

Section 2

Roles and Duties of Government Units and Water Supply Agencies

This section describes the roles and responsibilities of the governmental and water supply personnel as related to the SWP program. In general, the day-to-day communication between these personnel, businesses, and the general public will need to be open with clear lines of shared responsibility and notification to adequately protect the surface water intake of the Ira Township system. The contacts, affiliations and phone numbers are discussed below.

2.1 Ira Township

Ira Township is governed by the elected Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and Trustees. The Supervisor is the chief executive of the Township and has the authority (in consultation with the Board) to commit resources to address emergency situations. In addition, Ira Township is a zoned community and new construction must meet the zoning requirements of the township.

Ira Township
7085 Meldrum Road
P.O. Box 230555
Fair Haven, MI 48023-0555
(586) 725-0263
Fax: (586) 725-8790

John Jones, Supervisor
Crystal Sovey, Clerk
Peter Vernier, Treasurer

Trustees
Tom Jeannette
James Endres Jr.

2.1.1 Department of Public Works-Water Department

The Ira Township Department of Public Works-Water Department operates the Water Treatment Plant and distribution system. Operations and testing are conducted under the direction of the DPW Superintendent. The Superintendent and the DPW Foreman are responsible for all operational decisions regarding source water, use warnings, treatment and distribution.

DPW Superintendent - Martin Barnes (586) 725-4186
DPW Foreman - Eric Barnowski (586) 725-4186

2.1.2 Source Water Protection Team

The core of the Ira Township Water System Source Water Protection Team consists of the Township Supervisor, DPW Superintendent, and DPW Foreman. The township team meets on a weekly basis as part of the general execution of their duties.

Upon MDEQ approval of this plan, the township will expand the source water protection team to include the following invitees or their representatives:

- St. Clair County Health Department Director
- St. Clair County Farm Bureau
- St. Clair County Drain Commissioner
- St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission
- A representative from an Ira Township Industrial facility
- A representative from an Ira Township Commercial facility
- A representative from local environmental organizations
- A representative from local school systems

After the representatives have been identified from each of these respective organizations, an initial kick-off meeting will be held to review this plan and to develop specific action items to achieve the program goals. Mutually acceptable participation agreement forms will be developed for signature by each of the parties.

The source water protection team will be responsible for the periodic review of this document and will update it on an annual basis. The team will meet on a semi-annual basis or more frequently as deemed appropriate by the team.

The waters of Anchor Bay, Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers are the subject of much interest regarding water quality and source water protection. A discussion of the region-wide source water team is included at the conclusion of this section.

2.2 St. Clair County

St. Clair County has several agencies that are potentially involved with the Source Water Protection plan. The Ira Township water system interacts with each of these agencies on a periodic basis and as needed during specific events such as spills.

2.2.1 Sheriff's Department

The St. Clair County Sheriff's department provides police services to Ira Township. In the event of an emergency for the system, the Sheriff's department is notified to issue public "boil water" or "do not use" advisories to system users.

Sheriff Communications
204 Bard Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
Dan Lane, Sheriff

Emergencies Only	911
Non-Emergency	(810) 985-8115
General Information	(810) 987-1700
Sheriff's Executive Offices	(810) 987-1712

2.2.2 Local Emergency Planning Committee

The St. Clair County Office of Emergency Management, Local Emergency Planning Committee works to:

- Identify and assist facilities subject to SARA Title III requirements.
- Take reports of accidental hazardous substance release/spill notifications when released off site of the facility.
- Develop and provide public education and informational materials.
- Identify transportation routes used for extremely hazardous substances and plan for and respond to transportation incidents.
- Assist pre-hospital responders in planning and training to protect themselves and treat patients, and identify area hospital's hazardous substances capabilities.

Contact Julie Wallace at the Office of Emergency Management: (810) 989-6965 or jwallace@stclaircounty.org

2.3 State of Michigan

The State of Michigan has the regulatory authority for the Ira Township Water System through the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). In addition, the Michigan State Police (MSP) provides police and emergency support through the Emergency Management Division.

2.3.1 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

The MDEQ Water Bureau regulates the Ira Township Water System. The system is the service area of the MDEQ Southeastern Michigan District Office. District representatives include:

Laura Verona: (734) 953-1519
Hae-Jin Yoon: (734) 953-1432
Molly Wade: (734) 953-1439

The Source Water Protection program contact is:

Deb Bailey: (517) 335-3968

2.3.2 Michigan State Police

The Michigan State Police provide police and emergency services support. The local post is:

Richmond Post: (586) 727-0200

Headquarters General Information: (517) 332-2521

2.4 Other Local Agencies

The Ira Township Water System is inter-connected with the Algonac Water Treatment Plant (through Clay Township) and the New Baltimore Water System. In the event of a problem with Ira Township's intake or treatment system only, water can be provided through these systems on an emergency basis.

New Baltimore Water: (586) 725-7300
Algonac Water: (810) 794-3281
Clay Township DPW: (810) 794-9303

In addition to water supply, the St. Clair River water treatment systems coordinate their notification and response activities during spills to the St. Clair River. The following plants are located upstream of the Ira Township water system.

Lake Huron Water Plant: (810) 385-4727 or 2020
Port Huron Water Plant: (810) 984-9780
Marysville Water Plant: (810) 364-8460 or 6109
Marysville Wastewater Plant: (810) 364-6110
City of St. Clair Water Plant: (810) 329-5276
City of St. Clair WWTP: (810) 329-5275
Charter Township of
East China Sewer Plant: (810) 329-9083

East China Water Plant: (810) 765-4647
Marine City Water Plant: (810) 765-8087 or 8849
Marine City WWTP: (810) 765-8241
St. Clair County WWTP: (810) 794-7875
Algonac Water Plant: (810) 794-3281

2.5 Regional Cooperative Source Water Team

Ira Township actively participates in a variety of regional meetings that have a focus on regional water quality for the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, and Anchor Bay. These meetings have water quality and pollution prevention as key aspects of their focus. Regular meetings between the township and the St. Clair County Health Department, Community Planning, and Drain Commissioner focus on issues such as septic systems, zoning, land use and maintenance and construction of county drains are regularly discussed at each of these meetings. This document will be distributed to each of these parties and included as a standard agenda item for discussion after MDEQ approval.

In addition, the township voluntarily participates in the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) and actively promotes its watershed/source water protection initiatives. The SEMCOG public information program that emphasizes public awareness and control of non-point pollution sources is a key component of the township's public education efforts. Township leadership supports and participates in SEMCOG at all levels and a key element of the group is the protection and promotion of the area's most prominent natural resource, the waters of Lake St. Clair.

Macomb and St. Clair County also understand the significance of Lake St. Clair and are actively engaged in protecting and improving the quality of its waters. The Macomb/St. Clair County Inter-county Workgroup was formed to foster communication and cooperation between the two counties. This group meets on a bi-monthly basis and is focused on protecting and improving the water quality of Lake St. Clair. The group completed a septage study to identify candidate locations for the treatment of on-site sanitary system residuals. These septage facilities, when built, will improve water quality by providing cost-effective and environmentally sound management alternatives to home owners to effectively manage their septic tanks.

In addition, local municipalities, county, state and federal agencies are actively pursuing a real-time monitoring system to be installed at select water treatment plant intakes along the St. Clair River/Lake St. Clair corridor. This system, when operational, will provide advance notice to the Ira Township water system in the event of a spill or other pollution event up stream of the Ira Township system. Ira Township staff are actively

participating in technical workgroups with representatives from key federal (US EPA, USGS, NOAA), state (MDEQ), county (St. Clair and Macomb) and local municipal agencies and governments.