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E-News

September 2011

Post Summer Beach Sampling

The 2011 sample season for the 19 beaches included in the Commission's GLRI beach project began on May 31, 2011 and extended through the week of August 15th. The beaches were sampled for E. coli three days a week with a biweekly alteration of water sampling and sand sampling. Additional sampling was done after or during rain events, and investigative samples were taken at stormwater outfalls.



Along with the samples, daily sanitary surveys were conducted three days a week, each week for the 10 weeks of sampling. An annual sanitary survey was also conducted for each beach.

An average of over 285 samples were collected at each of the 19 beaches for spatial sand, water samples, and stormwater outfalls/tributaries. **This totals to approximately 5,400 bacterial samples collected for the project over the summer!** The sampling data is currently being analyzed for each beach in order to make more accurate determinations about any potential contamination sources.

Preliminary assessments of each beach were conducted to identify potential sources of contamination and develop initial suggestions for mitigation. Further conclusions will be made once the 2011 sampling data has been fully analyzed. Another sampling season will be needed at most of the beaches to ensure a good, reliable data set exists before solid conclusions can be made. Sampling will begin again in spring/summer 2012 at each of the beaches. More information, including preliminary results, on 2011 post summer beach sampling is available on the [Commission's website](#).

IN THIS ISSUE

Post Summer Beach Sampling

Pavement Surveys

Sewer Service Area Planning

US 141 Corridor Preservation Plan

Annual Transportation Planning Conference

2012 Sheboygan MPO Work Program

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Pavement Surveys

Commission staff was trained this past summer on how to conduct pavement management surveys and to enter those results in a database for submission to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

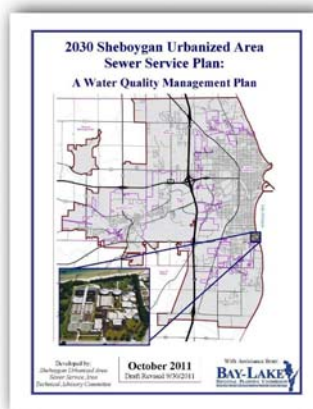
Pavement surveys are underway for the Town of Riverview in Oconto County, and the Town of Ahnapee and City of Algoma in Kewaunee County.

Other communities have contacted the Commission to schedule their pavement management surveys for later this fall. Pavement ratings are due to WisDOT on December 15th of every odd numbered year.

Contact the Commission office if you are interested in scheduling a pavement management survey for your city, village, or town.

Sewer Service Area Planning

Sewer Service Area (SSA) Planning is a process designed to anticipate a community's future needs for wastewater treatment. This planning helps protect communities from adverse water quality impacts through development of cost-effective and environmentally sound 20-year sewerage system growth plans. A sewer service area plan identifies existing sewerage areas as well as adjacent land most suitable for new development. This planning also identifies areas where sewers should not go, which are environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) where development would have an adverse impact upon water quality.



Under NR 121, Wisconsin SSA planning is developed by water quality planning agencies designated by the Governor in 1974. For the Sheboygan Urbanized Area, the Manitowoc-Two Rivers-Mishicot Area, the Marinette Area, and the Luxemburg Area, sewer service area planning is carried out by the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission and a local Technical Advisory Committee for each SSA.

The Commission develops and updates Areawide Water Quality Management Plans (also know as "SSA Plan" or "208 Plan") for each of the SSAs for which it is responsible within the Bay-Lake Region. The Areawide Water Quality Management Plan must be approved by the WDNR. The Commission also provides a review of local sewer extension plans and specifications to determine if the plans are in conformance with the goals and objectives of the the areawide water quality management plan. For more information, see the [Commission's website](#).

Sheboygan Urbanized Area Sewer Service Plan Update

Oct. 4, 2011
8th Annual Northwoods Summit
[Click here for more information.](#)

Oct. 19, 2011
Safe Routes to Schools mini-grants are due.
[Click here for more information.](#)

Nov. 4, 2011
WCMP Grant Applications Due. [Click here for more information.](#)

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The Commission is currently in the process of updating the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan for the Sheboygan Urbanized Area. The draft plan is currently out for review. It is available on the [Commission's website](#), at the Mead Public Library in Sheboygan, and at the Sheboygan Falls Memorial Library. An Open House and Public Hearing will be held for the plan on October 19, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at the Mead Public Library in the Rocca Meeting Room.

U.S. Highway 141 Corridor Preservation Plan

The U.S. Highway 141 Corridor Preservation Plan development process is entering year two. The Commission is working with staff from WisDOT's Northeast Region and with WisDOT's consultant (Jewell and Associates) on the plan. The area of study includes a stretch of U.S. Highway 141 beginning at State Highway 64 near Pound and ends just north of the Village of Crivitz. The plan will address recreational trail connectivity, location of future development, overall safety, interchange development, and stormwater management.

Please contact Brandon Robinson if you have questions regarding Regional Transportation activities.

Annual MPO/RPC/WisDOT Transportation Planning Conference

The annual MPO/RPC/WisDOT transportation planning conference was held in La Crosse last month. The central topic of the conference was surface transportation reauthorization, and Federal Highway Administration staff conducted educational sessions on livability/sustainability and on financial planning.

2012 Sheboygan MPO Work Program

A draft of the 2012 MPO Work Program was prepared that highlighted some projects to be accomplished for next year, such as continued preparation of the next generation of the Sheboygan Area Transportation Plan (SATP) due in April 2015 (including scenario development and evaluation); update of the Sheboygan MPO Public Participation Plan; development of an adjusted urbanized area boundary and revision of the metropolitan planning area boundary; updating the functional classification of streets and highways in the urbanized area; and preparation of a new TIP (including a new air quality conformity analysis). WisDOT and FHWA staff will review the draft work program in the near future, and final approval is expected in late October.

Please contact Jeff Agee-Aguayo if you have questions regarding Sheboygan MPO activities.

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