



# City of Superior Wastewater News

Environmental Services  
Division of Public Works  
51 East 1st Street  
Superior, WI 54880  
715-394-0392

Stormwater/Wastewater  
Billing: 715-395-5833  
Hotline: 715-394-2761

[www.ci.superior.wi.us/esd](http://www.ci.superior.wi.us/esd)

## Billing Changes for 4th Quarter

Our billing software has changed. Beginning with this invoice you will receive only one bill for Stormwater, Sewage, and Recycling fees.

**In order to accomplish this, on this quarter's invoice you will see charges for:**

- Stormwater fees for July—December 2014 (6 months)
- Sewage fees for October – December 2014 (3 months)
- Recycling fees for November—December 2014 (2 months)

**On your next quarter's invoice you will see charges for:**

- Stormwater fees for January—March 2015 (3 months)
- Sewage fees for January– March 2015 (3 months)
- Recycling fees for January—March 2015 (3 months)

**A Reminder from the  
City Council**

**Sec. 104-273. Premise  
Identification**

This section states that:

Buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters.

## New Billing System—New Features!

**What is changing?**

With our new billing system you will be able to take advantage of some great new features!

- ◆ View your account information online. Simply create an online account and you can view all billing history, see payments that have been applied to your account, check your balance and manage multiple accounts.
- ◆ Want to skip paper invoices? Sign up for e-billing and your invoice will be delivered right to your inbox.
- ◆ Online payments. You choose the payment method you want. Make an online payment after you receive your invoice or sign up for automatic payments.



Want to take advantage of some of the new features? Create your online account at <https://superior.secure.munibilling.com>, see our website at [www.ci.superior.wi.us/sewage](http://www.ci.superior.wi.us/sewage) for more information or call us at 715-395-5833.



## Lake Superior Ice Project

The City of Superior with assistance from the Superior Tourism Development Fund has contracted with Roger Hanson of Big Lake, Minnesota to build a wall of ice approximately 90' wide by 70' tall on Barker's Island. This tourist attraction will be ready for viewing in February 2015.

Track the progress of the project at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Ice-Project/33185846931999>

Shutting the faucet off while brushing your teeth can save up to 4 gallons of water per minute. For a family of 4 the water savings could be up to 200 gallons per week!





# A DROP OF NEWS

## Your Stormwater Newsletter



Snow and ice are part of the water cycle.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS  
715/394-0392  
STORMWATER@CI.SUPERIOR.WI.US



#Superior ESDPW  
or Superior Stormwater Blog  
[www.ci.superior.wi.us/esd](http://www.ci.superior.wi.us/esd)

**Report illicit discharge entering a storm drain or entering a stream**  
715/394-2761

### Stormwater Infrastructure – Grey vs Green

**Think Green!**

Superior uses an assortment of grey and green infrastructure to handle stormwater. Over 3000 drain inlets are dispersed around the city, over 300 miles of pipes, and outfalls (where stormwater is discharged into local streams) are maintained around town. About half of the sewer pipes in Superior are **combined sewers** where wastewater (from toilets, washing machines, showers, etc.) and rainwater and snow melt travel to the wastewater treatment plant. The risk is that heavy rain

events or snow melt can lead to too much coming to the treatment plant and surpassing its capacity. Raw sewage then would enter the bay.

**Separate storm sewers** reduces what comes to the wastewater treatment plant as the stormwater from streets and runoff from buildings, streets, and other impervious surfaces go to local waterways. Reducing stormwater runoff is

essential to reduce pollutants. Only rain down drains.

**~20%** *Of the City of Superior is impervious surfaces where water does not soak in (roof tops, streets, parking lots, sidewalks, etc).*



**Grey (concrete) vs Green (vegetation)**

**Green Infrastructure (GI)** refers to using ways to mimic the natural hydrology of an area and serves to reduce and slow down runoff. Examples of GI include planting trees, rain gardens, green roofs, swales, and installing water collection systems such as rain barrels.

**GI Benefits:**  
reduces flooding, reduces expense of grey infrastructure, builds community, beautifies an area, and provides habitat for wildlife.

### Looking Back ~ Did You Know Superior sewer system started in 1880s.

~~At one time, Superior boasted to possess the second largest sewer in the world. The great K street sewer was an engineering marvel at 10' in diameter and running for 2,400' in 1881.

~~In the late 1930s the City of Superior opened its own concrete plant and saved a great deal of money by making its own sewer pipes.

~~Superior's sewage disposal facility opened in 1958. Before then sewage was directed to local streams or ponds. Superior's population in the 1950s was >40,000.

Learn about the story of sewage in Superior  
[www.ci.superior.wi.us/history](http://www.ci.superior.wi.us/history).  
An on-site display is in the works.

*Today's society = more personal care products + medicines.  
Never flush unwanted meds.  
Bring to the Police Dept.*

### Out and About in the Community

Rex, the Regional Stormwater Protection Team mascot, visited at the Cause for Paws walk in September.



This fall ESD presented to:  
UWS chemistry students  
Superior Optimists  
Moose Lodge 606  
Master Gardeners  
Northern Lights Elementary 4th graders

ESD provided a **learning activity** with:  
Northern Lights Elementary 5th graders and  
Lake Superior Elementary

**Hurray for stencilers!**  
Storm Drain Stenciling helps this fall included: WITC Science Club and 4th graders from Northern Lights Elementary

-to Storm Drain stewards **Sandy Breitzmann** and **Matt Bennett** have each been helping to keep their street's storm drains clear of debris for years. By preventing litter and leaves from gathering around or entering a drain you help prevent flooding and prevent pollutants from entering a stream. **Adopt a drain today.**  
[www.ci.superior.wi.us/adoptdrain](http://www.ci.superior.wi.us/adoptdrain)

-to Protect Our Waters fun fair station **leaders** ESD put on a fun fair in October for k-5th graders. Held at the Superior Middle School it had twelve game stations with plenty of fun, learning and prizes lead by Environmental Services, Iron River Fish Hatchery, BMO Bank, Farmers Insurance, UWS Lake Superior Research Institute, St. Louis River Alliance, and Lake Superior NERR. Thank you to the School District for use of the space.

-to Let's Talk Recycling II **guest speakers** The topic this year at a November event was on motor vehicle and fluids recycling. Thank you to SIMKO, Como Lube & Supplies, and Superior Code Compliance Officer. Almost all of a vehicle can be recycled. Recycle oil at the Moccasin Mike landfill and places that give oil changes. Do not mix fluids. Never dump oil down a drain.

**Thank You**

### NEW on Our Website and Blog

+View a **map of local streams** at [www.ci.superior.wi.us/waterways](http://www.ci.superior.wi.us/waterways)

+A **Teacher Tab** has been added to the top of the SuperiorStormwater blog. Information is given on how to calculate how many gallons of rain falls in a rain event on an impervious area. Roof top areas are given for all local schools and more buildings in town.

+ Information on the **Fisher and Clough Ave Storm Sewer project** is at [www.ci.superior.wi.us/Fisher-Cloughstormsewer](http://www.ci.superior.wi.us/Fisher-Cloughstormsewer)

### WATER WORD TO KNOW

**Bioaccumulation** -the accumulation of substances, such as pesticides, or other organic chemicals in an organism. It occurs when an organism absorbs a toxic substance at a rate greater than that at which the substance is lost. Mercury & PCBs are bioaccumulating pollutants.

**REMEMBER: Shoveling snow will reduce the need for road salt. Pet owners: Please Scoop the Poop all winter.**