



# OFFICE OF THE DRAIN COMMISSIONER

*Kenneth J Yonker, Drain Commissioner*

KENT COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER  
OR CURRENT RESIDENT  
1500 SCRIBNER AVE NW  
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504

June 19, 2020

Dear Property Owner,

You are receiving this notice because you own property within the Drainage District of the Schindler Swamp Drain. The Schindler Swamp Drain is an open channel which serves properties within Sparta Township and Alpine Township by collecting the storm water runoff from properties and roads within the drainage district. The Schindler Swamp Drain was established in 1887 and was last assessed in 1987.

As Drain Commissioner, I have the responsibility to maintain this stormwater system for the public health, welfare, and convenience of the drainage district. Costs for maintenance are not provided by other means such as regular property taxes; we must assess the costs for maintenance to the property owners and governmental units within the District. Maintenance on the system was performed over several different sections of the drain within the last 3 years from west of M-37 to east of M-37 up to the furthest downstream crossing of Venture Dr. Majority of the work was dredging of the channel and debris removal. 2020 maintenance was bid and will be completed north of Venture Dr to the north for a section of the drain. Your portion of the assessment is approximately:

Parcel Number:	
Property Address:	
Estimated Apportionment:	0.00%
Approximate Total Assessment:	\$0.00
Annual Costs	\$0.00
Year(s) of Assessment:	3 year(s)

The approximate assessment will be placed on the next **Winter Tax** under special assessment for Schindler Swamp Drain. Please visit our website at [www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting\\_notices.htm](http://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting_notices.htm) further information. If you have any additional questions about this notice, please feel free to call my office at (616) 632-7910 or reply by e-mail to [drinfo@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:drinfo@kentcountymi.gov).

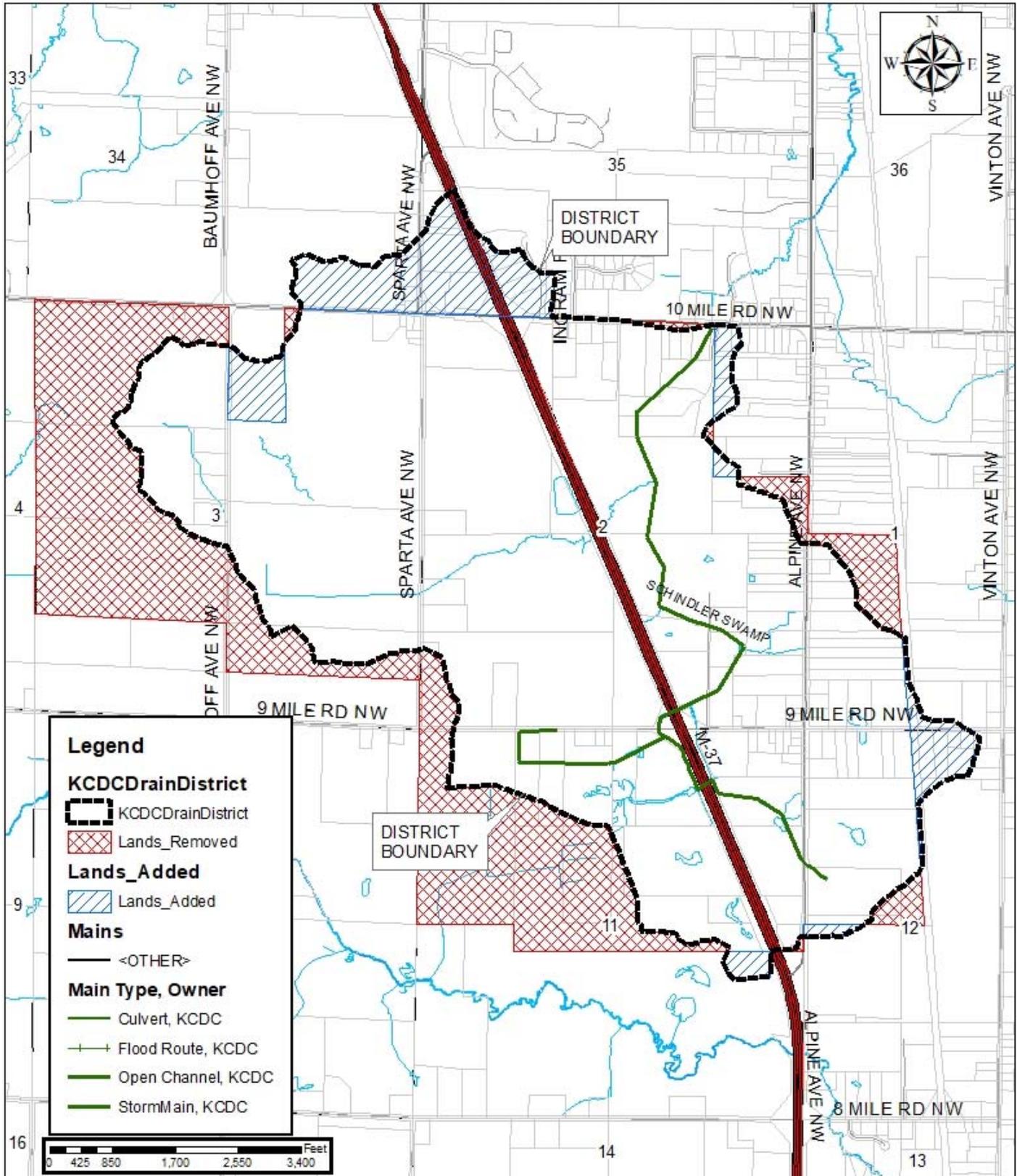
Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth J. Yonker".

