

Second Public Information Meeting for the Ecorse Creek and Combined Downriver Watershed Management Plans

For more information contact:

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WAYNE COUNTY, MI, May 5, 2005 – The Ecorse Creek Watershed Inter-Municipality Committee (ECIC), and the Combined Downriver Watershed Inter-Municipality Committee (CDWIC), are holding their second Public Information Meeting on **Wednesday, June 1, 2005, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the Brownstown Township Community Center** located at 21311 Telegraph Road (southeast corner of Telegraph and King) 734.675.0920. The committees each initiated an 18-month project to develop long-term Watershed Management Plans for their respective watershed. The plans are being developed to satisfy requirements of the State of Michigan Phase II Watershed Based Storm Water General Permit (MIG619000). The purpose of the Public Meeting is to follow up from the first public meeting (held in January), briefly review the purpose of the projects, discuss the goals, objectives and improvement strategies of each watershed, and gain public

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input regarding development of each Watershed Management Plan. The committee's are working toward having a final plan by early Fall and would like input on the draft that has been developed to date.

A watershed is an area of land that drains to a common point. Watershed management seeks to protect and improve our water resources by properly managing watersheds and raising the level of awareness about activities and practices we all do that affect the quantity and quality of our water resources. Watershed planning brings together the people within the watershed to address those activities, regardless of political boundaries. By working together, a coordinated watershed management plan can be developed that builds upon the strengths of existing programs and resources, and addresses water quality and quantity concerns in an integrated, cost-effective manner.

Ecorse Creek Watershed Management Plan

The Ecorse Creek Watershed includes all or parts of Allen Park, Dearborn Heights, Ecorse, Inkster, Lincoln Park, Melvindale, Romulus, Southgate, Taylor, Westland, and Wyandotte. These communities, along with Wayne County and the Wayne County Airport Authority, came together and formed the Ecorse Creek Watershed Inter-Municipality Committee (ECIC). Their function is to coordinate and facilitate the study, and prepare a

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Watershed Management Plan for the Ecorse Creek Watershed. To share information and provide regular updates on project status, the ECIC has established a project website at www.ecorsecreek.com.

Combined Downriver Watershed Management Plan

The Combined Downriver Watershed includes all or parts of Brownstown, Grosse Ile, Huron, Gibraltar, Riverview, Romulus, Southgate, Taylor, Woodhaven, and Wyandotte. These communities, along with the Woodhaven-Brownstown School District, Wayne County and the Wayne County Airport Authority, came together and formed the Combined Downriver Watershed Inter-Municipality Committee (CDWIC). Their function is to coordinate and facilitate the study, and prepare a Watershed Management Plan for the Combined Downriver Watershed. To share information and provide regular updates on project status, the CDWIC has also established a project website at www.combineddownriver.com.

Work Completed To Date

The ECIC and CDWIC Committees hold meetings approximately every four to six weeks. Each committee has developed a draft Watershed Management Plan and has collected and reviewed existing studies, reports and data on its respective watershed, completed targeted field

investigations and road-stream crossing inventories, developed goals and objectives such as flood control, streambank stabilization, and provision of green space for the watershed, and have drafted improvement strategies to achieve the goals and objectives. The project websites contain information about the watersheds, meeting schedules and topics, and how the public can provide input and get involved in the watershed management planning development process.

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