

“Providing a Better Environment for South Central DuPage County”

2710 Curtiss Street
Downers Grove, IL 60515
Phone: 630-969-0664
www.dgsd.org

Office Hours -

Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Emergency Response

Available 24/7

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Historical photo of Maple Grove bridge being repaired.

MAPLE GROVE BRIDGE AND SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County and the Downers Grove Sanitary District are partnering on the future replacement of the Maple Grove forest preserve bridge and the sanitary sewer it carries over St. Joseph Creek.

Originally built in the early 1900s to support a 24-inch sanitary sewer, the bridge later became part of the Forest Preserve District’s system and was adapted in the 1980s to accommodate pedestrian traffic. Recent inspections have shown the structure now needs replacement, and because it contains an active sanitary sewer, both the bridge and sewer will be replaced as part of the project.

A feasibility study completed in 2024 recommended a new 14-foot-wide, 75-foot-long single-span press-brake-formed tub girder bridge, selected for its durability and constructability. Design is currently underway, with construction tentatively expected to begin in 2027.



Photo of the bridge in its current state, courtesy of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County.

The two agencies have worked closely through intergovernmental agreements to share project costs. The project has also received \$750,000 in Federal Highway Infrastructure funding toward an estimated \$1.3 million construction cost.

This collaborative effort will help preserve public access while supporting reliable sanitary infrastructure for the future.

SEWER PROBLEMS? OUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS CAN HELP!

Customer service is our first priority. We have several sewer assistance programs designed to help you with sanitary sewer backups or other problems with your sewer service. Technicians are available 24/7 to respond to emergencies, such as backups or sanitary sewer manhole overflows.

Our assistance programs available to residents include:

Building Sanitary Service Repair Assistance Program

If you are having any issues with your sanitary service or have to maintain it by frequently rodding, you may be eligible for a repair under the Building Sanitary Service Repair Assistance Program. The Program covers the entire building sanitary service from the building to the public sewer. To qualify for an initial investigation, property owners should submit a Program Application and a sewer rodding or televising invoice that occurred within the previous 12 months. The District will determine if the cause of repeated maintenance activity is a problem eligible for participation and, if so, the appropriate corrective measures. Most often this includes the installation of an outside cleanout access to help more effectively maintain your service. This Program is not a substitute for and does not cover routine maintenance of the building sanitary service such as periodic rodding. This Program also does not transfer ownership of the building sanitary service to the District.



Example of a cleanout being installed.



Example of finished installation.

Reimbursement Program for Installation of Overhead Sewer or Backflow Prevention Devices

The District requires new construction to include plumbing features needed to protect property from backups that can occur at any time. Owners of older buildings should consider improvements needed to provide this level of protection. This cost sharing program is available for residents who have experienced sewer backup problems and desire to convert to an overhead sewer system or install backflow prevention devices, offering to pay half the project cost up to a limit of \$3,000.

Reimbursement Program for Sanitary Sewer Backups Caused by Blockages of the Public Sanitary Sewer

If District personnel determine that the sanitary sewer backup was caused by a blockage of the public sanitary sewer, the resident may be eligible for reimbursement of some costs associated with the backup. Please note that sanitary sewer backups occurring as a result of precipitation-related high flow conditions in the public sanitary sewer are not eligible for reimbursement under this Program. Blockages or problems of any nature in the building sanitary service are not eligible for reimbursement under this Program.

