students 1 Class	County Wide			
4/5/22 to 5/18/22	Elms Rd Elementary	270 Students 9 Classes	Flushing Twp & City, Mt Morris Twp			
04/22/2022 to 5/13/2022	Dieck Elementary	182 Students 6 Classes	City Swartz Creek, Clayton Twp			
4/12/22	Kuen-Haven Middle Sch	102 Students 4 Classes				

Month	Event	School aged children reached:	Community Children are from:
4/21/22 to 4/28/22	Perry Innovation Center	118 Students 6 Classes	County Wide *also performed tree plantings
4/27/22	Carter Middle School	20 Students 1 Classes	City Clio & Vienna Twp
5/4/22 to 5/6/22	Swartz Creek Middle Sch	400 Students 16 Classes	Mundy Twp, Flint Twp, Clayton Twp, Gaines Twp, City Swartz Creek
5/11/22 to 5/12/22	St John Vianney	20 Students 2 Classes	County Wide
5/16/22- 5/19/22	GREEN Summit	150 Students 6 Classes	County Wide
5/23/22	Perry Innovation Center	29 Students 1 Classes	County Wide
9/14/22 to 9/28/22	Shelter of Flint	45 Students 2 Classes	County Wide 2 groups (5-11 & 12-17)
9/29/22	For-Mar	320 Students 14 Classes	County Wide *Bio Blitz event

Reporting is quarterly and based on the old permit cycle which corresponded with our Fiscal year, January through March 2022 have been included in this permit cycle. October 2022 thru March 2023 will included in next reporting cycle.

#### Catch basin Stenciling / Markers Program (Topics 1 & 2 in progress report)



#### 2 programs

- FRWC and Conservation District will coordinate groups, train on how and why they stencil. Document the where and how many.
  - Volunteers do the actual stenciling on neighborhood streets and parking lots.
  - Volunteers also distribute door to door hangers with storm water information.
- GCDC-SWM staff places permanent markers on drainage inlets (rear yard and road ditches)
  - Also stencil road inlets where staff had cleaned sumps of sediment and debris.

Dates	Markers	Running Total	Community
4/13/11 -	1400	1400	County Wide
1/19/2016			
1/19/16 -	1200	2600	County Wide
3/13/2018			-
3/13/2018-	650	3250	County Wide
2/26/2020			-
2/26/20 -	400	4250	County Wide
3/1/2021			-
3/2/21 -	320	4570	County Wide
2/15/2022			
2/16/22-	230	4800	County Wide
3/1/2023			

