

# 2024 Annual Update



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Stormwater Management Commission reduces existing and future flood damage potential and other drainage-related problems, mitigates the degradation of surface water quality, and promotes the orderly development of land and water resources to conserve the beneficial functions of natural streams, wetlands, and floodplains.

Kurt Woolford  
Executive Director

# Regulatory

## 2023 Accomplishments



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

- WDO Adoption
- Lake Michigan Coastal “V”-zones
- Stormwater BMP Videos



# Regulatory

## 2024 Goals



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Complete Community Recertifications

Wetland Restoration Fund Mitigation

Pre-Application Regulatory Assistance

The screenshot shows the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program website. The page title is "What flood map updates mean for you". The main content explains that when a community's flood map is updated, requirements for flood insurance coverage and policy costs can change. A section titled "How is your property's flood risk changing?" features three circular gauges illustrating risk transitions:

- Gauge 1: From: Moderate- to low-risk; To: High-risk
- Gauge 2: From: High-risk; To: Moderate- to low-risk
- Gauge 3: From: High-risk; To: Higher-risk

Below the gauges, a paragraph states: "If your community is in the process of updating its flood maps, it's important to know your flood risk so you can take steps to protect your home or business. [Find out](#) if your community has a flood map update underway."

# Engineering 2023 WMB Grant Program

9 projects across all watersheds

Total projects costs \$892,225

WMB funding awarded \$175,588

Leverage Ratio 5:1

## Watershed Management Board (WMB) Grant



The Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) administers an annual grant program, Watershed Management Board Grants to help reduce flood damages and improve water quality. The WMB oversees the allocation of SMC funding and staff resources for projects across the four watersheds of Lake County.



### WMB Grant Program:

- ➔ Has limited funding, which is divided among Lake County's watersheds.
- ➔ This is a competitive grant program.
- ➔ Requires a minimum of 50% local match.
- ➔ Projects required as part of a regulatory permit are not eligible for WMB funding.
- ➔ Projects that address individual maintenance needs are not eligible.
- ➔ Requires an elected official sponsor (WMB Member).
- ➔ SMC staff reviews project proposals and makes recommendations to the WMB for their approval of projects. Projects recommended for funding by the WMB are forwarded to the SMC Commission for final approval and funding appropriations.

### Project Proposals and Prioritization Criteria:

- 1 Mitigating multi-jurisdictional flood problems
- 2 Mitigating multi-parcel flood issues (structural and nuisance)
- 3 Enhancing water quality and natural resources in ecologically sensitive locations