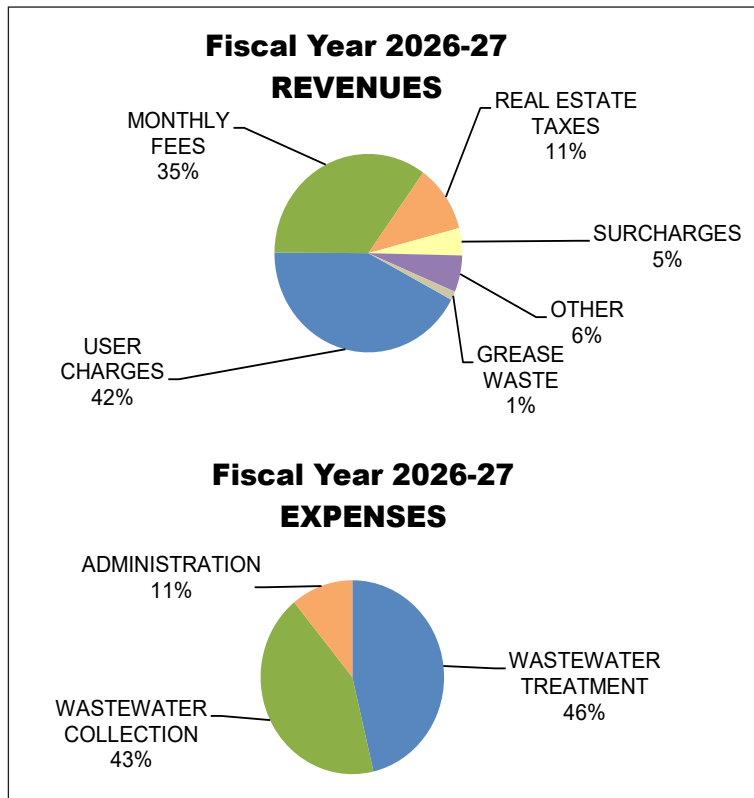
CUSTOMER BILLING PORTAL & PAYMENT OPTIONS

The District offers customers an online billing portal, hosted by Invoice Cloud, for a convenient, user-friendly way to manage your sewer bill from any device. Customers can view accounts, make payments, and enroll in automatic payments through a free ACH option. **Please note:** The District's former Easy Pay program has been replaced by this ACH option.

Bills can also be paid by mail, in person, or via drop boxes located throughout the District. Learn more at www.dgsd.org/youraccount.

BUDGET

The District maintains a five-year plan, which projects revenues and expenses for all District activities, available for review on our website. The five-year plan includes the approved budget for the current fiscal year. General corporate revenues are projected to be \$14.76 million and expenses are projected to be \$15.23 million. The expenses include \$6.51 million for the collection system, \$7.05 million for wastewater treatment and \$1.67 million for administration. The amount of expenses greater than revenues will result in a planned decrease in the District's fund balance. The charts below show the major types of revenues and expenses necessary for operations, maintenance, replacement and capital improvements.



CHANGE IN SEWER BILL RATES 2026

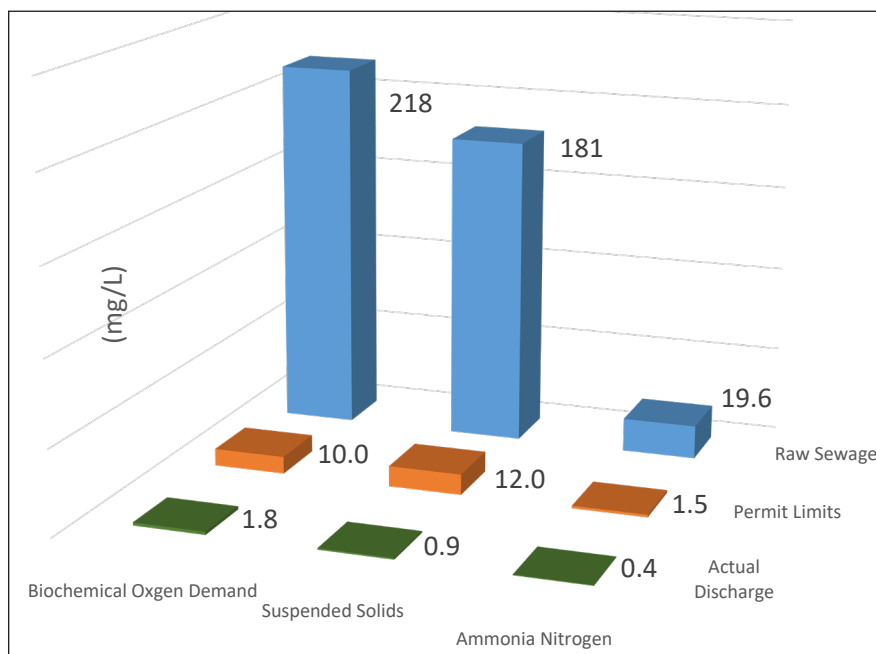
The District's user charge consists of two components: a volume charge based on water consumption and a monthly service fee. The volume charge increased to \$3.65 from \$3.25 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption. Surcharge and sampling and monitoring charges assessed to commercial and industrial users increased, effective April 6, 2026. The user charges are evaluated annually and are set to collect the revenues needed to cover the cost of collection system and treatment plant operation, maintenance, replacement and capital improvements, and District administration.

