

Monthly Progress Report
Bear Creek Inter-County Drain Clean Water Initiative
Sept. 1 - Sept. 30, 2001

Progress Made:

Wet Weather -

9/05/01 (Wednesday) – Due to impending rainfall forecasted for Friday and Saturday, the samplers in 723-21 (Bear Creek Warren Branch #2), 703-2 (Sharkey-Ryan Branch), and 709N-UP (Follow-up location on a branch of the Kutchey Relief Drain) were iced and the batteries were changed because they had been running for four weeks without being replaced. The rain gauge was empty at 5:00 pm.

9/09/01 (Sunday) – The rain gauge read 0.50 inches at 10:15, so a qualifying rain event had occurred. The samples were processed from 709N-UP, 703-2 and 723-21. The samples were taken to Chapaton at 3:45 pm. Reinstallation was scheduled for Tuesday due to the heavy rainfall making it unsafe to enter the next three manhole locations.

9/11/01 (Tuesday) – Checked rain gauge at 8:45 am. It read 1.65 inches (including the rainfall from Sunday). Installed sampler at 708-OMS (Bear Creek Branch). Because no manholes were located for this drain, the flow meter was installed in the outfall to Bear Creek and the sampler was stored in a locked plastic storage shed above the outfall, which was secured by cables and padlocks. Proceeded to 708-1 (Bear Creek Warren Branch South). The manhole was a couple hundred feet from Bear Creek Inter-County Drain, and had a substantial amount of water in it. The high water level was presumably due to its close proximity to the creek. It was determined to be a safer option to move one manhole upstream, which is where the sampler was installed. Location name was changed to 708-2. Moved on to location 725-2 (Lorraine Storm Branch #1) and completed sampler installation.

9/19/01 (Wednesday) – It rained pretty hard Wednesday morning, so the field team met at 11 am and proceeded to process samples from 708-OMS. While those samples were being processed, samples from 708-2 and 725-2 were removed. All samplers were left in place because there was too much water in the drains for safe entry. The rain gauge read 0.95 inches at 2:30 pm and it was still raining. The field team proceeded to process samples from 708-2 and 725-2. Samples were taken to the lab at 4:30 pm. Extraction and reinstallation of samplers was scheduled for Friday. Samples were also collected from the Kaczmar Drain (OC-1) by the Oakland County Drain Commissioner's Office.

9/20/01 (Thursday) – The rain gauge read 0.25 inches at 8:30 am, so a total of 1.20 inches had fallen during the previous event.

9/21/01 (Friday) – Arrived at 708-OMS at 8:00 am to remove sampler and shed. Proceeded to 148-1 (Meckler Drain) for installation. The upstream portion of the Meckler is enclosed and the downstream portion is an open drain. The property owner of the surrounding parcels had fenced off their property, which included the open portion of the drain. Access to the drain was obtained after about an hour wait. The sampler was installed where the enclosed drain discharges to the open drain. It began raining heavily during installation. Flow meter installation continued until the channel started rising. At that point, installation was aborted.

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The shed and sampler were secured at the site and the sampler extraction from the other two sites and installation was rescheduled for Saturday morning.

9/22/01 (Saturday) - Met at 9:00 am and finished up installation of sampler at 148-1. Extracted samplers from 708-2 and 725-2 then proceeded to reinstall them at 786-2 (Hartsig Relief Drain) and 625-1 (Lorraine Storm Drain).

9/23/01 (Sunday) – The rain gauge read 0.75 inches at 8:30 pm, so the field team planned to meet in the field Monday morning.

9/24/01 (Monday) - The rain gauge read 0.10 inches at 8:00 am. A total of 0.85 inches of rain was collected from Sunday night. Processed samples from 148-1. The sampler at 786-2 was checked, but no samples were collected. It was determined that the sampler was programmed correctly. The field team noted that there seemed to be less water ponded on the surface than at the previous site. The field team determined that the rain event might have been spotty missing this area. The sampler was reinstalled and the field team proceeded to location 625-1. The sampler was full at 625-1. The samples were processed and the sampler was extracted. The samples were taken to the lab at 4:10 pm.

Checked out the wet weather location 423-A (Cramer Drain). It was a shallow manhole, approximately 3 feet deep. It was filled up with standing water and no outlet was located. Need to review plans and possibly pump out/clean out the manhole before the sampler can be installed. Also, checked the traffic control measures to be considered for location 135-1 (Kutchey Inter-County Drain).

9/25/01 (Tuesday) – Checked rain gauge at 2:00 pm. It read 0.10 inches, so there had not been any more rain since Monday. Installed sampler in the Kutchey Inter-County Drain (135-1).

9/27/01 (Thursday) – It had sprinkled off and on since Tuesday. The rain gauge had collected an additional 0.20 inches since Tuesday, totaling 0.30 inches since the last event. Therefore, a qualifying rain event had not taken place.

In summary, wet weather sampling was completed on 8 drains (Sharkey-Ryan Branch, Bear Creek Warren Branch #2, Bear Creek Branch, Bear Creek Warren Branch South, Lorraine Storm Branch #1, the Meckler Drain, Kaczmar and the Lorraine Storm Drain). This makes for a total of 25 drains sampled of 32. The results indicated that 6 of 8 drains were above the criteria of 3,000 colonies/100ml. This makes for a total of 17 of 25 drains sampled that have exceeded the criteria.

Follow-up –

- Wet weather sampling was performed on the upstream end of a branch of the Kutchey Relief Drain (709N-UP). The results for the samples collected exceeded the 3,000 colonies/100 ml criteria.

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Website –

- The site was updated to include additional wet weather results and follow-up information obtained during the month.
- The website received a total of 353 visitors for the month.

Administrative –

- A tour of the website was provided to the Bear Creek Steering Committee at the meeting held on Sept. 20.

Corrective Actions -

- The City of Warren Water Department corrected an illicit connection of a residence on Woodruff Street discharging to a city drain tributary to the Bear Creek Inter-County Drain.

Problems Encountered & Recommended Solutions:

- The Cramer Drain was full of water and no outlet could be found. Drain records are being reviewed for more information.
- A state road work permit is required for installation of a sampler on the Centerline Relief Drain. The permit application was sent in and appropriate signage is being obtained.

Activities for Next Reporting Period:

- Update website with monthly sampling data.
- Continue wet weather sampling as the weather allows. Six drains have not yet been wet weather sampled.
- Televising the Lorraine Drain.
- Decide on Final Verification laboratory.

Revised: 04/2003