

**1998–1999
Water Quality
Activities**

 northeastern illinois planning commission

Water Resource Project Highlights ♦ 1998–1999

- ❖ Initiated a Strategic Plan for Water Resource Management with the identification of 49 key regional issues
- ❖ Completed assessments of wetland, lake, and stream quality in McHenry County
- ❖ Coordinated the 1998 Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program for 65 lakes in northeastern Illinois
- ❖ Completed four *Lake Notes* fact sheets on the subjects of *Lake Dredging*, *Stormwater Detention Ponds*, *Common Lake Water Quality Parameters*, and *Monitoring Lake Quality*.
- ❖ Continued Illinois Clean Lakes Program Phase 2 restoration and protection project at Indian Lake in Brookfield Zoo
- ❖ Continued Illinois Clean Lakes Program Phase 2 restoration and protection work at Lake George in the Village of Richton Park
- ❖ Continued Illinois Clean Lakes Program Phase 1 Diagnostic/Feasibility studies at Maple Lake and Chicago Botanic Garden Lagoons
- ❖ Coordinated twelfth annual "National Conference on Enhancing the States' Lake Management Programs," April 20–23, 1999
- ❖ Held a three day course on "Designing Stormwater Best Management Practices in Northeastern Illinois," May 17-19 in Naperville
- ❖ Assisted watershed planning efforts involving Blackberry, Waubensee, and Butterfield Creeks and the Chicago, Des Plaines, DuPage, and Kishwaukee Rivers.
- ❖ Initiated a new phase of restoration projects in the Flint Creek watershed
- ❖ Continued technical support of stormwater and watershed management programs
- ❖ Reviewed 22 Illinois Water Quality Management Plan amendment requests including 17 FPA boundary changes, three new treatment facilities and three plant expansions. Also reviewed 39 requests for reissue, issue, modification, or termination of NPDES permits, facility plan amendments, and map corrections.

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For more information on the topics discussed in this report, please contact these individuals at NIPC (312/454-0400).

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Commission Kicks Off New Strategic Plan for Water Management

The Commission recently began a new venture to develop a coordinated, strategic plan for managing the water resources of the Chicagoland region. This planning process is being supported through funding from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs. It will address issues related to water quality, water supply, and stormwater and flooding.

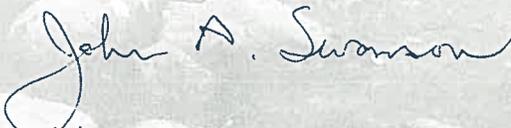
The timing of the plan is particularly critical because of the tremendous amount of new development in the region. The Commission has forecast a 25 percent increase in total population by the year 2020, with some of the outer counties nearly doubling in population. This development, if not adequately planned for, poses some very serious threats to our water resources. For example, *historical* development has caused serious damage to fish and aquatic life in nearly all of our urban and suburban rivers and streams, while our rural waterways remain in relatively good condition.

To help us in prioritizing issues and developing strategies, the Commission has assembled nearly 100 technical and policy experts in a set of three task forces. We also have convened a regional Water Resources Advisory Committee with representatives from local, state, and federal agencies as well as private organizations and public interest groups. To date, this effort has led to the identification and prioritization of 49 key issues. For perspective, the following are the top three water quality issues identified.

1. The cumulative impacts of nonpoint sources of pollution, particularly urban stormwater runoff, pose significant water quality problems for the region.
2. The vast majority of the region's urban and suburban streams, rivers, and lakes still do not meet the fishable/swimmable goals of the Clean Water Act: "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters" which "provides for the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife."
3. Significant nonpoint source problems remain in agricultural areas, including historical impacts such as wetland loss and channelization, and the ongoing effects of nutrient, pesticide, and sediment runoff.

In July 1999, we begin the task of developing recommendations and strategies. The plan that comes out of this process is intended to be action-oriented. A successful plan will improve the way the region perceives and manages water, consistent with the principles of sustainability, multi-objectivity, and cost-effectiveness. Ultimately, water in all its forms and uses—including *wastewater* and *stormwater*—will be viewed as a resource to be appreciated and wisely utilized, and not a problem to be disposed of or hidden from view.

We invite our local government constituents and partners to participate in this process. Future newsletters will provide additional information on this subject.


John A. Swanson
Acting Executive Director

McHenry County Wetlands Study Completed

Wetlands are some of the most productive and diverse ecological systems on Earth. They are distinguished by unique characteristics of plants, soils, and water. In McHenry County, common wetland types include marshes, wet meadows, fens, and bogs. McHenry County also is known for its varied streams, including several that rank among the highest quality in Illinois.

With funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Commission coordinated a multi-agency effort to evaluate the wetlands, lakes, and streams in McHenry County. This evaluation was conducted under an EPA program known as Advanced Identification, or ADID. The program is designed to provide improved awareness of the functions and values of wetlands and other aquatic systems. More specifically, it is intended to inform landowners and developers that certain high quality sites may be unsuitable for the disposal of dredged or fill material. ADID projects also provide guidance on the long-term protection and management of aquatic resources in an area.

