

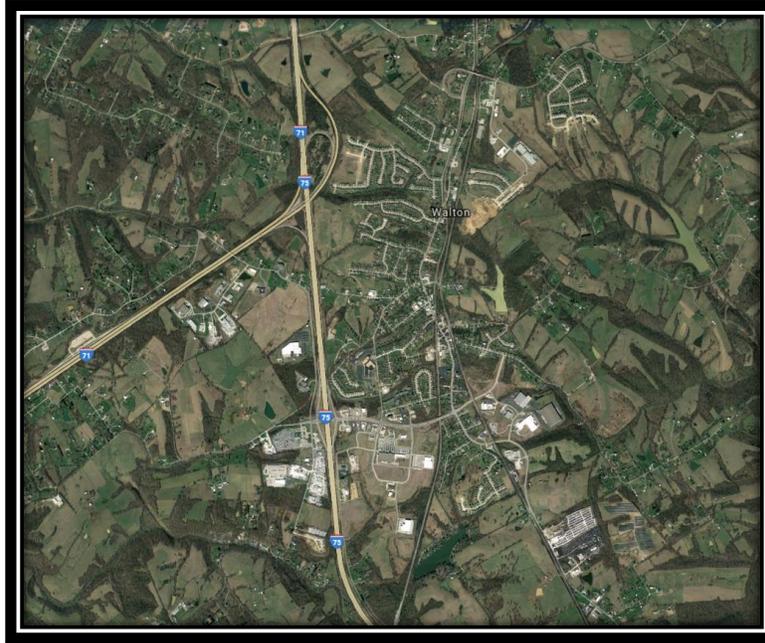
Stormwater Quality Management Plan

City of Walton

Boone County, Kentucky

Original Permit Submittal: March 15, 2019

Updated: May 10, 2023



Permittee Information:

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Report Prepared by:

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Introduction:

Please be advised, the City of Walton has made revisions upon the SWQMP originally filed in 2019. The City was notified by Abigail Rains at the Kentucky Division of Water (hereafter referred to as "KDOW") on May 21, 2018 that a KPDES permit was required, establishing Walton as an MS4 community. This notice came during a transition in mayoral terms, and an extension was requested by Public Works Director Roger Williams and granted by KDOW. **Permit # KYG200060 was issued by KDOW on April 18, 2019 and expiring on April 30, 2023. The following amended report reflects developments in the program for the new permit cycle.**

Community Background:

The City of Walton is located in southeastern Boone County and a portion of southwestern Kenton County, within the Greater Cincinnati "Tri-State" area. The city is approximately 7 miles south of the City of Florence and 16 miles southwest of Covington. The Boone County Seat is located in Burlington, and Kenton County has shared County Seat designation between Covington and Independence. Walton lies in close proximity to the I-71/I-75 split and has one interchange on I-75. Major thoroughfares through the city include US 25 (Main St./Dixie Highway) and KY 14/16 (Mary Grubbs Highway). Rail lines belonging to CSX and Norfolk Southern Railroads passing through Walton in a roughly north-south orientation, were responsible for much of the city's early development, and continue to receive heavy traffic. The city primarily consists of a mix of residential, commercial, and light industrial land uses, with predominantly agricultural land in the surrounding unincorporated areas (1). Walton is located outside of the sanitary/storm sewer service area of Sanitation District No. 1 of Northern Kentucky (hereafter referred to as "SD1"), and wishes to remain independent of their jurisdiction at this time.

Population in Walton has been steadily increasing since the 1990s, **reaching 5,333 in the 2021 census**. Over this time, several new subdivisions have been added, including Aosta Valley and Wildcat Run, and commercial/industrial development is ongoing at the Walton Towne Center and Logistics Park 75. These trends are expected to continue at a slower pace in the near future.

The City of Walton serves as the Owner/Operator of two KPDES-permitted wastewater facilities. The Main WWTP #1 discharges to an unnamed tributary of McCoy's Fork, and WWTP #2 (aka "Industrial Park WWTP") discharges to Cruises Creek. WWTP discharge is permitted under KPDES Permit #KY0039756.

