



Water Conservation Efforts in the City of Joliet

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RETHINKWATERJOLIET.ORG

Presentation Overview

- Background
- Water Conservation Initiatives
- Water Rate Setting to Encourage Water Conservation
- Next Steps





Background

ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCE PROGRAM

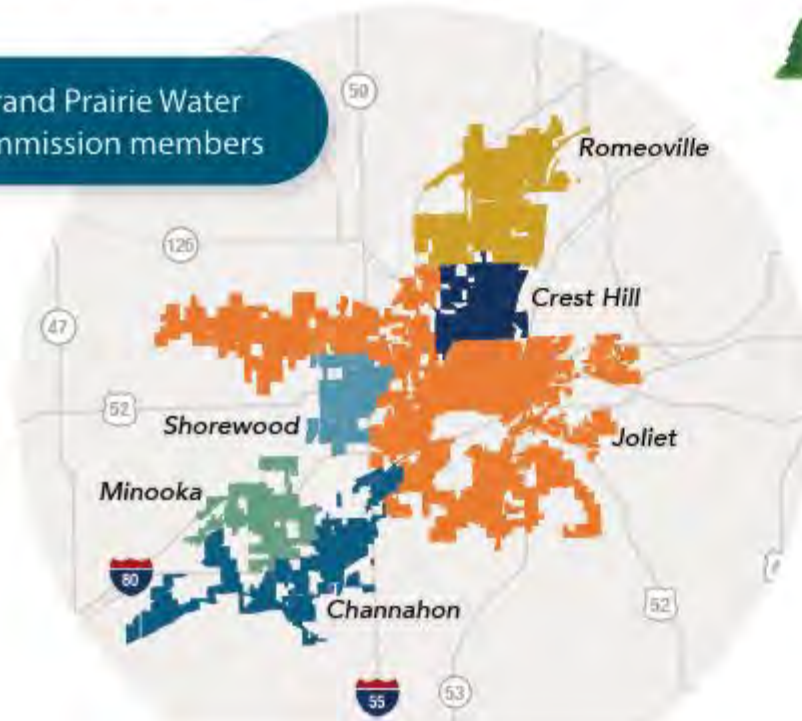
What is the AWSP?

The Alternative Water Source Program is a regional effort to replace declining groundwater sources and address emerging water quality issues with a reliable, long-term supply of treated Lake Michigan water purchased from the City of Chicago by 2030.

BENEFITS:

- Reliable, long-term water supply
- Supports continued growth and development
- High quality, great tasting source water

Grand Prairie Water Commission members



5 1/2 FT PIPE

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS:

- ✓ Extension of Chicago water tunnel
- ✓ 65 miles of water transmission pipeline
- ✓ Pipeline crossings of I-294, I-355, I-55, I-80, Cal-Sag Channel, Des Plaines River, DuPage River
- ✓ 3 large water pumping stations
- ✓ 3 water storage facilities (9.5 million gallons total)
- ✓ 13 water delivery facilities
- ✓ Regional control and data acquisition system





Joliet Water Conservation Initiatives

Water Conservation Initiatives

- Updated **City Codes** to include water conservation measures
- Developed City's free **customer water portal**
- Offered **rain barrel subsidy** & **low flow toilet rebate** programs
- Developed Water Conservation **Incentive Program**
- Formed **Water Conservation Stakeholder Group**
- Developed **Community Water Conservation Plan**
- Provide Water Conservation **Education**



Collect the rain!



Replace your old toilets!



Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth!



Hand washing a lot of dishes?



Only full loads!



Take shorter showers!




