

Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition

DuPage River Community Survey

Your community is a member of a partnership of municipalities and townships in our area that are working together to keep our water clean and our landscapes healthy. This partnership, the **Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition**, is conducting a water quality survey in several communities near the DuPage River. The results of this survey will help the partnership direct resources to solve the most pressing problems first.

All questions are optional, but your input can help us improve water quality problems in your community.

Please return this survey to Bluestem Communications, 14 N Peoria St. Suite 4F, Chicago, IL 60607, or take an electronic version of this survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/LowerDuPageRiver by Friday, September 2.

You can also access the electronic version of this survey by scanning this QR code with the reader on your smart phone or tablet.

THANK YOU!



1. What town or township do you live in? _____

2. How long have you lived in this community?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-3 years
- 3-5 years
- 5-10 years
- 10 years or more

3. What is the *best* part about living in your community? _____

4. Which of the following statements best represents how you feel about the DuPage River in your community? (please check *one*)

- The DuPage River is an asset to my community
- The DuPage River is neither an asset nor a burden; it's just there
- In its current state, the DuPage River is a burden (either because of flooding or water quality issues)
- I don't think about the DuPage River often and I often forget it's there
- I didn't know I lived near the DuPage River

5. How do you and your family interact with the DuPage River? (check *all* that apply)

- Canoeing, kayaking, tubing or boating
- Fishing
- Swimming
- Biking, walking or running on riverside trails
- As a scenic backdrop for picnics, events, conversations or quiet reflection
- As a way to enjoy nature in my community
- None of the above
- Other: _____

6. Which of the following threats to a healthy DuPage River are of the greatest concern to you? (please check up to *three*)

- Trash and debris
- Polluted runoff from cities/roads
- Polluted runoff from farm fields
- Eroding stream and riverbanks
- Overgrown stream and riverbanks
- Algae in the water
- Poorly maintained infrastructure, like drainage basins, culverts, etc.
- Poor habitat for fish and animals
- Invasive plants
- No safe place to access the River

7. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
It is my personal responsibility to help protect water quality					
It is important to protect water quality even if it makes development more difficult					
My actions have an impact on water quality					
I would be willing to pay more to improve water quality (for example: through local taxes or fees)					
The quality of life in my community depends on good water quality in local streams and rivers					
As long as public safety is maintained, I would support my town or township for using less salt on public roads					

8. There are many actions private homeowners can take to improve local water quality. Please select the statement that best describes how you feel about each action.

	I've already done this	I might do this in the future	I would not do this	I would like more info about this	I don't know	N/A
Reduce fertilizer use						
Use only phosphorous-free fertilizer						
Test soil before applying fertilizer to see what kind and how much is necessary						
Reduce amount of salt used to de-ice driveways and sidewalks						
Plant a rain garden						
Use native plants in my landscaping, especially along streams, rivers and ponds						
Encourage my HOA to create or maintain a naturalized buffer around our detention pond						
Pick up pet waste						
Collect raked leaves in a yard waste bag rather than raking to the curb						

9. From which of the following sources do you get most of your information about public issues in your community?

*(check **all** that apply)*

- TV news
- Radio
- Print or electronic version of a local newspaper; which one? _____
- Newsletters (print or electronic) from towns or counties
- Local government websites or blog; which one? _____
- Organization mail or email lists (churches, volunteer organizations, community groups, etc.)
- Social media
- Neighborhood associations or homeowner associations
- Postings in public places like libraries

If you have questions about this survey or the Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition, contact Malcolm at mrossman@bluestemcommunications.org.

Thank you for providing this valuable input!