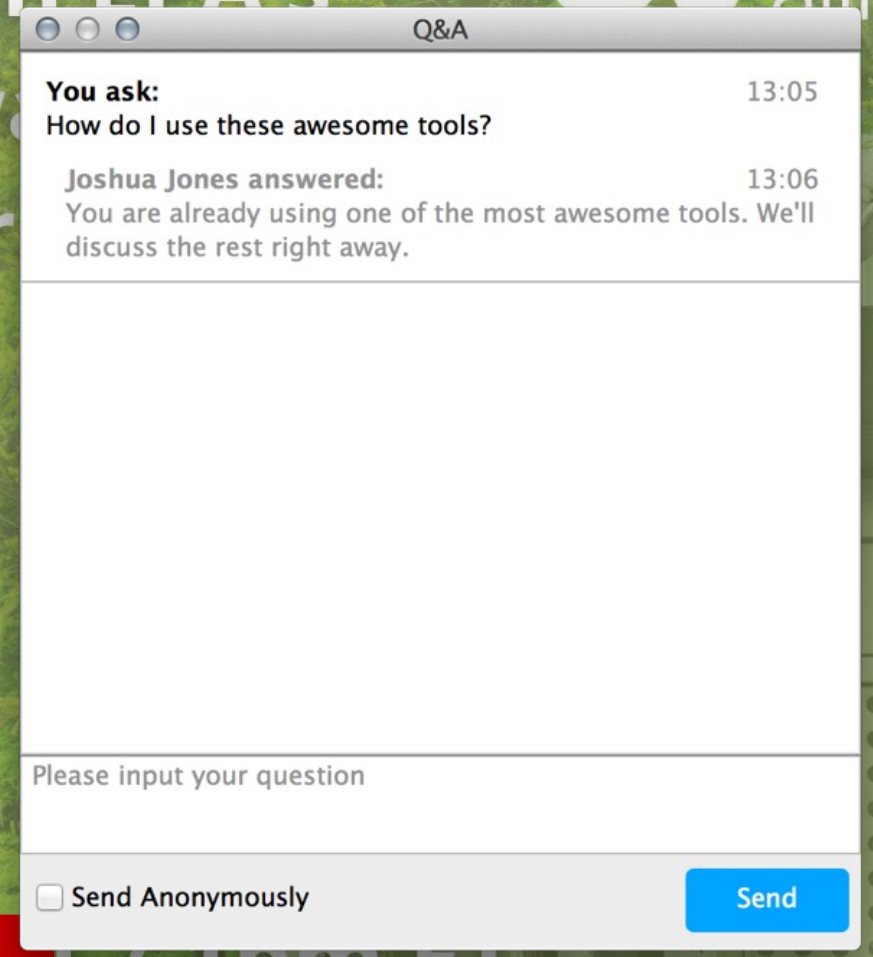

waternow
alliance
Building Green Solutions with EPA's Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant Program
August 30, 10am PT / 11am MT / 1pm ET

Building Green Solutions with EPA's Sewer Overflow and Stormw… Reuse Municipal Grant Progr…

waternow alliance



August 30, 10am PT / …am M… / 1pm ET

Mute | Chat | Raise Hand | Q&A | Leave Meeting

TODAY'S SPEAKERS

MICHAEL GORALCZYK
Clean Water State Revolving Fund, EPA/Office of Wastewater Management

CORINNE L. JOHNSON
Nonpoint Source Program Grant Manager – Bureau of Community Financial Assistance, Wisconsin DNR

TODAY'S SPEAKERS

JESSIAH "JESSE" BENNETT
Southeast Wisconsin Nonpoint Source Runoff Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR

CAROLINE KOCH
Water Policy Director, WaterNow Alliance

Agenda

- About WaterNow Alliance
- OSG Program Background
- Brief Polls & Word Cloud
- OSG Program Eligibility & Priorities
- Wisconsin: State OSG Funding Methodology & Project Examples
- Audience Q&A

PLEASE COMPLETE OUR WEBINAR EVALUATION!

waternow alliance
water leaders. resilient solutions.

OUR MISSION

A forum and network of local water leaders advancing sustainable, affordable, equitable and climate resilient water strategies

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY SUSTAINABLE?

Providing safe, healthy, and affordable water services for people while preserving the integrity of water resources and the environment for future generations.

waternow alliance

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY EQUITABLE?

Water equity means universal access to secure, affordable, safe, and healthy drinking water, and wastewater and stormwater management services. Equitable water infrastructure investment should support the long-term sustainability of our waterways, water systems, and utilities.

waternow alliance

tap into resilience
A WaterNow Alliance Initiative

Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program (OSG)

Michael Goralczyk – Office of Wastewater Managment

Aug 2023

Background

- America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018 reauthorized and expanded section 221 of the Clean Water Act which initiated the start of the OSG program
- In 2021, IIJA (BIL) amended the program to focus on small communities (10,000 pop. or less) and/or financially distressed communities
- The program uses an allotment formula to give states, DC, and territories an allotted percentage of the funds
- A state agency applies to EPA for their grant, and then uses the funds to make subgrants to municipalities for eligible projects.


