

DNR HUD-NDRC Pro-Bono Support Services to Counties and WMAs

August 2016

Watershed Formation Activities

- Contact units of government and their representatives.
- Attend meetings with units of government and their representatives.
- Educate governmental units on WMA value, benefits and formation process.
- Develop presentation tools to assist in communicating WMA formation process and benefits.
- Work with local media to promote benefits of WMA formation and address questions or concerns regarding WMA formation.
- Promote participation in WMA formation.
- Work with partners, NGOs, local stakeholders and stakeholder groups to promote benefits of WMA formation and address questions or concerns regarding WMA formation.
- Assist with planning and organizing formation planning meetings.
- Facilitate WMA formation planning meetings.
- Provide GIS mapping services and support for WMA formation process.
- 28E development guidance, drafting and revision assistance.
- Bylaws development guidance, drafting and revision assistance.

WMA Coordinator Hiring Process & Training

- Assist lead county, as needed, in hiring project coordinator (assistance with developing position description, reviewing resumes, interview support, etc.).
- Provide initial training to new project coordinator, as needed.

Watershed Planning Activities

- Facilitate strategic planning workshop with WMA membership to identify, evaluate and select method for pursuing watershed plan development (i.e. conduct in-house; led by local government member; hire consultant group, etc.)
- Assist with developing statement of work for potential contractor RFP to lead WS planning process.
- Assist with RFP document development process.
- Assist with proposal review and selection process.
- Assist with compiling relevant plans and reports to facilitate WMA planning process.
- Provide ongoing technical assistance and guidance throughout the watershed planning process.
- Provide WMA membership, public and stakeholder engagement assistance throughout the watershed planning process.
- Provide water monitoring assistance and data interpretation throughout the watershed planning process.
- Serve on WMA technical assistance (TA) team(s).
- Provide GIS mapping services and support for WMA planning process.
- Provide assessment tool training and assistance for land and stream assessments.
- Provide GIS land use assessment products for WMA planning process.
- Review draft WMP and provide written feedback.

Post-Planning Activities

- Attend regular WMA Board meetings to provide updates on relevant state initiatives & funding opportunities.
- Assist with interpreting Watershed Management Plan and relevant data to aid in site selection during implementation phase.
- Assist with grant applications, as needed.

Web Page Hosting/Maintenance

- Host and maintain a statewide WMA webpage on DNR's website.

WMA Outreach/workshops

- Plan, organize, and facilitate semi-annual WMA Network Meetings in conjunction with NDRC partners to deliver educational content to specific WMA stakeholder audiences (such as emergency managers, floodplain managers, city / county staff, planners, SWCD, etc.). DNR is positioned to help with developing the agenda, coordinating with the relevant partners and WMAs, and other workshop logistics. Possible topics include:
 - Intro to Watershed Planning: what is it, why is it important
 - Hydrology
 - Nutrient Reduction: science & practices
 - Social science related to conservation & behavior change
 - Floodplain Management
 - Soil Health
 - Hazard Mitigation and climate resilience
 - Watershed-based community planning: relevant local policy & ordinances
 - IOWATER training
 - Prairie on Farms

General GIS Assistance

- Develop a standard set of descriptive maps for watershed management plans.
- Work up stream assessment data and produce relevant maps.
- Provide land use statistics and help to answer GIS based questions.