

# SWEET

## Meeting Minutes

### Monday April 28, 2025

After a brief check-in meeting began at 10:03am.

In attendance: Maggie Sullivan (Friends of Lake Monroe), Adam Rickert (MCHD-SP), Elisa Pokral (MC Waste Reduction District), Heidi Shoemaker (City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation) and Jacob Trusty, Monroe County Parks and Recreation.

## BIG COLLABORATION ITEMS

Big collaboration items (BCI) entered on SWEET meeting agenda have not been edited much over the last few meetings. Adam summarized the BCI by suggesting if anyone has ideas of a guest speaker to speak for 5-10 minutes on work that they have done to improve stormwater and/or environmental education, to invite them to a future SWEET meeting. Please coordinate this through Adam. Guest speaker does not necessarily have to work/live in Monroe County.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

- [Weed Wrangles](#) are happening monthly at various locations around Bloomington, Check [https://www.bloomingtonvolunteernetwork.org/need/detail/?need\\_id=815567](https://www.bloomingtonvolunteernetwork.org/need/detail/?need_id=815567) for upcoming dates.
- Indiana MS4 Partnership Conference is scheduled for May 12-13, 2025.
- Friends of Lake Monroe Watershed Tour, Saturday June 21, 2025.  
<https://www.friendsoflakemonroe.org/events-page/tour>
- Conservation Day at Monroe County Fair, July 3, 2025, see QR code below under Monroe County Soil and Water.
- Nature Play Days at Lower Cascades Park, June 7, 2025.  
<https://bloomington.in.gov/recreation/programs/12649>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION

- Finished all 2024-2025 school year field trips.
- Hosting **Nature Play Days** at Lower Cascades Park on June 7, 2025 from 1-4. If any SWEET partners have any nature related games, activities or would like to do anything related to the creek, it is a free, drop in event. Heidi is attending planning meetings later this week.
- **Earth Day Festival** was at Switchyard Park on April 19<sup>th</sup> with over 500 in attendance. Due to the weather, event was moved inside. Earth Week clean up (of Clear Creek) was completed as well with lots of volunteers participating.

### CITY OF BLOOMINGTON UTILITIES

- No updates

## FRIENDS OF LAKE MONROE

- Hosting a **Watershed Tour** on Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup> focused on the South Fork Salt Creek portion of the Lake Monroe Watershed. Check Friends of Lake Monroe website for further information.

## MONROE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

- Jacob participated in the Earth Day event with City of Bloomington.
- MC Parks and Recreation hosted a tree planting at Karst Farm Park as part of Earth Day.
- Currently filling spots at the Will Detmer Gardens. If anyone is interested in having their organization do some examples at one of the plots, contact Jacob.
- MC Parks and Recreation is hosting their first **Garden Party** at Will Detmer Park on May 17<sup>th</sup> from 10am to noon. GardenQuest, a Bloomington based nonprofit will be providing information on bokashi fermentation systems to turn household food waste into soil within a few months.
- Jacob is participating in a few remaining school events.
- Working with MC Highway Stormwater Program to get an **Adopt A Stream** segment set up for the county.
- Jacob is working with Brandon Olson with City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation to host a Frog Watch event.

## CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PLANNING

- No report.

## MONROE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

- Monroe County Soil and Water is hosting **Conservation Day** at the Monroe County Fair on Thursday July 3, 2025. Conservation Day will be in the Draper-Earlers Auditorium from 10am-3pm. Partnering organizations will have their names printed on a reusable bag which will be provided to attendees. To participate in **Conservation Day**, scan the QR code below by June 4, 2025.



Contact Martha Miller at 812-778-9948 if you have questions.

- 319 funding continues for the Lower Salt Creek Watershed Plan.
- Free soil testing will continue through the end of June.

## MONROE COUNTY WASTE REDUCTION DISTRICT

- MC Waste Reduction District distributed rain barrels, compost bins and miscellaneous accessories last Friday and Saturday. A third distribution date is scheduled for 5/3/2025.
- Elisa is finishing up 3 school programs.

- Earth Day Festival at Union Elementary, May 9, 2025.
- Girl Scout presentation scheduled for the end of May. Water quality information will be provided during each presentation.
- June 28, 2025, MC Waste Reduction District will host a **Compost Workshop**. Workshop will be geared toward individuals with little to no composting experience and experienced individuals that would like a refresher.
- Deadline to order a rain barrel and/or compost bin has been extended to **May 15, 2025** due to high demand. Order online at [wastereductiondistrictorders.com](http://wastereductiondistrictorders.com).

## MONROE COUNTY HIGHWAY STORMWATER PROGRAM

- Tabled at the Master Gardener Fair on 4/12/2025 with robust attendance.
- MC Stormwater Program is hosting a Realtors Seminar in June, details will be provided soon.

## MONROE COUNTY SURVEYOR

- No report.

## TOWN OF ELLETTSVILLE

- No report.

## INDIANA UNIVERSITY

- No report.

## LAKE MONROE WATER FUND

- No report.

## PUBLIC INPUT

- No public input.

## NEW BUSINESS

- No new business, meeting adjourned at about 10:20am.

## NEXT MEETING

**June 23, 2025.** In the absence of a **May 2025** SWEET meeting, an email will be sent out including updates and events SWEET partners would like to share and promote. If you have updates and/or events you would like to include with the email, please provide this information to Adam prior to **May 22, 2025**.