TIME FOR A ZOOM POLL

Eligible Projects

- Treatment works to intercept, transport, control, treat, or reuse municipal combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or stormwater; and
- Any other measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water eligible for assistance under section 1383(c) of this title.
- OSG is flexible! It can support…
  - Ongoing overflow or stormwater work (gray or green)
  - Planning and design costs to get a project off the ground
  - Disadvantaged communities and EJ initiatives
  - Can be paired with CW SRF to reduce costs for the community

Eligible Projects cont.

- Eligible projects may include but are not limited to:
  - Separate sanitary and storm sewers
  - Downspout disconnection
  - Overflow tanks/tunnels
  - Infiltration/inflow correction
  - Conveyance infrastructure / Sewer Pipes
  - Street Sweepers
  - Vacuum trucks
  - Green Infrastructure
  - Constructed Wetlands
  - Establishment/restoration of urban tree canopy

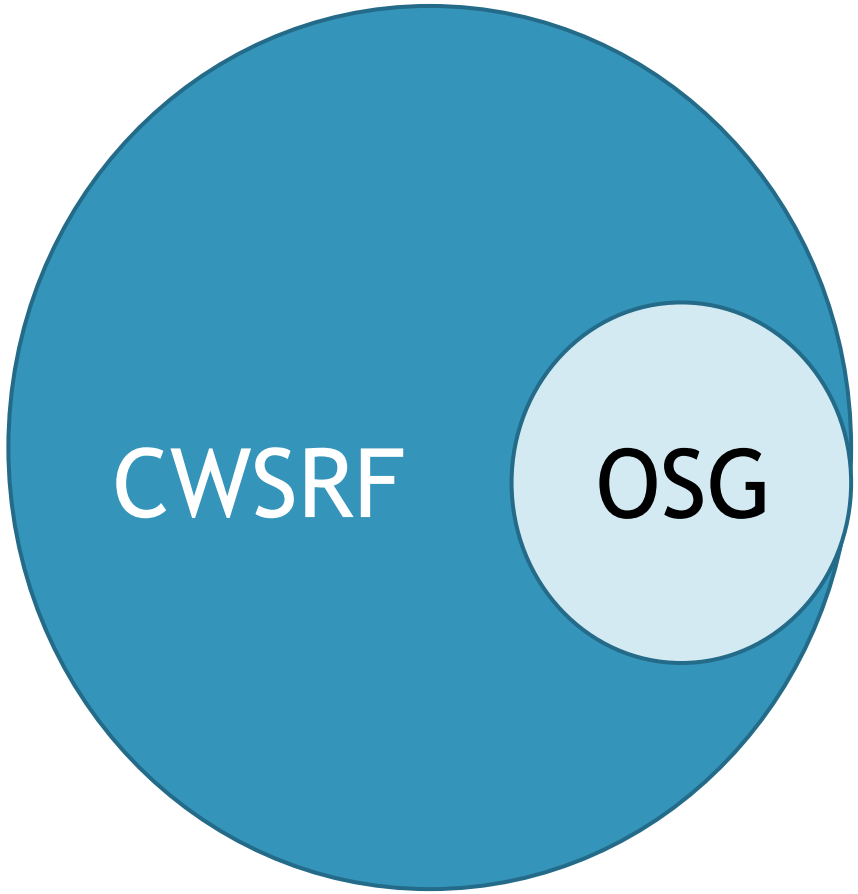
What are the most significant challenges your community faces regarding sewer overflow and stormwater management?

191 Responses


TIME FOR A ZOOM POLL

Eligible Projects (cont.)

Vast majority of Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF) projects are wastewater, which are not eligible for OSG



All OSG projects are CWSRF eligible

OSG Priorities

- States shall give priority to applicants that are:
  - Financially distressed communities
  - Implementing a long-term control plan for CSO or SSO
  - Requesting funding for a project on the CWSRF Intended Use Plan (IUP)
  - Alaskan Native Villages
- 20% Green Project Reserve Requirement – if no GPR projects ready to go, may still apply and submit a written plan on how you plan to target those going forward
- 25% to Rural (10k or less) and/or Financially Distressed Communities
- Another consideration: Projects that are Ready-to-Proceed, as the Period of Performance is only 4 years.

Cost Share Requirements

- Federal Share at 80% and Non federal at 20%
  - Example: $100,000 project = $80,0000 fed/$20,000 state
- Potential Match Sources
  - State Appropriations
  - Private Sources – businesses and nonprofits
  - In-Kind Services
  - CWSRF Loans: projects using “recycled” or “reflow” funds
- States cannot require rural or disadvantaged applicants to provide the cost-share (must find another source)
- **Cost share is reduced when awarding rural (10K pop or less) or disadvantaged communities (state defined)**

OSG Appropriations

FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	Total
$28 M	$40 M	$43 M	$50 M	**$161 M**

- Each Fiscal Year (FY) appropriation is allocated across the states, DC, and the territories
- Future OSG appropriations are anticipated and reliant on the Congressional budget for the Federal government.

Who to Contact?

