

MS4 Community Annual PEP Checklist

This document outlines your community's required activities for the 2021 Reporting Period. Check the box for each action as you complete it and provide supporting documentation where indicated. The 2021 PEP Focus Areas are: Personal watershed stewardship, Personal actions that can affect the watershed, Waste disposal assistance

Community Name: Kent County Drain Commissioner's Office

Priority Activities:

- 1. Ensure Community website links to the LGROW website (www.LGROW.org)

https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/stormwater.htm

- 2. Publish at least 1 article on PEP topics in Community newsletter or news outlet

Name of newsletter/news outlet: Newsletter/news outlet Name

Distribution/Reach of newsletter/news outlet: Distribution/Reach

PEP Topic(s) addressed: General Watershed Awareness Stormwater Discharge Location/Impacts\

Illicit Discharge Reporting Septic System Management Personal Actions

Waste Management Assistance

***Attach a copy of newsletter or link to online article:** Link to online article

- 3. Community presence or Stormwater Display at 1 event or location

Event Date: 10/21/2021

Event Location: Saddlebag/Gillett Board of Determination at Grand Rapids Township Hall

***Attach a photo of event/display; List additional/multiple events at the end of this form**

- 4. Distribute pollution prevention information to at least 2 targeted businesses/groups listed in PEP

<i>Names of Businesses</i>	<i>Title(s) of Material(s) Distributed</i>
Twin Lakes Nursery	Verbal discussion on encroachment of organic material adjacent to waterway
Business 2	Material Name
Business 3	Material Name

- 5. Share household hazardous waste reduction information with residents via Community's social media, newsletter, or website (You may attach a separate social media report for #'s 2 & 5 if you have additional posts to report)

Date shared: Click or tap to enter a date.

Location shared: Choose an item.

Social Media Post Reach: #

Social Media Post Engagement: #

***Attach a screenshot of a representative social media post, copy of newsletter, or link to community website:** Link to community website.

- 6. Distribute giveaway items for selected PEP categories

Item	# Distributed	Item	# Distributed
LGROW Chapstick	#	Pet Waste Bag Dispenser	#
LGROW Shopping Bag	#	Troutie Coloring Book	<u>15</u>
Trout Stress Ball	#	WMEAC Coloring Book	<u>10</u>
LGROW Pen	<u>50</u>	Paint by Number	#
Only Rain Snap Bracelet	#	Watershed Brochure	#
Reusable Straw	#	EPA Stormwater Solution Brochure	#

HHW Magnet	#	Other	<u>50</u>
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Other Activities

7. Cohost a LID/Green Infrastructure workshop for Community members with LGROW

Workshop Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

Workshop Location: Click or tap here to enter text.

of Attendees: Click or tap here to enter text.

***Attach a copy of workshop sign-in sheets or photos**

8. Host, participate in, or support a stream cleanup effort

Cleanup Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

Cleanup Location: Click or tap here to enter text.

of Volunteers:

***Attach a copy of volunteer sign-in sheets or photos**

9. Mark storm drains or host/support storm drain marking events

Storm Drain Marking Event Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

of Participants in Event:

of Storm Drains Marked:

of Pre-Marked or Stamped Drains already existing in Community:

10. Join or Promote Adopt a Drain Program

Date(s) of program promotion: Click or tap here to enter text.

Method of program promotion: Click or tap here to enter text.

Social Media Metrics (Post Reach, Post Engagement): Click or tap here to enter text.

***LGROW will create a report of the number of drains adopted in your Community**

11. Provide presentation on PEP topics to a school in your Community

Date of presentation: Click or tap to enter a date.

Location of presentation: Click or tap here to enter text.

of Students Reached:

12. Implement EPA SepticSmart Social Media Guide during SepticSmart Week

Provide Social Media Metrics (Post Reach, Post Engagement): Click or tap here to enter text.

Other Public Engagement Activities Completed

Use this space to provide additional detail on Public Engagement Activities described above or to describe other Public Engagement Activities completed in your Community during the reporting period.

At all public meetings, such as Board of Determination, our office provide giveaway items to public such as the coloring books/pens and information on Catch basins/detention facility brochures and brochure on Reminder to Residents. This was complete at 5 evening Board Meetings as well as 15 Day of Reviews held at the Drain Office.