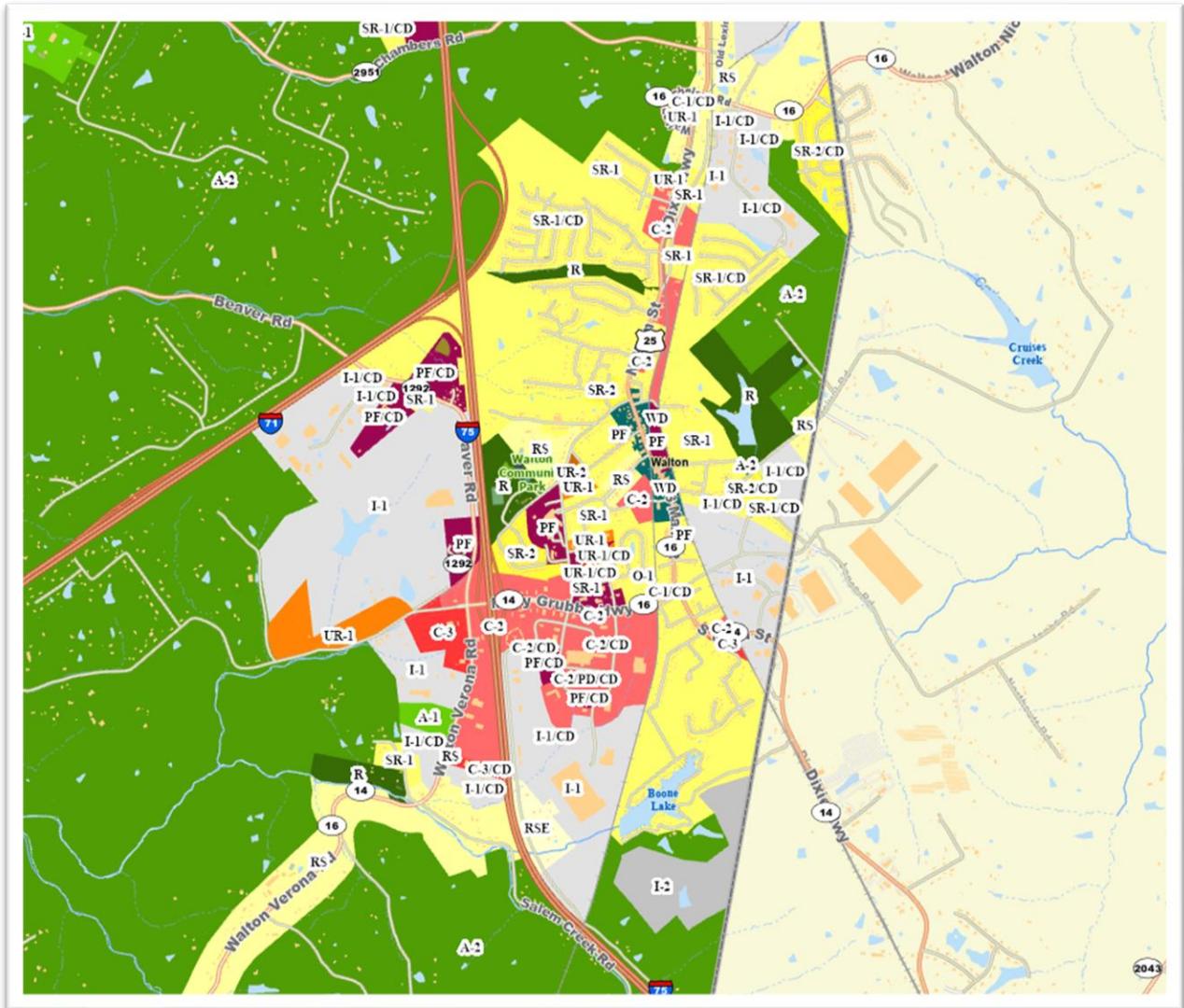


Figure 1: City of Walton Zoning Map [Boone County GIS]

Local Water Resources:

U.S. 25/Dixie Highway was constructed along a ridge that runs in a north/south direction through the city, with watersheds that drain away from the highway on either side of this ridge. The average elevation along the ridge is approximately 927 feet above sea level with approximately 30 feet of elevation change from the northern to southern limits of the city (1). The area to the west of the ridge drains to the Mud Lick Creek watershed and the area to the east of the ridge drains to the Cruises Creek watershed (2). These two watershed areas slope away from this ridge with some elevation changes of nearly 130 vertical feet. The Walton boundary also borders the Banklick Creek (an impaired stream) watershed along a short stretch of Walton-Nicholson Road and U.S. 25 in the northeast corner of the city; however no Walton homes or wastewater collection system features are located within the Banklick Creek drainage basin (2).

