



FY 2026

Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP)

**Funding Report with
Two Service Area Assignment Options**

Presented to the Audit Committee

May 2, 2025

History of WRAP

The Water Residential Assistance Program, or WRAP, provides assistance to eligible, low-income households who receive water and/or sewer service from Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) member partner communities. Households can receive help paying down past due balances and water and sewer bill payment assistance for up to two years. Eligible seniors and permanently disabled persons can obtain bill credit assistance without an expiration date. Participants may also receive conservation assistance and minor plumbing repairs. WRAP, a first-of-its-kind program in Michigan, was created by representatives from throughout the region. GLWA partners with agencies like Macomb Community Action (MCA), United Way for Southeastern Michigan (United Way), and Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency (Wayne Metro) to be service delivery partners that deliver WRAP services to residents.

The annual WRAP budget is calculated at one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the regional system operating revenue as authorized in GLWA's founding documents. In addition, the City of Detroit is authorized to include an additional 1% in the local Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD) budget based on its operating revenue budget. This amount is included in the rates for the local DWSD system only. In addition, DWSD contracts directly with Wayne Metro for the DWSD local system-generated funding.

The WRAP program funding is allocated among three uses for areas outside the City of Detroit: income-based plan (IBP) payment assistance (including arrearages), conservation (including healthy home initiatives and home repairs), and program administration. The percentage of funds allocated to program administration by the service delivery partners is based on contractual agreements and can vary from 15% to 18%. After the administration costs are deducted from the budget, the remaining funds are allocated at 80% to IBP assistance and 20% to conservation. Within the City of Detroit, the allocated WRAP funding supports DWSD's Lifeline program.

The Great Lakes Water Authority WRAP Policy and more information about the program can be found at the following links:

[Water Residential Assistance Program Policy - GLWA \(glwater.org\)](https://www.glwwater.org/wrap-policy)

[Assistance - GLWA \(glwater.org\)](https://www.glwwater.org/wrap-assistance)

Budget Process

At the February 26, 2025, meeting, the GLWA Board of Directors approved the organization's Fiscal Year 2026 and FY 2027 biennial budget, as well as the corresponding FY 2026 water and wastewater service charges for its member partner communities.

With the budget now approved for FY 2026, the Affordability & Assistance team has prepared the FY 2026 WRAP budget and allocations by county and services delivery partner (SDP). These allocations then support annual contract amendments for the three WRAP SDPs: Wayne Metropolitan Community Agency (Areas 1, 2, & 3), United Way for Southeastern Michigan (Area 4), and Macomb Community Agency (Area 5). There are two elements to these amendments. The first is the total allocation for each service area. The second is the allocation among the three categories of expense.

Those categories are payment assistance (including arrearage assistance), conservation, and program administration.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is to present the upcoming FY 2026 WRAP budget for internal and external stakeholders, as well as to confirm the funding by service area for each service delivery partner.

- ✓ **Wayne Metro** provides services for Area 1 – City of Detroit, Area 2 – City of Flint, and Area 3 – Wayne (Not Including Detroit), Washtenaw, and Monroe Counties.
- ✓ **United Way** provides services for Area 4 – Oakland County.
- ✓ **MCA** provides services for Area 5 – Macomb, St. Clair, and Lapeer Counties.

The Affordability & Assistance team has been in discussions with Genesee County Community Action Resource Department (GCCARD) to provide WRAP services for the City of Flint, as well as conversations with United Way to provide WRAP services for Washtenaw County. As these discussions are still in the preliminary stages, we have provided the tables below to illustrate the WRAP allocations under the current service area assignment (Table 1) and the potential service area assignment (Table 2).

The tables summarize the Board-approved WRAP funding by service area, service delivery partner, and expense type. The Affordability & Assistance team will use this information to complete the annual service delivery partner contract amendments necessary to support WRAP services for FY 2026. Area 1, the City of Detroit, has wholesale funding and local funding. The wholesale funding is accounted for as part of the GLWA budget and included in the Service Delivery Partner contract. The local funding is managed by DWSD through a separate contract with Wayne Metro.

Table 1 - FY 2026 Water Residential Assistance Program Funding Allocation Calculation - Local & Regional Funding – Current Service Area Assignment

Area	Service Delivery Partner / Area	Budgeted Direct Assistance	Budgeted Conservation Assistance	Budgeted Administration Costs	Total Budgeted Revenue	Wholesale Allocation
Area 1: City of Detroit Share of Wholesale Funding Local WRAP Funding Total City of Detroit	Wayne Metro	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,251,200	27.15%
		N/A	N/A	N/A	2,372,900	
					\$3,624,100	
Area 2: City of Flint	Wayne Metro	\$18,360	\$4,590	\$4,050	27,000	0.59%
Area 3: Wayne (not including Detroit), Washtenaw, Monroe Counties	Wayne Metro	821,236	205,309	181,155	1,207,700	26.21%
Area 4: Oakland County	United Way	850,000	212,500	187,500	1,250,000	27.12%
Area 5: Macomb, St. Clair, Lapeer Counties	Macomb Community Action	572,426	143,106	157,068	872,600	18.93%
Total Excluding Area 1 Local Funding		\$2,262,022	\$565,505	\$529,773	\$4,608,500	100.00%
Total Including Area 1 Local Funding		\$2,262,022	\$565,505	\$529,773	\$6,981,400	

Table 2 - FY 2026 Water Residential Assistance Program Funding Allocation Calculation - Local & Regional Funding for 6 service areas – Potential Service Area Assignment

Area	Service Delivery Partner / Area	Budgeted Direct Assistance	Budgeted Conservation Assistance	Budgeted Administration Costs	Total Budgeted Revenue	Wholesale Allocation
Area 1: City of Detroit Share of Wholesale Funding Local WRAP Funding Total City of Detroit	Wayne Metro	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,251,200	27.15%
		N/A	N/A	N/A	2,372,900	
					\$3,624,100	
Area 2: City of Flint	GCCARD	\$18,360	\$4,590	\$4,050	27,000	0.59%
Area 3: Wayne (not including Detroit) and Monroe Counties	Wayne Metro	777,920	194,480	171,600	1,144,000	24.82%
Area 4: Oakland County	United Way	850,000	212,500	187,500	1,250,000	27.12%
Area 5: Macomb, St. Clair, Lapeer Counties	Macomb Community Action	572,426	143,106	157,068	872,600	18.93%
Area 6: Washtenaw County	United Way	43,316	10,829	9,555	63,700	1.38%
Total Excluding Area 1 Local Funding		\$2,262,022	\$565,505	\$529,773	\$4,608,500	100.00%
Total including Area 1 Local Funding		\$2,262,022	\$565,505	\$529,773	\$6,981,400	

Questions?

Please contact us at wrap@glwater.org