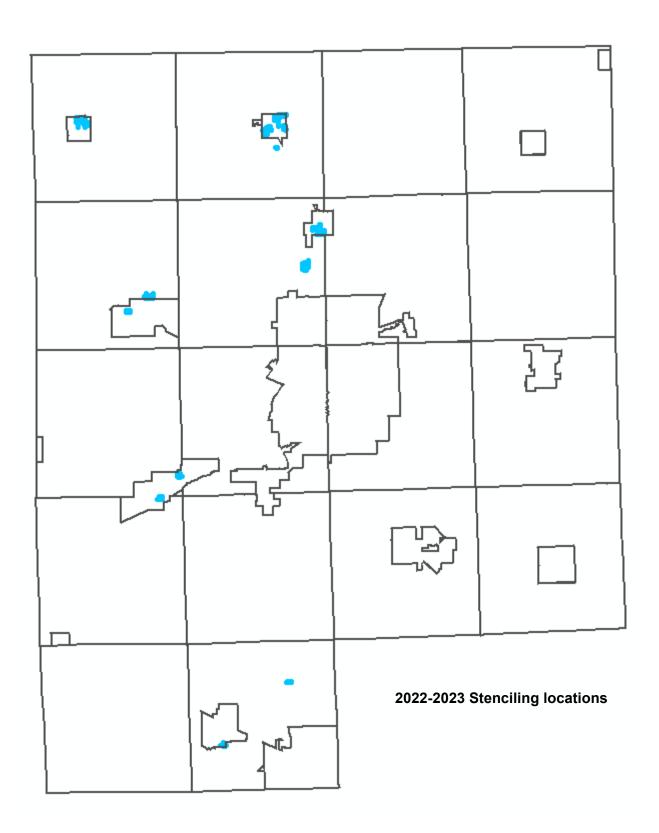


**Breakdown of Conservation District Stencil Program in Fiscal Years 2021-2022** 

Date	Location	Participants	Stencils/ Door hangers
4/29/22	Flushing- Prestonwood Ln-Westford Ct-Prestonwood Ct- Meadowbrook Ln-Parkwood Ct	4	28/104
8/5/22	Swartz Creek- Jennie Ln-Yarmy Dr–Abbey Ln	3	31/59
8/10/22	Linden- Creekwood Cir- Inglewood Ct- Canterbury Ct- Melannie Ct	1	16/83
8/11/22	Fenton- Golfview Cir	1	15/49
9/1/22	Swartz Creek- 1 <sup>st</sup> St-2 <sup>nd</sup> St-3 <sup>rd</sup> St-Wade St	1	16/32
9/8/22	Clio- Loomis Ave- Elm St- Sheldon Ave	3	10/40
9/8/22	Clio- Herehuis Dr-Kasteel Ct	3	5/36
9/8/22	Clio- Hidden Creek Tr- Mill Creek Ct	3	11/31

**Breakdown of FRWC Stencil Program in Fiscal Years 2021-2022** 

	Steakdown of FRWO Steller Frogram in Fiscal		Stencils/ Door
Date	Location	Participants	hangers
	Montrose- Eastman St, Carlann St, Elizabeth St,	3	24/100
	Park St, Ray St, Feher Dr, Leroy St, Douglas St,		
8/26/22	Alfred St, Parkway Dr		
	Montrose- Orchard St (Baldwin St to Creager Dr),	3	24/94
	Russett St, McCormick St, N Genesee St (E		
	Hickory St and up), N Saginaw St (E Hickory to		
8/26/22	North St)		
	Clio- State St, W young St, W Johnson St, New St,	1	14/65
9/17/22	Old St, Pine St		
	Mt. Morris- Read Ave, Wilcox Ave, Oak St, Spruce	1	19/60
9/18/22	St, Walnut St, Walker St,		
	Mt Morris-Washington Ave, Helen St, Maple St,	1	12/52
9/20/22	Elm St, Beach St		
9/28/22	Mt. Morris Twp- Barch St, Eldon St, Penwood St.	6	16/99
	Mt. Morris Twp- Harwood Rd, David Berger St,	6	15/128
9/28/22	Charwood St		
9/29/22	Mt. Morris Twp- Lebeau Rd, Natchez Dr.	3	14/116
	Clio- Poplar St, Clarion St, Rodger Lodge, Butler	3	18/108
9/30/22	St. and Cherry St		
	Flushing- Coutant St from N McKinley Rd to Circle		16/65
	Dr, Circle Dr, and E Park Ave from N McKinley Rd		
9/30/22	to Circle Dr.		3
	Service Control of the Control of th		



#### Distribute Brochures Promoting the 7 Simple Steps: (Topics 1 thru 7 in progress report)

- An educational brochure was developed to provide information about EPA's seven mandated elements of storm water education.
- 5,000 brochures were printed in November 2006, and 10,000 reprints were made in 2009 and 2013 each. more than 24,000 handed out.
- Brochures are handed out to each person spoken to at events. Numbers in Events section.
- FRWC also hands out brochures at other events, but we do not have a count on those.
- Brochures are available to public at municipal buildings (reported on by each permittee)

#### **Speaker Bureau (Topics 1 thru 9 in progress report)**

- Modular Power Point presentation was developed and used by FRWC and GCDC-SWM on a multitude of storm water topics.
- Water topics can by mixed and matched to customize talk both in content and length.
- This program is targeted to talk to residents, groups, associations, and businesses.