Kenneth J Yonker  
Kent County Drain Commissioner

# SCHINDLER SWAMP COUNTY DRAIN

SEC 34-35, SPARTA TOWNSHIP & SEC 1-3, 11-12 ALPINE TOWNSHIP, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN



## NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

**DATE:** July 9, 2020  
**TIME:** 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Office of the Kent County Drain Commissioner  
1500 Scribner Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-3233  
**QUESTIONS:** (616) 632-7910

The Day of Review is an opportunity to review the Schindler Swamp Drain Drainage District boundaries and apportionment of benefit with the Drain Commissioner or a staff member. A map depicting the proposed Drainage District boundary revisions can be found on the reverse side of this notice and on the Drain Commissioner's website at: [https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting\\_notices.htm](https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting_notices.htm).

The Drain Commissioner intends to hold an in-person Day of Review at the location stated above. However, due to the ongoing coronavirus public health crisis, we are asked to reduce the in-person meeting and ask that any questions be addressed through email or phone. Otherwise, an appointment can be made to meet with the staff on the Day of Review between the hours of 8:30am -4:30pm. Please call to make such appointment.

**YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE DAY OF REVIEW.** Prior to the Day of Review, you may contact the Drain Commissioner's Office at (616) 632-7910 or visit its website at [https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting\\_notices.htm](https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting_notices.htm) to get information about your apportionment and assessment.

### **Prior to the Day of Review:**

- **Website.** Please visit the Drain Commissioner's website at [https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting\\_notices.htm](https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting_notices.htm) for more information regarding the Day of Review, including a map of the proposed Drainage District boundary revisions and proposed apportionment roll
- **Email.** If you would like to ask questions about your property or proposed apportionment prior to the Day of Review, please email [drinfo@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:drinfo@kentcountymi.gov) and we will provide you information through email.
- **Telephone.** If you wish to speak with a staff member of the Drain Commissioner's Office about your property or the proposed apportionment, please call (616) 632-7910.
- **Special Access.** Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the Day of Review should contact the Drain Commissioner's Office at the number noted above (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the Day of Review to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

### **On the Day of Review:**

- The Drain Commissioner, engineers and/or other staff members will be available to assist individuals throughout the day. However, due to the coronavirus public health crisis, the facilities are requesting limited walk-in and request that an appointment be scheduled to limit the number of walk-in visitors. If you do enter the building, it will be strongly encouraged to wear a mask.
- The computation of costs for the Drain will also be available at the Day of Review and will be on the Drain Commissioner's Office website. Drain assessments are collected in the same manner as property taxes and will appear on your winter tax bill. If drain assessments are being collected for more than one (1) year, you may pay the assessment in full with any interest to date at any time and avoid further interest charges.

### **After the Day of Review:**

You may appeal the Drain Commissioner's decision to revise the district boundaries to the Kent County Circuit Court within ten (10) days, and you may also appeal the determination of apportionments to the Kent County Probate Court within ten (10) days



# FAQs

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Day of Review of Drainage District Boundaries and Review of Apportionments

#### *What is a Drainage District?*

A drainage district is the land area that benefits from the drain. The drainage district makes up the watershed that contributes water to the drain. The public entities and properties within the drainage district pay for maintenance and improvement of the drain.

#### *What is a Day of Review of District Boundaries?*

The Michigan Legislature passed a law in 2013 to allow revisions to historical drainage district boundaries that require updating as recommended by a licensed engineer.

Property owners can review changes with the Drain Office staff during the Day of Review. The proposed boundary revisions can be found on the map on notice and in more detail at the Kent County Drain Commissioner's website.

#### *Why are the boundaries being revised?*

Revisions are recommended because the historic drainage district boundaries no longer accurately reflect the current watershed of the drain.

#### *What is a Day of Review of Apportionments?*

A Day of Review of Apportionments provides an opportunity for property owners to review the percent of benefit of the drain assigned to properties and public entities. The apportionments of benefit to properties are based on acreage, land use, and other factors. The apportionments determine the assessment amount for each property and public entity for costs of construction or maintenance.

#### *Why are the apportionments being revised?*

The apportionments are being revised to more accurately reflect the percentage of benefit that each property and public entity receives from the drain. If a parcel is on the outer boundary of a drainage district, only that portion of the parcel within the drainage district will be assessed.

#### *Why did I receive a notice?*

Notices went out to the public entities and the following property owners:

- ***Properties being added to the Drainage District.*** The properties were not previously in the drainage district, but the engineers determined that the properties are within the drain's watershed.
- ***Properties currently in the Drainage District and proposed to remain in the Drainage District.*** There is no change in terms of boundaries for these properties.

#### *When do I receive my drain assessment?*

Drain assessments are included on your Winter Tax bill and are only levied when costs are incurred for the drain. Assessment amounts vary from year to year.

#### *What is my assessment amount?*

Estimated assessment amounts are included in your notice and also available at the Day of Review, online or by calling (616) 632-7910

#### *Do I have to attend/participate in the Day of Review?*

You are not required to attend the Day of Review.

#### *How can I get more information?*

Visit the Kent County Drain Commissioner's website at [www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner](http://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner) or call (616) 632-7910.

#### *Can I submit questions or comments prior to the Day of Review?*

Questions and comments prior to the meeting can be submitted by email at [DRInfo@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:DRInfo@kentcountymi.gov) by calling (616) 632-7910.

