

## CHAPTER 10

# PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

In order to implement the Fishing Creek/Cedar Run Watershed Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan, the county planners and municipal officials must review the plan. The County Board of Commissioners must then formally adopt the Plan. The Department of Environmental Protection will approve the plan after reviewing the County Adoption Resolution and Plan Review Comments, as well as the plan itself. Implementation of the Plan will be the responsibility of the municipalities within the Combined Watershed subsequent to County adoption and PA DEP approval. Options are available to the municipalities for implementing the plan. The municipalities can either adopt the Model Stormwater Management Ordinance included with this plan, or they may incorporate the provisions of the Plan into existing ordinances. The model ordinance that appears in this Plan, upon implementation by each municipality within the Fishing Creek/ Cedar Run Watershed, can apply to the entire municipality, if that municipality chooses.

Standards and criteria developed by this Plan and put forth in the model ordinance are intended to apply only to the portion of each municipality lying within the Combined Watershed. It will be necessary, therefore, to implement the model ordinance in such a way that would not only avoid conflict with existing regulations, but would allow the existing regulations to remain in effect in the areas of each municipality not covered by the Plan.

Regardless of how the municipalities implement the plan, Act 167 requires municipal compliance subsequent to County adoption and PA DEP approval. Further, the local municipality through their qualified agent (i.e. municipal engineer) should review the method used to implement the resulting regulatory structure to ensure compliance with the Plan, and to avoid regulatory conflicts and inconsistencies. Following is the sequence of events that must take place to implement this Plan:

1. Submission of the Plan to DEP, as adopted by Clinton County, and Plan approval from DEP.
2. Municipal adoption of the model ordinance or integration of the Plan's provisions into existing regulations.

Municipal adoption is a critical step. It is important that the municipalities implement the standards and criteria of the Plan correctly, especially if they choose to integrate the standards and criteria into existing regulations. In either case, we recommend that the resulting regulatory framework be reviewed by DEP for compliance with the provisions of the Plan, and consistency among the various regulations. Ideally, municipalities will adopt the model ordinance for ease of implementation, compliance with the Plan, and consistency among the watershed's municipalities. Municipalities would then tie the model ordinance into existing ordinances by referring regulated activities within the Fishing Creek/Cedar Run Basin to the adopted model ordinance. Municipalities must then send a copy of the municipal resolution to the Department of Environmental Protection, notifying them of compliance with adopted regulations.

### 3. Municipal Review of Drainage Plans.

The municipality, through its qualified agent such as the municipal engineer, will receive stormwater drainage plans for all activities regulated by the ordinance. The municipality will then review the plans for compliance with the standards and criteria of the plan and shall approve or disapprove the drainage plans.

### 4. Remediation of Existing Storm Drainage Problems.

During the planning process, the Lead Agency obtained and generated data on existing storm drainage problems. Municipalities should use these data to develop a systematic, prioritized strategy to remedy existing problems. However, neither the plan nor the Stormwater Management Act 167 mandates the remediation of these problems. Watershed planning is intended to ensure that existing problems do not intensify and that new problems do not occur. Therefore, as municipalities meet these objectives through proper implementation of this Plan's provisions, they may consider the remediation of existing problems as the next logical step in a Stormwater Management Program.

To assist municipalities in obtaining funds to address these problems, the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) is authorized to provide low interest loans to municipalities for stormwater projects. Municipalities

within the Combined Watershed should prioritize existing problems by severity, impact, and cost and consider the PENNVEST program for their financing.