An ADID team of wetland biologists, soil scientists, engineers, and water quality specialists, along with a number of local policy advisors, determined that two categories of wetland and waterbody functions are of critical importance in McHenry County: *biological/habitat functions* and *water quality/stormwater storage functions*. Evaluation methodologies were developed for these functions and individual wetlands and waterbodies were evaluated. Results of the evaluations follow.

- 3,785 wetlands were identified, covering 41,685 acres, or nearly 11 percent of the county. Of these, 154 wetlands totaling 17,489 acres, or about 42 percent of the county's entire wetland area, met the criteria for high quality habitats. An additional 274 wetlands totaling 8,292 acres met the criteria for high value for stormwater and water quality functions.



Blue Flag Iris (*Iris virginica*) in a McHenry County wetland (Courtesy of USFWS)

- Lakes were distinguished based on a criterion of 20 acres or more of open water. A total of 15 such lakes were identified and seven were determined to be high quality habitats.
- Over 570 miles of streams were identified, ranging in size from small, unnamed headwaters to large rivers like the Fox and Kishwaukee. High quality habitats were found on 18 different named streams and rivers, totaling 170 miles.

In addition to evaluating the quality of wetlands and aquatic resources, the ADID team developed a protection and management strategy. This strategy identified improved education, regulations and best management practices, acquisition, and restoration as recommended techniques.

There are three final products from the study. The final project report, *Advanced Identification (ADID) Study, McHenry County, Illinois* documents procedures, the recommended protection and management strategy, and results of wetland evaluations. A brochure, *McHenry County's Wetlands, Lakes, and Streams*, provides a brief overview for local

officials and citizens. Maps and information on all ADID sites are available on a user-friendly CD-ROM. The CD-ROM includes mapping software to enable querying and screening of various wetland characteristics and enables printing out detailed information on individual wetlands.

Following the McHenry County model, a new ADID study has been initiated in Kane County. NIPC is coordinating this study for EPA and is working closely with the Kane County Development Department.

Best Management Practice Course Highlights Innovative Designs

The Commission held a three-day course on stormwater best management practices in May 1999 at the Naperville Municipal Center. The principal course instructors were NIPC staff members Tom Price and Dennis Dreher. Valuable insights were provided by guest instructors Jim Patchett from Conservation Design Forum, Inc., Vince Mosca from Hey and Associates, and Jeff Mengler from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The course was well received with 55 engineers and planners in attendance. During the course, the attendees learned about the design, implementation, and maintenance of various BMPs including vegetated filter strips and swales, infiltration practices, and detention basins. The participants also learned how these practices can be combined into a system of BMPs to form a "treatment train."

One of the new focuses of the course since it was last offered in 1993 was on the landscape design of stormwater systems. The course identified techniques utilizing deep-rooted native wetland and prairie plants in detention basins, swales, and even the upland areas of development sites. Advantages of natural landscaping include improved soil stabilization, enhanced infiltration of runoff, and reduced maintenance costs. A further advantage that has interested many local governments is the ability of tall-growing native plants to deter nuisance populations of Canada geese around detention basins.

One of the highlights of the course was the presentation of local case studies. Jim Patchett, Steve Albert of Civil Design Group, and Sherri Kosmos of Ennis Engineering, Ltd. described development projects around the region that were incorporating BMPs such as cluster development, natural drainage, and native vegetation landscaping. The

case studies addressed issues of affordability, local government acceptance, and marketing. They provided solid evidence that innovative BMP designs are practical, and sometimes even preferred, in

typical northeastern Illinois communities.

For those that were unable to attend the course, the course notebook/manual is available (see "New Publications.")

Commission Assists in Demonstration Projects

Flint Creek Restoration Continues

The third round of Flint Creek watershed restoration projects are underway. The designs have been completed and construction began in June 1999. These projects are partially funded by Illinois EPA through Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The remaining funding is through the project partners: the Village of Barrington, the Village of Lake Zurich, Good Shepherd Hospital, Citizens for Conservation, and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission.

Two of the projects are stream and riparian corridor restoration projects. The Barrington project includes creation of artificial riffle structures, installation of "bioengineering" streambank stabilization measures, and creation of a buffer of native vegetation along the edge of the creek. The project reach is located within a residential area of the Village. The Good Shepherd Hospital, with the assistance of staff and volunteers from *Citizens for Conservation*, is removing invasive woody vegetation within the riparian corridor and re-introducing native floodplain and streambank vegetation.

The third project involves retrofitting a detention basin in the Village of Lake Zurich. An existing detention basin is being expanded and modified to provide enhanced treatment of polluted urban runoff and better control of discharge rates to minimize streambank erosion in Flint Creek. The completed basin will include a variety of habitats, including open water, shallow marsh, and upland

prairie, that will be investigated by students from the adjacent Seth Paine Elementary School.

Lake County Subdivision A Test Case for Runoff Reduction

The Heather Ridge subdivision in Gurnee is the site of an investigation of methods to reduce runoff and improve water quality. With funding from the Illinois DNR through the Des Plaines River Ecosystem Partnership, NIPC and a team of private and public partners, including the local homeowners association, explored various options to improve runoff management on the site and to protect a tributary of the Des Plaines River.

