

Charter Township of Brownstown



SHERRY A. BEREZ-BURTON
Clerk

21313 TELEGRAPH ROAD
BROWNSTOWN, MICHIGAN 48183-1399
E-mail: www.brownstown-mi.org

Phone: (734) 675-0910
Fax: (734) 675-9931

March 4, 2003

MAR - 5 2003

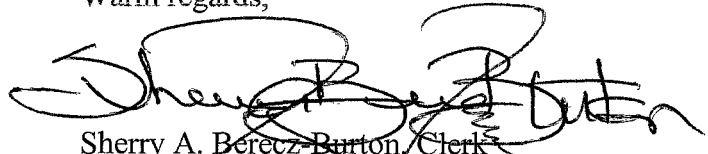
Water Docket
Environmental Protection Agency
Mailcode 4101T
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20460
ATTN: Docket ID No. OW-2002-0050

Dear Sir or Madam:

At its regular Board meeting of March 3, 2003, The Charter Township of Brownstown Board of Trustees unanimously approved to adopt a resolution supporting the Clean Water Act.

Enclosed please find four (4) copies of said resolution. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at (734) 675-0910.

Warm regards,



Sherry A. Berez-Burton, Clerk
Charter Township of Brownstown

SABB/rlh

Enclosure

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Brownstown, Wayne County, Michigan held at the Township Hall on the 3rd day of March 2003, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency have requested public input regarding issues related to what water are subject to Federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and other laws designed to protect the environment and particularly have requested public input regarding how "waters of the United States" shall be defined; and

WHEREAS, Clean water is essential for drinking, for recreational, industrial, commercial, and agricultural uses and for aquatic life and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, For 30 years, the Clean Water Act has played an essential role in protecting and restoring our nation's waterways; and

WHEREAS, This progress would not have been possible if the Act had not applied to all our nation's waters; and

WHEREAS, A more restrictive definition of the waters subject to the Clean Water Act would be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of Brownstown for the following reasons:

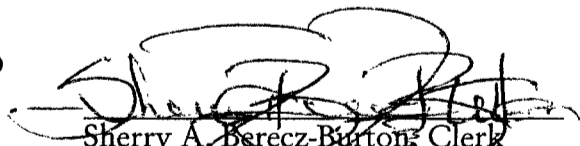
- A. Scientific studies repeatedly show the interconnectedness of surface waters, wetlands, and groundwaters. Therefore, adequate protection of navigable waters relies on protection of non-navigable tributaries and adjacent wetlands; and
- B. Isolated wetlands provide essential groundwater recharge services. In recent years, Southeastern Michigan aquifer levels have been declining, negatively affecting the amount of water available for residential, commercial and industrial use; and
- C. Smaller, isolated wetlands have been shown to provide as many ecological services to the Huron River Watershed as larger wetlands contiguous to waterbodies; and
- D. Flood control is dependent on proper management of the entire watershed draining to the Huron River; and

WHEREAS, Enforcement of water protection for isolated, ephemeral, non-navigable or adjacent waterbodies at the state level, without federal support under the Clean Water Act, would be inadequate because

- 1. Enforcement by the state of Michigan of existing water protection programs is underfunded and regularly inadequate; and
- 2. Without the leverage provided by Clean Water Act requirements, state compliance with water protection rules would be much less likely to occur; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charter Township of Brownstown affirms that the definition of U.S. waters subject to the Clean Water Act should include, in addition to traditionally navigable waters, all non-navigable tributaries, intermittent and ephemeral streams, waters that pass through man-made conveyances, and all wetlands whether or not there is a visible connection to surface waters.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED




Sherry A. Berecz-Burton, Clerk
Charter Township of Brownstown

CERTIFICATION

State of Michigan
County of Wayne:

I, Sherry A. Berecz-Burton, Clerk of the Charter Township of Brownstown, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution as adopted by the Charter Township of Brownstown Board of Trustees at a regular meeting held on the 3rd day of March 2003.



Sherry A. Berecz-Burton, Clerk
Charter Township of Brownstown