Breakdown of FRWC Speaker Program in Fiscal Years 2021-2022

Date	Location	Participants
10/13/2021*	Insight Neuro Center Expo	15
4/1/2022	Longway Planitarium First Friday	20
6/1/2022	Genesee Co Board of Commissioners	Live 24 Online views 272
8/25/2022	U of M Rec Bash	30

<sup>\*</sup>Includes unreported from previous reporting period

#### **Articles and Publications on PEP topics**

- Our partner FRWC often promotes PEP information on various programs, and have online publications this reporting cycle. They do have a presence on their website and Facebook.
- Periodically there are articles in the Flint journal or in the local paper, such as the November 4, 2021, article about the new kayak launch.
- Conservation District put out 2 publications this reporting cycle, but we do not have copies.
  - o February 22, 2022, E-Newsletter1300+ e-subscribers



#### Happy Spring from your friends at FRWC!

Spring is in the air, and all of us at the Flint River Watershed Coalition (FRWC) are working double time to protect, promote, and improve your Flint River and its watershed for all to enjoy in the warmer months. We have lots to celebrate in 2022 and can't wait to do it with you! Stay tuned for more announcements in the coming weeks, but for now, here are a few things we have in store for you in April:

#### FRWC Stewardship Day 2022



Community members are invited to join the Flint River Watershed Coalition (FRWC) and their partners at sites across Genesee and Lapeer Counties on Saturday, April 30th, 2022. Traditionally referred to as the Flint River and Community Clean Up, the annual Stewardship Day brings the community together to make a big impact on the Flint River and its watershed. This cleanup event has been an April staple for over twenty years, originating with the Friends of the Flint River Trail. Over the years, FRWC has joined forces with Genesee County Parks, the City of Flint, Kettering University and many others, to create one of the area's largest cleanup efforts.

Pre-register today: bit.ly/FRWC2022

(Locations will be determined following registration.)



April 1, 2022 | 6-7 p.m. at Longway Planetarius

#### The Flint River: Tales, Trivia, and Triur

Friday, April 1, 2022

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Longway Planetarium, 1310 E. Kearsley St., Flint, MI 48503 View the Flint River from an entirely new perspective! Explore future through engaging visual displays, interactive maps, an

Join us as we share our Flint River watershed's story and script its next chapter! Learn more: sloanlongway.org/first-friday/



#### Vernal Pool Monitor Training

Saturday, April 9, 2022

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

For-Mar, 2142 N. Genesee Rd., Burton, MI 48509

FRWC is very excited to welcome the community to our pilot Vernal Pool Monitoring Program. Vernal pools, also called vernal ponds or ephemeral pools, are seasonal pools of water that provide habitat for distinctive plants and animals. By monitoring these wetlands, we can determine the overall health of our watershed - but we can't do it without your help. Learn how to be a Vernal Pool Citizen Scientist during this free training and make a positive environmental impact.

Pre-registration required: bit.ly/FRWCvernal



#### FRWC Water Monitoring Training (aka Benthic)

Tuesday, April 19, 2002

5:00 - 8:00 pm

Richfield Park, 6322 N. Irish Rd., Davison, MI 48423

While some call them river critters, and others call them bugs, one thing is certain; benthic invertebrates tell us how healthy our rivers, lakes, and streams are - and finding them can be lots of fun! Become a Citizen Scientist during FRWC's free water monitoring training, which takes volunteers through the monitoring process while giving an overview on how to identify what you find.

Pre-registration required: bit.ly/FRWCmonitor

#### -+-Advertise Household Hazardous Waste Events (Topics 6 in progress report)

- The Household Hazardous Waste Events is financially supported by Genesee County and various Communities (reported on by each permittee)
- PEP program helps distribute information to make public aware of availability and proper disposal of household hazardous waste to keep it out of the environment and landfills.
- Genesee County emails flyers to all users, over 2000 individuals. Most departments post notice where it can be seen by public. Many communities also post flyers where it can be seen. (Reported on by each permittee)

Promoted on www.cleargeneseewater.org

• 2022-2023 Permit cycle: Household hazardous waste has increased the number of events in 2022: May 14, June 21, July 19 and Aug 23





• Genesee County Planning keeps track of programs and has recycling education. http://gcmpc.org/environmental/



Q SEARCH

Improving Communities/Housing >

Environmental ~

Transportation <

Documents & Public Notices >





#### CONTACT OUR STAFF

OUR STAFF

#### QUICK LINKS

AIR QUALITY AWARENESS

**CURBSIDE PROGRAMS** 

DROP-OFF CENTER
DIRECTORY

RECYCLE DAY

RECYCLING EDUCATION

**SOLID WASTE** 

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL**





#### Contuninous Events

#### Hosehold Battery Recycling

The Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (GCMPC) is providing free household battery recycling for employee and public use. Please see the attached picture of the collection containers along with information on acceptable battery types.

