Rock River Stormwater Group

Resolution in Support of Stormwater Week 2023 (Passed 4-14-23; Amended 5-19-23)

WHEREAS, the Rock River Stormwater Group, consisting of stormwater experts from the City of Beaver Dam, City of Beloit, Town of Beloit, City of Fort Atkinson, Town of Harmony, City of Janesville, Town of Janesville, City of Milton, City of Monroe, City of Jefferson, Town of Rock, Town of Turtle, City of Watertown, City of Waupun, City of Whitewater, and University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and is advised by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, partners with various organizations and operates as Protect Wisconsin Waterways to engage the public through outreach and education to involve citizens in reducing the impact of stormwater pollutants; and

WHEREAS, polluted stormwater runoff discharged into rivers, lakes, streams, and other waterways can result in the death of wildlife, destruction of vital ecosystems, contamination of drinking water resources, and disruption of recreational activity, threatening public health; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Act of 1972 prohibits the discharge of any pollutant to navigable waters of the United States, unless authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, a major source of pollutants in the navigable waters of the United States and Wisconsin is polluted urban and suburban stormwater runoff that flows directly into our waters, untreated; and

WHEREAS, the common sources of stormwater pollution are sediments, road salt, automotive chemicals, litter and debris, household hazardous chemicals, bacteria, nutrients, and yard and pet waste; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that pollutants be prevented from entering stormwater runoff from Wisconsin's roadways, homes, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, stormwater runoff impacts water quality in the Rock River watershed, which includes creeks, lakes, and other rivers in Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Fond Du Lac, Green, Green Lake, Jefferson, Rock, Walworth, and Waukesha counties; and

WHEREAS, as citizens of Wisconsin, we can minimize the impact on our waterways to continue to make our communities a great place to live, work, and play; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that members of the **Rock River Stormwater Group** joins communities and stormwater consortiums around Wisconsin in recognizing the week of August 5-13, 2023 as Stormwater Week.

