



## 2015 Greenways & Water Quality Scope of Service

### Columbus Department of Public Utilities Projects

#### I. Advocate and Collaborate

*Be an advocate for the City of Columbus and collaborate with them and other communities to educate about and work toward water quality and water protection.*

- a) Acknowledge the City of Columbus and Columbus Green Spot through incorporating their logos in publications and online media.
- b) Serve as a liaison between the City of Columbus Department of Public Utilities (DPU) and watershed groups. Update DPU staff on pertinent discussions and efforts of the watershed groups.
- c) Develop a regional education and outreach strategy to promote the protection, improvement, and enjoyment of the region's water resources. Communicate with public and private stakeholders (incl. residents and business owners) to ensure that both residential and commercial properties contribute to the improvement of water quality and the protection of water resources. Outreach will include information about available resources (such as Blue Print Columbus, Green Spot, PUP, and others) and best practices related to maintaining home sewage treatment systems, reducing storm water pollution, and protecting waterways.
- d) Facilitate and organize 4 Water Quality Working Group meetings. This will include working on elements as outlined in this scope.
- e) Partner with DPU to develop educational information related to their water quality programs to include on the Water Trails maps, and partner with the outdoor recreation business community and other entities to print maps and develop an outreach plan.

#### II. Educate through Programs

*Provide education on water quality through different programs.*

- a) Septic Tank Elimination Program (STEP): Help DPU educate homeowners in Columbus about STEP. See *project charter for detailed description*.
- b) MORPC Home Weatherization Program: Incorporate installation of low-flow showerheads in homes receiving weatherization services through MORPC's Home Weatherization Program. Include educational materials about the benefits of using a low-flow showerhead.
- c) Ohio EPA and Army Corps Permit Review Pilot Program: Educate communities' staff and decision makers about potential impacts to water quality in their vicinity by notifying them of Army Corps and Ohio EPA wetland and stream permit applications. Provide them with the necessary information about the projects in question to be able to make educated comments to Army Corp and Ohio EPA about the permit applications. See *project charter for detailed description*.

### **III. Storm Water Management**

*Promote knowledge and awareness of best practices for storm water management within Columbus.*

- a) Assist DPU with developing a grant program for parties interested in educating the local business community about DPU's Green Infrastructure (GI) Stormwater Credit program for installing green infrastructure to reduce storm water runoff. Develop outreach and training materials and facilitate trainings for grant recipients. See *project charter for detailed description*.
- b) Develop a green infrastructure best management practices project. Include references to Blueprint Columbus Green Infrastructure Implementation & Guidelines and the soon to be adopted City of Columbus Green Infrastructure Design Manual.
- c) Continue to consider storm water runoff and other water quality issues during MORPC's Complete Streets reviews of roadway infrastructure plans proposed for the City of Columbus.
- d) Staff will participate in the planning and hosting of the 2015 Central Ohio Stormwater and Erosion Control Expo in February 2015 in partnership with regional soil and water districts.

### **IV. Watershed Planning**

*Support watershed planning and implementation efforts in Columbus.*

- a) Help facilitate the review of local watershed action plans by the end of the year with the goal of reporting Implementation progress to date and help identify next action items on which to focus.
- b) Support local watershed groups and watershed coordinators in the implementation of central Ohio watershed action plans through such means as writing letters of support for proposals, promoting their events on our calendar, newsletter, and social media, seeking opportunities to partner on outreach, inviting them to MORPC events, and communicating opportunities for implementation.
- c) Coordinate with the City of Columbus Watershed Management Program on outreach efforts to decrease sediment and nutrient runoff along with other nonpoint pollution in central Ohio through implementation of Ag BMPs on City of Columbus property near the John R. Doult up-ground reservoir. This is contingent upon completion of the Watershed Master Plan.

### **V. Educate through Events**

*Provide education on water quality through various events and forums.*

- a) Hold at least 3 paddling events as Riverfest to engage the public on water resources and water quality education and awareness. This will include media coverage and requiring participants to sign pledge cards with information on how they can help protect our water.
- b) Regional Education Forums: Hold at least 1 forum on water resources and quality.
- c) Summit on Sustainability: Include at least 1 session on water quality.