Battery recycling collection containers can be found in the following locations:

- 1. lobby of the Admin Building
- 2. 3rd floor of the Admin Building near the entrance to the HR Department
- 3. main floor of the Courthouse near the information desk
- 4. main floor of McCree near the staircase

If you have any questions about the household battery recycling program or if you notice a collection container is full in the future, please contact Cody Roblyer, Lead Planner, at (810) 766-6570 or Cody Roblyer.





# FREE RESIDENTIAL LATEX PAINT RECYCLING

- Drop-off used latex paint (up to 10 cans, no 5 gallon containers) at Genesee County Habitat for Humanity during regular business hours
- Used latex paint is processed into new paint by American Paint Recyclers
- Cans of EcoTone Paint are then sold at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore









Genesee County Habitat for Humanity
101 Burton Street, Flint, MI 48503
Tuesday through Saturday
9:00AM to 4:00PM
(810) 766-9089 ext. 205
geneseehabitat.org

Questions? (810) 762-7744 recycle@geneseecountymi.gov gcmpc.org/environmental

#### **Educational Material- Septic Booklet (Topics 3, 7 & 8 in progress report)**

- Information to help educate septic system owners on proper maintenance and practices.
- Copies have been provided for distribution at the following locations:
  - Genesee County Health Department (Environmental Health Septic)
  - o Interested communities (Not all communities have residents with septic systems.)
  - o Realtor's Association
  - They are also available at public events for interested residents. 200 more were provided to Conservation District this year for events.
- The number of parcels Countywide that are not vacant or farmland nor have access to sanitary are small. This makes it hard to evaluate the program.
- The IDEP program has more issues with cross connections than with failed septic systems.
- 2020-2021: 2000 brochures were distributed to real estate agents to give out to buyers and sellers of homes with septic systems. They have not requested more this permit cycle. There is no good way to determine exactly how many were given out.
- Brochures are available at the county and in the local communities to be handed out or be picked up by residents. They are provided brochures periodically as needed.
- Septic information and brochure also available on website. See above for webpage information

#### **Septic Systems**

While most residences are connected to the public sewer system, some have onsite treatment. If your residence is connected to a septic system instead of a public sanitary system, you have the opportunity and responsibility to operate and maintain your own septic system. A properly maintained septic system positively influences the quality of our local water resources. If your septic system is properly designed, built, and maintained, it can effectively treat your household wastewater, save you money, and keep our local water clean for many years. If a septic system is not properly maintained, a lot of costly damage could be done.

A septic system is not the same as a municipal sewer system. Septic systems have a limited life expectancy that can be shortened by not monitoring and properly maintaining it.



A malfunctioning septic system can:

Cost thousands of dollars to replace or repair

Make selling your home very difficult

Lower your property value or pose legal liability

Spread infection and disease

Contaminate groundwater that might be a source of drinking water

Pollute nearby lakes, rivers, and streams

What happens when pollutants reach our waterways?



#### **Canoe Trips- Paddles (Topics 1 & 2 in progress report)**

- The Flint River has suffered historically from a bad reputation. Through our partnership, the FRWC has several paddles are held on various locations of the Flint River.
- Before the paddle FRWC has water quality education as well as safety on the water education.
- Provides easy access to residents that would not normally get on the water or would drive hours to Canoe/Kayak on a "clean river" up north.
- Most new paddlers are surprised how beautiful and divers the river is.
- Increased use and access observed. = increased stewardship

