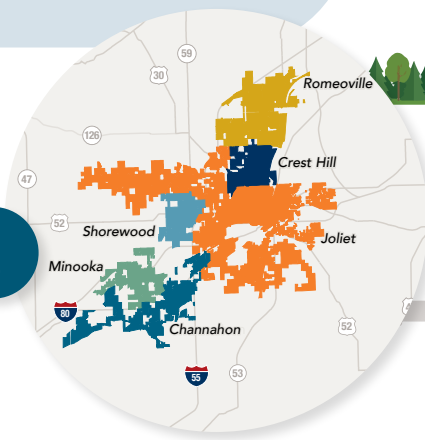


FIRST COMMISSION meeting planned

Stay tuned for updates this summer as the Grand Prairie Water Commission member communities work to finalize agreements to create the Board of Commissioners that will manage the new utility.

Member community boards and councils are currently considering the documents needed for final formation. The first GPWC Board of Commissioners meeting is currently scheduled for July 2, 2024 at the Eastside Wastewater Treatment Plant in Joliet.

Grand Prairie Water Commission members



Lake Michigan Water's JOURNEY to Our Region

We all rely on fresh, clean water for our daily living. This quarter, we will cover the process of moving treated water from Chicago to the communities in the Grand Prairie Water Commission (GPWC).

In last quarter's newsletter, we talked about how water is drawn out of Lake Michigan, treated at the Sawyer Water Purification Plant and distributed to the southwest part of Chicago through the South Tunnel System. But how will that water get from the tunnel system to the communities that make up the GPWC? The answer is through an extensive network of pipe, pumping stations and storage facilities to be constructed in Chicago and through its southwest suburbs as part of the Alternative Water Source Program (AWSP).

The AWSP system to be built by the Grand Prairie Water Commission will start with a short section of 10-foot diameter tunnel cored through rock about 110 feet below ground to connect to the Chicago system,

a 4 million gallon buried water storage facility, and two pumping stations capable of pumping up to 55 million gallons per day of water out of the tunnel system and to the GPWC member communities. About 62 miles of transmission main ranging in diameter from 16" – 66" will convey the water from the Chicago connection through Cook, Will, Grundy and Kendall Counties. On its way to 13 different water delivery points for the GPWC members, the transmission main will run within road rights-of-way and easements, crossing under Interstates 294, 355, 55, and 80, as well as the Cal Sag Channel and the Des Plaines and DuPage Rivers. An intermediate pump station and two water storage facilities will be constructed along the transmission main to maintain pressure and support operation of the system from Chicago all the way to the member communities. Check out the newsletter again next quarter to learn about the different types of water storage facilities to be constructed as part of the system.

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Grand Prairie Water Commission members are participating in the Illinois Section of the [American Water Works Association \(ISAWWA\) Water Ambassador Program](#). This initiative was created to promote and elevate public perception and understanding of the water industry. Earlier this year, Joliet and Romeoville were recognized at the annual ISAWWA conference for achieving gold status for their level of commitment and participation to the program. Efforts to support other GPWC members' participation are ongoing.



Events CALENDAR

JUNE

- 1st **Star Wars Days** · Joliet
- 14th **Touch a Truck** · Crest Hill

JULY

- 18th **Channahon Park District Touch a Truck** · Channahon
- 19th **Touch a Truck** · Crest Hill
- 23rd **Joliet Slammers Water Conservation Day** · Joliet

AUGUST

- 6th **National Night Out** · Romeoville
- 9th **Touch a Truck** · Crest Hill

SEPTEMBER

- 14th **Rock on Channahon**
Channahon

Community SPOTLIGHT CREST HILL

This spring, final engineering design began for the city's two new water receiving stations which will accept water from the new supply line from Lake Michigan. These stations will allow the new supply of water to be distributed throughout the city. These two facilities, along with a new ground storage tank, are currently scheduled for construction beginning in late 2025.

The water supply switch has brought on new Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) requirements that the city must meet. One of the requirements is to reduce water loss within the city system to below 10%. To meet this, the city has identified 10 locations where aged water main needs to be replaced. New water main installed at these locations decrease the amount of water lost and the potential for water main breaks.

Last year, Crest Hill completed the replacement of water mains along Center from Theodore to Pasadena and Chaney from Broadway to Center. This year, the city is completing projects to replace existing water mains along Parkrose, Circle, and Green. The city is also preparing plans to line existing water mains along Plainfield Rd., Theodore, and Broadway. Some of this work was completed last summer and the remaining work will be completed in phases between 2025 and 2028.

Crest Hill would like to ensure that the new water supply will not adversely affect property owners' residential water lines. Residents of Crest Hill may contact the Public Works Department for free water testing at 815-741-5108.

Conservation CORNER

July is SMART IRRIGATION Month! Smart irrigation systems use sensors and controls to schedule watering times based on environmental conditions. Did you know that more than nine billion gallons of water are used daily for landscape irrigation across the United States? Smart irrigation technology, like rain sensors and soil moisture systems, can reduce water usage by 20-40%. By using water efficiently, you can save money on your utility bill, nurture green spaces, and protect your community's water supply.

Smart Irrigation can reduce water usage by **20-40%**