- Interested municipalities can contact their state's office for water infrastructure investments to learn about how their state is managing the OSG grant.
- Only municipalities may receive these funds for eligible projects, yet a municipality may collaborate with stormwater groups for support and guidance in stormwater management.

Resources

- Program website (search for “EPA OSG”) https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/sewer-overflow-and-stormwater-reuse-municipal-grants-program
- Implementation document https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-03/documents/osg_program_implementation_document.pdf

Wisconsin's OSG Funding Methodology

Corinne Johnson, Nonpoint Source Program Grant Manager

Jessiah Bennett, Regional Nonpoint Source Coordinator

August 30, 2023

Building the Methodology

- FFY 2020 & 2021 OSG allocations (total $1,229,000)
  - Focused on stormwater projects
  - Aligned with existing program(s)
    - Try not to reinvent the wheel

Photo: Village of Fox Point, Wisconsin

CWA section 603(c) states that assistance may be used:

(1) . . .for construction of publicly owned treatment works (as defined in section 212);
(2) for the implementation of a management program established under section 319;
(3) for development and implementation of a conservation and management plan under section 320;
(4) for the construction, repair, or replacement of decentralized wastewater treatment systems that treat municipal wastewater or domestic sewage;
(5) for measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water;
(6) . . .for measures to reduce the demand for publicly owned treatment works capacity through water conservation, efficiency, or reuse;
(7) for the development and implementation of watershed projects meeting the criteria set forth in section 122;
(8) . . .for measures to reduce the energy consumption needs for publicly owned treatment works;
(9) for reusing or recycling wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water;
(10) for measures to increase the security of publicly owned treatment works;
(11) . . .to provide assistance to owners and operators of small and medium publicly owned treatment works—
(A) to plan, develop, and obtain financing for eligible projects under this subsection, including planning, design, and associated preconstruction activities; and
(B) to assist such treatment works in achieving compliance with this Act; and
(12) . . .to provide assistance to an eligible individual (as defined in subsection (j))—
(A) for the repair or replacement of existing individual household decentralized wastewater treatment systems; or
(B) *in a case in which an eligible individual resides in a household that could be cost-effectively connected to an available publicly owned treatment works, for the connection of the applicable household to such treatment works.*

OSG Sideboards

- At least 20% to green infrastructure, water and energy efficiency improvements
- At least 25% in rural and/or financially distressed communities
  - Rural = <10,000 people
  - “Financially distressed” considers SRF criteria
- Up to 4% towards administrative expenses
- Cost-share rate = at least 55%
- State allocation requires 20% non-federal match

Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS) Grant Program

- Construction Grants
  - Storm water runoff management practices
  - 50% cost-share rate, $150,000 grant cap
  - Grants to local governmental units
    - Primarily municipal storm water permittees (MS4s)
  - 2-year grant period
  - Established application scoring & ranking process
  - Funded with state bond revenue

Clean Water Fund Program
Intended Use Plan (IUP) & OSG Workplan

- IUP provides “affordability criteria” for defining financially distressed communities – did not create new criteria for OSG
- FFY 2023 IUP incorporates OSG allocation plan & methodology
- OSG workplan incorporates allocation plan & methodology