# Engineering

## 2023 Flood Mitigation Projects



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

### Park City Stormwater Drainage Improvements



Box Culvert Downstream Outfall



Box Culvert Upstream Inlet

# Engineering

## 2023 Flood Mitigation Projects



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

### Skokie River Streambank Stabilization



# Engineering

## 2024 Flood Mitigation Goals



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

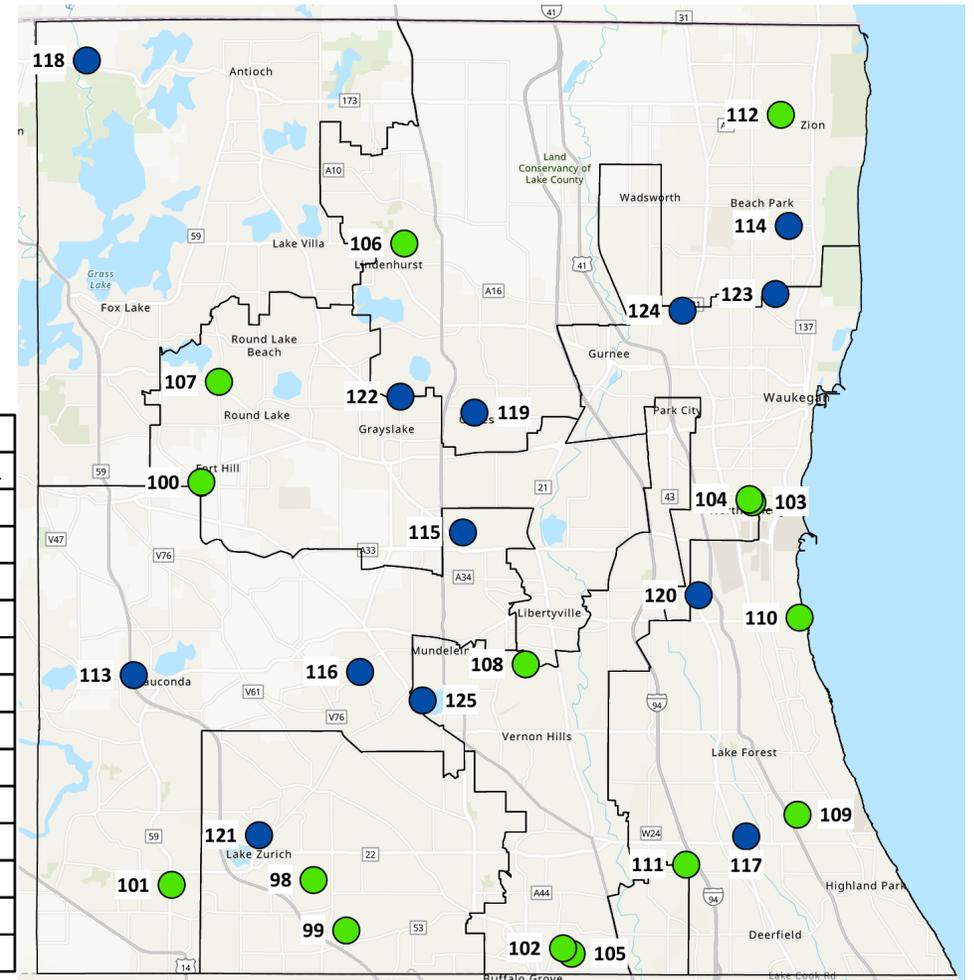
DCEO Regional Stormwater Projects Round 2 \$30M

Grant Application with IGAs in July

Execute Grant Agreement in 2024

Item	Project
98	Buffalo Creek Improvements at Bristol Trails Park
99	Buffalo Run Culvert Replacement
100	Four Corners Basin Storm Sewer
101	Honey Lake Drain Storm Sewer Improvements
102	Horatio Gardens Drainage Improvements
103	Lewis Avenue Stormwater Improvements, Phase 1
104	Lewis Avenue Stormwater Improvements, Phase 2
105	Northwood Subdivision Stormwater Improvements
106	Rose Tree Ln Drainage Outfall
107	Round Lake Drain Master Plan - Phase 1
108	Seavey Master Plan Phase 3
109	Skokie River Channel Improvements - Phase 3
110	West Scranton Avenue Viaduct Project- Phase 1
111	Windsor Drive Drainage Improvements

Item	Project
112	Zion 20th Street Stormwater Improvements - Phase 1
113	Bangs Lake Outfall Improvements
114	Beach Park Stormwater Improvements
115	Bull Creek Subdivision Drainage Improvements
116	Countryside/Seavey Channel Improvements
117	Del Mar Woods Stormwater Improvements
118	Fox/Chain O'Lakes Watershed Plan Implementation
119	Gages Lake Area Drainage Improvements
120	Knollwood Community Drainage Improvements
121	Lake Zurich/Echo Lake Stormwater Improvements
122	Mill Creek Drainage Improvements
123	Montesano Avenue Stormwater Improvements
124	Sunset Ave Detention Basin Drainage Improvements
125	West Shore Park Drainage Improvements



