



SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN WATERSHEDS TRUST, INC.  
*Sweet Water*

## **Background**

By formally joining Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, Inc. through this Memorandum of Understanding, you become part of a diverse collaboration of individuals, groups, organizations, and municipal and governmental representatives who acknowledge that through coordinated, collaborative efforts, we will be better able to advance water quality and restore our rivers and Lake Michigan. The signing of the MOU communicates your endorsement of this collaboration and empowers us to speak and work on behalf of water resources of this region upon which we depend.

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into among the Members of the Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust (Sweet Water) as indicated by signature, below. In light of the Regional Water Quality Management Plan Update completed and approved in 2007, this MOU creates a voluntary, non-taxing partnership of independent units of government, special purpose districts, agencies, organizations and members at large that share common goals and have come together to achieve these goals through *coordinated* collaboration and cooperation within the Greater Milwaukee Watersheds.

## **Mission**

The Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust (Sweet Water) is a collaborative effort to achieve healthy and sustainable water resources throughout the Greater Milwaukee Watersheds.<sup>1</sup>

## **Primary Purposes of Sweet Water include:**

**Primary Purpose 1.** To achieve water resource goals and objectives – such as clean water, conservation, and ecological function – through innovative and sustainable practices.

**Primary Purpose 2.** To improve water quality in the Greater Milwaukee Watersheds to support a healthy regional economy and improve quality of life.

**Primary Purpose 3.** To test and then implement innovative approaches and practices that will achieve improvements in water resources in a cost-effective way.

**Primary Purpose 4.** To build partnerships and enhance collaborative decision-making and joint project implementation, engaging government, business, the building industry, agriculture, environmental, and other stakeholder organizations to obtain broad agreement and recommend where to invest funds to get the greatest benefit.

**Primary Purpose 5.** Through collaborative action, to increase the region's success in attracting new funding and leverage existing funding for water quality and water resource improvements.

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<sup>1</sup> The Greater Milwaukee Watersheds are defined as the watersheds of the Kinnickinnic River, Menomonee River, Milwaukee River, Root River, and Oak Creek; Lake Michigan direct drainage; the Milwaukee Harbor estuary; and nearshore Lake Michigan.

**Organization**

Organizational structure and practices are outlined in Sweet Water’s Policies and Procedures, adopted by the Executive Steering Council on <future date>, to be reviewed annually.

**It is mutually agreed and understood by and among the parties hereto that:**

This MOU reflects an entirely voluntary commitment among the parties hereto to cooperate and work together to achieve the vision and mission articulated herein. This MOU in no way obligates or restricts the activity of any party hereto in any way.

No Member shall obligate, or purport to obligate, any other Member with respect to any matter.

Any party may withdraw from Sweet Water at any time by providing written notice to the Chair of the Sweet Water Steering Council.

In the spirit of cooperation, any project funded by or under the Sweet Water name is expected to share resulting water resource data or other data related to the Greater Milwaukee Watersheds including geospatial data (electronic and hard-copy) and any data resulting from monitoring, research, and other management, conservation, or educational activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this MOU to be executed as of the dates written below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Contact (Please Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Affiliation, if applicable Website

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number (primary contact) Email (primary contact)

Joining as individual partner  Joining as organizational partner\*

***Which watershed are you interested in? (Please check all that apply.)***

\_\_\_Menomonee River \_\_\_Kinnickinnic River \_\_\_Oak Creek \_\_\_Root River \_\_\_Milwaukee River \_\_\_Lake Michigan Direct Drainage

***Are you interested in learning more about:*** \_\_\_ Sweet Water Science Committee  
\_\_\_ Joining a Watershed Action Team  
\_\_\_ Sweet Water Policy/Legal Committee

***Please send form to:*** ***Kate Morgan***  
***Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, Inc.***  
***600 E. Greenfield Ave.***  
***Milwaukee, WI 53204-2944***

\*Organizational partners: please attach a copy of the resolution from the organization’s governing board when submitting the MOU (See attached template provided as an example).

Organization Name

Resolution

Resolution Number:

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**Authorization to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding in Support of the Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust (Sweet Water)**

Resolved, by the ORGANIZATION NAME, that the AUTHORIZED SIGNER is authorized and directed to sign the Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust Inc.'s Memorandum of Understanding and otherwise support activities that improve receiving water resources consistent with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's (SEWRPC) Regional Water Quality Management Plan Update (RWQMPU).

This resolution expressly excludes the approval of any financial commitments.

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Authorized signature

Date signed