



To: Leaders in Communities Subject to Storm Water Regulations

**From: Dan Thompson, Executive Director, League of Wisconsin Municipalities
Ed Huck, Executive Director, Wisconsin Alliance of Cities**

Date: January 30, 2009

Re: Creation of a Local Government Storm Water Group

We invite you to join with other municipalities and counties in the creation of a Local Government Storm Water Group. The purpose of the group is to advocate on storm water issues before the DNR, the Governor's office and the Wisconsin Legislature. The group may also sponsor educational seminars on storm water issues.

The League and the Alliance are creating the group to continue the advocacy effort that grew out of the Municipal Storm Water Conference that our organizations co-sponsored last summer. Last September we submitted a letter to DNR Secretary Matt Frank expressing our concerns about the extraordinary cost of complying with DNR's storm water regulations and requesting a more reasonable approach to keeping our waters clean.

After the letter was sent, we met with Secretary Frank and with DNR staff on several occasions to discuss our concerns. The League hired attorney Paul Kent to represent us in our negotiations with DNR over the changes we seek to the storm water rules. These discussions are ongoing.

We view this as the beginning of a long effort. The League is covering the initial expenses of hiring Paul Kent, but a long term effort will require additional funding.

For that reason we are seeking to create an unincorporated nonprofit association and invite all communities subject to Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permitting to participate. League staff will provide administrative services to the group, including handling the association's accounting as well as organizing the group's meetings. Initial membership in the Municipal Storm Water Group costs \$300 annually for communities/counties over 20,000 in population; \$200 for communities with populations between 10,000 and 20,000; and \$100 for communities with populations below 10,000.

The following communities have committed to participating in the creation of the Local Government Storm Water Group:

- ◆ Milwaukee
- ◆ Manitowoc
- ◆ Beloit

- ◆ Fitchburg
- ◆ West Bend
- ◆ De Pere
- ◆ Hartland

If you are interested in participating, please complete the following form and submit it and a check for the correct amount to the League.

We hope you will accept our invitation. We look forward to working with you on this important issue.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please give us a call.



Local Government Storm Water Group

Membership Form

Yes, the _____ (*name of municipality/county*) agrees to join the Local Government Storm Water Group.

I've enclosed a check for the following amount covering our community's 2009 membership dues:

- \$300 for municipalities/counties with populations over 20,000.
- \$200 for municipalities with populations between 10,000 and 20,000.
- \$100 for municipalities with populations under 10,000.

The primary contact in our community regarding the Local Government Storm Water Group shall be:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail this form to:

League of Wisconsin Municipalities
122 West Washington Ave., Suite 300
Madison, WI 53703