

MEETING INVITATION

Maria Creek Watershed Draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Final Public Meeting

Location	Date	Time
<p>Virtually via Webinar</p> <p>https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84609722942?pwd=YWtQRWcvWk5FTit4RmxKQXV4NnJmZz09&from=addon</p> <p>(Additional information on joining this meeting found on the following page)</p>	July 8 th , 2021	3:00 PM EDT

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) invites you to participate in a public meeting to learn about the water quality of the Maria Creek watershed and how IDEM has developed a Total Maximum Daily Load for pollutants, which allows the rivers and streams to meet water quality standards.

What is a Total Maximum Daily Load?

A Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, is the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and nonpoint sources. The calculation must include a margin of safety to ensure that the waterbody can be used for the purposes the State has designated. IDEM is developing TMDLs for impaired waters in Indiana to characterize the causes of the impairments and identify potential sources of pollution.

What are water quality standards?

Water quality standards are set by the state of Indiana. They identify the designated uses for each waterbody, such as for drinking water, contact recreation (swimming), and aquatic life support (fishing). The water quality standards also set the scientific criteria to support each designated use. Any waterbody that does not meet the standards for a given pollutant is considered impaired.

What are the water quality impairments in the Maria Creek Watershed?

The Maria Creek watershed has streams that are impaired for *E. coli*, biological communities, and/or dissolved oxygen. IDEM has developed Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for all four subwatersheds of the Maria Creek watershed to address the *E. coli* and biological communities impairments.

How can I help to improve our water quality?

You can help by attending this meeting and becoming involved in the watershed planning process. At this meeting, IDEM will provide an overview of what TMDLs are, general information on why the Maria Creek watershed was selected for this project, and a review of some of the data that has been collected and evaluated.

More information on IDEM's TMDL Program can be found at: www.in.gov/idem/nps/watershed-assessment/total-maximum-daily-loads/

Additional information on the Maria Creek Watershed TMDL study can be found at: www.in.gov/idem/nps/resources/total-maximum-daily-load-reports/maria-creek-watershed/

To Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84609722942?pwd=YWtQRWcvWk5FTit4RmxKQXV4NnJmZz09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 846 0972 2942

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By Phone:

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aBc1C0QhP>

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

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Questions? Contact Allie Gates:

Email: agates1@idem.in.gov

Phone: (317) 308-3178