One of the plan recommendations was to "disconnect" impervious surfaces by utilizing landscaped areas of the subdivision to infiltrate runoff and filter out runoff pollutants. In some locations, turf grass landscaping would be converted to low-maintenance prairie grasses and wild flowers whose deeper root systems can better infiltrate rain water and runoff into the ground.

Another plan recommendation was to re-landscape some of the many ponds on the site. In particular, eroding pond shorelines would be planted native wetland plants and prairie species to stabilize the soil. These natural pond buffers also can improve water quality and have been shown to be an effective deterrent to nuisance populations of Canada geese. Landscaping plans have been completed and the partners are currently exploring individual projects for implementation.

Lake Restoration and Protection Projects

The Commission has assisted numerous local agencies in protecting and restoring their lakes. This assistance typically involves applying for grant funds, monitoring lake conditions and diagnosing problems, designing restoration plans, and assisting in the implementation of restoration and protection strategies. Highlights of ongoing projects follow.

Lake George Restoration Continues

The Village of Richton Park continued its restoration of Lake George. This project was initiated in January 1997 with funding assistance from the Illinois EPA through the Illinois Clean Lakes Program. Goals of the program include reduction of sediment and nutrient loads to the lake, improvement of aquatic habitat, enhancement of recreational opportunities, and improved aesthetics. The Commission continues to serve the Village as technical project coordinator.

In July 1998, dredging was done to remove 2000 cubic yards of sediment (about 200 dump truck loads) along a public park on the lake's south end. The park's severely-eroding shoreline also was regraded to a gentler slope and re-vegetated with native grasses. This project stabilized the park shoreline and improved public access for fishing and boating.

Streambank stabilization on the two tributaries that enter Lake George began in late summer 1998, continued into the fall, and resumed in spring 1999. Work has included bank regrading; removal of non-native and invasive bank vegetation; installation of rock, coir fiber roll, and A-jacks structures for toe-of-slope protection; and seeding of the streambanks with native vegetation.

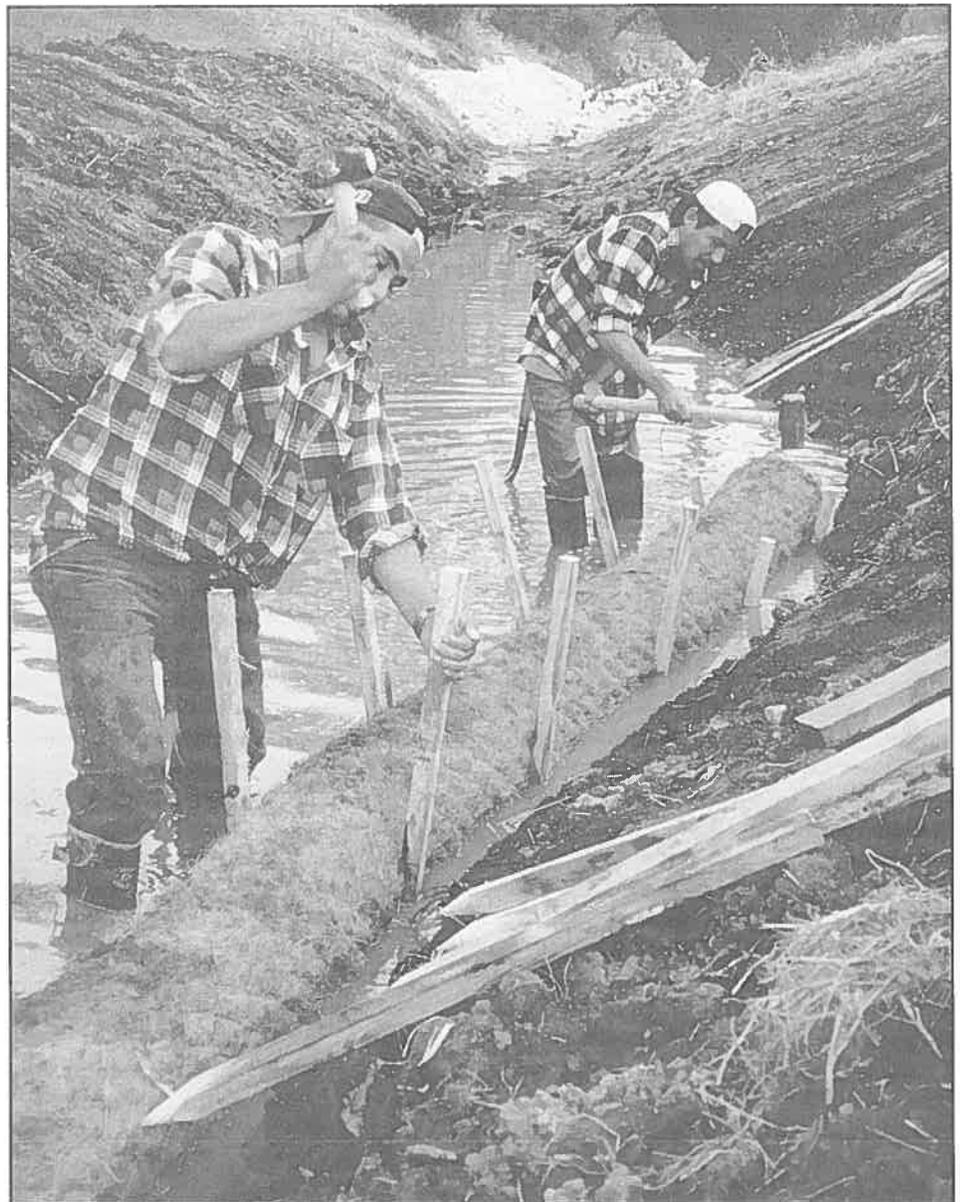
Fishery management activities were initiated in September 1998 with the eradication of the existing fish population, necessitated by an out-of-balance fish community dominated by carp and stunted panfish. An Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) fisheries biologist applied a

