

SWEET Meeting Minutes

Monday February 26, 2024 at 10:00am
This meeting was held virtually and in person.

Meeting Recording:

<https://www.co.monroe.in.us/egov/apps/events/calendar.egov?view=detail;id=4455>

Present: Elisa Pokral (MC Waste Reduction District), Dillon Plummer (Town of Ellettsville MS4 Coordinator), Rebecca Swift (City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation), Chloe (Intern for City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation), Maggie Sullivan (Friends of Lake Monroe), Kriste Lindberg (City of Bloomington Utilities), Trohn Enright-Randolph (MC Surveyors Office), Adam Rickert (MC MS4), Michael Dorsett (Indiana University)

1. Call to Order

2. Big Collaboration Items (those needing group discussion)

- a. Discussion of draft document of SWEET flyer and development of SWEET webpage.

3. Agency and Department Updates

- a. City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation (Rebecca Swift)
 - i. Hosting Hoosier Riverwatch Instructor training on March 22, 2024. Co-hosting with Dylan Allison with IDEM and MC Parks and Rec at Karst Farm Park. Still room left for this training, Rebecca reported 6 people have signed up currently and there is room for 15.
 - ii. Virtual orientation for Adopt A Stream is scheduled for March 28, 2024. Links have been established and made available for this event.
 - iii. Nature Days is starting back up on March 26, 2024 and continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If anyone is available or interested in volunteering at a Creek or Karst station, that time commitment is 9:45 to 2:00 PM.
 - iv. Rebecca is working with ESD to host climate action programs and one specifically that I would like to highlight is scheduled for June 5th, we're hosting a native plant hike. Another program will have Kriste Lindberg speaking about stormwater grants available to residents in Bloomington and then Joanna Sparks will lead participants on a short hike around Switchyard Park to look at different rain garden and green infrastructure design/plant species selection.
 - v. Planning for Solar Eclipse events happening April 5-8th. Parks and Recreation is working with CBU to secure some additional water stations on site that weekend, especially on the Monday when we are expecting hundreds of thousands of people to migrate to Bloomington.

- b. Friends of Lake Monroe (Maggie Sullivan)
 - i. Working on three agricultural field days and three septic education workshops.
- c. Waste Reduction District of Monroe County (Elisa Pokral)
 - i. Elisa recently went to two preserves in the Sierra Madre Mountains of Mexico to view Monarch butterflies. She now has a 11-minute video that works well for kids and adults. If anyone is interested in doing a joint butterfly educational program with a tie into the importance of managing household hazardous waste and stormwater. The video has already debuted with 1st graders at a school in Ellettsville (EPS) and a MCCSC school.
 - ii. Trohn asked about the rebranding of the Solid Waste District to the Waste Reduction District. Elisa indicated that as of January, the new website is wastereductiondistrict.com, previously it was gogreendistrict.com. The Board made the decision to change the name to the Waste Reduction District of Monroe County. We are gradually getting new signs, banners, tablecloth and inserting the new logo in our cable TV commercials and YouTube commercials. Elisa's email has not changed however.
 - iii. Bulky items schedule has changed with info about the change on Facebook. Starting March 1st, the bulky item bin will be at one individual site for the duration of the month instead of switching it out every week from site to site.
- d. Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District (Erica Eason)
 - i. Main focus right now is our annual meeting at the end of the month. It will be at Ivy Tech in Shreve Hall with doors opening at 8 and breakfast around 9. If there are any departments that want to table for the event, let Erica know. There is also information on MC Soil and Water's website if you just want to get tickets.
 - ii. MC Soil and Water has about 500 free soil tests they are trying to distribute. We are working with Lake Monroe Water Fund and we have until the end of July for this program. Rebecca Swift asked post social media posts so that the post could be linked to City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation.
- e. Monroe County Highway Department, Stormwater Program (Adam Rickert)
 - i. This time of year, we are working on the completing the annual report for IDEM. IDEM has streamlined the process so that the info gathered in previous years has changed. Adam will keep in contact with SWEET members if additional info is needed.
 - ii. Master Gardeners Fair is scheduled for April and we have typically tabled with CBU.
 - iii. For the Adopt A Stream Orientation, content was included for volunteers to report spills or potential illicit discharges they may observe while in the county or other MS4 jurisdictions.

- f. City of Bloomington Utilities (Kriste Lindberg)
 - i. Upcoming events include the MS4 Annual Meeting (May 14), LTAP Stormwater Conference and INASFM (September 11-13).
- g. Monroe County Surveyor's Office (Trohn Enright-Randolph)
 - i. House Bill 1108 recently went through the first reading of the Indiana Senate. HB 1108 prohibits a political subdivision from putting in a provision in place on any slope less than 25%.
- h. Indiana University MS4 (Michael Dorsett)
 - i. No report
- i. Town of Ellettsville MS4 (Dillon Plummer)
 - i. Dillon recently took the position of MS4 Coordinator.

4. Public Input

- a. No public input.

5. Reminders

- a. Tabling Collaboration - If you would like to coordinate to share tabling responsibilities at an upcoming event, post it to the [Event Calendar Spreadsheet](#) with a description, and note who has grouped together. Please also add it to the agenda for our next meeting, if there is time to do so, or send a note to the group that it is an option.

6. Adjournment

- a. Date of Next Meeting: Monday March 25, 2024 , HYBRID
 - i. Meeting links will be sent. In-person will be held in room 100B of Showers Building.