City-supported Water Conservation Programs



JOLIET

Rain Barrel Subsidy Program:

A low tech way to conserve water and save



City of Joliet
Department of Public Utilities
ReThinkWaterJoliet.org

- Joliet water customers can purchase one rain barrel per household at the subsidized cost of \$37 (including delivery)
- One rain barrel can save about 1,300 gallons of water during peak summer months
- 120 rain barrel subsidies are available each year
- For information on how to order, visit:

<https://www.joliet.gov/government/departments/public-utilities/customer-programs/rain-barrel-program>

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Low Flow Toilet Rebate Program



City of Joliet
Department of Public Utilities
ReThinkWaterJoliet.org

- \$100 rebate available to water customers who replace a high volume toilet with a high efficiency toilet
- Old toilet must use 1.6 gallons/flush or more and be replaced with an EPA WaterSense model
- Contact the Dept. of Public Utilities at 815-724-4220 to schedule an inspection to confirm eligibility
- For more information, visit:

<https://www.joliet.gov/government/departments/public-utilities/customer-programs/low-flow-toilet-rebate-program>

JOLIET WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES



The City is now partnering with several organizations to **expand the reach of the water conservation effort.**

The City has **increased its outreach** on social media and with other advertising campaigns such as the Pace Bus advertising.

The City became a **WaterSense Partner**, an ambassador promoting the value of water efficiency and use of WaterSense labelled products.

The City has achieved **ISAWWA Water Ambassador Gold Level** annually since 2023



MONITOR WATER USAGE

SET ALERTS

CHECK FOR LEAKS

VIEW IN GALLONS / CUBIC FEET

PAY YOUR BILL

& SO MUCH MORE!



CLICK
HERE TO
SIGN-UP
& LEARN
MORE

Monitor Water Usage

In near-real time monitor your water usage hourly, daily, weekly, or monthly

Water Management

Empower yourself, take control in making decisions about your water usage, track your usage, and conserve water

Set Alerts

Set Billing Cycle Usage Alert, Daily Usage Alert, Multi-Day Alert, and Vacation Alerts

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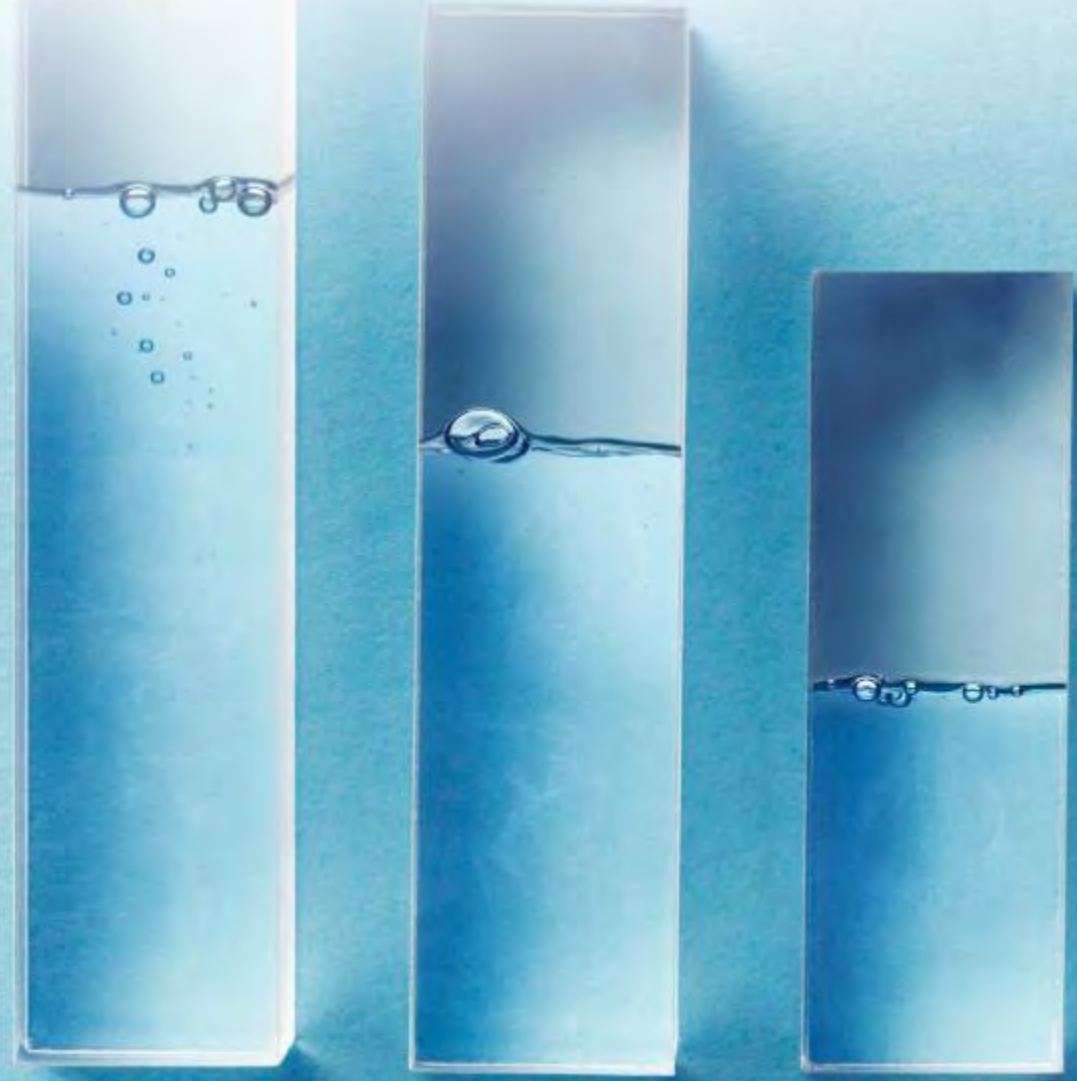