fish toxicant called rotenone to the lake and its tributaries. Over the next few days, an estimated 1200 pounds of dead fish were removed by Village staff, lakeshore residents, and a local Boy Scout troop. The IDNR plans to restock Lake George in summer 1999 and 2000 with a balanced mix of bluegill, channel catfish, and largemouth bass.

Design work for stabilizing Lake George's eroding shorelines and reintroducing native aquatic plants began in spring 1999. NIPC staff helped select a consultant/contractor that specializes in the use of native vegetation and soil bioengineering

practices. Installation activities will likely begin in fall 1999 and conclude in spring 2000.

Other lake protection activities include improved control of sediment and runoff from development activities in the upstream watershed; cleaning and rehabilitation of storm sewer catch basins within the lake's watershed; and utilization of scare tactics to reduce the number of overwintering Canada geese. Projects still on tap include installation of a wintertime aeration system to help prevent winter fish kills, and additional public education and awareness activities.



Fiber roll installation on a Lake George tributary

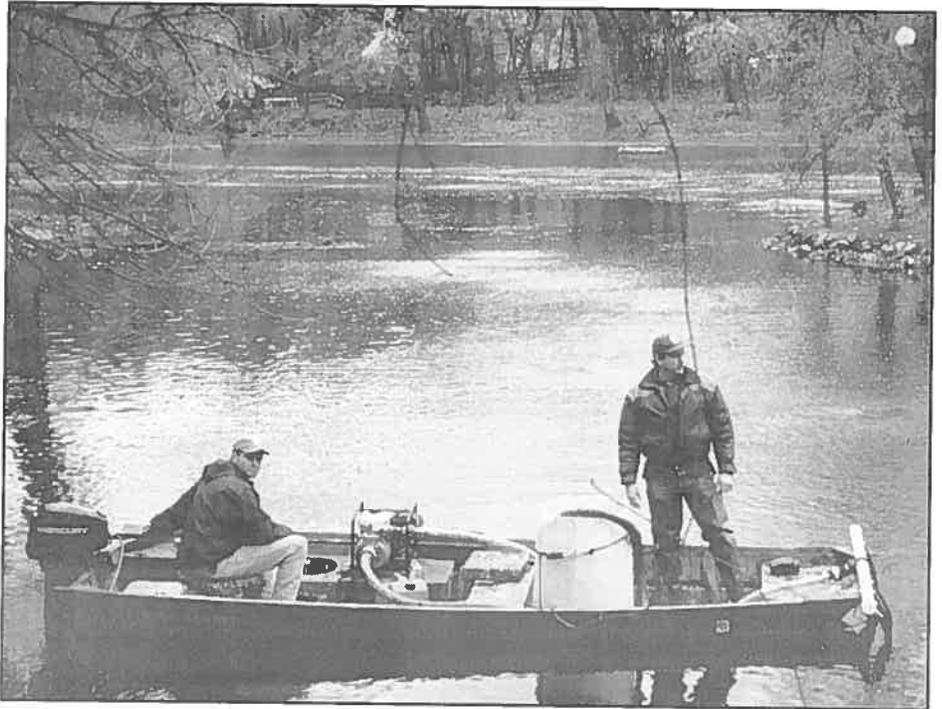
Indian Lake

As reported in previous *Water Quality Activities* reports, Indian Lake was the focus of a Phase 1 Clean Lakes Program study during 1995-97. Located on the grounds of Brookfield Zoo, this 4-acre lake has been plagued in recent years by nuisance growth of algae, unpleasant odors, and even fish kills. The Phase 1 study identified high levels of plant nutrients and depressed levels of dissolved oxygen as primary causes for the lake's degraded condition.

To correct these problems, a multi-faceted lake rehabilitation and protection program began in 1998, thanks to funding provided by the Zoo and a Phase 2 grant from the Illinois Clean Lakes Program. During fall 1998, a lake aeration system was installed to improve water circulation and raise oxygen levels. Aluminum sulfate ("alum") was applied to remove phosphorus from the lake water and to form a barrier against release of phosphorus from the lakebed sediments.

The lakeshore has been cleared of nuisance shade-creating vegetation (mostly European buckthorn), thereby providing more sunlight to stimulate erosion-reducing groundcover vegetation. Emergent, submergent, and floating-leaved species of aquatic plants were introduced in near-shore waters in spring 1999 to provide much-needed aquatic habitat and to protect the shoreline soils from erosion. Because dense waterfowl populations are found at the lake, these vegetation plantings have been placed within waterfowl enclosure "cages" so that the young plantings can mature before being exposed to the waterfowls' aggressive feeding.

