

NATIONAL MAYOR'S *Challenge* FOR CONSERVATION

Once again, the Grand Prairie Water Commission members have agreed to participate in the National Wyland Mayor's Challenge for water conservation. The Wyland Foundation is a non-profit organization that is committed to preserving the world's waterways and marine life. Through educational programs they aim to raise awareness of the importance of our environment. You can learn more at wylandfoundation.org.

The Challenge takes place from April 1 – 30, 2025. This challenge inspires civic participation and action around water conservation, efficiency, and sustainability of water-based ecosystems. To participate, visit mywaterpledge.com to take the pledge to adopt simple conservation habits. When you click the link, you will enter your community's name and answer a few multiple-choice questions about how you are willing to conserve water. If you decide to provide your contact information, you will also be entered into a daily prize giveaway, and a drawing for the grand prize of \$3,000 toward your home utility bills.

To make the Challenge more fun, the GPWC elected officials will once again challenge each other. Just as cities compete against each other in sporting events, the member communities have bet each other they can conserve the most during the Mayor's Challenge. Throughout April, expect to see your community encouraging you to take the pledge at mywaterpledge.com.

Members will be watching the rankings (and you can too) to see where they stand in relation to each other.

In the end, the community with the highest ranking will not only claim the title of Best Member Community for Water Conservation but will also receive the engraved traveling trophy for display for the year.

**The National
Wyland Mayor's Challenge
for water conservation takes
place April 1 – 30, 2025.**

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mywaterpledge.com
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simple conservation habits**

WHAT'S YOUR *Type?*

In the last two issues of our newsletter we introduced two types of water storage tanks, Standpipes and Spheroids that will be used by the GPWC. In our final "WHAT'S YOUR TYPE", we will describe Ground Reservoirs.

As the name suggests, ground reservoirs are water storage tanks that are located at or slightly below ground level. Because they are low to the ground, ground reservoirs can be used to economically store larger volumes of water than elevated water tanks. However, the water in a ground reservoir has to be pumped into the water system to provide the pressure needed to serve homes and businesses.

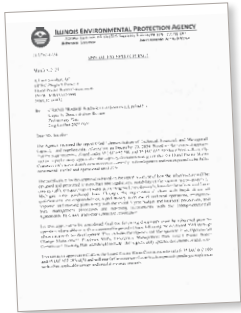
The GPWC will be constructing a 4 million gallon ground reservoir near its connection to the Chicago water system. This reservoir will support the operation of the high service pump station that will drive water through the regional transmission system to the delivery points for the member communities. The reservoir will be mostly below grade and covered with landscaping to blend into an existing park.



Image Key

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Retaining Wall | 5. Sloped Concrete Walk |
| 2. Guardrail on Wall | 6. Boulder Retainage on Slope |
| 3. Open Lawn Over Suction Well | 7. Meadow Planting at Sloped Areas |
| 4. Low-Growing Ornamental Trees (Small Root Zones Avoid Impacting Suction Well Wall) | 8. Park Path |

GPWC RECEIVES PRELIMINARY Approval as a Public Water System



On March 5, 2025 the Grand Prairie Water Commission reached another important milestone with preliminary approval of its status as a public water system from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). This approval gives the Commission the authority to submit permit applications for construction of the pipeline, pumping, and storage improvements needed to convey Lake Michigan water from Chicago to the member communities. In granting the approval, IEPA reviewed design, organizational, staffing, and

financial information submitted by the Commission to demonstrate its technical, managerial, and financial capacity to operate as a water supply system. These materials included information on the basis for selection of the Lake Michigan supply, compliance with state design standards, a preliminary organizational chart for the Commission, and a five-year budget.

As construction nears completion and staff are hired to manage and operate the new water system, the Commission will submit additional materials related to operational management, emergency management, and staff training and seek final approval to begin water system operations in 2030.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT *Shorewood*

In the spring of 2025 Shorewood will begin construction of a five-million gallon, two-cell underground reservoir and pumping station. This station will be supplied with water from the Ion-Exchange Water Plant until 2030 when GPWC Lake Michigan water becomes available. After that, this Plant will become the emergency backup supply. In conjunction with this project, the 1st phase of a 16" Water Main that will convey water from the reservoir and distribute it to the entire Village will be installed.

In 2025 one-mile of aging 8" ductile iron water main will be replaced with 12" water main. Additionally, water mains in the Brookforest Subdivision will be replaced through the annual water main replacement program.

Engineering and permitting that will extend water main and sanitary sewer westerly along Rt. 52 across both the CNRR and ComEd rights-of-way are nearing completion and construction is planned in 2025.



Conservation CORNER

March 18 – 24 is **National Fix-a-Leak Week**. This is a great time to check your faucets, showerheads, and toilets for any drips or constantly running water. When you identify these issues early, most can be fixed with a little "do-it-yourself" effort that will save you money while saving water.

Look for the
WaterSense label!