● Construction  
● Design

# Engineering

## 2024 Flood Mitigation Goals

---



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

FEMA Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants

North Chicago/Route 41 Relief Storm Sewer and 2-Stage Channel

Dady Slough Flood Storage and Wetland Enhancement

Sylvan Lake Dam Modifications

Zion Tributary Improvements



Sylvan Lake Dam Spillway

# Watershed Planning

## 2023 Accomplishments



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

### Adoption of 2 Major Watershed-based Plans

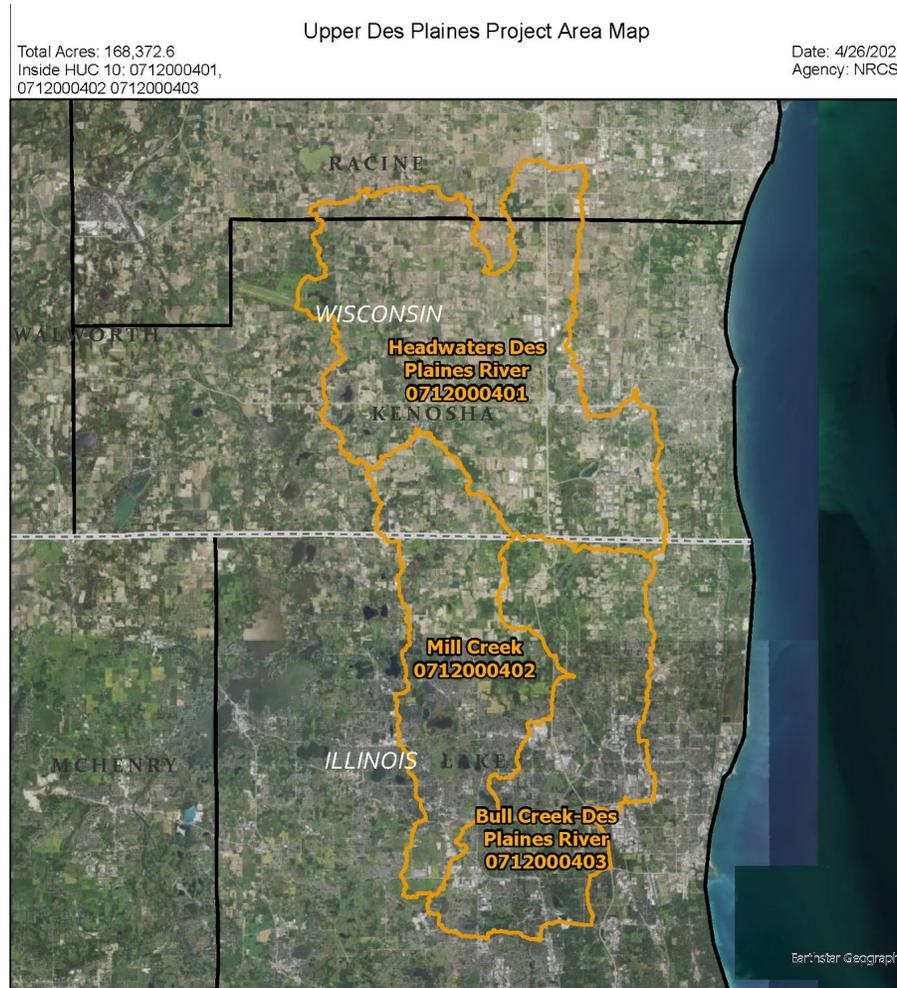


# Watershed Planning 2023 Accomplishments



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

## Upper Des Plaines River Watershed Project Initiated in 2023



5/29/24

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Upper Des Plaines River Watershed Project

Lake County, IL



#### Project Information

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC), as the project sponsor, will be developing a Watershed Plan/Environmental Document (Plan/ED) for the Upper Des Plaines River Watershed. The watershed includes portions of Lake County, IL and Racine and Kenosha Counties in Wisconsin.

The Plan/ED will analyze possible solutions to the recurring flooding along the Upper Des Plaines River. Planning studies will take place over the next two years. A draft Plan/ED is scheduled to be available for public review in 2025. The proposed project planning process will be conducted in accordance with the rules and guidelines of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

The Plan/ED development is funded under the NRCS Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program. Funding authority is through Public Law 83-566, which allows NRCS to provide both technical and financial watershed assistance to help communities protect, improve, and conserve their natural resources. Additional information on the NRCS WFPO Program can be found at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/watershed-and-flood-prevention-operations-wfpo-program>.

#### Project Development

The Upper Des Plaines River Watershed Project will develop a detailed Plan/ED which will identify and evaluate feasible alternatives to reduce flooding along the Upper Des Plaines River. Each analyzed solution will be described in detail including the associated impacts and benefits of implementing the solution. Public meetings (virtual and in-person) and outreach will be part of the planning process. Both NRCS and the SMC are committed to including the local community in this planning process.

