



PARTNERING FOR WATER QUALITY

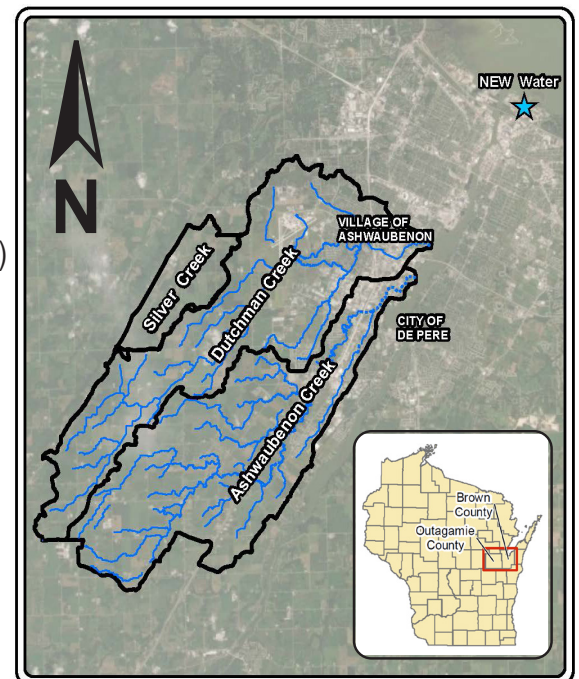
NEW Water, the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, launched a NEW Watershed partnership on October 20, 2021 to achieve permit compliance more cost effectively. NEW Water's permit with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) went into effect on April 1, 2022.

NEW Watershed Program

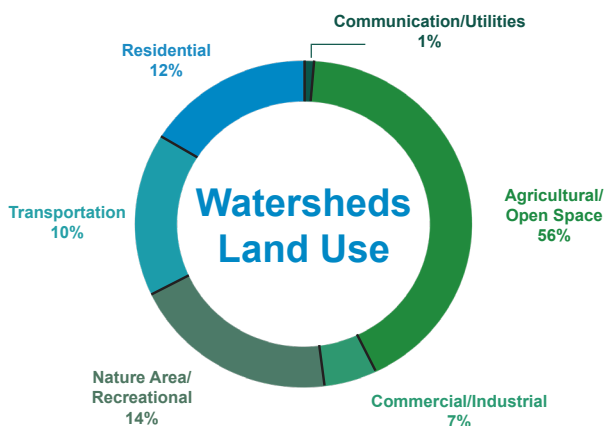
Entering its third year of implementation, the NEW Watershed Program (Program) in the Ashwaubenon Creek and Dutchman Creek (ACDC) watersheds will continue to construct conservation practices for water quality building on current momentum and local interest.

Foundational success of the Program is largely due to a collaborative approach bringing together agricultural landowners, farmers, land conservation staff in Brown and Outagamie Counties, private agronomists, universities, and non-governmental entities working together to achieve the common goal of improving regional water quality.

Building on these successes, the Program team will continue to identify and work with landowners to implement conservation practices such as increased ground cover and stormwater management designed to reduce sediment and nutrient runoff while preserving agricultural land uses.



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:

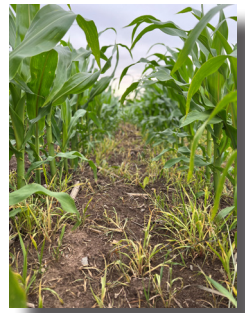
- East River Collaborative flood abatement efforts, urban tree planting, and targeted education and outreach opportunities.
- Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport (GRB) partnership to implement conservation management practices on airport-owned fields to improve water quality, while upholding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

Agricultural Collaboration

Collaboration with agricultural landowners and growers is crucial for the Program to achieve water quality goals. By working together through this voluntary initiative, 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."

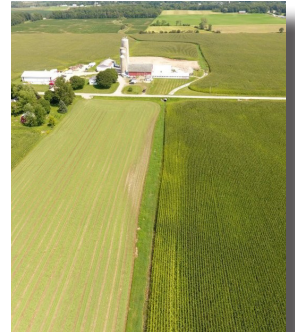
- Mark VanAsten, dairy farmer with operations in the ACDC watersheds



Agricultural Update

The Program has implemented over 50 structural practices and over 6,000 acres of operational practices since 2021. This includes:

- 15 ACDC farmers have signed the Clean Water Pledge with Lower Fox Demonstration Farms Network.
- 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 sharing findings from small-scale demonstration agriculture plots.
- Structural practice opportunities: provides 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

5,990

feet of grassed waterways implemented

14,500+

feet of two-stage ditches implemented

15.6

acres of filter strips implemented

1,589+

acres of cover crops in 2022

565

acres of no till/residue management in 2022

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.

4

USGS gage stations monitoring flow & loads

525

water quality samples taken in 2022

7

water quality testing sites

11

biological and habitat sites



Program Activities Planned for 2023

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

Long-Term Activities Beyond 2023

Beyond 2023, 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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