January 14, 2021
Zoom
Annual Membership Meeting
Agenda

• Approval of November 12, 2020 meeting minutes
• Executive Board Elections
• Approve FY2021-2022 budget
• 2020 Review & 2021 Overview of activities
• NPDES Permit Update
• Seasonal Outreach Campaign Materials
• Pet Waste Campaign
Current Members

- Village of Burr Ridge
- Village of Channahon
- City of Crest Hill
- Deuchler Environmental Inc.
- Village of Elwood
- Exxon Mobil
- Village of Frankfort
- Village of Hinsdale
- Illinois American Water
- Illinois Department of Transportation
- City of Joliet

- Village of Lockport
- MWRDGC
- Village of Manhattan
- Village of Mokena
- Village of New Lenox
- New Lenox Township
- Village of Romeoville
- Village of Western Springs
- Village of Westmont
- Will County
Approve Meeting Minutes
Executive Board Elections

Slate of Officers & Members at Large

• President - Allison Swisher, City of Joliet
• Vice President - Mark Siefert, City of Crest Hill
• Secretary/Treasurer - Keith McKeen, Village of New Lenox
• Member at Large - Ed Dolezal, Village of Channahon
• Member at Large - Pete Grossi, Village of Lockport
• Member at Large - Jennifer Wasik, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
FY2021-22 Budget Discussion

• The Conservation Foundation has recalculated what is included in the billing rate that is used to calculate the staffing budget. The billing rate will now cover all related office supplies, postage, basic software and cell phone and computers. A minor edit to the budget that was shared actually reduces the overall cost for the staffing contract to $114,706.28. This is a savings of approximately $3,600 from what had originally been budgeted.

• Continue to build up funds for NARP which is due at the end of 2023.

• The planned dues increase has been pushed to the FY22-23.
# Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget

## FY2021-22 DRAFT Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<td>Carry-over</td>
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<td><strong>Income Subtotal</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>NARP</td>
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<td><strong>Expense Subtotal</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net</strong></td>
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<td>$46,113.99</td>
<td>$6,844.11</td>
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</table>

**Note 1:** We plan to monitor for 4 years but collect dues over 5 years to pay for monitoring so $550,000 was added to each of the first 4 years.

**Note 2:** Subsequent years are shown for planning purposes and are subject to change.

**Note 3:** Dues rates will remain the same as 2019 for FY2021-22 but will increase by 2% in FY2022-2023.
### Fiscal Year 2021-22 Agency Dues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>$1/Acre Rate</th>
<th>Design Avg. Flow (MGD)</th>
<th>$2,136/ MGD</th>
<th>Admin Fee</th>
<th>Sampling Fee</th>
<th>Agency Member Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Burr Ridge</td>
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NPDES Permits

• Special Conditions Language
  • As NPDES wastewater permits are renewed, they should include special conditions language that identifies participation in the LDWG and development of the NARP
  • Please share early drafts with staff

• New potential language around chlorides...
2020 Review

• Bioassessment Sampling –
  • 15 stations on mainstem Des Plaines River – subset of stations from 2019
  • 40 stations in Hickory Creek Watershed
  • All stations were sampled for fish, macroinvertebrate, habitat and water chemistry collected, sediment at subset of stations.
  • 9 expanded Dissolved Oxygen sites were monitored in HC
  • 10 sites were sampled for fecal coliform – 5 samples in 30 days
2020 Review

Organizational
• Completed first financial audit

MS4 Support
• Completed MS4 report of LDWG activities for member.

Outreach
• Added content to website and worked to make site easier to use.
• Expanded seasonal outreach campaigns with more topics and materials
• Expanded content on the SaltSmart.org website
2021 Preview

Monitoring

• 4th Year Sampling – Remaining Tributaries
  • Grant Creek
  • Jackson Creek
  • Manhattan Creek
  • Cedar Creek
  • Lower Rock Run
  • Sugar Run
  • Fraction Run
  • Mline Creek

• Fiddyment Creek
• Big Run
• Long Run Creek
• Sawmill Creek
• Flag Creek
• Romeoville Trib
• I&M Canal
2021 Preview

Monitoring

• Bioassessment ~ 50-60 stations
• Expanded Dissolved Oxygen ~ 12 stations
• Long-term deployment Dissolved Oxygen – 2 stations
• Fecal Coliform ~ 10-15 stations