### **VI. Climate Change Adaptation**

*Implement the recommendations of Sustaining Scioto. See project charter for detailed description.*

- a) Continue outreach and education of the Adaptive Management Plan.
- b) Establish a regional forum and develop implementation strategies.

<b>Project Overview:</b>	
Title: DPU Septic Tank Elimination Program (STEP) Outreach Assistance	
Prepared By: Amelia Costanzo	Date Created: 02.20.2015
Leader: David Rutter	Sponsor/s: Kerstin Carr
Team: David Rutter and Amelia Costanzo	
<b>Background:</b> STEP is a partnership of Columbus Public Health's Environmental Health Division and the Department of Public Utilities' (DPU) Division of Sewers and Drains. The program works to protect area water sources by eliminating onsite sewage treatment systems and coordinating the connection of properties that use these systems to the city's sanitary sewers. The City of Columbus has developed this no-interest loan program to assist homeowners with expenses associated with removing an existing septic tank and installing a connection to the city sewer.	
<b>Situation/Problem/Opportunity:</b> DPU asked MORPC for help in educating homeowners in Columbus about STEP through MORPC's Greenways Program.	

<b>Scope:</b>
<b>Purpose Statement (Goals):</b> Eliminate onsite sewage treatment systems in Columbus and coordinate the connection of properties that use these systems to the city's sanitary sewers.
<b>Physical Boundaries:</b> City of Columbus
<b>Objective 1:</b> Educate homeowners on STEP.
<b>Deliverable 1.1:</b> Review and evaluate the City of Columbus' existing STEP outreach materials and approach.
<b>Deliverable 1.2:</b> Develop a STEP marketing program to identify best ways to disseminate outreach materials through MORPC and other agency outlets. This may include a recommendation to produce new or additional outreach materials.
<b>Deliverable 1.3:</b> Implement the marketing program by disseminating outreach materials to homeowners both directly and through other parties
<b>Objective 2:</b> Track success of STEP.
<b>Deliverable 2.1:</b> Develop and utilize performance measures to track success of the marketing program.



**Project Deadline:**

estimated project completion date: **12.31.2015**

timeline attached

**Resources:**

**Staff:**

Name	Responsibilities
David Rutter	Staff lead
Amelia Costanzo	Assist and provide support when necessary

**Non-Staff Expertise:**

Name	Organization/Company	Role in Project	Responsibilities
Anita Musser	DPU	Partner	Serve as DPU point of contact for anything MORPC might need during the duration of the project.

**Advisory Bodies:**

Name of Advisory Body	Responsibilities
N/A	

**Tools & Data:**

Name of Tool (e.g. GIS, Photoshop, bicycle counter)	Source (e.g. MORPC, Columbus Public Health)	Currently Available? (If not, how will it be acquired?)
Existing outreach info and materials	DPU	Yes - work with DPU

**PROPOSED TIMELINE: STEP Outreach Assistance Timeline**

	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	Aug 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2015
Develop project scope											
Review outreach materials & approach											
Develop marketing program											
Implement marketing program											
Develop & utilize performance measures											

last updated: 02.24.2015

<b>Project Overview:</b>	
Title: Ohio EPA and Army Corps Permit Review Program Pilot	
Prepared By: David Rutter	Date Created: 12.01.2014
Leader: David Rutter	Sponsor/s: Kerstin Carr
Team: David Rutter, Amelia Costanzo	
<p><b>Background:</b> Prior to 2009, MORPC Greenways had a "Cumulative Effects" subcommittee that reviewed Ohio EPA 301 Permits and Army Corps 404 Permits that allow an entity to impact a wetland or a stream. This committee would then decide if they would submit comments to the various entities. As a part of this effort, MORPC staff would provide an overview of the project for the subcommittee and prepare comments for submission. It was decided that MORPC would not provide comments on permits in 2009. At about the same time new permits ceased to be applied for with the economic downturn.</p>	
<p><b>Situation/Problem/Opportunity:</b> With the economy turning around, new permits are posted for public comment. However, many of our partners and members may not be fully aware of the proposed impacts and therefore do not have enough information to decide if they will make comments.</p> <p>MORPC staff receives regular notifications from both Ohio EPA and Army Corps if permit requests have been submitted for the central Ohio region. Because of MORPC staff's understanding of the process, staff proposes to review Ohio EPA's permit applications and provide a summary to partners so that they can better determine if they would like to make comments. MORPC staff will also check for Army Corps permits and review and summarize them.</p> <p>Time commitment will be minimal unless permit applications pick up greatly. On a monthly basis, we estimate about 2-3 hours for permit review at OEPA, with an additional hour if it includes an Army Corps permit. This process will be piloted for one year and then reevaluated to assess its benefits to our members.</p>	
<b>Scope:</b>	
<b>Purpose Statement (Goals):</b> Permit Review Summary	
<b>Physical Boundaries:</b> MORPC's area of interest	
<b>Objective 1:</b> Provide summary of proposed projects and their impacts to water resources	
<b>Deliverable 1.1:</b> Summary of permit application, including location, proposed impacts for preferred option, minimum impact option, and no impact option along with directions for how to submit comments. Summary will be sent to impacted members and communities.	
<b>Project Deadline:</b>	estimated project completion date: 12.31.2015
there is a timeline <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> monthly	



