



**DUPAGE
COUNTY**

Watershed
Management

Water
Quality

Floodplain
Mapping

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Services

Flood Operations
& Maintenance

Shared
Services

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Stormwater Management Planning Committee

FROM: Sarah Hunn, P.E., Director- DuPage County Stormwater Management

SUBJECT: Stormwater Program Update April 2026

DATE: April 7, 2026

Watershed Planning

Prentiss Creek Watershed Plan:

County staff has completed existing condition hydraulic model updates and provided the input data to our consultant. This work completed by our staff was used as a great learning opportunity to gain additional experience and training with the hydraulic model. Our consultant is currently reviewing the work completed by County staff and finishing the updates to the existing conditions. Model updates for the proposed projects and alternatives will start after the existing conditions are finalized. The Prentiss Creek Watershed includes portions of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Darien, Lisle, and Unincorporated DuPage County.

Sawmill Creek Watershed Plan

County staff are working with our consultant to identify existing problem areas and to develop the existing conditions hydraulic model to represent all current hydraulic structures. We have met with staff from the Village of Willowbrook and have reached out to other stakeholders for information on flooding within the watershed. The first stakeholder meeting is planned for the evening of April 29 at the Community Resource Center of Willowbrook from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The meeting will be an in-person, open-house format with a detailed presentation by county staff and our consultant. This first meeting will be primarily used to obtain information related to current and existing flooding problems within the watershed. The Sawmill Creek Watershed includes large portions of Willowbrook and Darien, as well as smaller areas of Downers Grove, Burr Ridge, Lemont, and Unincorporated DuPage County.

Facilities/Operations/Shared Services Projects

Shared Services/Drainage Projects:

Staff continues to work on the evaluation of small-scale drainage projects countywide. Feasible projects will be designed and permitted over the upcoming months to allow for construction in Summer and Fall 2026 by the in-house crew.

The **new** Cost Share Drainage Assistance Program received a total of four (4) applications from DuPage County residents. Staff is recommending approval of three (3) applications, which will provide up to \$5,000 to assist these unincorporated residents with drainage problems that are not covered by the Department's fully funded program.



Facilities/Operations:

Due to heavy rainfall that occurred during the week of March 8th and over the weekend of March 15th and 16th, several flood control facilities were operated to help alleviate the flooding of homes, businesses and roadways in DuPage County. The Elmhurst Quarry, Spring Creek Reservoir, Armstrong Park Reservoir and many of the County's smaller gravity drained facilities operated during this event. All facilities have been dewatered and inspected for maintenance issues. Staff continues to monitor rainfall forecasts, stream elevations and rainfall gages throughout the County and are prepared to operate the County's flood control facilities as needed.

Staff is working with the awarded contractor, Access Limited Construction, to schedule a preconstruction meeting that will kick off the Elmhurst Quarry Highwall Stabilization Project. The scope of the project includes installation of new rock bolts and anchors, along with removal and replacement of netting along the high walls and through the keyway that connects the east and west lobes. Black and Veatch will be assisting the department with oversight of this specialty work.

Water Quality

Water Quality Improvement Grant recommendations were approved by the Stormwater Committee in March. A total of \$265,861 was awarded to projects in Roselle, Downers Grove, Itasca, Westmont, and Wood Dale.

Staff are scheduled to begin outfall monitoring of the Des Plaines River, Fox River, Sawmill Creek, and DuPage River watersheds within the county. Since 2008, Stormwater Management has been conducting these inspections on behalf of municipalities to comply with the Illinois EPA Permit No. ILR40 requirements.

Regulatory

Staff continue to manage a high volume of core tasks, including permit reviews, pre-application meetings, violation assistance for waiver communities, and wetland boundary verifications. Meanwhile, the ad-hoc team is making steady progress on the new Stormwater Ordinance Guidance Document.

ARPA Projects

The St. Joseph Creek Condominiums flood gate and flood wall projects are nearing completion. ComEd has supplied energy to the pump stations, and the contractor continues to work with the flood gate manufacturer to certify all five gates. Upcoming work in early spring will include installation of the exit staircases and any final restoration necessary before the contractor demobilizes.

IEPA Section 319 Grant Project

The Winfield Creek/Campus Streambank Stabilization Project broke ground mid-July and reached substantial completion at the end of 2025. The contractor, Semper Fi Landscaping, Inc., will continue to manage the native vegetation and new woody plantings for approximately the next five years.