



St. Clair County Watershed Advisory Group for the
Black River, Lake Huron, St. Clair River, Belle River and Anchor Bay Watersheds

Stormwater Permit Program 2024 Update

Regulatory Compliance and Accomplishments

- The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) issued a new stormwater permit in 2024 to the City of Algonac. Eleven of the twelve St Clair County Watershed Advisory Group members have their NPDES Stormwater Permits under review for reissuance.
- Only **2 impairments out of 10 remain** to before the St. Clair River Area of Concern can be fully restored to a healthy status. The two remaining impairments are: *Restrictions on fish and wildlife consumption and Drinking water taste and odor concerns*. International efforts continue to restore the health of the St. Clair River as a result of federal funding from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.
- The SCCHD **launched a Stormwater page** on the health department's website. This page houses watershed partner resources, educational resources and other relevant information and documents. Visit the page at: stclaircounty.org/PageBuilder/scchd/Offices/587?pageparent=552&meid=1291.
- **Eight public beaches were monitored by the SCCHD for water quality** from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Six of the beaches were issued contamination advisories. The results were reported on the state's Beach Guard website, shared through social media, listed on the Water Quality Tipline and sent out as media releases. This season presented several storm events that are believed to have contributed to beach closures. The SCCHD provided outreach and education to improve water quality at beaches.
- **The Stormwater program developed five educational water quality programs** for school-aged children. These programs are provided to schools, classrooms and community events at no cost. Programs are funded through MS4 Public Education Plan.
- The SCCHD Stormwater program **participated in Earth Fair, Sturgeon Fest and the St. Clair County 4-H & Youth Fair**. More than 4,000 participants were seen.

For questions about St. Clair County's stormwater permit program, please contact the:

St. Clair County Health Department Environmental Health Division

Steve Demick, Director
(810) 987-5306
sdemick@stclaircounty.org

Mollie Brown, Environmental Health Educator
(810) 987-5300x1486
mbrown@stclaircounty.org

Program Update Purpose

- The purpose of this update is to ensure decision makers and elected officials are informed about St. Clair County's stormwater permit activities in 2024.
- This update is required for participation in St. Clair County's NPDES MS4 Watershed Advisory Group led by the St. Clair County Health Department. - - - - - ➔
- As a dues-paying member of this Group, we collaborate with 18 St. Clair County municipalities and school districts to share stormwater permit costs, implement activities, submit reports, assist with audits, and meet federal mandates from the Clean Water Act.

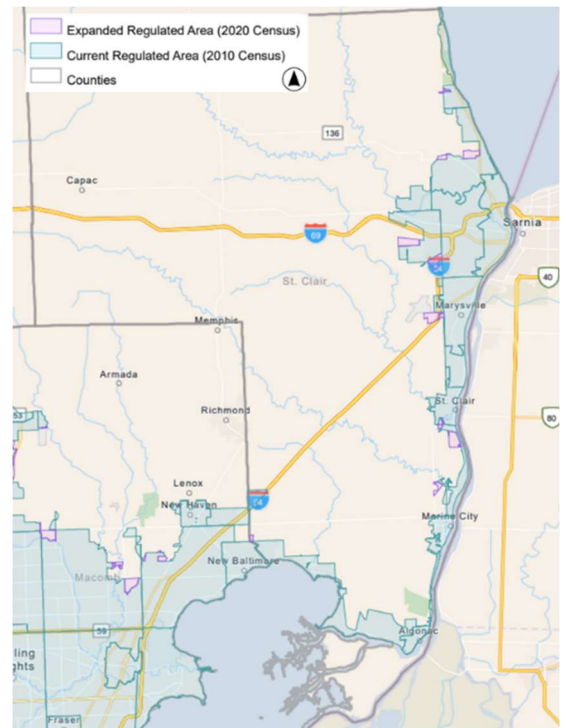
NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

MS4 – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

Stormwater Program

- The regulations governing our stormwater come from the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), which is part of the Federal Clean Water Act to eliminate pollutants entering our waterways. Our stormwater permit is administered by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE).
- We are required to demonstrate a reduction in water pollution and improvement of the quality of our waterways. The largest source of non-point source pollution is stormwater runoff from urban areas and impervious surfaces.

- Our community falls within the **urbanized area** (see map). The State has jurisdiction over our Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) in our urbanized area, which sends stormwater to waters of the state (i.e., stream, river, wetland, etc.) or to an adjacent jurisdiction's MS4. The urbanized area is based off current 2020 census and is available to view digitally here:
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c9d4fa959f7849e5be94bd44d70079c6/page/EGLE-Map/?views=About-Map%2CPrint>



St Clair County regulated urbanized area map

Permit Requirements

Our required activities are listed in our Stormwater Management Plan and in our Progress Report. The activities listed in our Plan and Report are enforced and audited by EGLE. Compliance activities have been issued in our updated NPDES MS4 Individual permit.