Allocation/Award Results

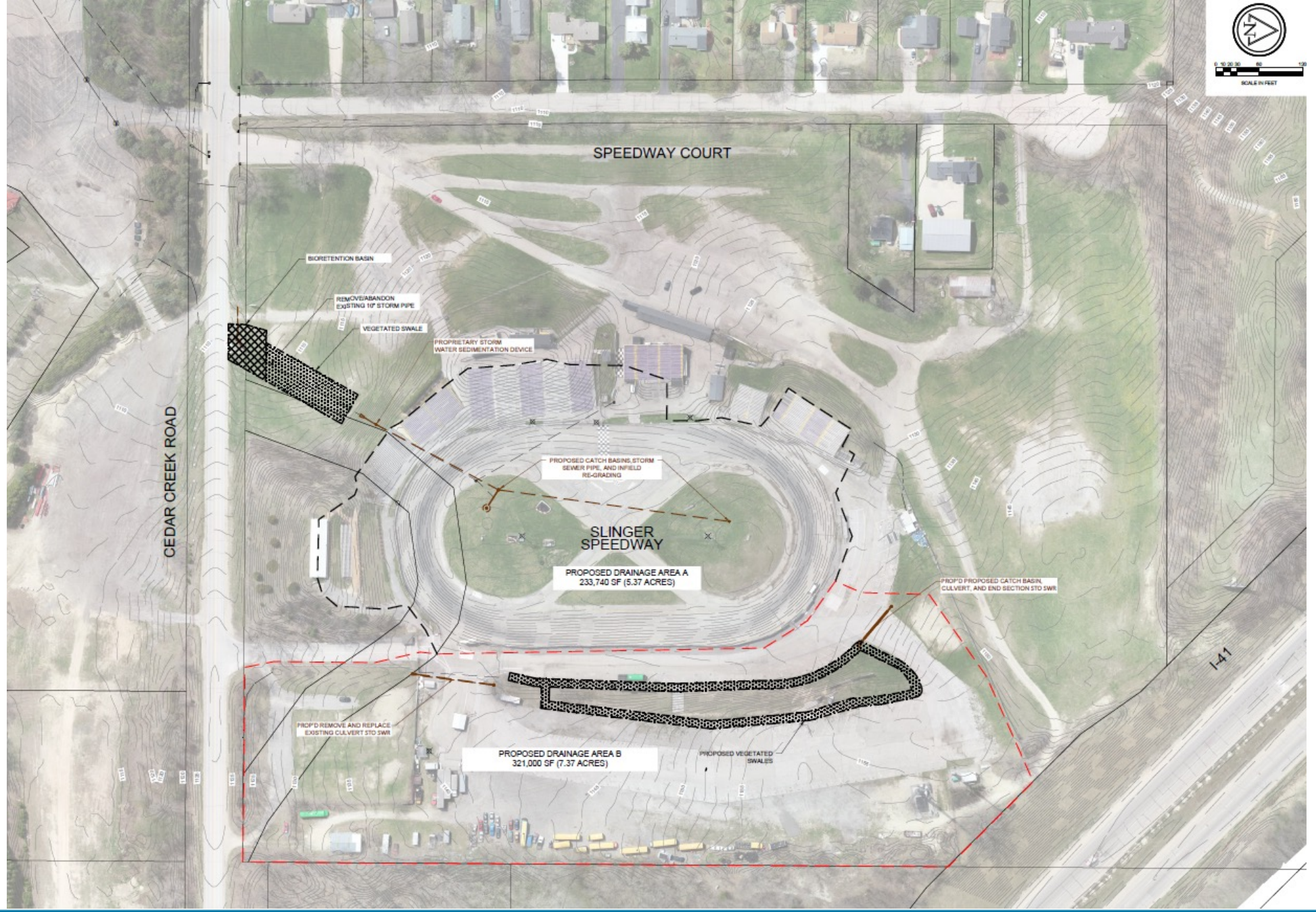
- Co-funded 3 UNPS projects to 100% of estimated costs
  - Met OSG requirements for funding green infrastructure, rural communities, and financially distressed communities
  - Projects started at beginning of 2023
- $1,229,000 = OSG Funds
  - UNPS Projects = $1,179,840
  - Administration = $49,160
- $307,250 = UNPS State Funds (20% match)

FFY 2022 & 2023 OSG Allocations

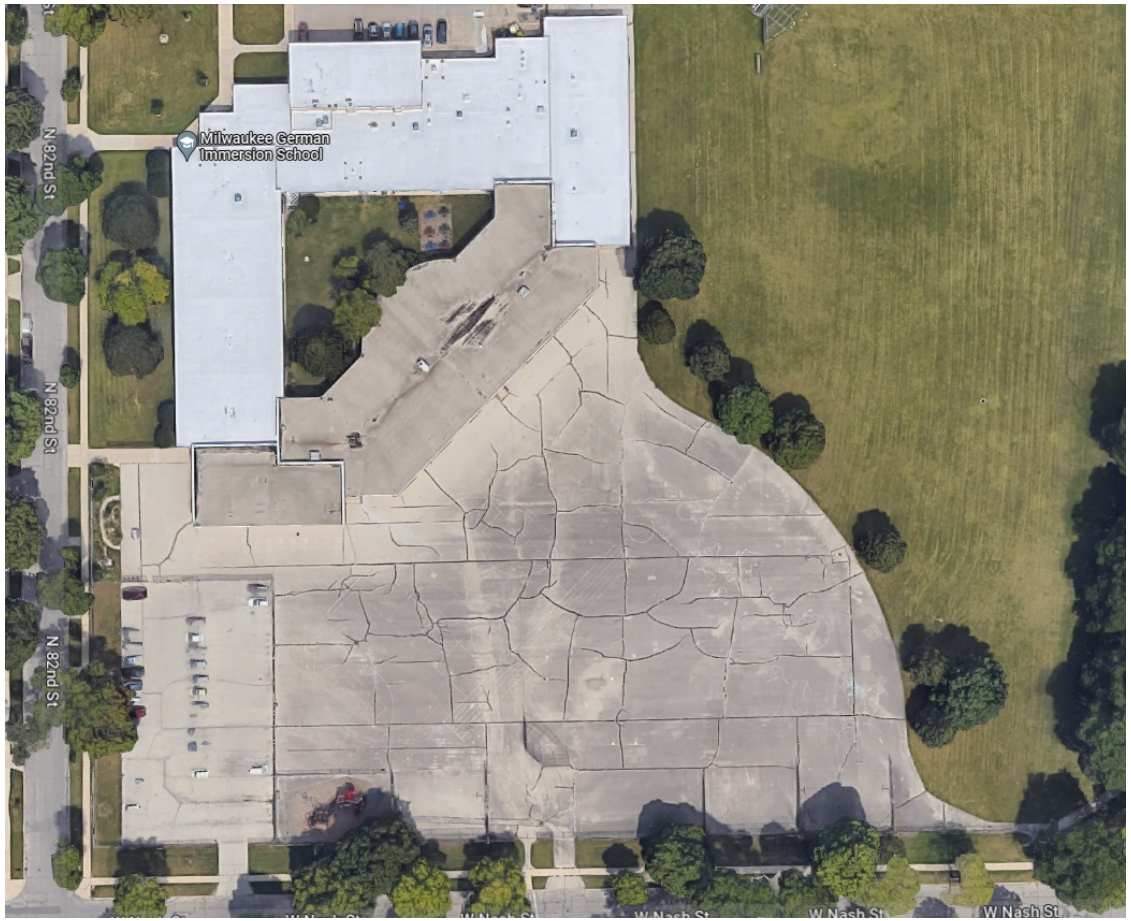
- Awarded via CY 2025 UNPS-Construction Grants
  - Applications due April 15, 2024
- Create/submit OSG workplan & grant application
- Update IUP as necessary
- Awarded UNPS projects start January 1, 2025

