

6.0**MONITORING EFFECTIVENESS**

Progress indicators are used to gauge the progress and success of the watershed planning effort. Indicators may be administrative, such as language added to an ordinance, or programmatic, indicating the total acreage added to a filter strip program. Assigning dates to progress indicators is an effective method to ensure that the implementation of the WMP remains on target. Thus, monitoring describes how the aforementioned indicators will be evaluated to determine the level of success reached toward achieving the goal. Monitoring progress can be general, or very specific, such as increasing the number of participants at quarterly meetings or through improvements observed in biological and/or chemical measurements. Maintaining a list of successful programs and policies as a result of this WMP will help keep the momentum of the planning effort moving forward.

Goal Monitoring

For each goal, it is suggested that progress toward meeting each indicator (reduction of pollutant loadings, reduction of social, physical, and economic damages associated with flooding, and changes in stakeholders awareness and behaviors) listed in Tables 5-1 through 5-5 be documented on a biannual basis by the UWRBC. Biannual tracking of progress for each milestone will help to maintain focus on goal objectives and progress, but also to troubleshoot issues where it is clear that tasks may need to be adjusted or modified in order to achieve the goal objective. Responsibility for implementing tasks will vary with agency initiatives, directives, staffing, and funding opportunities.

Plan Evaluation

The UWRBC will be responsible for the regular review and update of the Upper Wabash River Watershed Management Plan. This plan should be evaluated on a biannual basis to document and celebrate progress; assess effectiveness of efforts; modify activities to better target water quality issues; and keep implementation of the plan on schedule. The plan should be revised as needed to better meet the needs of the watershed stakeholders and to meet water quality goals.

Routine Monitoring

Every three years, monitoring of water quality, both biological and chemical, should occur at the sites utilized for the development of this plan. The data gathered through subsequent monitoring events will be utilized in order to evaluate the beneficial impact of implementation of BMPs throughout the watershed. It is anticipated that water quality will increase as loadings of sediment, nutrients and bacteria are decreased.

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