



THE ACTION

Keep stormwater out of the sewers!
Help rain water find its way into the soil.
Green infrastructure—things like permeable pavement, rain barrels, and rain gardens—directs water to trees and plants that can soak up the water instead of sending it to the storm sewers.

THE IMPACT

It works, but may only be effective where soil has the ability to absorb water.
Roads, rooftops, parking lots and alleys usually send water into the storm water system, but permeable pavements and rooftop gardens hold water.

2

THE ACTION

Develop a program to provide incentives to property owners to improve their stormwater management. This could be paid for by a stormwater utility fee based on the amount of stormwater generated by a property or the amount of impervious space on a property.

THE IMPACT

A storm water utility fee could fund more green infrastructure and protect properties most in danger from flooding. Permeable pavements on parking lots, roads and sidewalks allow water to be stored in the soil. Trees planted next to streets absorb and filter water, cool the air, provide shade and add to the neighborhood aesthetic. Planted areas require maintenance but provide habitat for pollinators and other critters.

3

THE ACTION

Reduce the amount of contaminants people use through banning harmful products, educational campaigns, and incentive programs.

THE IMPACT

Policy change and product regulation is more effective at the state or federal level but a local ban on pesticides would keep the surface water cleaner. Educational campaigns and incentives could help spread awareness and lead to more public support for product bans.

4

THE ACTION

Use alternative fuel vehicles and equipment, such as electric, that do not require as much oil or maintenance.

THE IMPACT

Electric vehicles and equipment have benefits beyond keeping oil out of the lake. They create less local air pollution, less noise and lower carbon emissions. Electric vehicles and equipment can be expensive and Evanston would need more charging infrastructure to support more vehicles and equipment.

5

THE ACTION

Keep invasive (non native) species from entering the lake and reduce the impact of the ones already in or threatening the lakes including: Asian Carp, Zebra Mussels, Quagga Mussels.

THE IMPACT

The City can't accomplish this alone, regional and international collaboration is necessary. Many approaches have already been taken (Brandon Lock, ballast water regulations) to limit and reduce the impact of invasive aquatic species. Any strategy taken must be regional or international in order to reduce the threats from shipping, release of exotic species, pollutants and rising temperatures.

6

THE ACTION

Require water efficient appliances in new houses and commercial buildings.

THE IMPACT

It can work, but it takes a long time to see benefits and doesn't affect existing buildings.



THE ACTION

Implement grey water systems that capture rain water and use them for non food or hygiene related activities like water gardens or trees.

THE IMPACT

Saves money on buying water, reduces the amount of water taken from Lake Michigan, and helps limit the amount of water going into the storm sewer systems. Can be costly to retrofit plumbing systems and may require changes in plumbing and health codes.