#### **Breakdown of FRWC Paddle Program in Fiscal Years 2022-2023**

Year	Date	#	Event	Location	Participant Municipalities
2022	6/2	18	Kettering Paddle	KF stretch	
2022	6/29	26	Crim Paddle	Thread Lake	
2022	6/30	15	TDN kids camp	Buell Lake	Burton, Fenton, Flint, Mt. Morris, Holly
2022	7/10	10	GS Troop	Kearsley Res	Fenton, Holly, Flint
2022	7/14	15	TDN kids camp	Buell Lake	Fenton, Flint, Grand Blanc, Holly
2022	7/15	36	Flint Freedom School	Thread Lake	Flint, Genesee, Burton, Clio, Mt. Morris, Burt
2022	7/21	24	Mott Paddle	Irish to Mott	Flint, Fenton, Swartz Creek, Frankenmuth
2022	7/30	10	Adam Stevens	Lapeer	Flint, Fenton, Holly
2022	8/5	7	Scout with Mott folks	Irish to Mott	Flint, Fenton, Burton, Swartz Creek
2022	8/11	3	Rotary Paddle	Richfield to Irish	Flint, Fenton, Holly
2022	8/12	11	Kettering Paddle	M15 to Irish	Saginaw, Flint
2022	8/23	30	Guided paddle	Thread Lake	Flint, Fenton, Holly, Saginaw, Swartz Creek
2022	8/25	4	EF&G DNR kids paddle	Irish to Mott	Flint, Fenton, Grand Blanc, Holly
2022	8/26	4	iKayak workshop	Buell Lake	Grand Blanc, Flushing, Flint, Fenton, Clarkston
2022	8/30	16	Guided paddle	Mott Lake	Flint, Clio, Fenton, Holly, Bay City, Genesee
2022	9/2	5	Rotary Paddle	M-15 to Irish	Flint, Fenton, Linden, Frankenmuth, Burton
2022	9/3	7	Guided paddle	M-15 to Irish	
2022	9/15	10	Mott Paddle	Holloway to Irish	Fenton, Flint, Grand Blanc, Burton
2022	9/24	22	Friends and Family paddle	Richfield to Irish	Flushing, Flint, Mt. Morris, Lapeer, Fenton, Genesee
2022	9/25	4	Aaron Gievers	Richfield to Irish	Flint, Fenton
		6		Irish to Mott	Flint, Fenton, Flushing
		283			



# Present Information on Proper Disposal of Medications and Personal Care Products on Website

- This information is available on <a href="https://www.ClearGeneseeWater.org">www.ClearGeneseeWater.org</a>.
- The promoted Household Hazardous Waste events specifically list that they accept aerosols, biomedical sharps, and prescription medication as some of the items accepted.

#### Can't Wait Until the Next Collection Day or not accepted?

Here are some additional options for the disposal of household hazardous wastes:

<u>Drop-Off Center Directory - Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (gcmpc.org)</u>

#### Prescription Drugs - Controlled substance public disposal locations:

Wal-Mart Pharmacy 4213 Corunna Rd Flint, MI

Hari OM Pharmacy LLC G3333 Beecher Rd Flint, MI

Meijer Pharmacy 4141 Morrish Rd Swartz Creek MI

Town Center Pharmacy 1201 Flushing Rd Suite 2 Flint, MI

Meijer 2474 West Hill Rd Flint, MI

Latex Paint. Put either kitty litter or sand in equal portions to the paint, leave the top off and let it dry completely. Once the paint is completely dried out you can place cans in your regular garbage. Note: The top must be left off. If you have quite a bit of latex paint left, you can try calling on the theater groups downtown to see if they can use it.

**Motor Oil.** You can take motor oil to Valvoline. Different branches have different requirements regarding fees and amounts, so contact them first.

**Electronics.** For a \$5.00 fee, CBC Recycling will take electronics, such as television sets (no consoles), computers, printers, fax machines, copiers, stereo equipment, video cameras, video game consoles, DVD players, video cassette recorders. Hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm; the first two Saturdays of the month from 9:00 am-1:00 pm; or by appointment (810) 239-5040.115 14th Street, Flint

**Batteries.** Throughout the year batteries can be taken to any VG's Food and Pharmacy. There is a \$0.10 charge, and they must be taken to the service desk.

