



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

2018 Stormwater Award Recipients

Since 2006, the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission Stormwater Awards Program has recognized outstanding efforts by organizations, communities, groups and individuals for projects and other proactive and innovative efforts to improve water quality, reduce flooding, and help restore the natural drainage system. Congratulations to the following recipients of the 2018 Annual Stormwater Awards.

Community of the Year – Village of Deer Park

The Village of Deer Park completed a Stormwater Master Plan in 2017, that identified over 50 stormwater issues throughout the Village including residential flooding, roadway flooding, stream erosion, failing stormwater infrastructure, and nuisance drainage problems. From these problems, 20 capital improvement projects were developed with an estimated cost of \$2.3 million to be completed over a 5-year period. To help fund these projects, village residents voted to approve a 0.25% sales tax increase that took effect on July 1, 2018. In the summer of 2018, the Village completed the first phase of improvement projects. Five projects were completed that reduce roadway flooding, improve nuisance drainage problems, and repair failing stormwater infrastructure. Continuing with their commitment with the 5-year plan, the Village is finishing the year with planning and design work for next year's capital improvement projects to assure implementation in the spring of 2019

Steward of the Year – Squaw Creek Clean Water Alliance

The SCCWA- Squaw Creek Clean Water Alliance- is a partnership between the Long Lake Improvement and Sanitation Association and the Woods & Wetlands Group of the Sierra Club. This past season, the SCCWA volunteers banded together to conduct an in-depth water quality monitoring study to gain a better understanding of the health of Long Lake in Ingleside, IL.

In 2015, there was a harmful blue-green algae bloom (HAB) on the lake, which initiated local residents to act. HABs have the potential to produce toxins that can be dangerous to human and animal health. Algae blooms occur sporadically in the summer and fall when there is an excess of nutrients, such as nitrogen and in Long Lake's case, phosphorus. These nutrients can enter the lake via fertilizer runoff, leaking septic systems, or water treatment plant discharges.

Dedicated volunteers have been collecting water quality data for 6 months at an inlet and outlet of Long Lake. The purpose of this is to compare the levels of nutrients and total suspended solids that are entering the lake to what is discharging.

The SCCWA goal is to pinpoint where we think the phosphorus pollution is coming from, which will lead us to selecting the appropriate remediation. SCCWA has plans to conduct another monitoring survey next season.

It was challenging to secure funding for our study this season, and it was possible because of the community involvement and generous donors. The volunteers had to come up with a creative solution to source the money elsewhere, and this is how the Clean Water Boogie idea began. In August, our volunteers put on an incredible event that brought together the Long Lake community to have fun for a

cause. There was a silent and a live auction with donated items from various local business and artists, live music, a balloon artist, a magician and delicious food (and venue!) provided by Jerry's Parkway. It was a wildly successful event, and we raised more than enough funding for the completion of this year's study. We are already making plans for another study and look forward to collaborating with the supportive community in Lake County again next season!

BMP Project of the Year – The Shanty, Wadsworth

The Shanty recently installed a permeable paver parking lot which provides a number of stormwater and environmental benefits. Permeable brick pavers create a porous urban surface composed of open pore pavers, with an underlying stone reservoir. Permeable pavements help reestablish a more natural hydrologic balance and reduce runoff volume by trapping and slowly releasing precipitation into the ground instead of allowing it to flow into storm drains and out to receiving waters as effluent. This same process also reduces the peak rates of discharge by preventing large, fast pulses of precipitation through the stormwater system.

Permeable pavement can reduce the concentration of some pollutants either physically (by trapping it in the pavement or soil), chemically (bacteria and other microbes can break down and utilize some pollutants), or biologically (plants that grow in-between some types of pavers can trap and store pollutants). By slowing down the process, permeable pavements can cool down the temperature of urban runoff, reducing the stress and impact on the stream or lake environment.

By controlling the runoff at the source, such as a parking lot, permeable pavement can also reduce the need for or the required size of a regional BMP, such as a wet detention pond, which saves money and effort.

Education, Outreach and Media Award – WRLR 98.3FM – The Voice of Lake County!; Terry Cox and Lou Bruno, “CERT Presents” Show

Terry and Lou cover a vast array of important public information topics such as flood awareness and the Upper Des Plaines River Impact Analysis. They provide an important local voice and effort for Lake County and have an easy to use popup app to listen live on the internet.

Richard A. Welton Stormwater Manager of the Year – Donovan Day

Donovan Day is the Community Development Director for Fox Lake. When Donovan started, the Village had 53 floodplain conformance issues to resolve with IDNR and FEMA, from flow through vents in crawlspaces, fills, new decks, pools, woodpiles, and substantial improvements. The current Fox Lake status is that virtually everything resolved! → 15 Elevation Certificates shot (some above FPE) → 7 crawlspaces vented → All comp storage calculations determined → 8 utilities elevated → All fill removed → Three buyouts! This effort has been remarkable and has forged a new partnership with the Village and IDNR. For these efforts, Donovan is receiving the Richard A. Welton Stormwater Award for extraordinary achievements in stormwater management during his tenure at the Village of Fox Lake.