



PARTNERING FOR WATER QUALITY

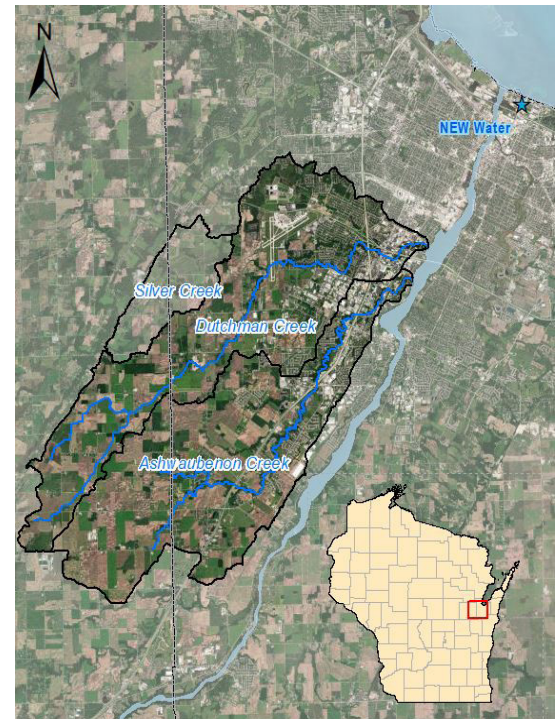
NEW Water, the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, launched a NEW Watershed partnership on October 20, 2021 to achieve permit compliance more cost effectively. NEW Water’s permit with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) went into effect on April 1, 2022.

NEW Watershed Program

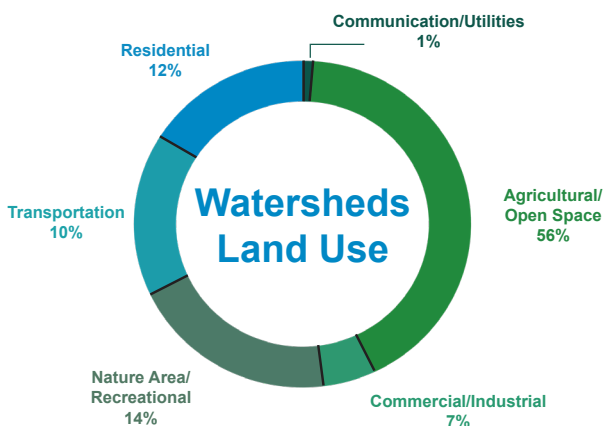
Entering its fourth year of implementation, the NEW Watershed Program (Program) in the Ashwaubenon Creek and Dutchman Creek (ACDC) watersheds will continue to construct conservation practices for water quality building on current momentum and local interest.

Foundational success of the Program is largely due to a collaborative approach bringing together rural 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 98 structural practices and over 10,260 acres of operational practices since 2021, including:

- 16 ACDC farmers have signed the Clean Water Pledge with Lower Fox Demonstration Farms Network.
- The Soil Health Education and Demonstration (SHED) building was officially celebrated with the completion of a sign install by County Road U. 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.
- A Critical Area Planting (CAP) Program was started in 2023 to provide different 1 acre seed mix bags to farmers to plant in shallow concentrated flow paths as a way to stabilize soil and prevent loss of topsoil and nutrients.
- Structural practice opportunities: grassed waterways, water and sediment control basins (WASCOBs), wetlands, filter strips, critical area plantings, two-stage ditches, Conservation Reserve Program and more.
- Operational practice opportunities: cover crops (planting into green, drone seeding, interseeding, or post-harvest), residue-tillage, low disturbance manure injection (LDMI), alfalfa with grass, and more.



To Date

10,320

feet of grassed waterways implemented

19,000+

feet of two-stage ditches implemented

44

acres of filter strips implemented

3,391

acres of cover crops in 2023

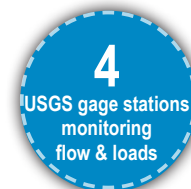
1,128

acres of no till/residue management in 2023

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 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 2024

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 2024

Beyond 2024, 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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