



TMACOG's Environmental Planning Department is becoming the Water Quality Department

The Environmental Council is transitioning to become a new TMACOG Water Quality Council. The WQC will be the lead committee in the department and will make policy recommendations and develop the regional water quality agenda.

Committees under the WQC will address water quality and public water supply. Committees under consideration include:

- **Watersheds**

The Watersheds Committee will identify opportunities and take actions to reduce erosion, capture nutrients, and restore healthy waterways. The Student Watershed Watch – now in its 26th year – will fall into this committee.

- **Stormwater Coalition**

More than 20 jurisdictions are partners in the Stormwater Coalition. They will continue the important work of ensuring that communities satisfy permit requirements. Stormwater managers also keep pollutants and nutrients out of water treatment systems.

- **Wastewater Committee**

This committee and its subcommittees will continue the work of the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (the 208 Plan) and assist members outside the 208 area with wastewater infrastructure planning.

- **Public Water Supply**

Providing clean, abundant water is a critical mission for every government whether water comes from Lake Erie, one of our rivers, or groundwater. This committee will focus on water infrastructure inventory, operator training programs, public information, and sharing resources.

- **Water System Policies**

A separate committee will provide a forum for discussion and development of regional policies regarding public water systems.

These changes in focus are in direct response to member needs. It is anticipated that many TMACOG members who served on the committees of the Environmental Planning department will find roles in the newly focused Water Quality department. However, new committee membership is welcome and members are encouraged to volunteer to implement the goals of the restructured Water Quality department.

For more information or to discuss the implications of these developments, please contact Kurt Erichsen, vice president of Water Quality: Kurt@tmacog.org or 419.241.9155 ext. 126.