OSG Funded Urban Nonpoint Projects

- Greener Healthier Schoolyards-Milwaukee German Immersion School
  - $512,500 grant award to Milwaukee Public School District
  - Includes engineering/design, Bioretention for Infiltration, Vegetated Infiltration Swale, and permeable pavement
  - Located within the Milwaukee River TMDL watershed
- Greener Healthier Schoolyards-Kluge Elementary
  - $471,500 grant award to Milwaukee Public School District
  - Includes engineering/design, Bioretention for Infiltration, Vegetated Infiltration Swale, and permeable pavement
  - Located within the Milwaukee River TMDL watershed
- Slinger Speedway Stormwater Improvements
  - $553,485 grant award to Village of Slinger
  - Includes engineering/design, Bioretention for Infiltration, Vegetated Infiltration Swale, and catch basins
  - Located within the Rock River TMDL watershed


SPEEDWAY COURT
CEDAR CREEK ROAD
I-41
SLINGER SPEEDWAY
BIORETENTION BASIN
REMOVE/ABANDON EXISTING 10" STORM PIPE
VEGETATED SWALE
PROPRIETARY STORM WATER SEDIMENTATION DEVICE
PROPOSED CATCH BASINS, STORM SEWER PIPE, AND INFIELD RE-GRADING
PROPOSED DRAINAGE AREA A 233,740 SF (5.37 ACRES)
PROP'D PROPOSED CATCH BASIN, CULVERT, AND END SECTION STD SWR
PROP'D REMOVE AND REPLACE EXISTING CULVERT STD SWR
PROPOSED DRAINAGE AREA B 321,000 SF (7.37 ACRES)
PROPOSED VEGETATED SWALES
SCALE IN FEET

Greener, Healthier Schoolyards



NEED FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Stormwater flows across Kluge's expansive playground causing asphalt erosion and icy conditions in the winter months. There is opportunity to install green infrastructure and divert stormwater into large bioswales on Kluge's schoolyard to manage stormwater where it falls.

STORMWATER GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Green infrastructure including large bioswales, porous pavement, and stormwater trees will help to better manage stormwater on the school grounds, where it falls, improving the aesthetics, biodiversity, recreational facilities, and the health of local watersheds.

ADDITIONAL GREEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

Reducing the amount of asphalt on the school grounds is a central component of the redevelopment plan. Along with new green space, earthen mounds, and tree plantings, MGIS would like to encourage nature play with wooden climbers and loose parts play elements. In addition, the school would like to add a running track, colorful pavement markings, and gaga ball pits to support exercise activities and game play.

EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE AND EXHIBITION

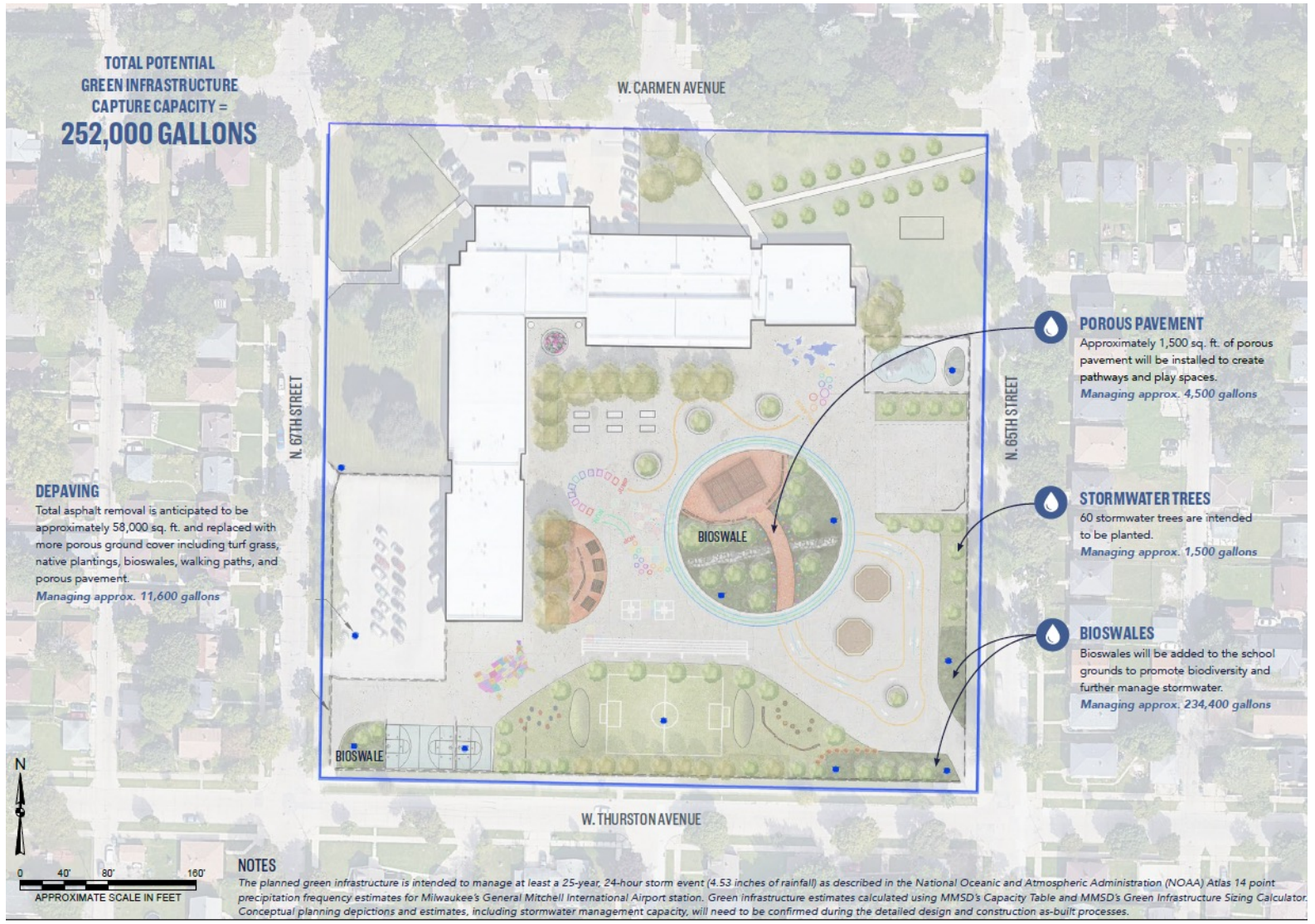
Looking at the redeveloped school grounds through the lens of exhibition, there are several opportunities to display educational themes through artistic means. Students can participate in the original creation of the signs and if panels are to be easily replaceable, portions of the signs could be refreshed with new thematic student art on a regular basis.

Potential Sign Themes:

1. Bioswales and Stormwater Management
2. School Gardens and Healthy Food Access
3. Outdoor Classroom - Use Schedule
4. Underground Cistern and Green Infrastructure Strategies
5. Project Partners and Site History
6. Native Plantings and Pollinator Species