REAL ESTATE TAXES

In 2025, the District levied \$1,649,386 for repairs to the sanitary sewer infrastructure, a 5% increase from last year. The levy resulted in a tax rate of \$0.0377 per \$100 of assessed value. A single-family residence with a market value of \$300,000 will pay \$37.70 in real estate taxes to the District in 2026.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

The District's Wastewater Treatment Center (WWTC) operates under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The District's WWTC discharges treated water to the East Branch of the DuPage River that is significantly better than the permit limits. The chart below indicates the successful treatment provided by the District during 2025 for three major NPDES permit parameters.



Watershed Group

The District is a founding member and active participant in the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup (DRSCW). The DRSCW is a consortium of local governments dedicated to managing the valuable stream resources of the East and West Branches of the DuPage River and Salt Creek. The DRSCW conducts state-of-the-art monitoring of stream biology, chemistry, and habitat, using the data to promote and implement projects and activities to cost-effectively restore these urbanized streams for the intended uses. Learn more at www.drscw.org.

HELPFUL SERVICES FOR OUR CUSTOMERS



Used Cooking Oil Program

The District collects and recycles used cooking oil in partnership with SCARCE. Our customers and residents in the surrounding area are encouraged to recycle their used cooking oil instead of pouring it down the drain or disposing of it in the garbage. Used cooking oil can be dropped off any time at the Administration Center at 2710 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove, on the east side of the building (as shown above).



Biosolids Distribution Program

The District generates Class A biosolids as a byproduct of the treatment process. This product is a high quality fertilizer recommended for use in flower beds, lawns, shrubs, hedges, and other landscaping and is available to the public FREE of charge. Biosolids are available for pickup at our pickup station at 2650 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove or by delivery in larger quantities. Learn more at www.dgsd.org/biosolids.



Recreational Vehicle Dumping Station

A recreational vehicle dumping station is available at the District office, at 2710 Curtiss Street in Downers Grove. The station is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays, excluding holidays.



WASTEWATER TREATMENT CENTER OPEN HOUSE

Ever wonder what happens after you flush? Join us for our annual Open House for a behind-the-scenes look at how your local wastewater treatment plant works from start to finish!

The Open House will be **Saturday, Oct. 3, from 9 a.m. to noon**, at the Wastewater Treatment Center, 5003 Walnut Avenue, Downers Grove.

This free, family-friendly event is open to all - homeowners, students, scout groups, and community members of all ages are welcome.

Learn more at www.dgsd.org or call 630-969-0664.

The Downers Grove Sanitary District is a separate unit of local government that provides sanitary sewerage service for you. We operate independently from your city or village. Our Board of Trustees meets monthly at the District office. These evening meetings are open to the public and include an opportunity for public comment. The District continues to evaluate and improve the transparency of its operations through increased reporting to the state and county, and provides extensive information on the District website.

If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this newsletter or would like to learn more about the District, please call the District office at 630-969-0664 or visit our website at www.dgsd.org.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DOWNERS GROVE SANITARY DISTRICT