

# Sawyer Creek Watershed Storm Water Management Plan



## Public Information Meeting

September 15 & 17, 2009  
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Room 404 / 406, City Hall

# Campbell Creek Watershed Storm Water Management Plan

## **Purpose of Meeting**

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to provide you with information about the proposed storm water management plan for the Sawyer Creek Watershed, and how this plan interacts with and is related to the plan for the Campbell Creek Watershed. The Sawyer Creek Watershed has its headwaters approximately three and a half miles southwest of the intersection of 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Claireville Road. The water within the watershed generally runs in a northeasterly direction towards the Fox River. Sawyer Creek enters the Fox River just downstream of the Oshkosh Avenue Bridge. The Sawyer Creek Watershed is shown in golden color on the Watershed Maps on display. The Campbell Creek Watershed is shown in blue on the Watershed Maps on display. The areas shown in green on the watershed maps drain to both Campbell Creek and Sawyer Creek depending on the storm sewer system capacity.

There will be a formal presentation beginning at 6:00 p.m. The remainder of the meeting will be conducted in an "open house" format. You are invited to inspect the display boards and review the information included with this handout. Please feel free to ask questions or share your comments with any of the City staff present.

There is a public input form attached to this handout for your use as well. We appreciate your input and ask that you take a few moments to complete the form and deposit it in one of the two boxes provided, or mail it to the Department of Public Works. A Public Input box is located in the hallway outside of the room.

The full Common Council presentation is available online at:  
[http://www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us/Public\\_Works/Storm\\_Water\\_Utility.htm](http://www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us/Public_Works/Storm_Water_Utility.htm)

## **Proposal Information**

The City of Oshkosh frequently experiences flooding during rain events. Some of these flooding incidents are severe, as were the June, 2008, June, 2004 and June, 1993 flood events. Other events are not as severe, as were experienced in 1996, 1999 (twice), and 2000. The main cause of the flooding during storm events is the inability of the storm sewer system to effectively convey the runoff.

As development takes place, pervious surfaces (grass and fields for example) are replaced with impervious surfaces (roofs and driveways for example). The higher percentage of impervious surfaces present in a watershed, the greater the amount of runoff generated. From the beginning of development in the City of Oshkosh until 1990, there was no ordinance in place to control the effect of storm water runoff from development. In addition to the increased amount of runoff generated, design requirements have changed dramatically over the past two decades. Previously, storm sewer systems were designed to convey only very small rainfall events, and the larger events were left to flood streets. Current design standards require storm sewers to convey larger storm events before flooding takes place on streets. The combination of lower design standards, increased impervious area within the watershed, and a lack of storm water management regulations prior to 1990 have caused the piping systems that were installed prior to the 1990's to be incapable of conveying the amount of runoff that is now generated.

The proposed storm water management plan for the Sawyer Creek Watershed includes a wet detention basin to be constructed near James Road and State Highway 91, a wet detention basin near the

intersection of South Oakwood Road and Badger Avenue, creek channel improvements between US Highway 41 and Sawyer Street, and the construction of a combination wet and dry detention basin system within the Westhaven Golf Course.

The James Road detention basin will provide peak flow control within Sawyer Creek prior to the Creek entering the City of Oshkosh. The Oakwood Road detention basin will provide peak flow control, and water quality improvements from areas within the Southwest Industrial Park. The creek channel improvements will provide an improved ability for Sawyer Creek to convey runoff through the lower reaches of the watershed. The modifications to the Westhaven Golf Course will provide peak flow control and water quality improvements for runoff generated within the City of Oshkosh.

The proposed storm water management plan for the Campbell Creek Watershed includes a dual use dry detention basin / athletic fields at Tipler Middle School, a wet detention basin at the National Guard Armory and a combination wet and dry detention basin system within the Westhaven Golf Course. The Tipler Dry Detention Basin provides peak flow control from the northern branch of Campbell Creek. The Armory Detention Basin and the Westhaven Golf Course modifications provide peak flow control from the southern branches of the creek. The Westhaven Golf Course modifications also provide water quality treatment for runoff generated within the City of Oshkosh.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has been mandated by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to administer the requirements of the Clean Water Act (CWA) in the State of Wisconsin. The DNR has issued permit coverage to all municipalities with a population greater than 10,000. One part of this permit requires the municipalities to reduce the amount of pollution in the storm water being discharges to Waters of the State. The DNR has chosen Total Suspended Solids (TSS) as the pollutant of interest. TSS pollution is sediment, or dirt, that is carried in storm water runoff. The permit requires the municipalities to reduce that amount of TSS being discharged by 40%. For the City of Oshkosh, this means that we need to remove 677 tons/year of sediment from our storm water. Current practices (street sweeping and existing wet detention ponds for example) remove 354 tons/year. This means that in order to comply with the permit requirement, we must remove an addition 323 tons of sediment per year. The storm water management option that includes the golf course modifications to the Westhaven Golf Course will remove approximately 81 tons of sediment per year.

## **Public Comments**

We encourage you to talk with the staff members that are present tonight and ask any questions you may have. We also encourage you to complete the Public Input form attached to this handout and drop it in the boxes provided, or return to the Department of Public Works by October 2, 2009.

For more information, please contact:

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## This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to:**  
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**215 Church Avenue**  
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**Oshkosh, WI 54903-1130**  
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