



PARTNERING FOR WATER QUALITY

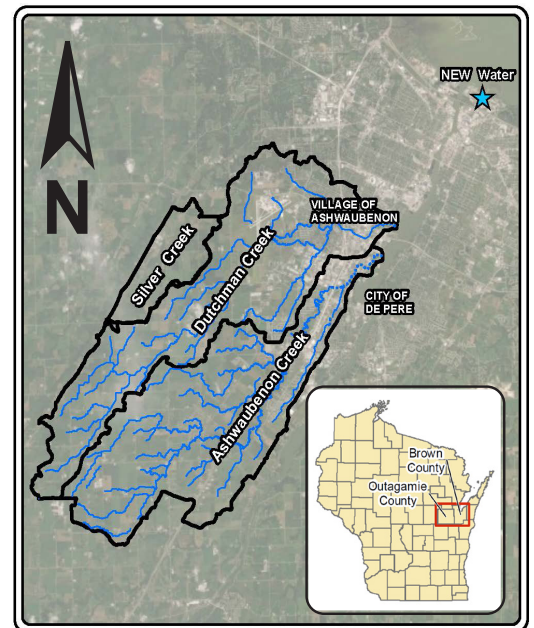
NEW Water, the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, launched a NEW Watershed partnership on October 20, 2021 to achieve permit compliance more cost effectively. NEW Water's permit with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) went into effect on April 1, 2022.

NEW Watershed Program

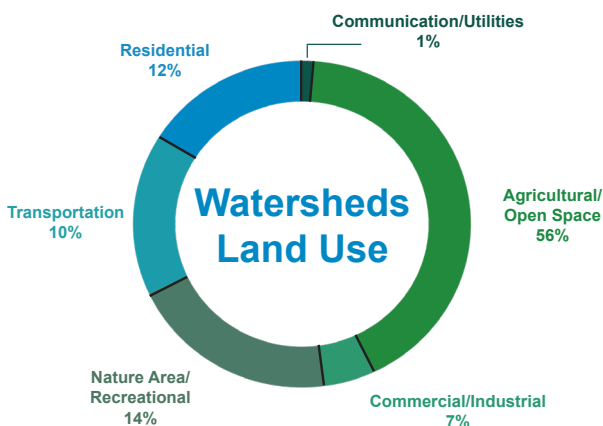
Through a pilot watershed project conducted in Silver Creek, NEW Water gained knowledge, built relationships, and collected experiences to guide implementation of a successful, long-term watershed program.

The Silver Creek Pilot Project, partially funded from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), brought together agricultural landowners, farmers, land conservation offices in Outagamie and Brown counties, private agronomists, universities and non-governmental entities towards a common goal, to improve area water quality.

Building on the pilot project's success, the NEW Watershed Program focuses on implementation of conservation practices in Ashwaubenon Creek and Dutchman Creek watersheds (ACDC). A diverse Program team is working to improve water quality through practices such as increased ground cover and stormwater management, while preserving agricultural land uses and reducing sediment and nutrient runoff.



Ashwaubenon Creek & Dutchman Creek



Community Wide Collaboration

NEW Water is engaging with many partners to identify opportunities for reducing runoff from urban development and transportation corridors. This includes:

- East River Collaborative flood abatement efforts, urban tree planting and targeted education and outreach opportunities.
- Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport (GRB) partnership to implement conservation practices on airport owned fields to improve water quality, while upholding aviation safety. GRB is the first airport in the world to receive an Alliance for Water Stewardship certification for these efforts.
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) partnership on two highway projects that will impact the ACDC watersheds.

Agricultural Collaboration

Collaboration with agricultural landowners and growers is crucial for the Program to achieve water quality goals. By working together through this voluntary program, practices can be selected that work within existing operations to better serve the farmer's goals and improve soil health, runoff, and local water quality.

"NEW Water has been very easy to work with. They were open to our suggestions, and we were open to their suggestions, so we worked together as a team."

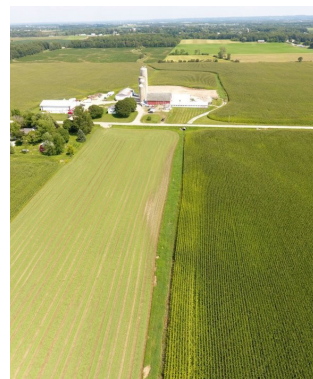
- Mark VanAsten, dairy farmer with operations in the ACDC Watersheds



Agricultural Update

The NEW Watershed Program has implemented over 20 structural practices and over 4,663 acres of operational practices since the start of the program unofficially in 2021. This includes:

- 13 ACDC farmers have signed the Clean Water Pledge with Fox Demo Farms.
- A Soil Health Education and Demonstration (SHED) building was constructed in collaboration with Outagamie County, Oneida Nation, and NEW Water. This building houses shared farm equipment available for rent to farmers in Brown and Outagamie counties, provides space for field days, and shares findings from small-scale demonstration agriculture plots.
- Structural practice opportunities: grassed waterways, water and sediment control basins (WASCOBs), wetlands, Conservation Reserve Program, filter strips, critical area plantings, two-stage ditches and more.
- Operational practice opportunities: cover crops (planting into green, interseeding, or post-harvest), residue-tillage, low disturbance manure application (LDMA), alfalfa with grass and more.

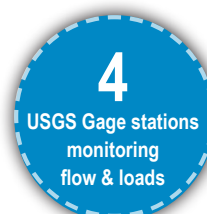


To Date	7,340 acres walked for conservation opportunities	14,500+ feet of two-stage ditches implemented	9.5 acres of filter strips implemented	2,300+ acres of cover crops since 2021	2,040+ acres of no till – residue since 2021
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Water Quality and Biological Monitoring in the Creeks

With the Program's goal of improving the water quality, habitat and biological health of ACDC, monitoring of the creeks is essential to show how improvements in the watershed affect their health. Early years of data will establish a baseline to track progress of nutrient and sediment reductions in years to come

The Program works with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to maintain four stream gages, two in Ashwaubenon Creek and two in Dutchman Creek. These gages provide valuable information on the impact of precipitation and runoff on in-stream water quality.



Program Activities Planned for 2022

The Program is planned to extend over four wastewater discharge permit terms, or a minimum of 20 years. This year's activities include the following:

- Monitoring both Silver Creek and ACDC for biological health and water quality.
- Meeting with interested landowners and growers about implementing conservation practices.
- Reviewing resource concern prioritization and start implementing best management practices.
- Utilizing innovative GIS tools to track conservation opportunities, newly installed practices, and verification needs.
- Annual eNewsletter and field days.

Long-Term Activities Beyond 2022

Beyond 2022, the Program will continue to work with partners and programs interested in implementing new and/or larger scale regional practices to improve water quality. Ongoing water quality monitoring will also take place. With long-term watershed health in mind, this Program will require an adaptive approach to conservation and runoff reduction.

Contact Information

As the Program continues, look for annual ACDC watershed updates: www.newwater.us

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