Ken is an active participant in the 319 Regional Conservation Partnership Program that meets monthly. He is also on the Stormwater Oversight Commission that meets ever 3 months

From: [Earl,Brendan](#)
To: [Cara Decker](#); [Latvaitis,Angie](#); [Morgan,Joel](#)
Cc: [Simmonds,Sara](#)
Subject: FW: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration
Date: Monday, February 21, 2022 9:59:55 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.jpg](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.jpg](#)

Hi Angie,

Please see Steve's email below. It should provide you with the necessary information on item #12 for the report. It details all the Facebook metrics for our 2021 SepticSmart Week campaign. Just let me know if you need anything else or have any questions.

Thanks,

Brendan

[Brendan Earl, M.S., REHS/RS](#)
Supervising Sanitarian
Environmental Health Division
Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
Cell Phone: (616) 240-5039
brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov

From: Kelso,Steve <steve.kelso@kentcountymi.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 2:45 PM

To: Earl,Brendan <brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov>

Subject: RE: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration

Brendan, Here are the Impressions and Reach numbers for the Septic Smart campaign.

Reach is the total number of people who see your content. Impressions are the number of times your content was displayed, no matter if it was clicked or not. Engagement is the number of interactions your content gets from users.

Reach total 20159

Impressions total 21,350

Engagement total 330

At the end of 2020, the average reach for this type of organic post is 5.2%, Since KCHD has 30K followers you should expect 1560 reaches per post. Your average was 4103.8.

Average engagement is .25 so you should expect about 75 per post, your average is about 66.











From: Earl, Brendan <brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2022 2:41 PM

To: Kelso, Steve <steve.kelso@kentcountymi.gov>

Subject: FW: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration

Hi Steve,

Last year you pulled these Facebook Metrics for the posts associated with Septic Smart Week. Can you please do that again for our 2021 campaign? The dates were September 20-24 and one earlier post on the 13th. Any help would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Brendan

Brendan Earl, M.S., REHS/RS

Supervising Sanitarian

Environmental Health Division
Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
Cell Phone: (616) 240-5039
brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov

From: Kelso,Steve <steve.kelso@kentcountymi.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2021 10:35 AM
To: Earl,Brendan <brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov>
Subject: RE: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration
FB Metrics for the posts is attached.

Steve Kelso
Marketing and Communications Manager
Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
Phone
(616) 632-7274 - Office
(616) 202-8376 – Cell
(616) 632-7083 – Fax
steve.kelso@kentcountymi.gov
www.accesskent.com/health

<image001.png><image002.jpg>

"To serve, protect, and promote a healthy community for all."

This message has been prepared on resources owned by Kent County, MI. It is subject to the Acceptable Use Policy of Kent County.

From: Earl,Brendan <brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2021 4:36 PM
To: Kelso,Steve <steve.kelso@kentcountymi.gov>
Subject: RE: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration
The dates are Sept 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 of 2020. Let me know what you can do. Thanks!

Brendan Earl, M.S., REHS/RS
Supervising Sanitarian
Environmental Health Division
Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
Cell Phone: (616) 240-5039
brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov

From: Kelso,Steve <steve.kelso@kentcountymi.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2021 11:52 AM
To: Earl,Brendan <brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov>
Subject: RE: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration
If you can get me the dates of the week from last year, I might be able to ask Sanda Vascac downtown to dig into this. She is a social media specialist.

From: Earl,Brendan <brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2021 11:30 AM
To: 'Cara Decker' <cara.decker@gvmc.org>; Latvaitis,Angie <angie.latvaitis@kentcountymi.gov>
Cc: Simmonds,Sara <sara.simmonds@kentcountymi.gov>; Eileen Boekestein <eileen.boekestein@gvmc.org>; Kelso,Steve <steve.kelso@kentcountymi.gov>
Subject: RE: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration

Hi All,

I am not our FB manger, that would be Steve Kelso who I cc'd on this email.

Steve, is there any way you could read the email below and send us the Post Reach and Post Engagement numbers from the SepticSmart week posts? Or can you grant me temporary FB manager rights and I can try and dig them up?

