



The Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project is a multi-faceted approach to address the severe and frequent flash flooding experienced in the Bee Branch Watershed.

Flood disasters have repeatedly impacted residents and employees of businesses within the watershed. Between 1999 and 2011, six Presidential Disaster Declarations were issued with total damage estimates of almost \$70 million.

The project consists of several infrastructure improvements that will reduce the volume of stormwater, slow the rate of stormwater through the upper watershed, and increase the safe conveyance of stormwater through the flood-prone area.

The City has received \$160 million in the form of grants, forgivable loans, and other financial savings to help fund the \$226 million project.

For more information, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/beebranch.



Bee Branch Watershed

Flood Mitigation Project News

Vol. 4 Issue 1 >> June 2018

Summer Fun at the Bee Branch Creek Greenway

Home to a multi-use trail, scenic overlooks, a play area with slides, benches, lighting, and several rest areas, the Bee Branch Creek Greenway is a great place to enjoy the outdoors this summer!



The City of Dubuque Leisure Services Department has partnered with Dubuque County - Iowa State University Extension & Outreach to offer youth programs at the Bee Branch Creek. Children ages 6 to 12 have the opportunity to build their own boat, create a race car out of recycled materials, learn about the water cycle, and explore the layers under the earth with Willy the Worm! See details below:

Wacky Water Cycle - \$10 or Free*
Wednesday, June 27 / 9 - 11 a.m.
Program Number: 2900.375

Float Your Boat - \$10 or Free*
Wednesday, July 11 / 9 - 11 a.m.
Program Number: 2900.376

Recycled Racers - \$10 or Free*
Wednesday, July 18 / 9 - 11 a.m.
Program Number: 2900.377

Dive Into Dirt - \$10 or Free*
Wednesday, August 1 / 9 - 11 a.m.
Program Number: 2900.378

* City of Dubuque Neighborhood Programs are FREE for residents who meet income guidelines. All classes meet at the Lower Bee Branch near the 16th St. bridge. For more information or to register, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/recreation or call (563) 589-4263.

Free Family Fishing Day / Saturday, June 23 / 10 a.m. - Noon

Join us for a free Family Fishing Day at the Lower Bee Branch! Learn about fish, fish habitat, and fishing techniques. Fish species found in the creek include bluegill, largemouth bass, northern pike, and yellow perch. This event is open to all ages.

Participants will meet at the 16th St. Basin Overlook. We will have a limited number of fishing poles, so please bring your own if you have one. Participants 16 years of age or older will need a fishing license prior to the event.



Keep Dubuque Clean

Preventing Stormwater Pollution and the Adopt-A-Spot Program



Trash that washed into the 16th St. Detention Basin after a rain event.

When it rains, stormwater runs down the street into storm drains and flows untreated into our local creeks, streams, and rivers. Along the way, it picks up pollutants. Trash, soaps, grass clippings, pet waste, pesticides and fertilizers, dirt, and oil are just some of the pollutants that make our water unhealthy.

After a rain event, you may notice more litter in and along the Bee Branch Creek and 16th St. Detention Basin. That's because it was carried there by stormwater from all over the 6.5 sq. mile watershed!

There are simple things you can do to prevent stormwater pollution. Throw all your trash in a garbage can and not on the street, sidewalk, grass, or in a storm drain. Keep garbage and recycling containers tightly covered to prevent litter from being blown away or scattered by foraging animals. Dispose of yard waste properly. Do not blow or sweep debris such as grass clippings or leaves into the street. Always compost or recycle when possible.

Wondering how you can contribute to a healthier watershed? The City now offers a way for individuals, businesses, school groups, and other organizations to play an active role in keeping the community clean and beautiful.

The Adopt-A-Spot program allows participants to "adopt" a public space such as a street, waterway, park, or storm drain and make a commitment to regularly clean and maintain the spot for no less than one year.

Typical activities include removing litter, reporting graffiti, keeping storm drains clear, landscape maintenance, and habitat restoration. If needed, the City will provide pickup materials and arrange for the disposal of trash, yard waste, and other materials collected. For more information, or to adopt a spot, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/adoptaspot or call 563.690.6068.



Bee Branch Healthy Homes Resiliency Program

Since launching the Bee Branch Healthy Homes (BBHH) Resiliency Program in November 2016, the City has received 439 inquiries and more than 140 applications for assistance. To date, 88 of those applications have been approved and the remainder are in the program's verification process.

Once an application is approved, a BBHH inspector visits the location and assesses the home or property for on-site repairs and renovations that will improve environmental health and safety issues related to flooding.

To date, 28 units have been completed and an additional 23 are under contract. The average cost per unit is \$18,144. Approximately \$925,352 in contracts for improvements has been awarded to local contractors and subcontractors.

Eligible construction activities include interior drain tile and sump pump installation, foundation waterproofing, gutter and downspout improvements, exterior drain tile, soil and sidewalk modification, furnace and water heater replacement, basement window repairs, ventilation improvements, radon mitigation, and more.