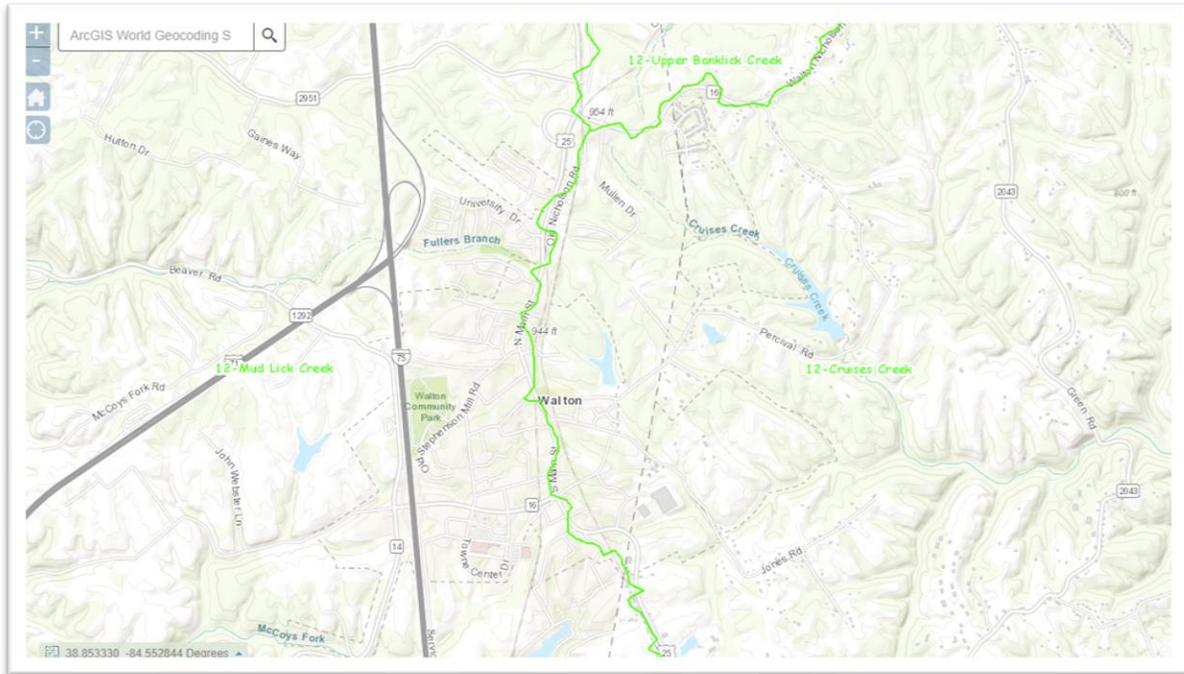


Figure 2: Walton City Limits and Watershed Boundaries [KY Energy and Environment Cabinet]