**Resources:****Staff:**

Name	Responsibilities
David Rutter	Staff lead: Review permit applications, write summary, and distribute to Greenways, watershed groups and member communities where impacts will occur
Amelia Costanzo	Assist and provide support when necessary

**Non-Staff Expertise:**

Name	Organization/Company	Role in Project	Responsibilities
N/A			

**Advisory Bodies:**

Name of Advisory Body	Responsibilities
N/A	

**Tools & Data:**

Name of Tool (e.g. GIS, Photoshop, bicycle counter)	Source (e.g. MORPC, Columbus Public Health)	Currently Available? (If not, how will it be acquired?)
N/A		

<b>Project Overview:</b>	
<b>Title:</b> DPU Green Infrastructure (GI) Stormwater Credit Outreach Program	
<b>Prepared By:</b> David Rutter	<b>Date Created:</b> 02.23.2015
<b>Leader:</b> David Rutter	<b>Sponsor/s:</b> Kerstin Carr
<b>Team:</b> David Rutter and Amelia Costanzo	
<p><b>Background:</b> Experience has shown that most of the more serious flooding, erosion, and water quality problems are created by humans. Usually these issues are caused by the conveyance of more stormwater to a given area than can be carried away effectively. Ever-increasing drainage problems emerge unless well-conceived, cooperative stormwater drainage and flood control programs are undertaken throughout an entire watershed. It is the City of Columbus' policy to encourage the use of Green Infrastructure. Green Infrastructure can provide the same water quality and quantity benefits as traditional infrastructure while providing additional benefits such as water reuse, providing green space or habitat, and/or reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The City Stormwater Credit Rule provides a credit for incorporating Green Infrastructure into a development.</p>	
<p><b>Situation/Problem/Opportunity:</b> The City of Columbus has instituted a Green Infrastructure (GI) Stormwater Credit program that provides up to a 100% stormwater utility fee rebate to encourage commercial property owners to install GI practices that reduce stormwater runoff. To date no property owner has taken advantage of the credit. Columbus Department of Public Utilities (DPU) would like to develop an effective outreach program to the City's commercial property owners that leads to the utilization of the GI Stormwater Credit program. The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) administers a statewide low-interest loan program that could be complimentary.</p>	
<b>Scope:</b>	
<p><b>Purpose Statement (Goals):</b> Commercial property owners in Columbus will incorporate GI best management practices for stormwater as they develop or redevelop their properties and apply for the GI Stormwater Credit.</p>	
<b>Physical Boundaries:</b> City of Columbus	
<p><b>Objective 1:</b> Develop a grant program for parties interested in educating the local business community about the GI Stormwater Credit program.</p> <p><b>Deliverable 1.1:</b> Work with DPU to create the program scope, including budget, program staff and partners, roles and responsibilities, and timeline.</p> <p><b>Deliverable 1.2:</b> Develop outreach and training materials for grantees.</p> <p><b>Deliverable 1.3:</b> Implement program.</p>	