**Make-up and other personal care products.** Consider passing along to someone else if it is still useable or properly discard in your general household trash for basic curbside pickup.

Remember, storm drains lead to our lakes and rivers!

#### Pamphlet for Riparian Landowners (Topics 5 thru 7 & 9 in progress report)

- Most of the pamphlets were distributed in past reporting periods.
- Pamphlets are handed out at events.
- Pamphlets are available to public at municipal buildings. (Reported on by each permittee)
- 5000 Pamphlets have been distributed since start of program. All have been distributed.

#### **Education Workshop Targeted to Restaurant Waste (Topics 7 & 10 in progress report)**

- Restaurants have been identified as having high IDEP potential.
- A Brochure was developed and printed in 2022. 1450 were delivered to the Genesee County Health Dept, who oversee restaurant inspections. They have agreed to hand them out to all restaurants within the County. They visit twice a year so all would have been passed out between Sept 2022 and March 2023. Drain Office has some available for IDEP and handing out as needed. This program Id target restaurants to educate staff on proper disposal of waste fluids to prevent future illicit discharges.

#### **Education Workshop Targeted to Green Infrastructure Design (Topics 9 in progress report)**

- Engineers and developers have been targeted to help them understand how green infrastructure can be effective in their design.
- Currently Earth friendly landscaping is available on <a href="www.cleargeneseewater.org">www.cleargeneseewater.org</a> for residents. Number of hits are reported above under the webpage section.



Home > Resources > For Residents > Choose Earth Friendly Landscaping

### **Choose Earth-Friendly Landscaping**

#### What's the Issue?

When landscaping your yard you can protect your kids, pets, and the environment from harm. By choosing plants that are native to Michigan and by practicing good lawn-care practices, you can help prevent pollution of our lakes and streams.

Remember, a few simple changes can make a big difference!

**Mow High.** Make your lawn cheaper and easier to maintain by mowing high (three inches). Taller grass requires less water, promotes root growth, and shades out weeds.

**Use Mulch**. Place a thick layer of mulch (four inches) around trees and plants. This helps retain water, reduce weeds, and minimize the need for pesticides.

**Go Native.** Select plants native to Michigan. Native plants are better equipped to tolerate Michigan's climate, require less fertilizing, and are more disease resistant.

Variety is the Spice of Life. Using a wide variety of plants helps control pests and minimizes the need for pesticides.

# Education Workshop targeted to good housekeeping practices for municipalities (Topics 2 thru 6 & 10 in progress report)

- Provide training information for municipal staff and their contractors.
- Topics to be covered:
  - o Spill prevention / Spill Control and Response
  - o Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance / Washing
  - Material Storage
  - Waste Management
  - o Facility Maintenance
  - Landscape and Grounds Maintenance
  - o Illicit Discharge Detection
  - Contracts
- Two Zoom trainings were done 06/10/21 & 06/17/21 for Good Housekeeping. No new workshops were given in 2022-2023 reporting period. The intent is to move forward with videos.
- Online self-training and videos from 2021 training are available on demand, so permittees
  may do training on their schedule. (Reported on by each permittee). Documents are
  available on cleargeneseewater.org and videos are available on gcdcswm.com (below)

#### Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

**Guidance Documents** 

Pollution Prevention Manual of Best Management Practices November 2010

Good Housekeeping Part I Training- June 10, 2021

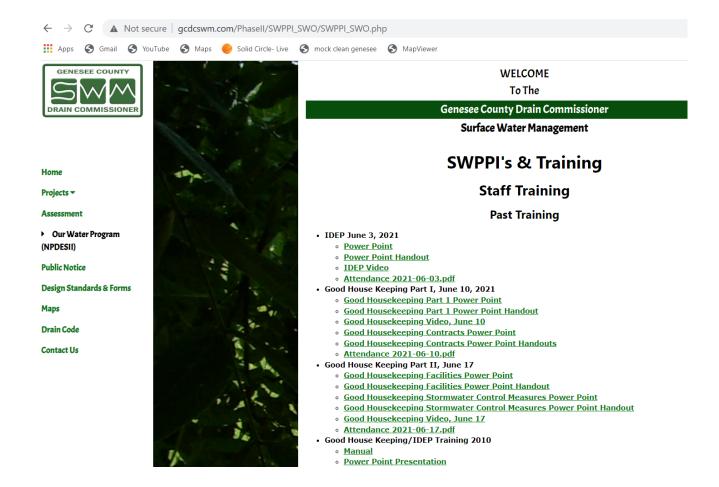
- Overview PowerPoint Presentation
- Overview PowerPoint Handout
- Contracts PowerPoint Presentation
- Contracts PowerPoint Handout
- Video Recording
- Attendance

