



**WASHTENAW COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER
EVAN N. PRATT, P.E.**

BIG MARSH DRAIN

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

DATE: September 4, 2019

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL: http://bit.ly/Fall2020_DOR

See insert for additional information

LOCATION: Washtenaw County
Office of the Water Resources Commissioner
705 N Zeeb Road, 1st Floor, Rm 1104
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

QUESTIONS: 734-222-3835

This Day of Review is an opportunity to review the Drainage District apportionments with the Water Resources Commissioner or a member of his staff. The Water Resources Commissioner, engineers and other staff members will be available to assist individuals throughout the day and make revisions where necessary.

DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS, AN APPOINTMENT IS NECESSARY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS DAY OF REVIEW

A map of the proposed Drainage District boundary revisions can be found on the reverse side of this notice and on the Washtenaw County website at: www.washtenaw.org/wrcnotices.

The Day of Review is an opportunity to review the Drainage District boundaries and apportionments with the Water Resources Commissioner or a member of his staff. The Water Resources Commissioner, engineers and other staff members will be available to assist individuals throughout the day, and make revisions where necessary. There is no need to schedule an appointment for a specific time on the Day of Review.

Proceedings conducted at this public meeting will be subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office located at 705 N Zeeb RD Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact Human Resources, (734) 222-6800 TDD # (734)994-1733, P.O. Box 8645, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107-8645 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

You may appeal the Water Resources Commissioner's decision to revise the district boundary to the Washtenaw County Circuit Court within ten (10) days, and you may also appeal the determination of apportionments to the Washtenaw County Probate Court within ten (10) days.

Q. What is a Drainage District?

A. A drainage district is a legally established area of land that drains water from the landscape to a common outlet. Drainage district boundaries rarely correspond to political boundaries such as townships or counties.

Q. What is a Drain Special Assessment?

A. County drains are not maintained by Washtenaw County general fund taxes. You receive an assessment if we have performed maintenance on your local County drain within the last two years. Each drainage district is supported by a drain special assessment that covers the cost of maintaining the drainage system. County drainage districts are separate public corporations with their own financial records.



Q. Where is the storm drain for which I am being assessed?

A. The Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office has maps and aerial photos that show the location of your property and the County drain that serves the drainage district. These documents will be available on the Day of Review. Even if your property does not touch the County drain, stormwater from your land flows into the County drain (if you think that this is not the case, inform the Water Resources Commissioner's Office, so that this can be verified).

Q. Why might I receive more than one Special Assessment notice?

A. Each notice informs you of a drain special assessment for a different drainage district. Your property can be in multiple drainage districts because stormwater moves from a smaller drainage system to larger ones. For example, if your property is located in a smaller district that is "nested" inside a larger one, you could receive an assessment for each district.

Q. Is this the only way I would receive multiple Drain Assessments in one year?

A. No. Water may flow from your property in more than one direction to different drains and drainage districts, and all of those drains are assessed when they are maintained.

Q. How are Drain Assessments determined?

A. The law requires that drain assessments be based on benefit derived as determined by the Water Resources Commissioner. All properties within the drainage district are assessed based on size of the parcel, type of land use and other factors.



Q. Do all property owners pay Drain Assessments?

A. All property owners within a drainage district receive an assessment, unless specifically exempted by law. In addition, the municipality, Washtenaw County, the Washtenaw County Road Commission and the Michigan Department of Transportation (when appropriate) also receive an assessment for a portion of the maintenance costs. The Michigan Drain Code does not exempt most non-profits or religious properties from assessment.

Q. I recently purchased my property. Why am I being billed for work done prior to my ownership?

A. Although the work for which you are being assessed may have been completed prior to your purchase of the land, the Drain Code requires that assessments be levied to the property and assessed to the current owner of record. In most cases, the work performed will benefit the property for years to come.