We will be co-funding summer interns with DRSCW and Lower DuPage
2021 Preview

**Nutrient Assessment & Reduction Plan – Due 12-31-23**

- Setup meetings with dischargers to discuss IPS Model nutrient benchmarks and how they might be used in NARP (Tributary)
- Compile all available data to develop a strategy to determine the upstream condition of mainstem Des Plaines and Ship & Sanitary Canal
- Work with DRSCW and others to investigate trading opportunities
- Utilize outputs from IPS Model to identify potential projects within nutrient related impaired reaches
Time-Limited Water Quality Standard for Chloride

• Approval through Illinois Pollution Control Board is expected in 2021

• Begin work on coordinating reporting efforts

• Continue Training Opportunities

• Expand outreach materials and to potential new members
Chloride Time-Limited Water Quality Standard

Approximately 50 Petitioners in CAWS and Lower DesPlaines

Current Members
- Village of Channahon
- City of Crest Hill
- Village of Elwood
- Village of Frankfort
- City of Joliet
- City of Lockport
- Village of Mokena
- Village of New Lenox
- Village of Romeoville
- MDRD
- Exxon Mobil
- Illinois DOT

Potential Members
- City of Country Club Hills
- Village of LaGrange
- Village of Orland Park
- Village of Tinley Park
- Village of Richton Park
- Village of Riverside
- City of Chicago
- Citgo Holding, Inc.
- Flint Hill Resources
- IMTT Illinois LLC
- Ingredion Inc.
- Midwest Marine Terminals
- Ozinga Ready Mix
- Stepan Co
- Cook County DOT
2020 Outreach Materials

lowerdesplainswatershed.org/seasonal-campaigns
Topics:

- Stormwater runoff
- Rain gardens
- Rain barrels
Summer

Topics:

• Lawn maintenance

• Components of a healthy stream

• Aquatic insects

• Impact of dams

Reduce mosquitoes at home by removing places where mosquitoes like to breed.

Eliminate sources of shallow, standing water from around your home. Some common places where mosquitoes like to lay their eggs include buckets, empty gardening containers, wheelbarrows, tire treads and pet water bowls.

The more diverse a stream’s physical habitat is, the more diverse the aquatic life that live there.

Different fish and insects need different types of habitat.

A variety of habitat in and around a stream - from pools and riffles to native plant buffers - encourages a diversity of fish and insects.

Why remove dams?

Most dams in our region no longer serve any purpose, but cause a host of problems for local streams. In one move, dam removal can increase fish diversity, improve water quality and create a safe place for people to enjoy.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR LAWN NATURALLY

Don’t mow too low.

Mowing a lawn too short exposes surface roots and dries out the soil faster. In general, try not to mow more than 1/2 of the height of the grass at a time.

Use a mulching mower.

Mulching mowers leave behind shredded grass clippings that act as compost to fertilize your lawn without adding chemicals.

Consider native plant landscaping.

This will reduce the amount of lawn on your property, requiring less fertilizer, watering and mowing. Native plants also provide habitat for beneficial birds and butterflies.
Fall

Topics:

• Leaf collection before a storm protects water quality – Madison case study

• Creating a leaf mold bin

• Where do dragonflies go in the winter?
Topics:

• Anti-icing

• How salt works

• Where do fish go in the winter?
Winter – Salt Smart

Safe Driving
Poster/Graphic

Stay Safe on Snowy Streets!
Winter Driving Tips

When There’s Snow, Go Slow
Drive slowly through snow to stay in control of your car.

Keep Your Distance
Stopping or lane changes require a greater distance. Increase your following distance and begin stopping sooner.

Wait It Out
If it’s an option, stay home until the roads are clear.

Build in Extra Time
Clearing off your car and driving safely through the snow adds snow time to your commute.

Be Prepared
Keep a winter emergency kit in your trunk. Include items like a blanket, jumper cables, and a small shovel.

Don’t Cruise Control
This may gain you fast on dry roads and cause you to lose control.

Don’t Crow (Pull) the Flow
Give plow drivers an inch. Don’t crowd the road, never pass a slow plow.

Snow + Ice Removal FAQ

Salt smart.

How does salt work to remove snow and ice?
Salt, or sodium chloride, works by lowering the freezing point of water, causing ice to melt when the temperature is below water’s normal freezing point of 32 degrees. Ice on the road works, but salt is needed. The best salt can be at temperatures below 15 degrees. Follow the instructions on the bag and use the correct type for your area.

When will salt be applied on my road?
Roads are usually treated before the snow and ice. At very low temperatures, use a blend formulated for low temperatures that contains salt and ice melters to help melt the ice.

When will the salt be shipped from my property?
During a snow storm, roads generally begin clearing streets according to the following priorities:
1. Priority street routes – High-traffic roadways and access to hospitals, police stations, and schools.
2. Second priority street routes – streets that lead directly onto priority street routes.
3. Third priority street routes – neighborhood streets and out-decks.

