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# DuPage County Stormwater Management News & Updates

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March 2026

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## DuPage County Operates Major Flood Control Facilities Following Volatile Rainfall



A camera feed from the Elmhurst Quarry Intake Structure shows water flowing in at 9:44 PM on Sunday, March 15.

It's been a busy month for SWM! Twice already, DuPage County's flood control facilities were activated to protect our communities, including the Elmhurst Quarry.

The Elmhurst Quarry began operations at 9:30 PM on Sunday, March 15, successfully diverting over 10 million gallons of water through the night. This is first time the Quarry has operated since August of 2025. Additionally, the Armstrong Park (Carol Stream), Spring Creek (Bloomingdale) and Liberty Park (Westmont) facilities all operated overnight to manage rising water levels.

With more storms expected later this week, SWM staff remain ready to operate all county-owned facilities as necessary.

[Read the Press Release](#)

### See Plants Bloom Along Newly Restored Winfield Creek



SWM Committee Chair Jim Zay joined staff for a tour of the Winfield Creek Streambank Stabilization Project site, where installed native plants will soon bloom.

### Around Town

The DuPage County Stormwater Planning Committee voted on the 2026 recipients of the Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP) grant in early March. Celebrating its 27th year, the WQIP grant awards up to 25 percent of funding for projects exhibiting a regional water quality benefit. This year, the County received six applications for projects totaling more than \$15 million. The Stormwater Committee awarded

With spring finally here (or at least it's supposed to be), native plants will soon begin popping up at our Winfield Creek Streambank Stabilization Project on the west side of campus. In addition to improving the in-stream habitat for aquatic life, the project includes a mowed walking path with educational signage along the native prairie filter strip feature. The deep-rooted native vegetation will hold soil in place to prevent erosion while providing increased stormwater infiltration. The project was funded in part through a Section 319 grant from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

### DuPage SWM Releases 2025 Annual Report



*From the Annual Report: SWM field crews work to repair a section of the Cotuit Court drainage system in unincorporated Glen Ellyn, one of many Shared Services projects completed by the Department in 2025.*

SWM released its annual report for 2025 in early March. This past year was marked by many accomplishments for the Department, including an award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its Water Quality Improvement grant program (WQIP). The Department also completed numerous flood reduction and stream stabilization projects, significantly improving flood control capability and natural habitat across the County.

[Read the 2025 Annual Report](#)

\$265,861 to five projects across the County; you can view the recipients and all past projects through the link below.

[More Info](#)



*Willowbrook received a WQIP grant in 2024 to restore a portion of Sawmill Creek and adjacent pond within Borse Park. As of July 2025, the improvements are growing in nicely!*

## Upcoming Events

### 2026 Sustainable Design Challenge

*Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.*

DuPage County and SCARCE are celebrating the **20th Annual Sustainable Design Challenge**, which promotes environmental and stormwater education in local high schools. Students from DuPage County high schools will display their innovative and resilient building and landscape designs on the first floor of DuPage County's Administration Building (421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL).

[Register Here](#)

### 2026 DuPage County River Sweep

*Saturday, April 18, 2026, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.*

Sponsored in part by SWM, The Conservation Foundation's 35th annual DuPage County River Sweep is a countywide stream cleanup held each spring. Individuals, businesses and other organizations may become involved in this year's River Sweep by serving as a Community Liaison, Group Coordinator or Individual Volunteer. To learn more and register for the Sweep, click the link below!

[Register Here](#)



#### Stormwater Management Planning Committee

Deborah A. Conroy, Chair | Jim Zay, Committee Chair

David Brummel | Dawn DeSart | Lucy Chang Evans

Grant Eckhoff | Gary Fasules | Andrew Honig

Paul Hinterlong | Steve Nero | Nunzio Pulice

Edward N. Tiesenga | Sam Tornatore