**Objective 2:** Track success.

**Deliverable 2.1:** Develop and utilize performance measures to track success of the program.

**Project Deadline:** estimated project completion date: **12.31.2015**

timeline attached

**Resources:**

**Staff:**

Name	Responsibilities
David Rutter	Staff lead
Amelia Costanzo	Assist and provide support when necessary
Kerstin Carr	Provide leadership and guidance

**Non-Staff Expertise:**

Name	Organization/Company	Role in Project	Responsibilities
Susan Ashbrook and Anita Musser	DPU	Partner	Serve as DPU points of contact for anything MORPC might need during the duration of the project

**Advisory Bodies:**

Name of Advisory Body	Responsibilities
N/A	

**Tools & Data:**

Name of Tool (e.g. GIS, Photoshop, bicycle counter)	Source (e.g. MORPC, Columbus Public Health)	Currently Available? (If not, how will it be acquired?)
Outreach materials	MORPC/DPU	Some information is available, but might require updating; new materials might need to be created

**PROPOSED TIMELINE: GI Stormwater Credit Outreach Program Timeline**

	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	Aug 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2015
Create program scope											
Develop outreach & training materials											
Implement program											
Develop & utilize performance measures											

last updated: 02.25.2015

<b>Project Overview:</b>	
<b>Title:</b> Sustaining Scioto Next Steps	
<b>Prepared By:</b> David Rutter	<b>Date Created:</b> 02.23.2015
<b>Leader:</b> David Rutter	<b>Sponsor/s:</b> Kerstin Carr
<b>Team:</b> David Rutter and Amelia Costanzo	
<p><b>Background:</b> The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), in partnership with the City of Columbus Department of Public Utilities (DPU), Del-Co Water Company, Inc., U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA), and Water Research Foundation (WRF), has performed a study to evaluate the anticipated effects of climate change on water supply in the Upper Scioto River watershed. The primary objective of this project, named Sustaining Scioto, was the development of an Adaptive Management Plan (Plan) to guide future actions within the region to achieve a resilient water supply system.</p> <p>Adaptive management strategies were developed to prepare the region for predicted changes. The basic approach to adaptive management includes understanding and prioritizing risks, developing strategies to reduce risks, implementing strategies, and reevaluating strategies as more information becomes available. The key findings for the water service sectors from the project and the time frame for implementing strategies over the course of the next 75 years can be found in the Sustaining Scioto Adaptive Management Plan (anticipated completion May 2015).</p>	
<p><b>Situation/Problem/Opportunity:</b> In order to prepare for the projected impacts to the Scioto River basin associated with climate change, regional collaboration and planning are strongly encouraged. MORPC, serving as a regional collaborator, is well positioned to facilitate this type of collaboration and planning which will be necessary in addressing the larger-scale issues related to maintaining safe and reliable water resources and water supply systems both now and in the future.</p>	

<b>Scope:</b>
<b>Purpose Statement (Goals):</b> Establish a regional forum for discussion, planning, and collaboration regarding water resources for the region.
<b>Physical Boundaries:</b> MORPC area of interest with focus on the Upper Scioto River Basin
<b>Objective 1:</b> Continue outreach and education of the Adaptive Management Plan.
<b>Deliverable 1.1:</b> Hold presentations and workshops related to the results of Sustaining Scioto.
<b>Objective 2:</b> Implement the Adaptive Management Plan.



**Deliverable 2.1:** Establish a regional forum with Central Ohio community leaders and utility providers.

**Deliverable 2.2:** Develop strategies to implement the Adaptive Management Plan.

**Project Deadline:** estimated project completion date: **12.31.2015**

timeline attached

**Resources:**

**Staff:**

Name	Responsibilities
David Rutter	Staff lead
Amelia Costanzo	Assist and provide support when necessary

**Non-Staff Expertise:**

Name	Organization/Company	Role in Project	Responsibilities
N/A			

**Advisory Bodies:**

Name of Advisory Body	Responsibilities
N/A	

**Tools & Data:**

Name of Tool (e.g. GIS, Photoshop, bicycle counter)	Source (e.g. MORPC, Columbus Public Health)	Currently Available? (If not, how will it be acquired?)
N/A		

## PROPOSED TIMELINE: Sustaining Scioto Next Steps Timeline

	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	Aug 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2015
Hold presentations & workshops											
Establish regional forum											
Develop implementation strategies											

last updated: 02.24.2015