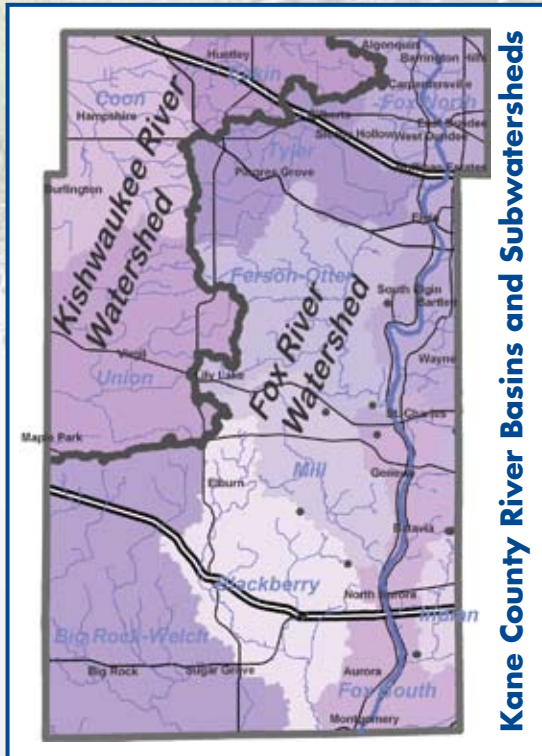


Did you know there are two major river basins in Kane County? The Fox River and the Kishwaukee River basins cover 95% of the County. Each basin is crisscrossed by streams and creeks that nourish the plant and animal life around us. With your help, we can keep these local treasures healthy & keep those who enjoy them happy!



Kane County River Basins and Subwatersheds



**Kane County
Environmental
& Building
Management**

719 Batavia Avenue
Building A
Geneva, IL 60134

Kane County Wants You to Be A CLEAN WATER CHAMPION



**Top ten things
YOU CAN DO to
HELP PROTECT
streams and rivers
in Kane County**

*Presented by the Kane County Department of
Environmental and Building Management with
funding from a Kane County Riverboat Grant*

1. Know Where You Live

Sure you know what road you live on – what town or township, and even what zip code. But do you know what watershed you live in? Do you know who lives upstream and downstream of you? Check out the enclosed map then go online to www.co.kane.il.us/kcstorm to find out more about your 'watershed address'.

2. Grow Deep Roots

Native plants hold the soil in place with deep roots and act as a filter, reducing the speed of water across your yard, and allowing sediments and pollutants to settle out before they clog and pollute our streams and rivers.

Want more info?

www.chicagowilderness.org/wildchi/landscape

3. Take Care of Your Septic

Septic system leakage and discharge pollutes our streams and lakes with nutrients. Septic tanks should be inspected and cleaned out every 2-3 years.

Want more info?

www.kanehealth.com/PDFs/Environmental/SepticSystem.pdf

4. Keep Objectionables Out

Bring household hazardous wastes to approved collection sites. Hazardous wastes (gasoline, solvents, oil paints, fertilizers, pesticides, expired medications etc.), if dumped in your backyard, down the drain, or down the gutter, will end up in our streams and rivers.

Want more info?

www.co.kane.il.us/Environment/recycle

5. Hold that Water!

Runoff from your roof and driveway can end up running off too fast into gutters, then streams and rivers, contributing to local flooding. Unchecked runoff also carries pollutants to streams and rivers. How do you keep water on your property? Install

rain barrels at your downspouts, grow rain gardens to filter and use the runoff from your gutters, or just redirect your downspouts into lawn or garden areas.

Want more info?

dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/nps/rg/rgmanual.pdf

6. Keep Dirt in it's Place

When soil erodes, it travels in rainwater to streams and rivers where it can smother fish habitat, clog drinking water intakes, and make river recreation less enjoyable. Keep soil in its place by making sure everyone in your community is using the right construction erosion control methods and maintaining a healthy landscaped yard.

7. Go Easy on the Green

Green, lush grass looks great on a ballfield, but the fertilizers and pesticides used to create that 'green carpet' effect can wreak havoc if they migrate into our local streams or rivers. Try out native plant gardens or use alternative grass species – both of which grow well without chemicals.

8. Plant More Trees

Trees are great to have around; they provide shade and habitat, but also absorb and slow the runoff of stormwater – much better than plain turfgrass.

9. Join Forces

Interested in knowing more about your 'watershed neighborhood'? Find others in your area who are also trying to preserve and protect the local waters - watershed groups are active and the more people involved, the better! See Kane County's watershed information website: www.co.kane.il.us/kcstorm/watersheds

10. Enjoy the Water!

By following these guidelines, you can do your part to keep the waters in Kane County clean, and be proud of knowing you are doing a world of good for your downstream watershed neighbors. Then get out and enjoy the rivers and streams in your neighborhood!

Questions about water quality?

Need to report something that doesn't look right?

General Questions:

Kane County
Department of Environmental and Building
Management
630-208-5118

www.co.kane.il.us/kcstorm

To report something that doesn't look right (possible pollution, violations, etc.):

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Water Pollution Control
847-294-4000

www.epa.state.il.us/water/

For great information on local water quality including educational programs:

Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District
630-584-7961

www.kanedupageswcd.org/

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719 Batavia Avenue; Building A
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630.208.5118 • www.co.kane.il.us/kcstorm



Top ten things YOU CAN DO to be a CLEAN WATER CHAMPION