Lake quality monitoring during the project will document the results of the rehabilitation measures and provide a benchmark for future lake assessments.



Alum application at Indian Lake

Maple Lake

Located in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County's Palos Preserve, Maple Lake is considered one of northeastern Illinois' higher quality lakes. To help safeguard the lake's quality, the District and NIPC have been investigating the lake since 1997 under an Illinois Clean Lakes Program Phase 1 Diagnostic/Feasibility Study. Water quality monitoring, aquatic plant assessments, and water depth mapping continued during 1998-99. This information will be combined with watershed assessment data to formulate a plan to protect the lake's long-term ecological health and recreational uses.

Chicago Botanic Garden Lagoons

A Phase 1 Diagnostic/Feasibility Study also is underway at the Chicago Botanic Gardens, located just south of the Lake-Cook county line and east of the Edens Expressway. Working with staff of the Chicago Botanic Garden, NIPC is investigating the causes of excessive growth of aquatic plants and algae, degraded aquatic habitat, and poor lake aesthetics. Aquatic plant inventories, water and sediment depth mapping, hydrologic studies, and waterfowl evaluations continued during 1998-99.

This lake quality study complements a parallel effort by the Chicago Botanic Garden to remedy troublesome areas of shoreline erosion. The shoreline rehabilitation effort seeks to balance physical protection techniques with vegetation plantings and other "bioengineering" approaches. Nearly 900,000 people visited the Garden last year, making the rehabilitation of this 60-acre system of lakes and channels an ideal opportunity to educate visitors about lake improvement and protection strategies.

Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program

The year 1998 marked the eighteenth season of Illinois' Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP). Initiated by the Illinois EPA, this popular program brings together volunteer citizen scientists, state agency staff, and regional planning commissions to monitor and investigate the quality of Illinois' lakes. NIPC serves as program coordinator for the six-county northeastern Illinois region, providing volunteer training, technical assistance, educational materials, data management, fact sheet development, and assistance in annual report preparation. Of the 162 lakes VLMP-monitored statewide during 1998, 65 were in northeastern Illinois involving 133 volunteers.

Volunteers measure water clarity (transparency) in a lake of their choosing using a simple device called a Secchi disk (an 8-inch diameter plate painted black and white in opposite quadrants, attached to a calibrated rope). The disk is lowered into the water and the depth to which it is visible is recorded. Typically three sites are monitored, twice a month from May through October. The Secchi measurements are used to document changes in water transparency during the monitoring season as well as from year to year. In addition to Secchi disk monitoring, a subset of the volunteers (on a rotating basis) also collect water samples that are analyzed at an Illinois EPA laboratory.

VLMP data is used by the volunteers to learn about their lake's ecology and cause-and-effect relationships, and to assist in local lake and watershed management decision-making. Lake scientists, planners, and consultants also use the data for a wide variety of purposes. The Illinois EPA uses VLMP data in its biennial assessment of the state's waters as required by the federal Clean Water Act.

