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SWM Hosts Wetland Plants Identification Course



Botanists Dr. Glenn Adelson and Chris Benda teach features of a particular plant species to the class at Wolf Road Prairie in Westchester.

SWM's second plant identification course of the year took place last week, aided by excellent weather. The class is an advanced dive into the identification of wetland grasses, sedges, rushes and forbs. The audience of restoration professionals, wetland consultants, and government employees toured various wetlands, woodlands and prairies throughout DuPage and Cook County. The class was led by Dr. Glenn Adelson and Chris Benda, two renowned local teachers in botany and ecology. Dr. Adelson is an associate professor of environmental studies at Lake Forest College. Benda is a researcher at Southern Illinois University and also maintains a popular social media presence as the Illinois Botanizer, where he documents rare and interesting plants he encounters.

See This HOA's Beautiful Stormwater Basins on a Special Walking Tour



Danada Woods HOA has done a lot of work to naturalize its detention basins, leading to stunning views for its residents.

Next month, The Conservation Foundation is hosting a unique tour of a Naperville subdivision that has transformed its traditional detention basins into ecological sanctuaries. This tour is designed for other property managers and HOA leaders who are interested in harnessing the power of nature to create low-maintenance and stunning landscapes. Get practical

Around Town

SWM field crews deployed this past Monday night to the Liberty Park subdivision of Westmont to help battle the ongoing storms overnight. Stormwater detention basins in the area fill up fast, so crews used a portable pump to maintain water levels as needed. This work is part of an intergovernmental agreement between SWM and the Village of Westmont that protects both unincorporated and incorporated residents in the neighborhood.

insights from Jack Pizzo, President of The Pizzo Group, a highly experienced ecological restoration company. The program, sponsored by DuPage SWM, will be held on Thursday, September 25th, from 4PM-5:30PM. Save your spot using the link below!

[Register Here](#)

Illinois EPA Opens Grant Opportunities for Green Infrastructure Projects

The IEPA recently opened applications for the Green Infrastructure Grant Opportunities (GIGO) Program, offering \$5 million in funding to improve water quality in the state. The program supports projects that address stormwater runoff and nonpoint source pollution through green infrastructure best practices that preserve, restore or enhance natural hydrology. Awards can range from \$75,000 to \$2.5 million. Applications are due by November 5, 2025, see below for full details.

[More Info](#)



SWM crews use a portable pump to help dewater a detention basin in Westmont during the August 18th rain event.

Upcoming Events

Wheaton Senior Resource Fair

Saturday, August 28, 2025, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

SWM will be tabling at this event for seniors hosted by Illinois Representative Amy Grant and Senator Seth Lewis. Attendees will be able to engage a wide variety of organizations offering services for seniors, including everything from health screenings to advice from a master gardener.

[More Info](#)

Parking Lots & Sidewalks Deicing Workshops

Various dates, check link below for details

The DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup is partnering with multiple organizations to host virtual and in-person winter deicing workshops for public agencies. The purpose of the workshops is to educate attendees on alternatives to traditional salting practices and methods that may reduce the presence of chloride in waterways, while keeping parking lots and sidewalks safe. Registration is \$35 for in-person and \$85 for virtual attendance, and attendance is only necessary at one of the two workshops.

[More Info](#)

Public Roads Deicing Virtual Workshop

Various dates, check link below for details

The DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup is partnering with multiple organizations to host virtual and in-person winter deicing workshops for public agencies. The purpose of the workshops is to educate attendees on alternatives to traditional salting practices and methods that may reduce the presence of chloride in waterways, while keeping roads safe. Registration is \$35 for in-person attendance and \$85 for virtual, and attendance is only necessary at one of the six workshops.

[More Info](#)

Darien Children's Safety Expo

Saturday, September 6, 2025, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

SWM will be tabling at this free family event at Lace Elementary School in Darien! Tons of trucks will be there from all kinds of government services for kids to play on, along with plenty of activities and giveaways. Sponsored by State Senator John Curran and Representative Nicole La Ha.

[More Info](#)

Bloomingtondale Children's Safety Expo

Saturday, September 13, 2025, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

SWM will be tabling at this free family event at Erickson Elementary School in Bloomingtondale! Tons of trucks will be there from all kinds of government services for kids to play on, along with plenty of activities and giveaways. Sponsored by State Senator Seth Lewis and Representatives Amy Grant and Jennifer Sanalidro.

[More Info](#)

Stormwater Management Planning Committee

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