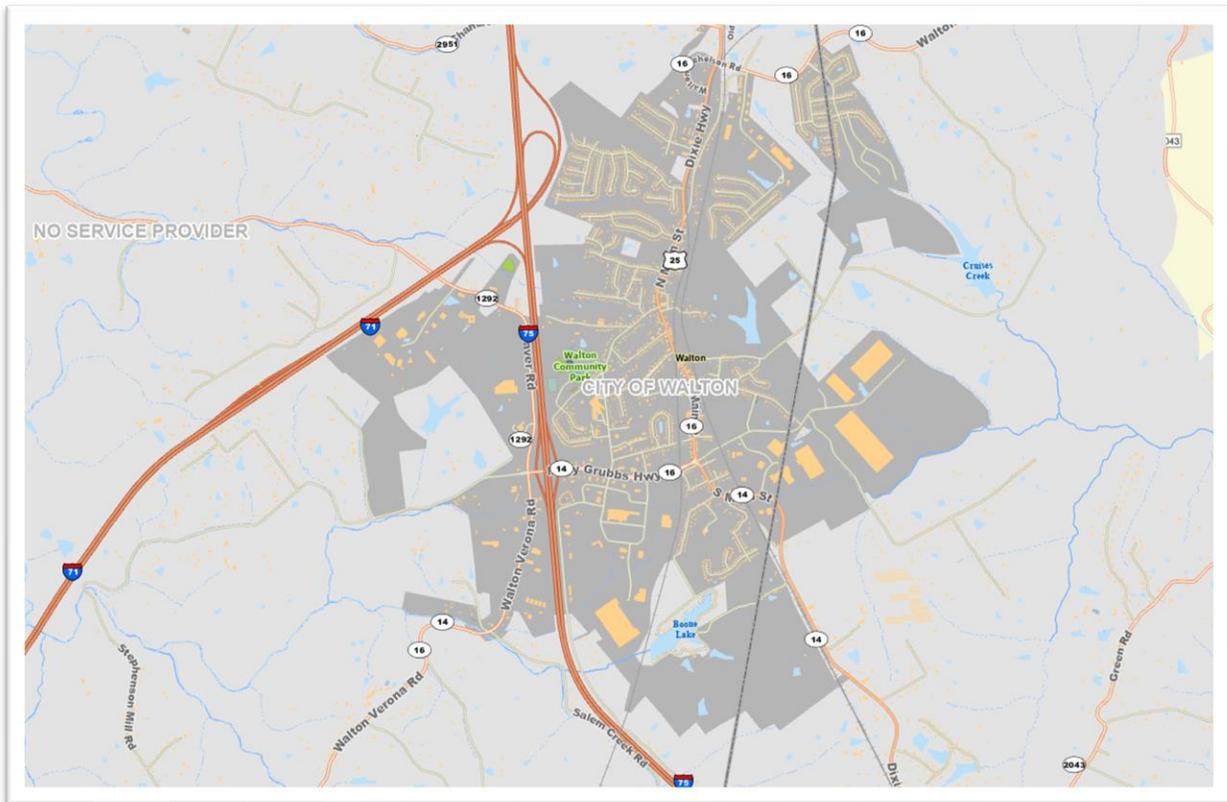


Figure 3: Walton Stormwater Service Area [Boone Co. GIS]

Neither Mud Lick Creek nor Cruises Creek have a TMDL listing. Cruises Creek is listed as Low Priority for TMDLs, pollutants and source are unknown; McCoy's Fork of Mud Lick Creek is Medium Priority, pollutants listed as Nutrient/Eutrophication Biological Indicators of unknown source (3).

Due to the ridge that runs through the city and the dramatic change in elevation within the watershed areas, there are no known wetlands present. The National Wetland Inventory was referenced to confirm that there are indeed no wetlands other than the few permanently flooded small lakes in the area. (5)

According to the 2016 305(B) list there are no known problems with water quality of the streams and lakes in Walton. Neither the unnamed tributary of McCoy's Fork (which is the discharge point for the Main WWTP) nor Cruises Creek (which is the discharge point for the Industrial Park WWTP) are listed as impaired streams (3). No Special Use Waters appear to be located within Walton city limits. (4)

Minimum Control Measures Structure:

1) Summary of Existing Measures:

A. Public Education and Outreach

- a. Since the initial notification of the MS4 requirement, the City has notified residents of MS4-related matters and new legislation through announcements in Council meetings, City website, and social media posts (See Appendix A).
- b. The City Engineer, Cardinal Engineering, is assisting with public education and outreach materials and other documents for the City website (6). **City stormwater webpage contains relevant information on stormwater-related ordinances, links for design standards and BMPs, and reporting information for suspected illicit discharges.**
- c. City Engineer has been delivering televised updates to Council and residents during the regular monthly City Council meetings. Public questions/comments are permitted during these meetings for response and further investigation, if required.
- d. Walton has not formally established a Stormwater Advisory Committee (SWAC), but regular Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings are being conducted to establish the MS4 ordinances and objectives. TAC meetings include the Mayor, City Clerk, Public Works Director, City Attorney, and City Engineer; when appropriate, Boone County Planning Commission and Boone County Public Works personnel have attended to discuss their role in approval and inspection of projects.

B. Public Involvement and Participation

- a. The City is approached periodically by student and scouting groups for neighborhood litter pick-up. Walton has hosted these groups in the monthly Council meeting to raise community awareness, and provided support in the form of trash bags, "litter grabbers", and high-visibility t-shirts for these groups.
- b. **"Adopt-a-Highway" groups perform litter cleanup along State Routes US 25, KY 14, and KY 1292, in coordination with the KY Transportation Cabinet District 6.**
- c. City hosts clean-up events in April and October for residents to safely dispose of trash, electronics, and large items.

C. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

- a. City Ordinance No. 2019-01 was passed on March 12, 2019, establishing MS4 program and prohibiting illicit discharges/connections (Appendix A).
- b. Walton and Cardinal Engineering have worked together to build a map of known major outfalls based on GIS data and archived plans. Applicable outfalls appear to be mainly clustered around commercial/industrial development in Walton, such as Chandler Dr, Mary Grubbs Highway Extension/Apex Dr, and Mullen Dr, as well as culvert crossings under I-75.
- c. Suspected illicit discharges may be reported through the online reporting form on the City Stormwater page, or by directly notifying the City Engineer, City Operations Manager, or Walton Code Enforcement.
- d. City Engineer and Public Works staff developed an Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination Plan in June 2021. This document is available to all City staff.

D. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

- a. During the inaugural permit cycle, it was discovered that neither Boone Co. Public Works nor Sanitation District No. 1 of Northern KY was conducting construction site inspections in the City of Walton. Starting in 2020, City Engineer Cardinal Engineering has begun conducting regular inspections on construction sites. Inspections are to be performed every 14 days or within 24 hours of a rain event exceeding ½ inch (on active construction sites), or every 30 days (on inactive sites).
- b. Review and approval of new development site plans must meet Boone County Planning Commission or Planning and Development Services of Kenton County Subdivision Regulations (depending on county location of development) for stormwater controls. Both agencies have adopted the SD1 BMP Manual for use in their counties, even in areas beyond SD1's jurisdiction. (7, 8)
- c. Pre-Construction meetings for new developments are conducted by Boone County Planning Commission, as the approving authority. Walton's Public Works Director attends these meetings as the representative of the City. The City Engineer also attends when needed.
- d. City Ordinance No. 2023-03 further strengthens existing Code Enforcement penalties in regards to mud and other construction debris in City streets.

E. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

- a. City Ordinance No. 2019-02 was passed on March 12, 2019, adopting post-construction stormwater management procedures per State and Federal Law (Appendix A).
- b. Post-Construction inspection is currently conducted by the City Engineer, on all City facilities and new/re-development after adoption of the MS4 Program.
- c. City reviews the condition of detention basins annually and notifies the property owner of conditions in need of improvement.

F. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

- a. The City of Walton practices good housekeeping at all City-owned and operated facilities. Existing Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Manuals were updated to include stormwater management in July 2021.

- b. The City of Walton provides street sweeping services (by contractor) on a monthly basis to remove litter and sediment buildup from local roadways.
- c. City of Walton and Boone County Parks & Recreation maintain a Stream Restoration and Conservation Area with walking trails at the Walton Community Park.
- d. Walton reviews drainage conditions in City streets and includes stormwater improvements in annual road maintenance projects where appropriate. Other reported issues are investigated and addressed on a case-by-case basis, or referred to private property owners for remediation beyond City properties/rights-of-way/easements.
- e. The City road salt stockpile is stored in a covered structure on Old Nicholson Road and monitored for spillage and runoff. This structure was replaced in 2022 due to storm damage.

2) Planned Minimum Control Measures for 2023 permit year:

A. Public Education and Outreach

- a. Under the existing City Engineer contract between the City of Walton and Cardinal Engineering, Cardinal will advise the City on stormwater matters.
- b. The City Engineer will continue to assist with public education and prepare outreach materials and other documents for the City website.
- c. City Engineer to continue to deliver televised updates to Council and residents during the regular monthly City Council meetings on no less than a quarterly basis, except in the event of new ordinances or other significant developments, or upon Council/citizen inquiry.
- d. Stormwater guidance will be provided to residential and commercial entities in accordance with the EPA's Non-Point Source Toolbox (9).
- e. City incorporates local and statewide KDOW and KYTC media outreach into their annual public education/outreach.

B. Public Involvement and Participation

- a. City will continue to encourage and offer resources in support of neighborhood clean-up groups.
- b. City will continue to conduct biannual clean-up events for residents.
- c. The City Administration will consider the formation of a SWAC. At such a time, they will reach out to residents and business owners to seek public participation that provides a fair representation of various interests within the city. County officials will be included as the responsible party for Construction and Post-Construction review/inspection.
- d. Walton specifies "DO NOT DUMP – DRAINS TO WATERSHED" markings on all new and replaced inlet grates.

C. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

- a. Approved IDDE ordinances are posted on the City website.
- b. City Engineer will review and offer comments on plans for new development in conjunction with Boone County Planning Commission's approval process.
- c. City shall perform continued enforcement of IDDE ordinances, including targeted education of businesses in the MS4 limits.

