



Marcuz Dilbert, Department of Public Works, Superintendent Village of New Haven 57775 Main St. New Haven, MI 48048

May 6, 2025

Dear Marcuz Dilbert,

Thank you for your community's continued participation in the Clinton River Watershed Council's Stormwater Education Program. For over 20 years, CRWC's Stormwater Education Program has provided community programming focused on assisting local government members in meeting the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater regulations.

This program, which assists communities in meeting their MS4 permit requirements for public education, has recently been updated with the feedback of many municipal participants, County partners, as well as members of the public who have attended and participated in activities listed in the collaborative watershed-wide Public Education Plan (PEP).

The program will continue to offer high quality, watershed-wide, educational services including:

- Stream Leaders, CRWC's K-12 streamside water quality monitoring program, putting students in waders since 1992;
- Weekly Clean, which sees hundreds of volunteers removing an average of 9,000 pounds of trash annually from local parks and common areas, intercepting its path into our waterways;
- Adopt-A-Stream, our community science water quality monitoring program, which allows watershed residents to participate in biannual data collection, establishing a baseline of health across 50 sites;
- WaterTowns, our mechanism for working directly with communities to reinforce and uplift their connection to the watershed through placemaking such as green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) projects, accessibility improvements to the Clinton River Water Trail, and art installations highlighting the watershed's identity; and,
- Many more signature programs such as River Day, the Lake St. Clair and Clinton River Water Festivals, and Clinton Clean Up.

In addition to these existing services, the program will now include:

The addition of residential Green Stormwater Infrastructure programming, including CRWC's annual native plant and rain barrel sales, instruction of the Master Rain Gardener program, and additional web resources.













- Social media asset creation for municipal use, such as infographics, suggested text for posts, and adapted versions of BMP flyers.
- The piloting of the storm drain art program, which will raise awareness of ultimate storm drain discharge locations by engaging local artists.

Currently, your contract term for the Stormwater Education Program expires September 30, 2025. The new proposed contract is set to begin on October 1, 2025. We have attached the new five-and-a-halfyear Stormwater Education Program contract for your review at your earliest convenience.

This contract period has been set in order to align the contract cycle on the same timeline with permit submissions/renewals through MiEnviro (April 1st-March 31st each year). To accommodate the fiveand-a-half-year contract period, the billing schedule will invoice for the first 6 months initially (October 1, 2025-March 31, 2026) and then invoice annually in February of each subsequent contract year.

For Village of New Haven, this translates to an initial fee of \$520 to be billed the week of July 14th, 2025 and a subsequent fee of \$1040 to be billed the week of February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026. For further details, please see section 2a of the attached contract.

CRWC sincerely appreciates the opportunity to provide these contracted services to communities at a competitive rate which accounts for CRWC's costs. As a non-profit partner, CRWC greatly values our partnerships with communities and has not significantly raised fees to communities for a number of years, although inflation and costs have been rising significantly. CRWC is committed to continuing to provide Stormwater Education services. In order to keep up with inflation and cover the organization's costs to provide these services, CRWC has made the necessary adjustment to rates for this contract period. Community fees have been determined by distributing program costs across all participants, weighed by community populations. This is to account for both growing and shrinking populations, and to provide service equitably throughout the watershed. Beginning in Year Two, fees will increase either by 5%, or at the rate of inflation, whichever is greater.

For communities interested in moving to the contract execution stage, please respond to this email directly so CRWC can formally initiate the digital contract signing process via Docusign. Signed contracts must be returned to CRWC by Friday, August 29th, 2025. For communities that require more information either over the phone or via an in-person meeting, please reach out to us so we can help satisfy your needs!

If you have any questions regarding our programs and services, please call (248) 759-8202 or email kaleigh@crwc.org. CRWC has set aside several time blocks for scheduling meetings to address questions, concerns, and to further discuss program offerings with communities, which can be













accessed here. If you would like an alternative time, please reach out directly.

We look forward to continuing to work with municipalities, school districts, and educational institutions to educate the public about their role in preventing stormwater pollution in the Clinton River watershed and Lake St. Clair.

Thank you for the continued opportunity to serve your community.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hill

**Executive Director** 

Kaleigh Snoddy

Education and Stewardship Manager

CC:



