

Voluntary and Required Activities for the Gilleland Creek Implementation Plan: Six Management Measures and One Control Action

A *management measure* is a voluntary activity, while a *control action* is a required, regulatory activity.

Management Measures

1) Onsite Sewage Facilities (OSSF)

Description: Locate, inspect, and prioritize failing onsite systems and identify funding sources to assist with repairs to those systems.

WPD Commitments: None.

AWU Commitments: Locate, inspect, and prioritize the highest priority, malfunctioning onsite systems. Help repair, replace or abandon the malfunctioning system and reconnect the homeowner to a centralized wastewater collection system.

2) Riparian Zones

Description: Protect or restore riparian zones. These are typically streamside buffers located on agricultural lands.

WPD Commitments: None.

AWU Commitments: None.

Note: The City of Austin requires stream buffer protection for new development in its jurisdiction. This activity could help landowners protect or restore riparian zones on agricultural land where local development regulations do not apply.

3) Stormwater Management

Description: Assess effectiveness of stormwater detention basin retrofits to reduce bacteria loading from existing development.

WPD Commitments: Provide technical assistance to researchers at the Center for Research in Water Resources (CRWR) who will conduct the retrofit study.

AWU Commitments: None.

Note: The CRWR received an EPA 319(h) Grant to help fund part of the retrofit study. 319(h) Grants require a local match to qualify for EPA funding.

4) Education and Outreach.

Description: Develop a public education and awareness campaign highlighting bacteria's role in non-point source pollution, especially for bacteria associated with pet waste.

WPD Commitments: Collaborate with MS4 permit partners and other stakeholders to help design or implement a pet waste campaign, e.g. *Scoop the Poop*; provide education material for distribution.

5) Ordinances and Planning

Description: Design and implement a water quality ordinance framework to minimize future bacteria loadings from new development and redevelopment. The framework, which can be adopted by municipalities in the planning area, includes provisions that can provide hydrologic control and treatment of post-development runoff; protect and preserve stream buffers and wetlands; and direct future wastewater infrastructure construction away from streams.

WPD Commitments: Help MS4 permit holders develop water quality ordinances and evaluate potential changes to existing ordinances that will enhance water quality protection; Help educate public officials and developers and create a recognition program.

AWU Commitments: None.

Note: The framework found in the I-Plan mirrors existing City of Austin watershed regulations for development in this area; therefore, we will not need to change our regulations to meet the plan's initial goals.

6) Wastewater Treatment Facilities

Description: Inspect existing wastewater collection systems within 100 feet on both sides of Gilleland Creek and its tributaries. Identify and repair failing collection systems.

WPD Commitments: None.

AWU Commitments: Identify lines that are in need of repair. Small repairs will be made as soon as is feasible after their discovery, while larger ones will be made within two years.

Control Action

1) Wastewater Effluent Quality

Description: Monitor and report wastewater effluent *E. coli* concentrations from permitted wastewater treatment facilities.

WPD Requirements: None.

AWU Requirements: Requires all permitted facilities in the affected area to comply with the new monitoring and reporting requirement for *E. coli*.

Note: Historically AWU monitored only chlorine residuals or fecal coliform in wastewater effluent.