

I have excellent news! **Baseline Water Quality Testing Approved**

The Big Flower Creek Association (BFCA) has voted unanimously to proceed with baseline water quality testing of Big Flower Creek starting in April!

Here is a summary of my specific recommendations that were approved:

I recommend we hire AWRI for water baseline assessment testing of BFC. I recommend that we have AWRI conduct the following water assessment testing using a MDEQ approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP):

1. *E. coli* (triplicate), ammonia, nitrate, and phosphorus (along with discharge, temperature, dissolved oxygen and pH measured in the field) at 5 sites during “3 events” (April, August & October) at a cost of \$1,875.00 (Note: On 2-21-18 I received an updated cost of \$1,800.00 for these tests from AWRI)
2. Additional *E. coli* (triplicate) testing at 1 of the 5 sites for 4 additional weeks (5 weeks total) at a cost of \$800.00 (this addition was recommended by the MDEQ), and
3. Conduct MDEQ P51 protocol testing at 5 sites during 1 “event” for qualitative evaluations of the macroinvertebrate community and habitat quality, and fish, at a cost of \$2,000

The total cost for these tests, when conducted by AWRI, is \$4,600.00.

As I believe you know, the Land Conservancy of West Michigan will be contributing \$500.00 and you (ROAD) will be contributing \$1,000.00 towards the baseline testing. Therefore the BFCA will be paying \$3,100.00.

I told Rick Rediske the good news today, and have asked him what is needed to proceed. I told him that ROAD will provide a check directly to AWRI, referencing the appropriate invoice, when funding is needed.

I will share with you the invoice when I receive it, and keep you inform on any important issues and updates.

Cheers, and thanks to ROAD for your support on this important issue.

Kim