Why do some streets have less snow and ice when planning is done?
Snow and ice removal plans try to provide consistent service, but severe, localized storms will be affected more than others due to certain factors, such as when during the snow storm it is planned, the amount of traffic on the road, and other conditions. You might notice some areas are different.

Save more.

Why did I see a truck driving in snow with its blades up?
Snow plow trucks need to clear the blade to drive more efficiently. This clears the snow and ice off the vehicle, snow plows, and picks up snow from the road surface between the ice and snow.

Why is salt plow operation drivers so quick to drive my street?
It may appear that snow plows are driving faster for road conditions. Most work at around 15 mph to efficiently clear snow and ice. The loud sound of pounding, rushing lights on the vehicle, snow plows and other vehicles may make the plow trucks appear to be going faster than it is.

Why are snow plows not plowing my street?
Snow plows are designed to push snow to the side, so it is visible for plows to clear to the end of driveways and sidewalks for clearing. Plows will make multiple passes down your streets, which can cause additional noise and salt up to the end of your driveway after you have plowed. Residents are responsible for clearing snow and ice from driveways and sidewalks using a broom. If you have a corner lot, it is legal to shovel snow back into the roadway as this creates unsafe driving conditions.

Bookmark

Together we can protect our local waterways by using the right amount of salt while keeping roads, driveways and sidewalks safe.

4 Steps to Be Salt Smart

1. Shovel first.
Clear all snow from driveways and sidewalks before it turns to ice.

2. Size up.
More salt does not mean more melting. A 12-inch coffee mug of salt should be enough for 500 sq ft of driveway or about 10 sidewalk squares.

Distribute salt eveny, not in clamps.

4. Switch.
Rock salt stops working if the temperature is below 15 degrees. When temperatures drop to low, switch to a deicer formulated for colder temperatures.

Saltsmart.org

Salt smart.

Save more.

Stay Safe on Snowy Streets!
Winter Driving Tips

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If my driveway is plowed in and I shoveled the snow back into the street, can snow come back by and clean it up?
No, putting snow back into the street is illegal and unsafe.
Cups and bookmarks are available now – contact Jennifer or Lea to put in your order.

Scatter cups

Bookmarks
New Videos!

**Winter – Salt Smart**

- **Fun PSA for Residents**
  - More Isn’t Always Better | Salt Smart
    - Views: 39
    - Description: Apply salt sparingly this winter to protect the quality of rivers and streams in Illinois. Learn more at [http://saltsmart.org/](http://saltsmart.org/)

- **Salt Spreader Calibration Tutorial**
  - How to Calibrate a Walk Behind Salt Spreader
    - Views: 45
    - Description: Salt needs to be spread at the correct application rate to effectively melt ice and to prevent wasting resources and water pollution. You’ll need to calibrate your broadcast spreader to make sure it’s at the right application rate.
Winter Deicing Technical Briefs

Recordings available at Saltsmart.org/workshops and "Will County Watersheds" YouTube Page
Join the Pet Waste Campaign

Remind residents to scoop the poop to protect water quality!

- **We Provide:**
  - Sign + Dog Waste Bag Dispenser and bags
  - Or Just Sign(s)

- **You Provide:**
  - Post & Installation – send us a picture
  - Participate in Social Media Campaign

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Lower Des Plaines Watershed Group

When it comes to migrating insects, monarchs get all the attention around here. But some species of dragonflies (like the Green Darter) also travel significant distances to spend the winter in warmer weather. Learn more about what dragonflies are up to this coming winter: https://www.lowerdesplainest watershedgroup.org/where-to-go/

Some species of dragonflies migrate south for the winter!

Like the Monarch Butterfly, the Green Darter migrates over three generations. The first generation flies south to the Gulf Coast, Florida, or the Caribbean. The second stays in the south without migrating at all. The third generation makes the journey back north!
Ideas? Needs?

For questions or to customize materials:

Lea Rodbarry,
Watershed Communications Specialist
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January 28th - DuPage Environmental Summit – Using Nature to Improve Mental Health: A Virtual Summit 8:30-Noon [www.theconservationfoundation.org](http://www.theconservationfoundation.org)

February 25th - Beyond the Basics Stormwater Management Seminar: Innovative Approaches to Stormwater Challenges [www.theconservationfoundation.org](http://www.theconservationfoundation.org)

**Lower Des Plaines Watershed Group 2021 Meetings**

March 11th
May 13th
July 8th
September 9th
November TBD
Lower Des Plaines Watershed Group Contacts:

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