Thanks,

Brendan

Brendan Earl, M.S., REHS/RS
Supervising Sanitarian
Environmental Health Division
Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
Cell Phone: (616) 240-5039
brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov

From: Cara Decker <cara.decker@gvmc.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 6:37 PM
To: Latvaitis,Angie <angie.latvaitis@kentcountymi.gov>
Cc: Simmonds,Sara <sara.simmonds@kentcountymi.gov>; Earl,Brendan <brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov>; Eileen Boekestein <eileen.boekestein@gvmc.org>
Subject: RE: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration

CAUTION: This email was sent from an external source. Please do not open suspicious links or attachments.

Hi Brendan and Sara,

Brendan- if it's not too much trouble, LGROW would love to report more on the Facebook metrics from Septic Smart Week. We are looking for Post Reach and Post Engagement on the posts from Septic Smart Week 2020. If you are logged in as the FB manager for the Health Dept. page, under 'Page Insights' if you go to 'Posts', you can look up the septic smart week posts by date, and there are #s associated with Reach and Engagement.

Hopefully this helps. I know Eileen sent an email earlier today looking for some other septic numbers too (you had gotten us failed/fixed numbers in the past so we can report how much sewage you saved from entering the Grand River!). I do not want to make extra work for you, so we'll be happy with whatever you can get us.

Thanks!

Cara

From: Latvaitis,Angie <angie.latvaitis@kentcountymi.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 5:37 PM
To: Cara Decker <cara.decker@gvmc.org>
Subject: FW: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration

Cara,

See Brendan's question on the Social Media metrics. Is that the website or link to website that needs to be submitted for this?

If you could verify what documentation needs to be submitted, I would appreciate it.

Thank you.

Angie Latvaitis

Deputy Drain Commissioner

Office of the Kent County Drain Commissioner

Main Office: (616) 632-7910

Direct: (616) 632-7912

Fax: (616) 632-7915

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From: Simmonds,Sara <sara.simmonds@kentcountymi.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:07 PM

To: Schwarz-Duty,Eileen <eileen.schwarz-duty@kentcountymi.gov>; Latvaitis,Angie <angie.latvaitis@kentcountymi.gov>

Subject: Fwd: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration

See Brendan's response below

Sara Simmonds MPA, REHS

Environmental Health Division Director

Environmental Health Division

616-632-7316

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Earl,Brendan" <brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov>

Date: January 22, 2021 at 8:18:57 AM EST

To: "Simmonds,Sara" <sara.simmonds@kentcountymi.gov>

Subject: RE: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration

Sara.

I believe we accomplished #12 by implementing the SepticSmart Social Media Guide.

We ran the media guide on KCHD Facebook during SepticSmart week, so they can check off that box. It asks for social media metrics in the question, but I don't know what those are. Let me know and I can see if I can round them up.

Brendan

[Brendan Earl, M.S., REHS/RS](#)

[Supervising Sanitarian](#)

[Environmental Health Division](#)

Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
Cell Phone: (616) 240-5039
brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov

From: Simmonds,Sara <sara.simmonds@kentcountymi.gov>

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:20 PM

To: Earl,Brendan <brendan.earl@kentcountymi.gov>

Subject: FW: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration

Can you take a look at this and let me know if something there is something that we can add?

SES

Sara Simmonds – MPA, REHS
Environmental Health Division Director
Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 632-7316
(616) 632-6892 (Fax)
sara.simmonds@kentcountymi.gov
www.accesskent.com/health



“To serve, protect, and promote a healthy community for all.”

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From: Latvaitis,Angie <angie.latvaitis@kentcountymi.gov>

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:56 PM

To: Simmonds,Sara <sara.simmonds@kentcountymi.gov>

Cc: Morgan,Joel <joel.morgan@kentcountymi.gov>; Cara Decker <cara.decker@gvmc.org>

Subject: MS4 - Annual Report for Administration

Hi Sara,

Drain Commissioner’s Office is the administer for the Kent County MS4 permit. Cara Decker at GVMC is requesting information on the attached checklist to contribute to our MS4 permit.

Please fill out and provide information on the checklist for the report period of August 1, 2019-December 31, 2020.

Please review and add what you can as it relates to your department. We appreciate any of your contribution.

Please contact me with any questions.

