Since 1972, the Clinton River Watershed Council has been providing education, stewardship, restoration, and community engagement opportunities to residents, local municipalities, and partners to fulfill CRWC's mission of protecting, enhancing and celebrating the Clinton River, its watershed, and Lake St. Clair. Flowing 81 miles, the Clinton River and its watershed encompass 73 communities. Both the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair provide significant ecological, economic, and recreational value to southeast Michigan and to the communities located here.

## **VALUE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

Through longstanding programs like Adopt-A-Stream, StreamLeaders, and Keeping-It-Clean and environmental planning, ecological, and environmental policy expertise, CRWC provides a unique set of services to communities within the watershed through Local Government Memberships. These services are detailed below and represent a wide array of community engagement and education paired with scientific expertise that fosters partnerships with local governments to benefit the watershed.

Through CRWC's Local Government Membership, communities also become eligible for participation in CRWC's Stormwater Public Education Program, which provides the Public Education requirements for NPDES MS4 permitting requirements.

## INTRODUCING A NEW ANNUAL DUES STRUCTURE

Over the past 10 years, CRWC's Government Membership dues have not increased. Starting in 2024, CRWC is adjusting its dues structure for Local Government memberships to be tied directly to the population of residents being served within our service area, a better reflection of the inputs into the watershed from residents and a transparent, equitable structure that is applied equally across all communities.

This adjustment will allow CRWC to maintain current services while working to increase programming for residents and communities into the future.

Over a 7-year period (2024-2030) CRWC will transition local government memberships to the updated dues structure, charging each community \$500 + 9 cents per resident within the eligible service area.

We greatly value our relationships with communities and know that open communication is critical to sustaining trust. With this in mind, CRWC will transition membership dues to the updated rate over a 7-year period to give communities ample time to adjust accordingly. The full dues rate of \$500 + 9 cents per resident will be reached in calendar year 2030.

As the cost of projects and programs increases over time, CRWC works consistently to bring in funding from a variety of sources outside of membership dues, including through federal, state, and private grants and contracts that allow CRWC to maintain the revenue breakdown displayed below. CRWC's continued fundraising from other sources provides a robust set of diverse programming, services, education, and outreach within the watershed and our service area that compliments and enhances the services we provide through membership.

# CRWC'S CURRENT REVENUE BREAKDOWN

- Government membership dues 13.5%
- Other memberships, sponsorships, donations, and events - 11.8%
- Federal, state, local and private grants and contracts 74.7%



### LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEMBERSHIP SERVICES & PERKS

Access to Stormwater Public Education Program (additional contract fee). More details are available at crwc.org/programs/education/stormwater-education

Access to CRWC's Fee for Service menu

Clinton River Public Advisory Council (PAC) administration and water quality monitoring to support the Clinton River Area of Concern (AOC)

WaterTowns Program - providing placemaking, green infrastructure and blue economy support for communities including access to project grants

Watershed Management Planning

Clinton River Water Trail management (signage, safety messaging, maps, access, and stakeholder engagement) and Lake St. Clair Water Trail educational resources

Bi-annual watershed-wide water quality monitoring through Adopt-A-Stream Program, including maintaining long-term water quality records and keeping communities up to date on water quality trends throughout the watershed

Keeping-It-Clean Programming, including Clinton Clean Up, and Weekly Cleans occurring April through November Administration and management of the Clinton River Coldwater Conservation Project. More details are available at crwc.org/programs/conservation/crccp.

Workshops, presentations, and educational programming delivered across the watershed on topics ranging from native seed collection, rain gardens, macroinvertebrates, and others

River Day coordination and outreach

Multi-media communications platforms highlighting members and watershed issues

Issue Advocacy - local, county, state, federal

Environmental planning, river ecology, native plant, green infrastructure, stewardship, community engagement, environmental policy, and communications expertise

Grant support upon request as it aligns with CRWC's mission

River News subscription (published 2 times per year)

E-News (weekly email) subscription & website recognition

1 complimentary ticket to CRWC's Annual Meeting & Dinner, which will be held on March 21, 2024.

# IN 2022, CRWC PROVIDED A VARIETY OF PROGRAMS AND ENGAGED RESIDENTS IN COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE WATERSHED, INCLUDING:

377
ADOPT-A-STREAM
VOLUNTEERS

37
ADOPT-A-STREAM
SITES

32 WEEKLY CLEAN EVENTS

17 CLINTON CLEAN-UP EVENTS 457
CLEAN-UP
VOLUNTEERS

5,132 LBS OF TRASH COLLECTED 15
RIVER DAY
EVENTS

465 RIVER DAY PARTICIPANTS 379
PRESENTATION
ATTENDEES

1,496 STREAM LEADERS STUDENTS

## COMMUNITY FEEDBACK ON SERVICES

We value feedback from community members and want to hear from you about how our services are working in your community, what you think could be improved, or services that would be helpful for us to add to our list. We want to know what is working and how we can continue to serve your community to meet your needs.

To gather feedback, CRWC has created this online survey to hear from communities about services they would like to see increased and/or added to CRWC's menu for communities. Fill out the survey at <a href="mailto:crwc.org/join-us/become-a-member">crwc.org/join-us/become-a-member</a> or by scanning the QR code. We would love your feedback!



### COMMUNITY NEXT STEPS

CRWC has included a community specific factsheet that includes your community service area, highlights services in your community, and lays out an updated dues schedule for 2024-2030.

CRWC's Executive Director is happy to meet in person or speak over the phone about any questions that arise from these changes. To schedule a time to meet with Jennifer Hill, CRWC's Executive Director, please see the scheduling details in the community specific factsheet.

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve your community, Clinton River Watershed Council looks forward to continued partnership in protecting, enhancing, and celebrating the Clinton River, its watershed, and Lake St. Clair.

#### **ELIGIBILITY:**

CRWC defines its service area as municipalities and counties located fully or partially within the Clinton River watershed and the Lake St. Clair shoreline watershed, including the Lake St. Clair and Anchor Bay drainage districts. The eligible service area is defined as the land area within the Clinton River watershed and/or the Lake St. Clair shoreline watershed.

# POPULATION WITHIN THE WATERSHED:

CRWC will continue to utilize the US population as established in the most recent US census (2020). For communities that do not fall fully within CRWC's service area, the population within the watershed is calculated by applying the percentage of eligible service area to the total population to determine the population within the service area.



