

# Water Affordability Coalition

Affordability and Planning Grant June 23, 2022







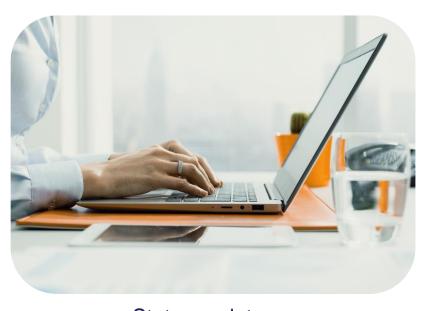
# Welcome & Introduction Commissioner Nash

## **Desired Meeting Outcomes & Agenda**





Presentation from Wayne-Metro



Status update on WRC's Affordability Project





# WRAP Program Overview Megan Wilk and Jerome Drain





# Water Residential Assistance Program

The Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP) is a twoyear program that provides funding to eligible, low-income residents to assist with water bills, water conservation, and self-sufficiency initiatives.

Funding for WRAP is administered through the Great Lakes Water Authority.





#### WRAP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

#### **BENEFITS**

- Up to \$1,500 per household: \$25, \$50 or \$75 bill credits based on billing cycle & up to \$1200 in arrearage assistance for eligible Option 1 clients
- \$300 per household: \$25, \$50 or \$75 bill credits based on billing cycle for eligible Option 2 and WRAPFinity clients
- At the time of enrollment, clients could receive up to \$625
- All credits could take one to two billing cycles to post to accounts
- Water-saving kits & conservation education (upon request)
- Supportive WRAP-Around Services through case management, resources, & referrals
- Home water audit & minor plumbing repairs up to \$2,000 (for renters & homeowners with at or above average (120%) water usage)

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

- 200% Federal Poverty or below
- Household Income
- Client is responsible for water with active service & current usage

#### **Detroit Residents:**

- Name MUST be on bill

#### **Non-Detroit Residents:**

- Bill stating resident, occupant, tenant, etc. must have a complete lease (if name is not on bill)
- Client must live in the property
- Live in a Great Lakes Water Authority Community

#### **ADDITIONAL WRAP INFORMATION**

- Shut off notice is not required
- Bill does not have to have a past due balance/arrears

#### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Photo ID (City, State or Federally issued, green card or Passport) for all household members 18 years of age and older
- Current water bill
- Proof of income, 30 days prior to and including the date of application submission (Pay stubs,
- Categorical Eligibility documents:
   SER, TANF, SNAP, Program assistance
   that can be obtained from FacsPro or
   CARES files (MEAP, APP,
   Weatherization, HHC, SS)
  - a. If someone has a job
    where they don't work in
    the summer but are c.e.,
    we can enroll
  - b. Overtime makes the client ineligible
- Unemployment, Child support, selfemployed, support from family/friend, Benefit award letter: \$\$, \$\$I, DHS, etc.)
- Lease stating responsibility for water:
  ONLY Non Detroit Residents withResident, Occupant, Tenant, etc. on
  bill



## **WRAPFINITY Program Overview**

- Successfully complete the 2-year WRAP enrollment period (Cannot have missed 2 or more payments in either year) all WRAP Communities:
- Must have a household member:
  - 62 years of age or older OR
  - A verifiable disabled household member (SSI, disability income document. (Self-Declaration of Income is not an acceptable document for WRAPFINITY Only)
- \$300 Annual benefit
  - \$25, \$50 or \$75 based on billing cycle
- Client must apply each year





#### Wrap 1st & 2nd Year Enrollments

#### • Up to \$1,500 annual payment

### **WRAP Communities & Benefits**

- \$300 in credits (\$25, \$50, \$75 based on billing cycle)
- Up to \$1,200 in arrears/past due assistance
- o Past due amounts are frozen during enrollment
- Up to \$2,000 in minor plumbing repair (Conservation team handles)

Beverly Hills	Farmington	Lathrup Village	Pleasant Ridge	Walled Lake
Bingham Farms	Farmington Hills	Madison Heights	Pontiac	West Bloomfield
Birmingham	Ferndale	Oak Park	Royal Oak	
Bloomfield Hills	Hazel Park	Orchard Lake	Royal Oak Township	
Clawson	Huntington Woods	Orion Township	Southfield	
Commerce Township	Keego Harbor	Oxford	Village of Lake Orion	

## Conservation





## **Navigation Appointments**

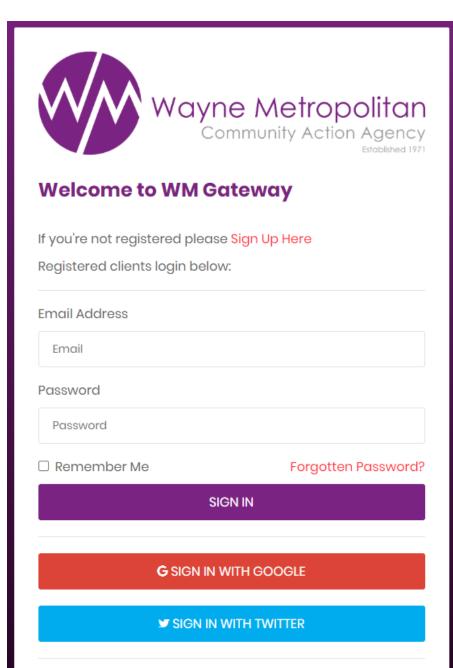
Navigation appointments are appointments in which a team member reaches out to a customer and completes the application for them (WM Universal application and/or SER applications)

If a client indicates that they need help applying for a service; they are offered 2 options:

- In person navigation appointments
- Telephone navigation appointments



All staff are trained as navigators



# 2022 Universal Application

# Outreach





## **Outreach & Community Engagement**

#### **Municipality Level**

- Information on bills
- Flyers in the lobby

#### **Agency Level**

- Website
- Connect Center
- Community events

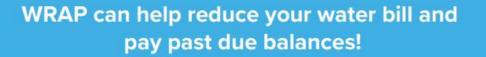
## **Municipality Engagement**

- Ongoing relationship building
- Municipality given flyers
- Discussion on options for promoting program within their community

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR WATER BILL?

WRAP CAN HELP!

The Water Residential Assistance Program provides funding to eligible, low-income households. Funding is provided by the Great Lakes Water Authority and is administered in partnership with local community action agencies.



#### **WRAP Eligibility:**

- · Reside within an eligible GLWA Member Community (see reverse side for list)
- Responsible for paying your water bill
- At or below 200% of the federal poverty level
- · Own or rent your home













# **WRC Affordability Project Update**





# **Next Meeting**

July 28 at 11 a.m. via Zoom



### **Thank You!**



Questions: affordability@oakgov.com

Jim Nash
Water Resources Commissioner
248-842-6185
nashj@oakgov.com

Kelsey Cooke

Ssioner

Attorney & Special Projects Manager
248-296-1406

cookek@oakgov.com

Sara B. Rubino
Attorney
248-410-9968
rubinos@oakgov.com

Demar Byas

Affordability Coordinator
248-214-2838
byasd@oakgov.com

Julia Ruffin
Community Liaison
248-791-4367
ruffinj@oakgov.com

Mike Kasanic
WRC Billing Supervisor
248-858-0330
kasanicm@oakgov.com