

Water Quality Department Mid-year wrap-up

Water Quality Council July 10

Member Training

- Two Water and Wastewater Operator Trainings providing contact hours for 60 people
- Certification for Inspection and Maintenance of Stormwater Controls Measure in Ohio for 30 people



Addressing Statewide Problems with Regional Leadership

- Chlorides in Streams
 - Worked with Stormwater Coalition members to identify current road salt practices and opportunities to improve water quality
 - Road Salt policy boilerplate and guidance
- Water Workforce
 - Leveraged partnerships with regional utilities and Owens Community College to develop training curriculum, website, and program marketing and recruitment materials (www.waterworksforyou.org coming soon!)

STORMWATER COALITION

Chloride Policy Boilerplates and Guidance

Example ordinances that communities can choose to implement to reduce chloride pollution.



THE PROGRAM

Our program is designed with you in mind. Whether you're a student, adult new to the field, or a veteran looking to re-enter the workforce, we believe water can work for you. Local job openings are extensive, and through our program, you'll be connected directly to employers ready to hire. Upon completion, our students receive a Water Treatment Professionals technical certificate from Owens Community College.

Fast

Students will receive a working knowledge of operations in 10 weeks and be ready to not for an entry level position.

Afterdoble

Students receive training, materials, and assistance with the transition to work.

Supportive

Students are partnered with experienced mentors who will guide them as they learn and continue to offer support through employment.

Immersive

Students will learn through traditional classroom, as well as on-site hands-on training for real-world experience.

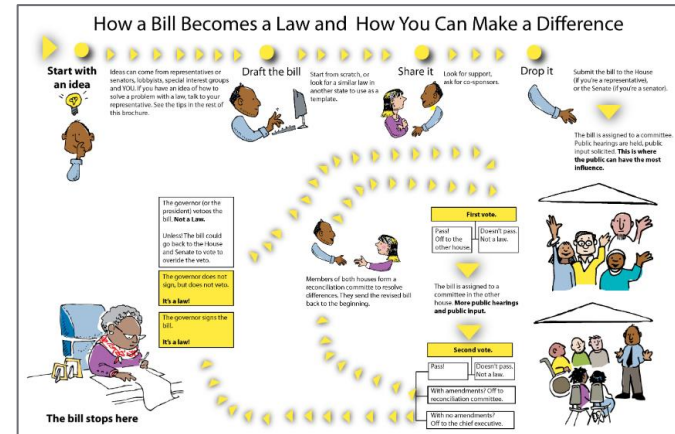
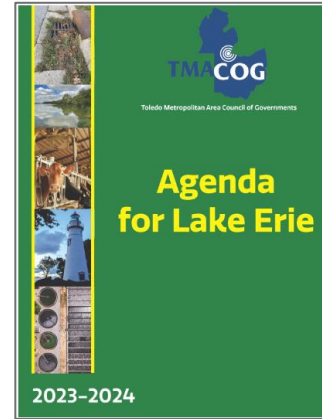


To learn more about the program and sign up, visit our website.

waterworksforyou.org

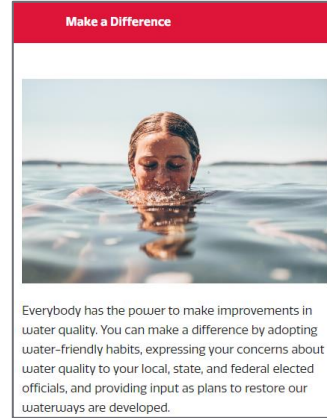
Policy Engagement

- 2023-2024 Agenda for Lake Erie Update included refined language for animal industry and TMDL recommendations
- Released the TMACOG Advocacy Toolkit as a companion document to the Agenda for Lake Erie and Transportation Policy Agenda
- Worked with Water Quality Committee Chairs to provide comments during each phase of the Maumee Nutrient TMDL development



Public Education and Engagement

- Developed a Water Quality public involvement website to show community members ways to take action for water quality - <https://tmacog.org/water/getting-involved-with-water-quality>
- 600 students participated in the annual Student Watershed Watch sampling and Student Summit





Meetings

- Members attended 40 regularly scheduled WQ meetings in the past year!
 - Member contributions drove the Agenda for Lake Erie and the overhaul of the 208 Plan
 - Stormwater Coalition planning retreat provided focus and identified new areas for program growth
 - Tours of restoration projects, water and wastewater plants, and agricultural lands offered information exchange and continuing education credits



Behind the Scenes

- Overhauling the TMACOG Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (208 Plan)
 - Staff-level review and restructuring
 - Mapping overhaul
 - Survey members and the community
- Staff Professional Development
 - Environmental Law and Policy
 - Environmental Justice and Equity
 - Technical training – testing equipment, GIS, credible data
 - Regulatory training – Stormwater regulations, water and wastewater

Contact the Water Quality Department



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