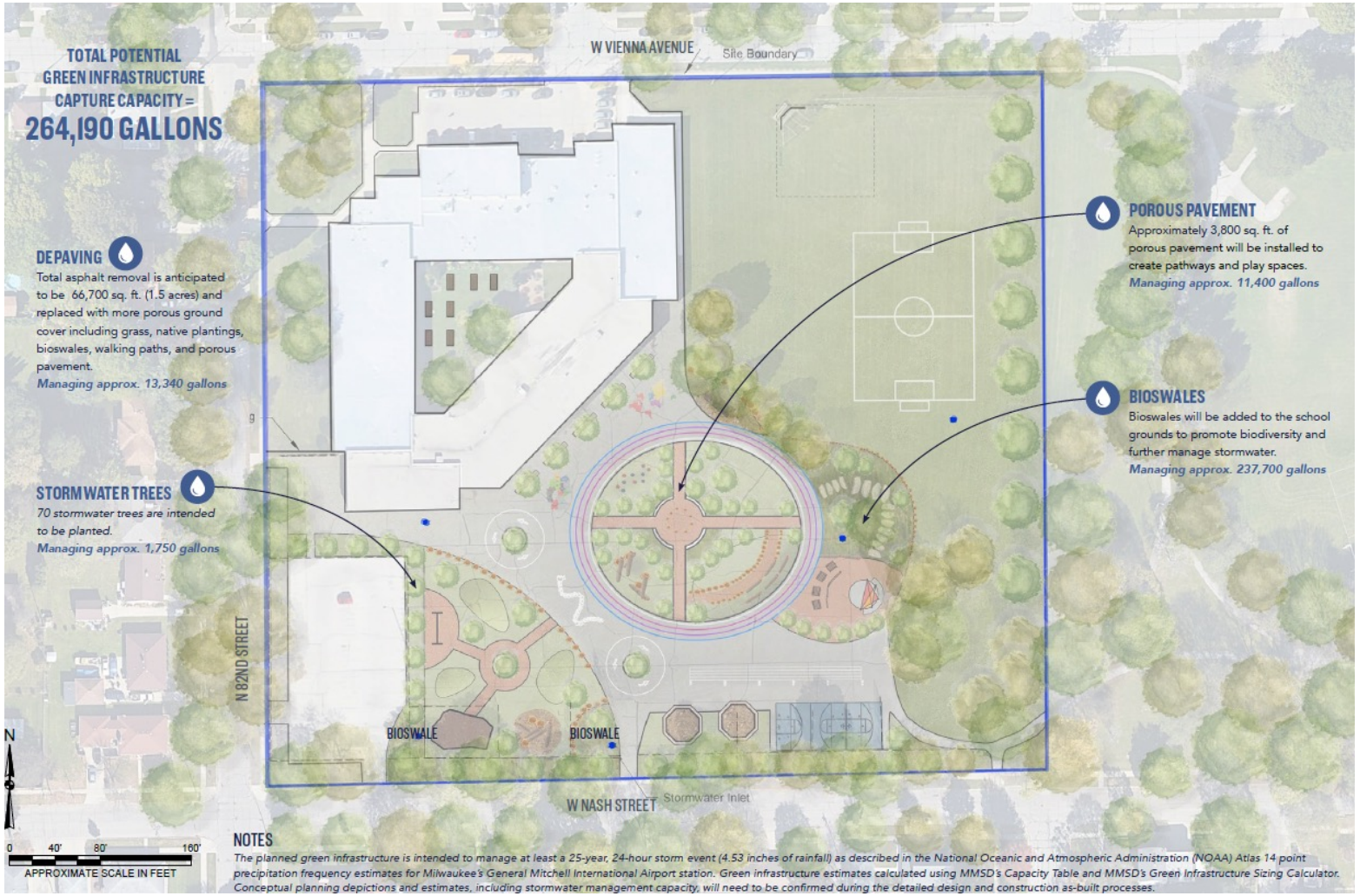
Kluge Elementary Schoolyard

Stormwater Improvements



German Immersion Schoolyard

Stormwater Improvements



CONNECT WITH US

Corinne Johnson
Corinne.Johnson@wisconsin.gov

Jessiah Bennett
Jessiah.Bennett@wisconsin.gov

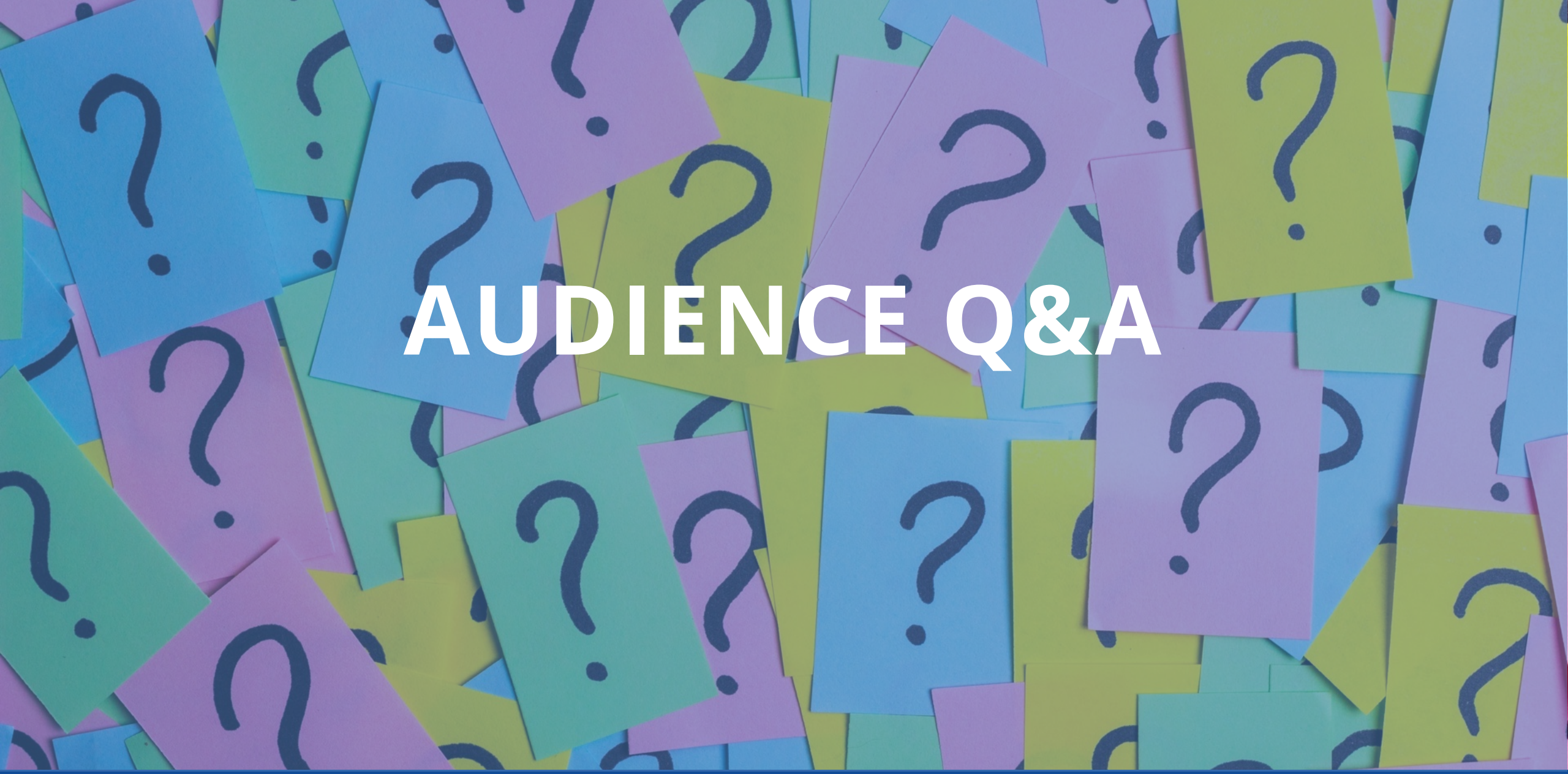
/WIDNR

@WIDNR

@WI_DNR

/WIDNRTV

"WILD WISCONSIN:
OFF THE RECORD"