Angie Latvaitis

Deputy Drain Commissioner

Office of the Kent County Drain Commissioner

Main Office: (616) 632-7910

Direct: (616) 632-7912

Fax: (616) 632-7915

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From: [Latvaitis,Angie](#)
To: [Sherwood, Molly](#); [Cara Decker](#)
Cc: [Kikstra, Katelyn](#)
Subject: RE: drain commission HHW info
Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 12:35:54 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Molly & Katelyn,

Appreciate all you time and effort in getting this information together for the MS4 permit.

Cara – please see the below email addressing the PEP Checklist for #2 & #5 for DPW.

Thank you!

Angie Latvaitis

Deputy Drain Commissioner

Office of the Kent County Drain Commissioner

Main Office: (616) 632-7910

Direct: (616) 632-7912

***On March 19, 2022 the Drain Commissioner's Office will be moving to 775 Ball Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503**

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KentSeal



From: Sherwood, Molly <molly.sherwood@kentcountymi.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 12:19 PM

To: Latvaitis,Angie <angie.latvaitis@kentcountymi.gov>

Subject: FW: drain commission HHW info

Hi Angie-

Following is some info Katelyn pulled together for this form. I think this would all go under #5. Since there are so many dates involved, I wasn't sure how to add it to the form.

Katelyn also said there is outreach that could go under #2, since our regular newsletters always have something included about personal actions.

Please let me know if you need any additional information from us.

Molly Sherwood

75crop



Molly Sherwood | Environmental Compliance Manager

Kent County Dept of Public Works

***Please note our new address, as of December 13, 2021
1045 Wealthy Street SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504**

616.632.7934 direct
616.406.8817 cell
616.632.7925 fax

From: Kikstra, Katelyn <katelyn.kikstra@kentcountymi.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 10:29 AM

To: Sherwood, Molly <molly.sherwood@kentcountymi.gov>

Subject: FW: drain commission HHW info

Hi Molly,

Sorry about the delay in these numbers – Home & Garden Show got the better of my time.

- We had a grand total of 36 unique SafeChem related posts published in 2021
- The posts reached a total of 22,366 people following our social media pages (FB & IG)
- The posts had a total engagement of 1480 across our social media pages (FB & IG)

Below are links to a few examples of our most engaged/reached posts. Please let me know if you need any additional information – I am already tracking for 2022

- [Vegetable Oil Pour-Off video](#)
- [SafeChem Program “How To” Album](#)
- [2020 SafeChem Infographic](#)
- [Battery Disposal](#)
- [EGLE Classroom post reshare: Fall Clean Up of Household Hazardous Waste](#)

Katelyn



Katelyn Kikstra

[She/Her/ella](#)

Resource Recovery Specialist

Kent County Department of Public Works

1045 Wealthy St. SW

Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Katelyn.Kikstra@kentcountymi.gov

(616) 632-7938 (direct line)

(616) 240-3444 (cell)

As of December 13, 2021 our administrative offices have moved to 1045 Wealthy St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504



From: Wieland, Kristen <kristen.wieland@kentcountymi.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 11:10 AM

To: Kikstra, Katelyn <katelyn.kikstra@kentcountymi.gov>

Subject: drain commission HHW info

Katelyn,

Could you please take a look at this questionnaire and see if there are any posts/engagement you can track for SafeChem? Keep in mind this is a report that we're helping the Drain Commission complete so the burden is not on us but them.... so don't spend too much time digging or making it completely complete. If you can get something to Molly by the end of the week that should be fine, or earlier if you have time.

Thank you,

Kristen



Kristen Wieland

Communications & Marketing Manager

Kent County Department of Public Works

Kristen.wieland@kentcountymi.gov

(616) 632-7923

As of December 13, our administrative offices have moved to 1045 Wealthy SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504

From: [Eileen Boekestein](#)
To: [Jonathan Seyferth](#); [Cara Decker](#); ken.yonker@kentcountymi.gov
Subject: RE: Proper pet waste disposal info needed for KCDC and Gaines Twp.
Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 2:26:06 PM
Attachments: [Dog Poop Pledge1.pdf](#)
[CircleStormWaterMarkerPrinting.pdf](#)
[1.png](#)
[2.png](#)
[What goes down here....png](#)
[Asset_1PetWasteDispenserTag1.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Hi Jonathan!

