

## **50000 Water Quality Council**

**Purpose:** To protect and improve the water quality of the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) region's streams and lakes, for the economy, recreation, and safe, reliable public water supplies by providing technical expertise. The Water Quality Council (WQC) will serve as a regional forum for education, advocacy, and grantsmanship for our members and stakeholders.

## **51170 Water Quality Council**

**Goal:** Coordinate and recommend positions on water quality issues and policies to the TMACOG Board of Trustees in an effort to improve and protect water quality in our region and Lake Erie.

### **Objectives:**

- Engage TMACOG members to:
  - Maintain and recruit members and leadership of the WQC.
  - Develop meeting programs to address current and long-term water quality goals of the region.
  - Develop programs and projects to carry out the missions of the WQC's standing committees.
    - The Wastewater Committee will provide overall coordination for the "208" Areawide Water Quality Management Plan, incorporating functions described under item 51300 – maintain the *Plan* and make recommendations to the TMACOG Executive Committee and Board of Trustees through WQC.
    - Stormwater Coalition, as described in item 54100 — will help Stormwater Coalition members understand and meet the requirements of US EPA and Ohio EPA stormwater permits.
    - Public Water Supply Committee, as described in 51500 — planning and coordinating on among member water utilities to foster provision of safe and reliable water supplies.
    - Watersheds Committee, as described in 52100 — establish regional process to address pollutant loadings from watersheds that impact our region's water quality by coordination with stakeholders, planning and conducting studies, implementation programs, and technical support to members.
  - Further develop and refine staff activities, subject to action by WQC. Potential programmatic objectives:
    - Provide guidance related to water quality issues to educate legislators, mayors, city councils, county boards, etc., as appropriate.
    - ~~Develop~~ **Develop and update** the Agenda for Lake Erie. A water quality policies document recommended for support by the TMACOG Board of Trustees.
    - Collaborate on grants, loans, and other state and federal program funding opportunities.
    - Outreach and communication with members, media, and the public.
    - Reports or presentations on staff accomplishments; annual report.
- Provide assistance and coordination to members of TMACOG, both individually and on a regional basis, with funding for sanitary sewerage, water supply, stormwater infrastructure, or water quality restoration or remediation projects.

## **51200 Water Quality Program Development**

**Goal:** To develop and secure funding for environmental programs and projects for TMACOG and in partnership with our members.

### **Objectives:**

- Programs and goals for which we will pursue grant opportunities, depending on funding availability and interest from partners, are:
  1. Goals of the *Areawide Water Quality Management Plan*.
  2. Goals of the *Portage River Watershed Plan*.
  3. Goals of the Sandusky River Watershed Coalition.
  4. Goals and recommendations of the *Maumee Area of Concern Stage 2 Watershed Restoration Plan*.
  5. Goals and recommendations of the *Swan Creek Watershed Balanced Growth Plan*.
  6. Goals and recommendations of the TMACOG *Stormwater Management Standards Manual*.
  7. Goals and recommendations of the TMACOG *Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping Practices for Municipal Operations*.
  8. Goals and recommendations of the *Wolf Creek / Berger Ditch Stream Corridor Restoration Plan*.
  9. Goals and recommendations of the [Water Quality Council](#), TMACOG Stormwater Coalition, and the [Portage River Basin Council](#).
  10. Coordinate with state of Ohio water infrastructure funding agencies by participating in the Small Community Environmental Infrastructure Group.
  11. Coordinate with other state of Ohio regional councils with water quality planning programs through the Ohio Association of Regional Councils Water Quality Committee. Provide safe recreation on Lake Erie; the Maumee, Toussaint, and Portage rivers and their tributaries; Maumee Bay, its beaches, and tributaries by planning and developing public access, and by reducing bacterial pollution levels.

## **51600 Regional Water Planning Committee**

**Goal:** Provide a forum for elected officials to examine regional water systems, including issues of interconnectivity, redundancy, storage, and sustainability.

### **Objectives:**

- ~~Reconvene at call of the Water Quality Council Chair or as requested by TMACOG members~~
- ~~Oversee and recommend approval of the Regional Water Feasibility Study through Water Quality Council to Board of Trustees.~~
- ~~Work with regional water system stakeholders to coordinate long term water supply planning holistically for the greater Toledo Metropolitan Area and TMACOG region.~~
- ~~Coordinate public water system planning to promote partnerships for regional water service and mutual aid during emergency situations.~~
- ~~Facilitate the Regional Water Planning Committee and its subcommittees to plan and establish a regional water district for the greater Toledo area including current City of Toledo contract communities, allowing flexibility for growth and equitable participation by district members.~~

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