The Plan/ED will consider an array of possible actions including structural and non-structural alternatives. Possible alternatives to be considered may include engineered wetlands for enhanced water storage during storm events, wetland restoration, installation of retention basins, and/or improved urban stormwater infrastructure. The implementation of NRCS conservation practices will be included in this project to reduce upper watershed runoff.

IL NRCS will contract this year with a private architect and engineering firm to develop the Plan/ED. Project initiation is scheduled for the Fall of 2023.

#### NRCS Websites

For assistance and questions regarding NRCS conservation programs—

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/illinois>

For general NRCS watershed planning information—

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/watershed-programs>

# Watershed Planning 2024 Goals



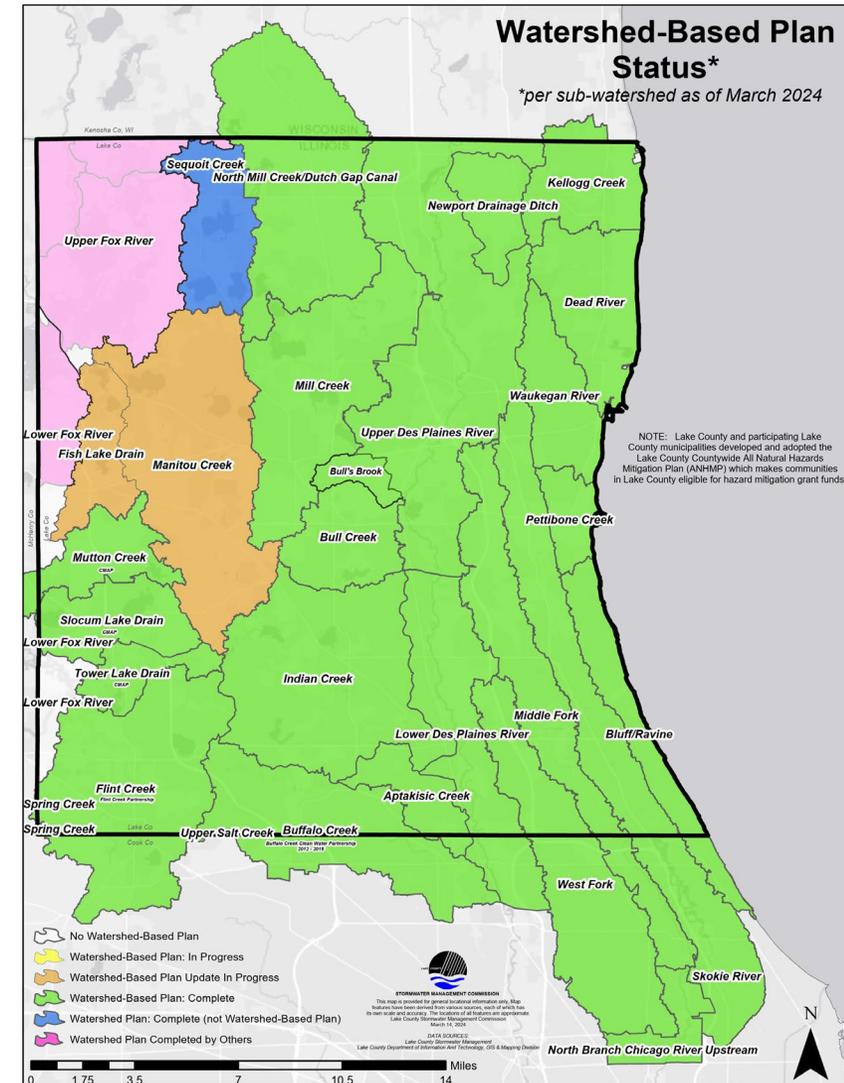
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Manitou Creek & Fish Lake Drain  
Watershed-Based Plan Update

Fox River/Chain O'Lakes Watershed  
Coordination with McHenry County

Des Plaines & North Branch Chicago River  
Watershed Workgroup Coordination

5/29/24



# Department Notes



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

## Staff Retirements

Glenn Westman, Principal Wetland Specialist  
(21 years)

Arnold Donato, Capital Improvement  
Program Manager (28 years)

Darcy McNeill, Executive Assistant (22 years)

## Commissioner Appointments/Elections

County Board Members & Alternates  
December 2024

Municipal Members & Alternates  
Spring 2025



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

# Questions