

NWPA Strives for Regional Sustainable Water Supply



County residents will soon be seeing multiple reminders that the water we use, rely on and may take for granted every day is not in limitless supply. It is the result of one of two key initiatives of the Northwest Water Planning Alliance (NWPA) that includes Kane County and is the latest in a series of partnerships and programs that Kane is engaged in that are designed to ensure a sustainable fresh water supply in the decades ahead.

So in the near future, you may begin to see with your water bills, targeted campaigns to help raise the consciousness level of people in the region around their use of water. Additionally, the county will share NWPA educational materials as it has in the past with topical local articles from the "[What Our Water's Worth](#)" series.

The second NWPA initiative is in cooperation with the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) and water utility operators to measure water levels in deep aquifers.

Just last month Kane joined the ranks of "[WaterSense](#)," a voluntary national partnership with the U.S. EPA designed to encourage water conservation and efficiency practices by promoting the use of WaterSense-labeled products by residents and businesses.

The Northwest Water Planning Alliance (NWPA) was officially constituted by Intergovernmental Agreement in the Fall of 2010. It represents five councils of government, including approximately 80 communities (e.g. Aurora and Elgin) and five counties (DeKalb, Kane, Kendall, Lake and McHenry), encompassing over 1.3 million people. The NWPA uses a cooperative planning approach to water supply planning for the NWPA sub-region. It will advance many of the recommendations and concepts identified in the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) *Water 2050* plan. There's a lot more information and a fact sheet on the NWPA [website](#).

