



One Water Initial Discussions

February 5, 2020

LC Strategic Plan

Strategy Statement

GOAL 4: PROMOTE A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

STRATEGIC STATEMENT: Preserve the health of our natural resources, air, and drinking water through the widespread use of environmentally sustainable management practices, effective stormwater management, carbon footprint reduction, and the enhancement and rehabilitation of lakes and other ecological systems.

Develop a “One Water” Management strategy to holistically approach challenges throughout the entire water cycle

- **Action A:** Preserve the water source and resiliency of potable water production and delivery by reducing overall water consumption and by migrating from wells to Lake Michigan water sources.
- **Action B:** Improve resiliency of the sanitary sewer system and reduce pollutants into ground and surface water from all sources by improving resiliency through a sustained program to replace aging infrastructure to collect and treat sanitary waste.
- **Action C:** Remain ahead of environmental discharge standards for water reclamation facilities and enhance the reuse of biological solids as class A fertilizers
- **Action D:** Mitigate the effects of high rainfall events. Reduce storm water infiltration into the sanitary sewer collection systems.
- **Action E:** Coordinate with municipal and agency stakeholders through watershed working groups to reduce pollutants from ground water runoff into water systems and develop an integrated governance approach to water management

Action items are internal focused...

Existing Lake County Initiatives



Drinking Water & Sanitary Sewer

- Conservation pricing
- Sustainable rates enabling CIP program
- Migrating wells to Lake Michigan water
- Treatment plant bio-solids = class A fertilizer
- eBNR; lower phosphorous discharge

Consolidation:

- Lakes Region Sanitary District
- Delmar Woods Sanitary
- Beach Park Drainage District

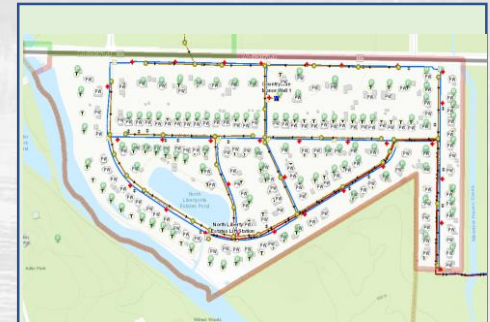


Existing Lake County Initiatives



Supplemental Irrigation Wells

- SIW = *A residential non-potable water well that is used for outdoor purposes, where a separate water supply exists for drinking, culinary and sanitation purposes*
- Inspect, register and record SIWs
- 92% have been registered, recorded, sealed, or were found to have no SIW



Libertyville Estates Levee

- Enhance Levee
- Rehabilitate retention pond

- Floodplain buy out program
- Updated rainfall estimates
- Flood mitigation infrastructure



Existing Lake County Partnerships



DES PLAINES RIVER
WATERSHED
WORKGROUP



NORTH BRANCH
CHICAGO RIVER
WATERSHED
WORKGROUP

- Watershed improvement projects
- Pollutant reduction goals
- 49 communities and agencies in Lake & Cook Counties

- Chicagoland coordination
- Groundwater focus
- Established in 2010
- 80 communities in DeKalb, Kane, Kendall, Lake & McHenry Counties



The Big Idea

Support the establishment of a self-governing coalition of stakeholders who purposefully address interrelated water issues

Many organizations are doing good work on water issues but have historically approached solutions piecemeal within separate swim lanes, governance structures, and funding streams.

What is One Water?

A holistic approach to issues in the water cycle. To include safe, affordable water and wastewater services, sustainable and protected groundwater and waterways, stormwater and flood mitigation, wetland protection, waterborne health risks, and development planning to enable Lake County to be a place where all people, families, and businesses can thrive.



Who is One Water?

Sparked by the Lake County Strategic Plan and envisioned to become a self-governing body of stakeholders involved in water issues.

Possible partners:

- *Water/wastewater utilities*
- *Watershed management groups*
- *Water justice groups*
- *Agricultural interests*
- *Local units of government*
- *Sustainability groups*
- *Other non-governmental organizations*

Major Themes

- 💧 Water systems are key enablers to economic development and quality of life. Policies on development in turn heavily influence water systems
- 💧 Equal access to affordable high-quality water services and flood mitigation efforts should be a given
- 💧 Impacts of global warming are increasing the frequency of severe rain events and resulting stormwater and flood risk throughout the County
- 💧 Consolidation efforts such as shared services, maintenance agreements, or full mergers among water and wastewater service providers has great potential
- 💧 Protection and enhancement of wetlands, surface waters, and groundwater

The Way forward

- February 2020; E&E presentation
- April 2020; Environmental Summit One Water Track
- Summer 2020; Convene interested stakeholders

Questions

