Shared Water Challenges

Throughout our water stewardship journey, we’ve engaged with local stakeholders to learn more about the challenges related to water. It is our goal to understand the water challenges so that we can align our efforts with the goals of the stakeholders. Our conversations resulted in the following “Shared Water Challenges” for the Menomonee River Watershed:

- Stormwater Runoff
- Total Maximum Daily Loads
- Milwaukee: Global Water Hub
- Water ways as a people attractor
- Eco-industrial development
- Lack of funding for infrastructure
- Ability to discuss water quality
- Estuary Area of Concern

With many challenges dependent on improving water quality in the watershed, the Global Water Center developed and implemented a Water Stewardship Plan that emphasizes site improvements related to improving water quality. In 2019, we made significant improvements to onsite green infrastructure, including the revamp of the green roof. We will continue to maintain on-site bioswales, and look for opportunities to work with stakeholders and support public initiatives.

The second page of this letter will outline our Water Stewardship Plan targets, actions, and outcomes. The third page provides a short narrative of our water-related compliance. We encourage your feedback and look forward to new opportunities to work with you in achieving water-related goals.

As important stakeholders we encourage your involvement and hope to hear from you with questions, comments, and additional ideas! We will post this report annually and are always looking for ways to improve our plan.
Water Stewardship Results

**Water Stewardship Plan:** Encourage additional use of the AWS Standard.

**Outcome:** More sites using the AWS Standard will lead to greater impacts in the watershed. This will strengthen water-related governance and improve water quality in the watershed.

**Water Stewardship Plan:** Ensure non-coal tar sealant use during parking lot maintenance.

**Outcome:** Reduce loading of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) to surface waters — improving water quality.

**Water Stewardship Plan:** Limit on-site salt use during snow events.

**Outcome:** Minimize salt runoff into Menomonee River Watershed — improving water quality.

**Water Stewardship Plan:** Revamp green roof and monitor/maintain onsite bioswales.

**Outcome:** Minimize salt runoff into Menomonee River Watershed — improving water quality.
Site Governance

The Global Water Center and adjacent parking lot are located within the Reed Street Yard eco-industrial park with multiple entities responsible for governance and compliance. The building is owned by HKS Holdings, Inc. and managed by Greywolf Partners. The Water Council manages the implementation of the Water Stewardship Plan.

- Greywolf Management implements the Building Emergency Plan and Spill Prevention & Response Plan designed to address emergency situations and unplanned releases.
- The parking lot and required maintenance is also the responsibility of Greywolf Management.
- The Water Council tracks building statistics (water use) on a monthly basis, and informs Greywolf of anomalies which may affect building operations.
- Green infrastructure within Reed Street Yards, including the bio-swales adjacent to the GWC, are shared by the City of Milwaukee and General Capital.
- Grounds maintenance teams observe sound environmental practices.
- The Water Council conducts inspection of the green roof as part of building maintenance, when appropriate.
- The Water Council provides guidance on best practices for water related concerns.

Compliance on water related issues is monitored throughout the year and a formal compliance evaluation was completed in 2019 by Dylan Waldhuetter and Cassandra Friedli.

Site Contact Information

Please reach out to Dylan with any feedback, comments or questions related to the implementation and site compliance:

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