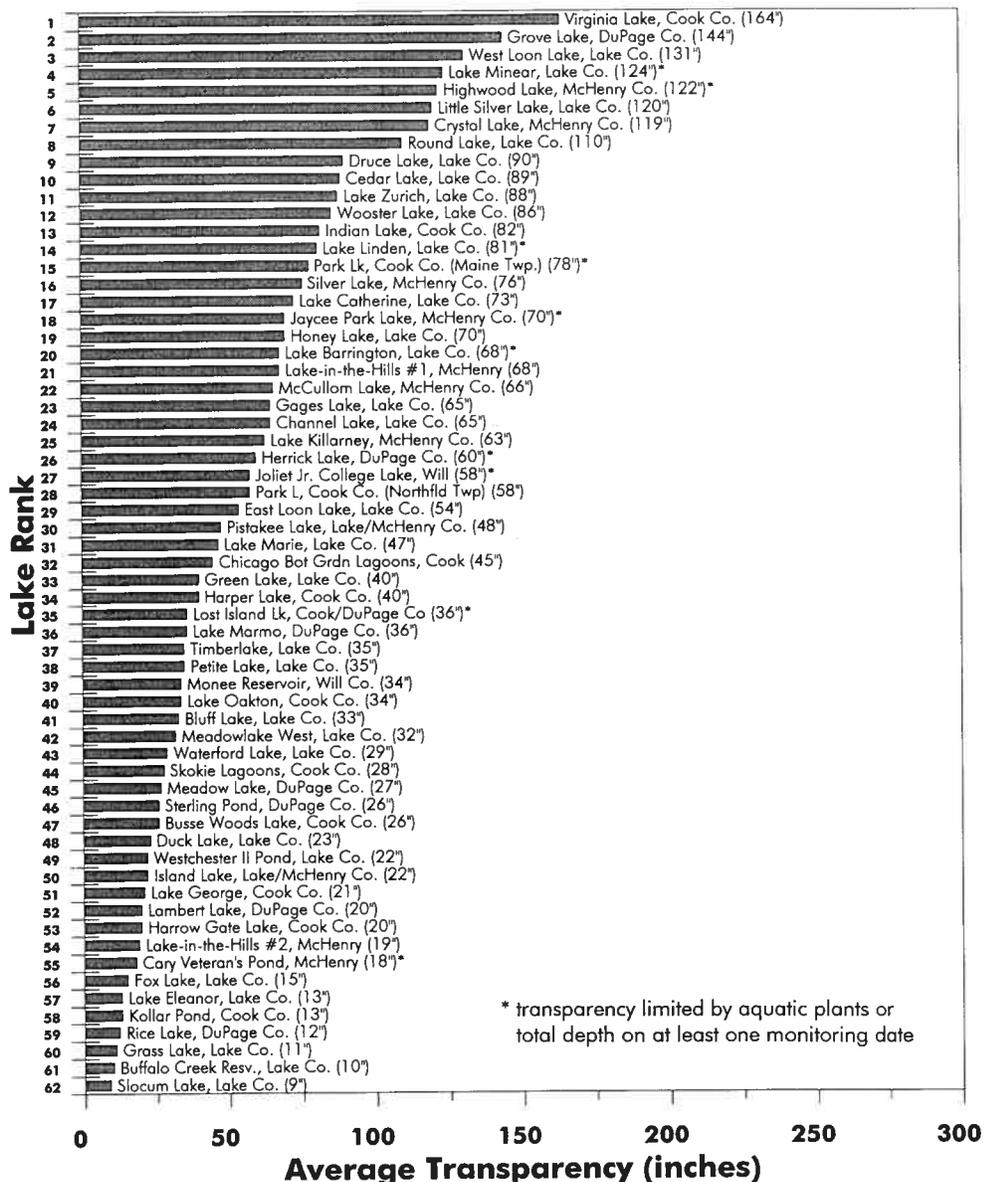
The accompanying figure presents the average annual Secchi disk transparency values for the northeastern Illinois lakes participating in the 1998 VLMP. As in 1997, Virginia Lake in Cook County

exhibited the greatest average transparency of 164 inches. Grove Lake in DuPage County was next with an average clarity of 144 inches, followed by West Loon Lake in Lake County at 131 inches. Also exhibiting average transparency of greater than 100 inches were Lake Minear, Little Silver Lake, and Round Lake in Lake County, and Highwood and Crystal Lakes in McHenry County. The lowest average annual transparency of 9 inches was observed at Slocum Lake in Lake County (due to substantial suspended sediment and algae), though close behind were several other lakes with similarly low water clarity.

Compared to other VLMP lakes statewide, 19 of the top 29 lakes in the state (average transparency of at least 70 inches) were in the northeastern Illinois region. For the fourth year in a row, Snake Hollow Lake in Knox County (western Illinois) exhibited the greatest average transparency of 253 inches. On the other side, 11 lakes in northeastern Illinois were among the 29 lakes with the lowest average clarity (20 inches or less).

More information on the VLMP, as well as copies of the annual reports, are available from NIPC's Natural Resources Department.

Northeastern Illinois 1998 VLMP Lake Rankings (lakes monitored four or more times)



Other Activities

Commission Assists Watershed Planning Efforts

With continuing financial support from the Illinois EPA, the Commission has been providing planning assistance to several local watershed management initiatives. Significant efforts were directed to the Blackberry, Waubonsie, and Butterfield Creek and Chicago, Des Plaines, DuPage, and Kishwaukee River watersheds. Assistance ranges from informal advice, to serving on an advisory committee, to participating as a partnership member. Some examples follow.

Blackberry Creek

With Commission assistance and Illinois EPA funding, the Blackberry Creek Watershed Resource Planning Committee developed a comprehensive watershed management plan. In support of one of the plan's recommendations, the Committee received a grant from the Illinois DNR to remove a dam at Yorkville. The dam was found to be an impediment to fish migration from the Fox River to Blackberry Creek. A sub-committee is being formed at this time to identify additional projects for immediate implementation and to assess funding strategies.

Upper DuPage River

The Conservation Foundation and the DuPage River Coalition, with the assistance of dozens of citizens, activists, and agency experts, completed the second phase of a comprehensive watershed plan. NIPC staff chaired the water quality team that developed recommendations for improved point and nonpoint source management. One of the recommendations moving forward is an update of the *DuPage Countywide Stormwater and Floodplain Ordinance* to incorporate improved requirements for best management practices.

Upper Des Plaines River

The Des Plaines River has been the subject of an intensive 10-year flood control study by the Army Corps of Engineers. It also is being studied for water quality enhancement and ecologic restoration opportunities by a multi-state initiative known as the Upper Des Plaines River Ecosystem Partnership, of which the Commission is a member. In an effort to identify possible multi-objectives strategies for the river and to better coordinate continuing study efforts, the Commission has convened interested local, state, and federal agencies and organizations onto a watershed steering committee and an advisory

committee. Project participants have adopted goals and objectives for a multi-objective Phase 2 study and have identified potential study elements.

