

Miami Conservancy District's 2008 Phase II Stormwater Activities for Collaborating Communities

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ON STORMWATER IMPACTS

Minimum Control Measure #1

1.3 Hold training opportunities for technical audiences &/or facilitate the attendance of key professionals at regional training opportunities

In 2008, MCD staff developed and hosted a two-day workshop about Low Impact Development practices for civil engineers and landscape architects who design building sites. In partnership with the local chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, MCD hosted nearly 100 professionals at the Baum Opera House in Miamisburg, Ohio. Trainers for the workshop were Dr. Bill Hunt and Bill Lord, both from North Carolina State University.

MCD also supported workshops—in partnership with like-minded agencies—including the Southwest Ohio Sediment and Erosion Control Field Day, held in June at the Warren County Career Center. More than 100 construction erosion control professionals attended, learning first-hand about the value of controlling the quality and quantity of storm water runoff from construction sites both during and after construction.

1.4 Coordinate a tour of storm water BMPs for practitioners

Miami Conservancy District coordinated a tour of Best Management Practices. The tour included a wetland and other practices to improve water quality. Approximately 28 people attended the Best Management Practices tour.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/PARTICIPATION

Minimum Control Measure #2

2.1 Stream Team volunteer monitors collect data and report on stream health during field season

Sponsored by MCD, the Miami Valley Stream Team is a volunteer water quality monitoring program. More than 125 volunteers were trained in Stream Team training sessions in 2008.

Miami Conservancy District conducted Stream Team trainings in Mercer County, sponsored by the Mercer Soil and Water Conservation District and with Kettering Fairmont High School students, in conjunction with GREEN (Global River Environmental Education Network).

Other active Miami Valley Stream Teams in 2008 include BW Greenway Community Land Trust, Tecumseh Land Trust, Honey Creek Watershed Association, and Wolf Creek Stream Team. Stream Teams are managed by local community organizations but MCD staff provides information and resources at their request.

This community collaboration involves and educates the public.

2.2 Great Miami River Watershed Network meets to strategize and share resources

Miami Conservancy District staff continued to manage a quarterly meeting of the Great Miami River Watershed Network—a group of professionals and private citizens interested in improving the health of the Great Miami River Watershed.

Meeting topics are selected based on Network participant input. Topics in 2008:

- March: Causes and sources of surface water pollution
- June: Motivating the public to prevent water pollution
- September: Annual Best Management Practices Tour
- December: Climate change and water resources in Ohio

MCD maintained information about the group's meetings on MCD's Web-site, including Network minutes and presentations of past meetings. This community collaboration involves and educates the public.

2.4 Support existing water festivals for children and the general public

Miami Conservancy District staff participated in several festivals and Earth Day celebrations. Participation included financial sponsorship, advice, displays, and presentations. These events included:

- Dayton Children's Water Festival
- Preble County Earth Day
- Honey Creek Watershed Festival in Bethel Township (Miami County)
- Stillwater River Festival in Dayton
- Great Miami River Days in Hamilton
- Butler County Water Festival
- Five Rivers Earth Day event at Eastwood MetroPark in Dayton
- Live Green with the Greater Dayton RTA
- Dayton Daily News' Go Green! Day

These community collaborations involve and educate the public.

ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION

Minimum Control Measure #3

3.1 Become familiar with storm sewer system

In 2008, MCD continued to assist Phase II collaborating communities in identifying outfall locations to aide in the detection of illicit discharges. Staff created maps of outfall locations for each collaborating community within the Great Miami River Watershed. These maps were then submitted to each community to help meet the requirements of Ohio EPA's Phase II Stormwater Program.

Bonus Education Activities:

Funds for Water Quality Improvement Projects

Miami Conservancy District provided funds throughout the Great Miami River Watershed to help improve water quality. These projects included:

- Preservation of floodplain / riparian corridor in the City of Union and the City of Troy
- Improvement of Spill Response Programs in the Village of Lockington and Miami County
- Education program for school-age children in Franklin and Carlisle (facilitated by Warren County and the City of Springboro)

Protecting Water Resources through Low Impact Development

Miami Conservancy District gave birth to a new program, Building Our Future in the Great Miami River Watershed. This program was created to help communities take a closer look at how they address water resources during development and encourages the use of Low Impact Development to manage stormwater. MCD met with communities to identify areas of local zoning codes and ordinances that needed updating so that water-friendly practices could be put into place.

As part of the Building Our Future program, *Protecting our Water Resources through Low Impact Development* brochures were created and distributed throughout The Great Miami River Watershed. A thousand copies of these brochures were printed and are being circulated.

Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River

Miami Conservancy District participated in the Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River by organizing a section of the clean-up, assisting in the planning and donating funds. The Clean Sweep is coordinated by a diverse group of organizations from local communities along the Great Miami River. The annual event cleans up 170 miles of the Great Miami River from Indian Lake to the Ohio River. In 2008, over 800 people participated in the clean up. This event involves and educates the public.