Troubleshooting unusual usage:

- ◆ Dye test your toilets
- ◆ Check faucets, showerheads, tub, and sinks
- ◆ Outside spigot, hose, sprinkler
- ◆ Ice maker, water dispenser
- ◆ Water heater, water softener



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WATER RATE SETTING TO ENCOURAGE WATER CONSERVATION

RATE DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



Goal	Adjustments
Promote affordability while implementing new water source & encouraging water conservation	Expand 1 st tier water block to 3 HCF Add 3 rd tier for residential water usage > 7 HCF Treat multi-family accounts like residential accounts
Improve cost recovery of large water connections with low usage	Restructure water daily fee to increase as meter size increases
Sustain the senior discount but simplify it	Create uniform 25% discount on water and sewer daily fee and volumetric fees, and phase out the bill credit
Adjust outside city retail rates based on a uniform multiplier	Set water and sewer rates to be 1.15x inside city rates, compared to a regional average of 1.30x

WATER RATE SCHEDULE (INSIDE CITY)



Inside City	<u>Code</u>	2023	2024	2025	2026
Water Monthly Meter Charge	RO/RT/MO/MT/C/I/G				
5/8"		\$9.00	\$10.55	\$12.37	\$14.50
3/4"		\$9.90	\$11.61	\$13.61	\$15.96
1"		\$12.60	\$14.77	\$17.32	\$20.31
1.25"		\$14.40	\$16.88	\$19.79	\$23.20
1.5"		\$16.20	\$18.99	\$22.27	\$26.11
2"		\$26.10	\$30.60	\$35.88	\$42.07
3"		\$99.00	\$116.08	\$136.10	\$159.58
4"		\$126.00	\$147.74	\$173.23	\$203.11
6"		\$189.00	\$221.60	\$259.83	\$304.65
8"		\$261.00	\$306.02	\$358.81	\$420.70
10"		\$342.00	\$401.00	\$470.17	\$551.27
12"		\$450.00	\$527.63	\$618.65	\$725.37
Water Volume Charge (per HCF)					
<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Code</u>				
Residential	RO/RT				
Tier 1 - First 3 HCF		\$2.35	\$2.76	\$3.24	\$3.80
Tier 2 - Next 4 HCF		\$7.84	\$9.19	\$10.78	\$12.64
Tier 3 - Over 7 HCF		\$8.20	\$9.61	\$11.27	\$13.21
Multi-Family	MO/MT				
Tier 1 - First 3 HCF		\$2.35	\$2.76	\$3.24	\$3.80
Tier 2 - Over 3 HCF		\$7.84	\$9.19	\$10.78	\$12.64
Commercial/Industrial/Governmental	C/I/G				
All HCF		\$7.84	\$9.19	\$10.78	\$12.64



Next Steps

- Encourage more participation in water conservation programs
- Continued education reviewing Continuous Consumption Reports
- Implement recommendations from Community Water Conservation Plan

Thank you.



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