Technical Assistance Provided to Local Governments

One of the important missions of the Commission is to provide technical assistance to local governments. With limited funding from the Illinois EPA and local government contributions, the Commission, provides advice on a variety of water quality and water resource issues, including urban stormwater management, nonpoint source control, stream, lake and wetland protection, and groundwater protection.

This assistance is provided in several ways. Technical and policy presentations are made at numerous seminars and conferences sponsored by groups such as the Illinois Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Management, American Society of Civil Engineers, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and American Public Works Association. Presentations also are made to village boards, planning commissions, and advisory committees. Staff regularly attends meetings of countywide stormwater management agencies. In addition, staff responds to numerous telephone inquiries from local governments and their consultants. These inquiries typically focus on local development ordinances, water quality data, and other water quality protection issues. This year saw a continuing increase in requests to provide assistance to fledgling watershed planning groups.

Telephone inquiries and requests for assistance may be directed to the Natural Resources Department at (312) 454-0400.



St. Joseph Creek, a tributary to the DuPage River, in Downers Grove

Conference and Course Highlights

In April 1999, over 150 state lake program managers and leaders of statewide lake organizations gathered in downtown Chicago for the 13th Annual National Conference on Enhancing the States' Lake Management Programs. Co-sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, NIPC, and the North American Lake Management Society, this year's conference theme—"nutrient management strategies for lakes and reservoirs"—drew the fourth largest attendance ever. A pre-conference workshop on developing "TMDLs" (total maximum daily loads) for waterways was particularly well-attended.

Robert H. Wayland, Director of U.S. EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds in Washington, D.C., delivered the conference's keynote address, "Future Directions for Lake Management." Mr. Wayland observed, "Today there are too many lakes, other water bodies, and watersheds which are in trouble in spite of aggressive and largely successful regulation of major point sources. Major challenges lie ahead as population grows and sprawl consumes the landscape and as invasive aquatic and terrestrial nuisance species establish themselves



Robert H. Wayland, Director of U.S. EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans & Watersheds addresses attendees at the 12th Annual National Conference on Enhancing the States' Lake Management Programs

by hitching rides on the transportation system that is shrinking the world."

During the remainder of the conference, attendees learned about new approaches for reducing nutrient impacts on lake ecosystems. They also were treated to a special private evening at the Chicago Botanic Garden and a preview of the Garden's *Aquatic Initiative*. Plans already are underway for next year's conference, scheduled for April 25-28, 2000 in downtown Chicago.

Upcoming Conference

A wide array of effective water quality management and protection tools have been developed—but their implementation is being hampered by a lack of technology transfer opportunities. The upcoming *National Conference on Tools for Urban Water Resource Management and Protection* is designed to facilitate the educational process, and to transfer state-of-the-art information to state, regional, and local urban water quality practitioners. The timing of this conference coincides well with the anticipated release of the Phase II NPDES Stormwater Program final rules later in 1999. The conference will provide participants with practical, applied information on the most effective tools and technology for meeting NPDES permit requirements. Conference topics will emphasize the Phase II Program's six priorities: public education, public involvement, detection and elimination of illicit discharges, construction site runoff control, post-construction stormwater management, and pollution prevention for municipal operations.

Upcoming Conferences and Courses

April 25-28, 2000; Congress Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Chicago. 13th Annual National Conference on Enhancing the States' Lake Management Programs.

February 10-13, 2000; The Westin Michigan Avenue, Chicago. National Conference on Tools for Urban Water Resource Management and Protection.

The Conference begins on Tuesday morning, February 8, and adjourns on Thursday afternoon, February 10, 2000. Our conference host is The Westin Michigan Avenue, located in the heart of Chicago's "Magnificent Mile" shopping and entertainment district. On Monday, February 7, two special pre-conference workshops will be held: an intensive training course on the development of urban TMDLs presented by Tetra Tech, Inc., and a second workshop addressing urban water quality/watershed management presented by The Center for Watershed Protection. Each workshop will be an all-day session. To be placed on a list to receive additional information on this conference, contact the Commission's Natural Resources Department.

Staff News

Bob Kirschner, a long-time NIPC employee whom you may know from his involvement in lake management and conference coordination, has announced his departure from the Commission effective September 1, 1999. Bob has accepted a position as the Curator of Aquatics for the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Illinois. Bob will manage the Garden's efforts in lagoon restoration, shoreline stabilization, and establishment of a world-class aquatic garden. He also will continue to stay involved regionally and nationally in lakes education and conference coordination. While we are saddened by our loss, we wish Bob the best in his new venture.

New Publications

Lake Notes fact sheets. Four new fact sheets were added to the *Lake Notes* series on the subjects of *Lake Dredging*, *Stormwater Detention Ponds*, *Common Lake Water Quality Parameters*, and *Monitoring Lake Quality*. The fact sheets are designed to provide lake and watershed residents and public officials with a greater understanding of environmental cause-and-effect

relationships, and efforts everyone can take to protect our lake resources.

Urban Stormwater Best Management Practices for Northeastern Illinois: A Course Notebook, May 1999, \$40. This publication provides in-depth design guidance for stormwater BMPs, including site planning and design, vegetated swales, filter strips,

infiltration devices, detention basins, and settling basins. It also discusses retrofitting and special small-site applications. The notebook is intended for design professionals and project review officials.