AUDIENCE Q&A

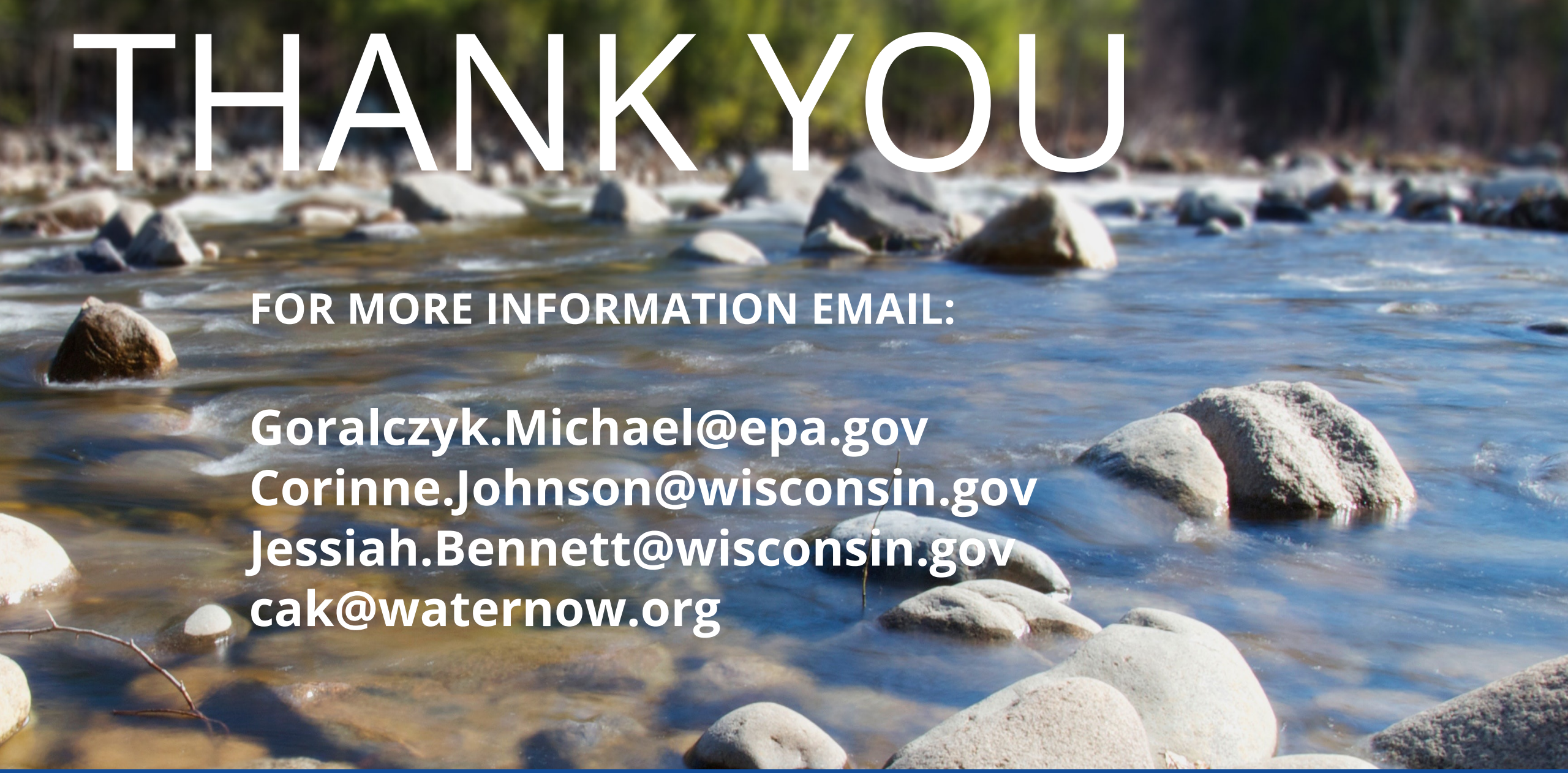
JOIN THE ALLIANCE

LEARN MORE AND SIGN UP

www.waternow.org/join-the-leaders

PLEASE COMPLETE OUR WEBINAR EVALUATION!

waternow alliance
water leaders. resilient solutions.



THANK YOU

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:

Goralczyk.Michael@epa.gov
Corinne.Johnson@wisconsin.gov
Jessiah.Bennett@wisconsin.gov
cak@waternow.org