

7 TIMELINE AND EVALUATION

The S.S. Lapointe Drain Watershed is a small rural watershed with few resources devoted to water quality. Implementing this plan will mean using existing resources, organization and partnerships to the extent possible. As noted, plan implementation is best driven by a local, on-the-ground organization devoted to this kind of work. It makes sense that the River Raisin Institute continue the work started with this plan.

River Raisin Institute intends to keep working with the stakeholder groups brought together for this plan including the City of Luna Pier, LaSalle Township, Erie Township, Monroe County Health Department, Monroe County Drain Commissioner, Monroe Conservation District, Mason Consolidated School District, Luna Pier Harbor Club, Guardians of the Luna Pier Waterways, and local farmers and property owners. In addition, RRI collaborates with the Farmer-Led Water Conservation group. This S.S. Lapointe Drain Watershed Management Plan has an ambitious timeline and is establishing a ten-year time frame to achieve its water quality goals.

The implementation group will focus on securing funds and agreements to carry out the implementation plan as well as beginning the process to document progress. It is anticipated that the first year will be a startup year as the committee identifies funding opportunities and pursues them and other organizational agreements. We anticipate years two through three to be an additional study and evaluation phase. For instance:

1. Venice Canals, Luna Pier and S.S. Lapointe Drain Mouth - sediment and water quality study
2. Luna Pier Beach animal deterrent study
3. Additional *E.coli* source and dye testing, per ECS recommendations
4. Tillage and riparian buffer outreach for high and medium priority subwatersheds of the S.S. Lapointe Drain

Natural systems, including watersheds, are quite diverse, complex and variable. A watershed management plan with well-defined goals and objectives is more likely to achieve the desired outcomes if an adaptive management process is used. Adaptive management relies on data from ongoing monitoring to continually evaluate progress and refine the management practices when necessary. Monitoring will indicate how well the implementation actions are working and provide the necessary information to adapt management goals and objectives. The adaptive management process articulated in the DAP and illustrated in **Figure 45** will be the basis for evaluating and modifying the S.S. Lapointe Drain Watershed Management Plan.

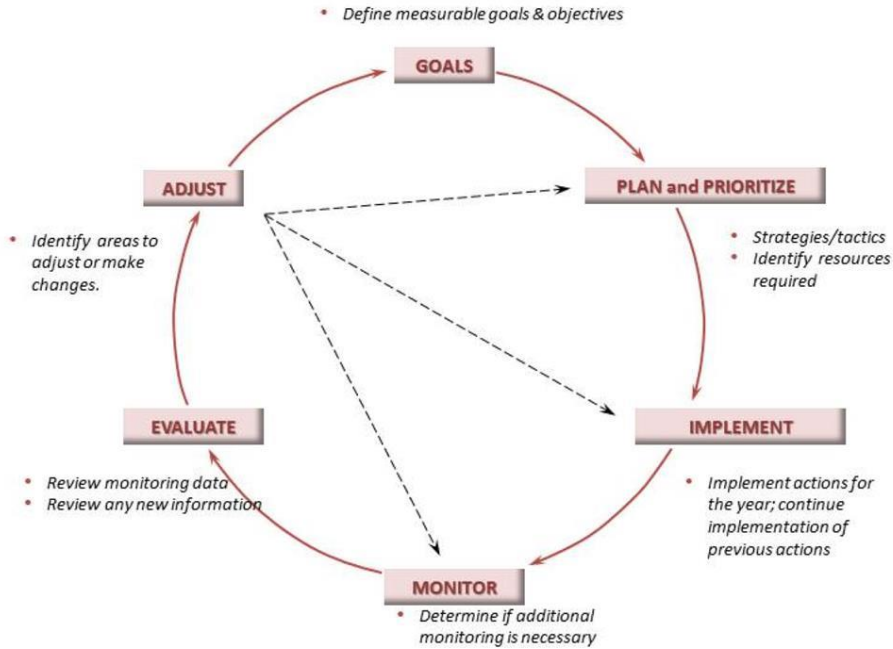


Figure 45 Adaptive Management Process for Michigan’s Domestic Action Plan for Lake Erie

Table 33 WMP Implementation Plan, Milestones and Monitoring Schedule

Activity	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. WMP Approval	1													
1a. Set up Implementation Committee	1													
1b. Provide outreach / education to communities			1											
2. Build RRI capacity														
2a. Increase RRI staff (1 FTE in 2 years; .5 FTE by 5 years)				2			2							
3. Apply for additional studies funding		3												
3a. Marina, canal & TMDL reach study														
3b. Luna Pier Beach animal repellent study														
3c. Additional <i>E.coli</i> source tracking														
4. Develop program to develop POS ordinance support														
5. Pass POS ordinance				4										
6. Implement POS ordinance														
7. Implement recommendations from studies (T2)				5										
8. Apply for I/E funds														
9. Implement I/E Programs					6									
10. Identify farms willing to invest in BMPs														
11. Develop/pilot alternate drain cleaning				7										

Activity	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
12. Identify and implement pilot two-stage ditches														
13. Luna Pier stormwater programs in place				8										
14. Identify and develop wetland restoration projects				9										
15. Implement farm BMPs				10		12		13		15				
16. Implement countywide alternate drain cleaning										16				
17. Re-evaluate WMP implementation progress				11					14					17

In **Table 33**, the Grey boxes represent potential activity duration. The numbers in the grey boxes represent specific milestones or monitoring activities.

1. MDEQ & USEPA approval of SSLD WMP
 - a. Set up implementation committee (completed) within 6 months of plan approval
 - b. Provide outreach / education to communities on new SSLD WMP; present to at least 3 watered communities; post plan and summary on web
2. Increase RRI staff (1 FTE in 2 years; .5 FTE by 5 years)
3. Acquire funding and implement studies
4. Pass POS Septic System ordinance
5. Implement Studies Recommendations
6. Re-evaluate public opinions about SSLD
7. Evaluate pilot alternate drain cleaning practices
8. Implement recommendations for Luna Pier Beach Plan
9. Implement wetland restoration projects
10. Implement top priority area buffers -10.25 mi (12.5 acres); 25% of filter strips = 20 acres; 25% cover crops = 825 acres
11. MDEQ water quality monitoring of Maumee tributaries, including S.S. Lapointe; Evaluation of S.S. Lapointe WMP Progress
12. Implement secondary priority area buffers - 9.1 mi (11 acres); 25% of filter strips = 20 acres; implement 25% cover crops = 825 acres
13. Implement tertiary priority area buffers - 20 mi (25 acres); implement 25% filter strips = 20 acres; 25% cover crops = 825 acres
14. MDEQ water quality monitoring of Maumee tributaries, including S.S. Lapointe; Evaluation of S.S. Lapointe WMP Progress
15. Implement remaining buffers - 40 mi (50 acres); implement 25% filter strips = 20 acres; 25% cover crops = 825 acres
16. Evaluate alternate drain cleaning program
17. MDEQ water quality monitoring of Maumee tributaries, including S.S. Lapointe; Final evaluation of S.S. Lapointe WMP - achieve P and *E.coli* TMDLs

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