A complete listing of available publications is provided on the Commission's website: <http://www.nipc.cog.il.us>.

Water Quality Management Plan Amendments

Under a contract with the Illinois EPA, the Commission reviews requested amendments to wastewater Facility Planning Areas (FPAs). A summary of review actions from July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999 involving FPA boundary changes and/or new or expanded treatment facilities is presented below.

WQ#	Applicant	Request	Finding
98-WQ-018	Surjit S. Toor (Toor Truck Stop)	New Plant	Support
98-WQ-027	Village of Algonquin	FPA Amendment	Support
98-WQ-028	Village of Shorewood	FPA Amendment	Support
98-WQ-029	Consumer Illinois Water Co.	FPA Amendment	Support
98-WQ-032	City of Joliet	FPA Amendment	Support
98-WQ-033	Village of Vernon Hills	FPA Amendment	Support
98-WQ-034	Lake County Dept. Of Public Works	FPA Amendment	Support
98-WQ-039	Village of Huntley	FPA Amendment	Support
98-WQ-040	Village of Bartlett	FPA Amendment	Support
98-WQ-044	Glenbard Wastewater Authority	FPA Amendment	Support
98-WQ-045	Village of Frankfort	FPA Amendment/New Plant - Level I	Partial Support
98-WQ-057	Consumer Illinois Water/University Park	FPA Amendment - Level I	Partial Support
99-WQ-003	City of Braidwood	FPA Amendment	Support
99-WQ-004	Fox River WRD	Plant Expansion	Support
99-WQ-007	Village of Antioch	FPA Amendment	Support
99-WQ-008	City of Waukegan	FPA Amendment	Support
99-WQ-009	City of Joliet	FPA Amendment	Support
99-WQ-015	Village of Prairie Grove	Plant Expansion	Support
99-WQ-021	Village of Richmond	FPA Amendment and Plant Expansion	Partial Support
99-WQ-023	Village of Antioch	FPA Amendment	Partial Support
99-WQ-024	Village of Johnsburg	FPA Amendment and New Plant	Support
99-WQ-025	Village of Minooka	FPA Amendment	Support



northeastern illinois planning commission

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Northeastern Illinois is diverse in its land use and complex in its political structure. It has some of the most productive farms on earth—also one of the world's greatest cities. It contains 3,714 square miles of land and 38 square miles of water. It is home to 7 million people, organized in more than 1,250 units of government.

In 1957, following a decade of rapid urbanization in the Chicago suburban area, the Illinois General Assembly created the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC) to conduct comprehensive planning for the six-county greater Chicago region.

The Commission has three statutory charges: conduct research and collect data for planning; assist local government; and prepare comprehensive plans and policies to guide the development of the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will.

By necessity, regional planning deals with general development policies, not local land use detail. NIPC supports and coordinates county and municipal planning. The Commission has advisory powers only and relies upon voluntary compliance with its plans and policies.

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COMMISSIONERS

Appointed by the Governor of Illinois

James C. Berg

Joseph F. Ligas

Hugh R. Murphy

Edward W. Paesel

Charlie A. Thurston

Appointed by the Mayor of Chicago

Rita H. Athas,
Director of Regional Programs

Patrick J. Levar,
Alderman, 45th Ward, Chicago

Ed H. Smith,
Alderman, 28th Ward, Chicago

Mary Ann Smith,
Alderman, 48th Ward, Chicago

William F. Abolt,
Commissioner, Department of Environment

Elected by the Assembly of Mayors

Alan L. Bennett,
Trustee, Village of Elmwood Park

Richard A. Clark,
Trustee, Village of Lakewood

Thomas G. Coughlin,
Mayor, City of Geneva

Kyle R. Hastings,
President, Village of Orland Hills

Al Larson,
Mayor, Village of Schaumburg

Rae Rupp Srch,
President, Village of Villa Park

Peter M. Sexton,
Clerk, Village of Lake Bluff

Michael K. Smith,
President, Village of New Lenox

Appointed by the County Board Chairmen

Jerry Butler,
Member, Cook County Board of Commissioners

Herbert T. Schumann Jr.,
Member, Cook County Board of Commissioners

Bobbie L. Steele,
Member, Cook County Board of Commissioners

Olivia G. Gow,
Member, DuPage County Board

Mary Richards,
Member, Kane County Board

Pamela O. Newton,
Member, Lake County Board

Ann Gilman,
Member, McHenry County Board

Terri A. Wintermute,
Member, Will County Board

Appointed by the Board of the Regional Transportation Authority

Frank R. Miller

Appointed by the Board of the Chicago Transit Authority

Karen Dichiser

Appointed by the Board of Metra

Lowell Anderson

Appointed by the Board of Pace

Thomas D. Marcucci

Appointed by the Board of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Patricia Young

Appointed by the Board of the Illinois Association of Park Districts

Judy Beck

Appointed by the Board of the Chicago Park District

Gerald Sullivan

Appointed by the Board of the Illinois Association of Wastewater Agencies

A. E. Machak



Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission

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