We have a few options for you. One is that we do have both the stencils and the curb markers available if you'd like to mark the drain in question and even surrounding areas. The stencil says "Dump No Waste, Drains to Waterway" and is approximately the size of the drain grate. You would spray paint the stencil onto the street or curb next to the drain. We also have 4 inch plastic curb markers that say "Dump No Waste, Drains to Lake Michigan" (see attached image). I would be happy to come and bring you either the stencil or some curb markers and adhesive for you to use in that neighborhood. I'm also happy to lead a neighborhood drain marking event if you think it would be helpful

Our pet waste brochure is a little out of date – We've been meaning to update it, so if you like what you see and want us to get you a newer version, let me know. We aren't doing the pledge system anymore, but we can make a simplified brochure and we've updated the map on it. We also have this simple flyer about storm drains that we could print up for you.

Sounds like bagging the waste isn't the problem, but we do have lots of pet waste bag dispensers that have the attached info on them. I'd be happy to drop those off in your office as well if you need them.

Let me know if any of that sounds useful to you!

Eileen Boekestein, MS (she/her)

Certified Environmental Educator (EEC)

National Green Infrastructure Certified Professional (GIP)

Environmental Education Coordinator

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds

678 Front Ave. NW, Ste. 200

Grand Rapids, MI 49504

office: (616) 776-7601

cell: (616) 822-0807

www.GVMC.org

www.LGROW.org

[Register Now for the 18th Annual LGROW Spring Forum! June 10-20, 2021](#)



From: Jonathan Seyferth <Jonathan.seyferth@gainestownship.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 2:10 PM
To: Cara Decker <deckerc@gvmc.org>; ken.yonker@kentcountymi.gov
Cc: Eileen Boekestein <eileen.boekestein@gvmc.org>
Subject: RE: Proper pet waste disposal info needed for KCDC and Gaines Twp.

Hi Cara,
Thanks for the quick response!

What I'm thinking is if there's a stencil or something we could give to residents and let them know they can paint that on the curb near the drain that might be helpful.

I've seen some on different communities that say something along the lines of "no dumping, drains to wetlands" (or waterways, or something along those lines).

Informational flyers would be great too!

Thanks,

Jonathan Seyferth
Township Manager
Gaines Charter Township

616.698.6640 ext. 135

From: Cara Decker <deckerc@gvmc.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 1:52 PM
To: Jonathan Seyferth <Jonathan.seyferth@gainestownship.org>; ken.yonker@kentcountymi.gov
Cc: Eileen Boekestein <eileen.boekestein@gvmc.org>
Subject: Proper pet waste disposal info needed for KCDC and Gaines Twp.

Hi Eileen and Jonathan,

Eileen- Ken just gave me a call to inform me that residents have been disposing of their pet waste (sounds like some of it is bagged pet waste) in a drain near 76th and Eastern (Cutlerville/Gaines Twp.).

He is hoping that LGROW can provide electronic resources for the County and Township to share on their websites, and any other resources we may have for residents. Do we have any templates for signs? I was hoping to be able to provide Gaines Twp. with something like a pdf for a sign, that then they could go get printed at their convenience.

Jonathan- is there something specific you are looking for? I know we have access to signage that talks about the benefit of picking up pet waste (some municipalities include free pet waste bags in parks, on trails, etc.), but it sounds like the issue isn't picking up the waste- it is the disposal location. Correct?

Thanks,
Cara

My email address has changed to deckerc@gvmc.org Please use this for future correspondence.

Cara Decker

Stormwater Program Coordinator
National Green Infrastructure Certified Professional (GIP)
Grand Valley Metro Council
Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds
678 Front Ave., NW, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
deckerc@gvmc.org
O: 616-776-7702
F: 616-774-9292

Join us for the 18th Annual Grand River Spring Forum!
Registration is now open: <https://www.lgrow.org/spring-forum>



KEEP YOUR LAKES GREAT AND YOUR RIVERS GRAND
DUMP NO WASTE • WATER DRAINS TO LAKE MICHIGAN





**Take the pledge
for the environment!**

**Lower Grand River Watershed
Dog Parks**



★ **Dog Parks** ★

Coast Guard Park
N Shore Rd
Spring Lake, MI 49456
*Free

Covell Dog Park
Bridge St & Covell NW
North of Lake Michigan Dr
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
*Free