Good Housekeeping Part II Training- June 17, 2021

- Facilities PowerPoint Presentation
- Facilities PowerPoint Handout
- Stormwater Control Measures PowerPoint Presentation
- Stormwater Control Measures PowerPoint Handout
- Video Recording
- Attendance

#### Good Housekeeping Training Video (Topics 2 thru 6 & 10 in progress report)

- Training materials are made available to permittees currently through www.GCDCSWM .com website this will be moved to cleargeneseewater.org in the next reporting period.
- Permittees may do training on their schedule (reported on by each permittee)
- Information provided: Power Point Presentation, Good housekeeping Video, IDEP Tip Card
- Information can be accessed by receiving an email link from GCDC-SWM staff. Videos of June 2021 available on website.
- Additional training available on website with links to
  - State Industrial Storm Water Program
  - Standard Operating procedures
- Following permittees have requested link.
  - o City of Flushing
  - City Burton
  - o City Grand Blanc
  - City Linden



#### Other Water Education Efforts throughout the County That Are Not in Table 2

- Community walking path along river has free standing watershed signage, between Genesee County parks and City of Flushing Park.
- Park provides education on proper disposal of pet waste at the City of Flushing Park walkway.

 There is an Annual River cleanup on the first week of June along the Shiawassee River, organized by a Fenton Council Members.

The FRWC coordinates an annual stewardship day that includes cleaning up trash along the river within Genesee and Lapeer counties. <u>Staff from</u> the County and local municipalities including the

<u>Drain Office</u>, <u>Parks and Rec</u>, <u>City of Flushing</u>, <u>City of Flint</u>, <u>and others assisted with the cleanup by provided staff or garbage removal</u>. This event was promoted to have volunteers do it on their own instead of in groups due to Covid.



### Cleanups

FRWC hosts community cleanup events throughout the watershed in the spring, summer, and fall.



#### **Stewardship Day**

RWC's Stewardship Day brings the community agether to make a big impact on the Flint River and a watershed. This cleanup event has been an April tople for over twenty years, originating with Friends of he Flint River Trail, now an FRWC chapter. Over the ears, FRWC has joined forces with Genesee County arks, the City of Flint, Kettering University and many thers to create one of the area's largest single day leanup efforts.



#### Riverbank/Shoreline

FRWC regularly organizes cleanups for individuals and groups that would like to safely participate in cleanup efforts focused on the river without the need for waders or special training. These cleanups happen along the riverbank and shoreline throughout the watershed, focusing on trash and debris removal. Dates and locations vary; please contact us to schedule a cleanup for your group.



#### River

These cleanups focus on debris and obstructions in the river, and involve working with hand tools to safely remove river obstructions while preserving wildlife habitat. Experienced chainsaw operators and laborers are needed to help with in-stream removal in Genesee and Lapeer Counties. River cleanups typically occur in late spring, before river events, and as blockages are reported throughout the paddling season.

- Flint River Corridor Alliance is a community organization of Government, non-profit and
  private sector stakeholders, focusing on the Flint River as it goes through the City of Flint.
  They have completed the securing of grant money to remove the Hamilton and Fabri dams
  located within and owned by City of Flint. They have partnered with Genesee County Parks
  and Rec to facilitate the dam removals. They also sponsor an annual Floatilla on the Flint
  River and other events promoting the Flint River.
- Genesee County Parks provides education on many subjects including storm water. (H2 knOw!). Genesee County, specifically the Parks and rec owns many acres along the Flint River providing defined access for the public. They also provide support for many water programs.

Each permittee will report on efforts individually.