BBHH participants also receive home advocacy services. Through a comprehensive assessment, home advocates provide education and referrals to increase understanding of the resources and services that are available to support development, employment, education, health, and neighborhood revitalization. To date, the BBHH home advocates have assisted over 60 families.

This program is available to owner-occupied homes, single-unit rentals, and small, multi-family residential units located in the BBHH eligibility area and meet the income requirements established by HUD guidelines.

For more information, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/bbhh or call the BBHH Resiliency Program at 563.690.6168.



BEFORE



AFTER

During heavy rain events, water often entered the basement of the property pictured above. Repairs and renovations included replacing a basement window and rebuilding the retaining wall that surrounded it. Other improvements included new gutters, downspouts, and an under-soil drain tile with a pop-up emitter to divert stormwater away from the house.



The 22nd St. Storm Sewer Capacity Improvement Project is underway. The aerial photo above shows the first segment of construction between Elm and Jackson streets. The new concrete box culvert along 22nd St. will connect to the Bee Branch Creek, which was built to handle the additional stormwater. This connected system will help alleviate flash flooding in the 22nd St. area.

22nd St. Storm Sewer Capacity Improvement Project

The 22nd St. storm sewer capacity improvements consist of a new concrete box culvert, high-capacity storm drains, the relocation of underground utilities, and total street and sidewalk reconstruction.

To minimize the impact on abutting properties and pedestrians and motorists as much as possible, the first phase of construction has been split into three segments.

The first segment of construction, between Elm and Jackson streets, started on April 30. During May, crews worked on the underground utilities including the sanitary sewer and water service lines. Construction of the new concrete box culvert began in early June.

Construction of segment 2, between Jackson and White streets, started on June 7. Currently, the intersections of 22nd St. and Washington St. and 22nd St. and Jackson St. are closed. Both intersections are scheduled to open in early October when segments 1 and 2 are finished.

The third and final segment of phase 1 will be from White St. to just short of Central Ave. During this time, only the intersection of 22nd St. and White St. will be closed. Segment 3 is scheduled to begin in October and finish in November. Access to area businesses will be maintained throughout the project.

In 2019, work will continue on 22nd St. from Central Ave. up Kaufmann Ave. to Hempstead St. The last phase of the project, from Hempstead St. to Kane St., is scheduled for 2020. These phases will also be split into segments. For more information, including maps of the construction segments and current road closure and detour routes, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/22ndkaufmann.

22nd St. Project Construction Schedule

Phase 1: Elm St. to Central Ave.	Construction in 2018
Phase 2: Central Ave. to Hempstead St.	Construction in 2019
Phase 3: Hempstead St. to Kane St.	Construction in 2020

Phase 1 Construction Schedule: Elm St. to Central Ave.

Segment 1: Elm St. to Jackson St.	April 30 - October 2018
Segment 2: Jackson St. to White St.	June 7 - October 2018
Segment 3: White St. to Central Ave.	October - November 2018

17th St. Storm Sewer Capacity Improvement Project

Phase 1: Completed

Intersection of 17th St. and Elm St.

The first phase of the project impacted the intersection of 17th St. and Elm St. which was under construction from August to December 2017. Crews built a new 12 ft. x 7 ft. concrete box culvert, relocated underground utilities, and installed high-capacity storm drains.

Phase 2: June 2018 - Early 2019

17th St. from Elm St. to Heeb St.

The second phase of the project will impact 17th St. from Elm St. to Heeb St. Construction is expected to begin in late June and is estimated to finish in late 2018 or early 2019.

Crews will continue the work they started last year — constructing the concrete box culvert, relocating underground utilities, and installing high-capacity storm drains. The project also includes total street and sidewalk reconstruction.

To minimize the impact to abutting properties and pedestrians and motorists, construction will be split into three or four smaller segments. Access to area businesses will be maintained throughout the project.

The first segment of construction will be from Elm St. to Washington St. During this time, Elm St. will be closed. Additional construction segment limits and schedules have not yet been determined. For more information, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/17thwlocust or call 563.690.6068.

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Bee Branch Project

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Bee Branch Creek Greenway Park Rules and Information

- Fishing is allowed.
- Pets on leashes are allowed; cleanup is required in all areas.
- Non-motorized skateboards, bikes, and scooters are allowed.
- Swimming and wading is prohibited.
- Canoeing, kayaking, and stand up paddle boarding is prohibited from E. 24th St. to Garfield Ave. It is allowed in the lower section of the creek along 16th St.
- The greenway is open 24 hours a day.
- Parking is available in the public lot located at the intersection of 22nd St. and Prince St., and on the streets bordering the greenway.
- A public restroom is located at the Comiskey Park Community Center across 24th St. from the Bee Branch Creek Greenway. Doors to access the restrooms are located on the outside of the building. Restroom hours are from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.



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