Hillcrest Dog Park
Located in Fuller Park
1309 Lyon St NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
*Free

Lowell Dog Park
In Stoney Lakeside Park
1150 Bowes Rd
Lowell, MI 49331
*Free

Mulligan's Hollow
600 Mulligan's Dr
Located behind the YMCA
Grand Haven, MI 49417
*Free

Shaggy Pines Dog Park
3895 Cherry Lane Ave SE
Ada, MI 49301
*Membership / Fee

Wyoming Dog Park
Located in Marquette Park
1414 Nagel SW
Wyoming, MI 49509
*Membership / Fee

Is your favorite dog park not on the list? Let us know!

LGROW is the champion organization dedicated to protecting and improving the natural resources of the Lower Grand River Watershed.

678 Front Ave. NW, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
(616) 776-7601
Email: info@lgrow.org



@LGROW_GVMC

Web: www.LGROW.org



@LGROW.org



@LGROW_org



Special thanks to Portland (Oregon) Parks & Recreation for the use of this wonderful pledge.



**Lower Grand River Watershed
Dogs for the Environment**

Responsible pet ownership

Bring a responsible pet owner means more than just licensing and vaccinating your pet, it means controlling your dogs' interactions with people, wildlife, and natural areas. Here are some actions you and your dog can take to keep our beautiful Watershed clean, green, and safe.

Scoop the poop

Dog poop is essentially raw sewage; it contains harmful organisms like *E. coli*, *Leptospira*, and Roundworms. These organisms can be contracted by other dogs, wildlife, and even children. Bacteria from dog poop can wash into rivers and streams when it rains. Many municipal codes also require that all poop must be picked up and disposed of into the proper receptacle.

Leash your dog

While your dog is your friendly, furry companion, other animals and even people may view dogs as a threat. Unleashed dogs can harm birds, amphibians, fish, and other wildlife. They may also disturb breeding areas or harass wintering wildlife causing them to use valuable energy reserves. Dogs running loose in natural parks also trample plants and create inappropriate trails. Worse, they can endanger themselves, other dogs, and people. Many municipalities require that all dogs in parks must be kept on a leash unless in a designated off-leash area.

Off-leash areas

Every dog deserves the freedom to run, play, and socialize with other dogs. There are seven off-leash areas within the Watershed for dogs to frolic and enjoy open green spaces designated just for them.

Help LGROW
keep our
Watershed
healthy and
clean for
everyone



Parks are for everyone

Our parks and natural areas not only provide recreation and relaxation for people, children, and dogs, they also provide important habitat for fish and wildlife. Our parks are home to threatened fish, salamanders, and birds.

Individual park rules may vary. Check with your parks department for specific rules and regulations. Violation of either leash or scoop law could result in a fine.

Visit the Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds website to find out what is happening in your area and what you can do to improve your watershed:
www.LGROW.org

I'm for the environment!

Pledge

Human: I pledge to be environmentally responsible by:

- Keeping my dog on leash and on the trail in natural areas
- Scooping and properly disposing of poop

signature: _____

Dog: I pledge to do my part to be environmentally responsible and earn the plastic waste bag dispenser.

paw: _____

To receive your plastic waste bag dispenser, including bags, please sign the pledge, cut it out, and send it to:

LGROW
Dogs for the Environment
678 Front Avenue NW, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Please send my bag dispenser to this address:

name: _____

dog's name: _____

address: _____

city/state/zip: _____

Join LGROW's email list

email: _____





Lower Grand River Watershed Dog Parks



Learn more at
www.LGROW.org/pollution-solutions

LOWER GRAND RIVER
ORGANIZATION of WATERSHEDS
www.lgrow.org

What goes down here...

Dump no waste!
Storm drains lead directly to rivers, lakes, and streams



www.LGROW.org/stormwater



...ends up here

Scoop the poop!

Dog poop is essentially raw sewage; it contains harmful organisms like *E. coli*, *Leptospira*, and roundworms. These organisms can be contracted by other dogs, wildlife, and even children. Bacteria from dog poop can wash into rivers and streams when it rains. Many municipal codes also require that all poop must be picked up and disposed of into the proper receptacle.



Featured Pup: Chewie

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