

Dearborn County Water Quality Management Plan Update

Advisory Committee

The Committee's Role: An Advisory Committee has been formed for developing an update to the Dearborn County Water Quality Management Plan. This planning is being undertaken with a grant from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and with staff support from the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments, the Dearborn County Plan Commission, and the Dearborn County Commissioners.

The Advisory Committee is composed of individuals and organizations who have interest in and responsibility for aspects of water quality management in the county, because of their potential role in implementing the plan update, their knowledge of water issues and concerns in the county, and their assistance in informing the public about the plan update.

The Advisory Committee's role is to represent citizens and local organizations in the planning process; to provide guidance to county staff and OKI; to host public meetings and to encourage the broadest possible attendance; and to serve as stewards for implementing the plan after it is developed.

Purpose: Water Quality Management Plans are required by the federal Clean Water Act to identify water quality problems in metropolitan areas and recommend how to address them, in the process avoiding duplications of effort by local sewer agencies and stretching limited taxpayer dollars. Preparing a current water quality management plan with updated data, findings, and recommendations will build on the work of many entities within the county and the state, and should enable water quality improvements by identifying shared concerns and priorities for action. OKI was designated as the agency for water quality management planning in Dearborn County by the governor of Indiana over 30 years ago, and has recently obtained a grant to bring the plan up to date. OKI will work with the Dearborn County government, the County's planning commission, soil and water conservation district, watershed planning coordinators, health department, wastewater treatment entities in the County and appropriate state and federal agencies to obtain the best available data, analysis, and recommendations for the Dearborn County Water Quality Management Plan Update.

Time Frame: The time frame for the Advisory Committee involves six meetings beginning in April 2010 and concluding in June 2011, after which time the plan update will be presented to the county and the township for adoption. Advisory committee meetings will be held at 7 p.m. at the Dearborn County Adult Center, 311 West Tate Street, Lawrenceburg, on these second Mondays of the month: April 12, 2010; June 14, 2010; September 13, 2010; December 13, 2010; April 11, 2011; and June 13, 2011.

Public Meetings: A public meeting to introduce the project and get input will be held on May 10, 2010 at the Dearborn County Adult Center from 7 to 9 p.m., and a public meeting to get feedback on draft plan recommendations will be held on May 9, 2011 at the Dearborn County Adult Center from 7 to 9 p.m.

Staff Support: Dearborn County Planning staff and OKI staff will provide support to the Advisory Committee and produce materials for public distribution. If you have questions please contact Jane Wittke of OKI at 513-621-6300 (or via email at jwittke@oki.org) or Mark McCormack of the Dearborn County Plan Commission at 812-537-8821 (or via email at mmccormack@dearborncounty.in.gov).