- d. Citation of illicit discharges shall be conducted by the City Code Enforcement Officer. **After occurrences of noncompliant contractors leaving mud and debris in City streets, Walton passed Ordinance 2023-03 strengthening the fine schedule for violations and will monitor for efficacy.**
 - e. MS4 map **is updated annually** based on ongoing site development plans and visual inspection of streams. Existing major outfalls **have been** expanded into a larger database including GPS coordinates, invert elevations and photos in the initial 24 months of permit coverage.
 - f. Illicit discharges may be reported by notifying Walton Public Works, the City Clerk, or the Code Enforcement Officer.
 - g. **Walton City Engineer maintains an IDDE reporting spreadsheet**, for the purposes of logging the date, location, and type of IDDE complaints, as well as the corrective action taken to resolve the issue. Summaries from this log **are** reported by the City Engineer in the Annual Compliance Report to KDOW.
 - h. Walton **has developed an IDDE plan and major outfall inspection checklist** over the initial 24-month coverage period of the KPDES permit. Annual inspections will include photographs of each outfall.
- D. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
- a. Construction site inspection for the City shall be conducted by **Walton City Engineer. County agencies have been updated** to reflect Walton's designation as an MS4 community. Inspection fees collected by Boone County shall be remitted to the City of Walton as a partial funding source for MS4-related duties. **Staff shall use the standardized review form for all routine and post-storm site inspections.**
 - b. Walton's Public Works Director and City Engineer (on an as-needed basis) will attend pre-construction meetings. The Public Works Director will be the day-to-day point of contact for the County to reach in the event of an illicit discharge or other failure to work in accordance with the BMPs.
- E. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment
- a. As-built drawings shall be required for new storm sewer construction, to be kept on record by Public Works and City Engineer. **As-built drawings shall be incorporated into the City-wide MS4 map to document new stormwater systems.**
 - b. Mapped outlet pipes shall be inspected not less than once per year.
 - c. **New/re-development projects are inspected by City staff upon substantial completion and post-construction BMPs are inventoried using a standardized form and logged in a spreadsheet. Such developments will be inspected not less than once a year by City staff for the condition of existing BMPs and the presence of any new BMPs. Properties developed prior to adoption of the Walton MS4 Program in 2019 are not subject to annual inspection but can be evaluated in the event of a reported failing/deficient BMP.**
 - d. **Walton shall fund MS4-related projects and inspections from the general and engineering funds at this time.**
- F. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations
- a. The City of Walton shall continue to maintain good housekeeping at all City-owned and operated facilities. A Stormwater Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Manual has been prepared and provided to Public Works staff to outline

- b. Municipal facilities will be evaluated annually for **condition of existing post-construction BMPs and** potential BMP improvements.
- c. The City of Walton will continue to provide monthly street sweeping services on city streets to mitigate buildup of litter and pollutants on pavement.
- d. **City Engineer will obtain at least (12) hours of relevant training in stormwater and BMP management and relay information to City staff. Training opportunities for erosion protection and sedimentation control, and safe handling and storage of hazardous/pollutant materials will be made available to Public Works staff.**
- e. Walton shall continue to evaluate drainage improvements either as standalone projects or to be incorporated into road resurfacing/repaving projects as applicable.

Declaration:

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Executed on the day of _____ May, 2023.

Gabe Brown, Mayor of Walton

References:

1. "Boone County GIS Data." Boone County, Kentucky Planning Commission, Jan. 2019 <http://www.boonecountygis.com/> [GIS .shp files provided by Boone County Planning Commission via Open Records Request.]
2. "Kentucky Watershed Viewer." Kentucky Energy and Environmental Cabinet, Jan. 2019 <https://eppcgis.ky.gov/watershed/>
3. "Integrated Report to Congress on the Condition of Water Resources in Kentucky, 2016." Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet, Department for Environmental Protection, Division of Water, Water Quality Branch. February 28, 2018
<http://water.ky.gov/waterquality/Pages/IntegratedReport.aspx>
4. "Special Use Waters." 401 KAR 10:026, Feb. 2019
<http://water.ky.gov/waterquality/Pages/SpecialUseWaters.aspx>
5. "National Wetlands Inventory Wetlands Mapper." U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Feb. 2019. <https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html>
6. "City of Walton." Jan. 2019 <http://www.cityofwalton.org>
7. "2014 Subdivision Regulations." Boone County Planning Commission Jan. 2019.
https://www.boonecountyky.org/planning_commission/2014subregs.aspx
8. "Best Management Practices Fact Sheets." Sanitation District No. 1 of Northern Kentucky, Jan. 2019. <http://www.sd1.org/Resources.aspx?cid=3>
9. "NPS Outreach Toolbox." United States Environmental Protection Agency, February 2019. <https://cfpub.epa.gov/npstbx/index.html>

Appendix A: Supporting Documents