

City of Milwaukee

Downspout Disconnection Program (DDP)



Enriching Lives

Downspout Disconnection Background

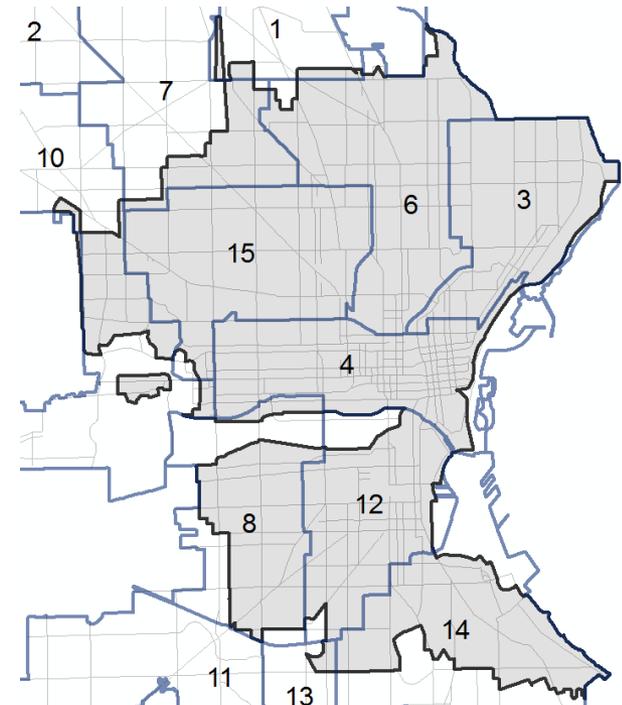
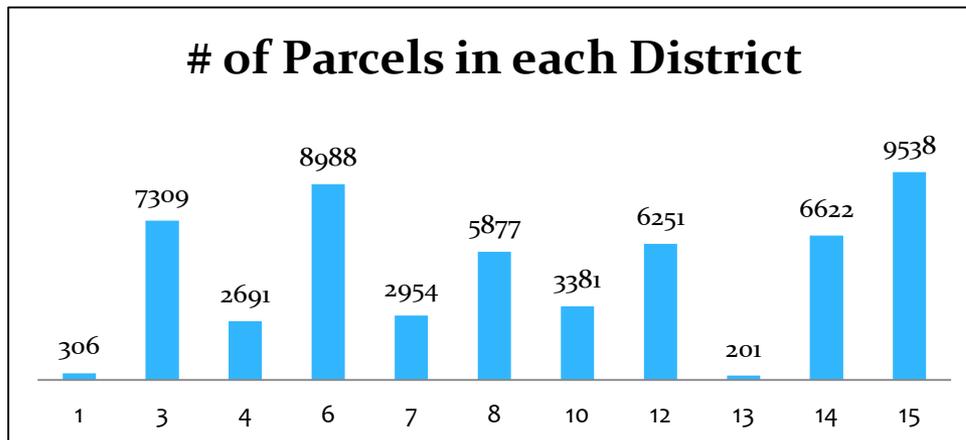
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) revised Chapter 3 of their Rules and Regulations
 - Residential parcels that contain up to four units must disconnect their downspouts from the combined sewer system by January 1, 2025
- In 2015 City of Milwaukee Update to Code of Ordinances Chapter 225-4
 - New construction of residential properties are prohibited from connecting beginning January 1, 2016
 - Code will be updated to require the entire combined sewer area to disconnect before the end of 2024

Project Benefits

- Project Benefits:
 - Removing clear water from the combined sewer has potential to accomplish the following:
 - Reduced basement backups
 - Reduced Combined Sewer Overflows
 - Creates opportunities for job training and community building

Program Area

- The combined sewer service area CSA in the City of Milwaukee :
 - Total of 66,400 parcels in the CSA
 - Total of 54,000 parcels identified as residential with up to four units
- Commercial parcels are not required to disconnect, but will be encouraged to participate in the program



Disconnection Criteria

- The following conditions must be met to disconnect a downspout:
 - Discharge point must be at least five (5) feet away from foundation walls and property lines
 - Discharge must flow parallel to or away from the nearest property line
 - Discharge point must be level or slope away from structure but not cause erosion
 - Discharge must not cause ice on pedestrian walkways, streets, or alleys or cause a nuisance to adjoining properties



Typical Disconnection Process

- The typical disconnection process consists of 4 steps:
 - Step 1: Measure and cut downspout, discard excess
 - Step 2: Cap the sewer standpipe
 - Step 3: Insert the downspout elbow
 - Step 4: Attach a downspout extension and route to a splash block



Step 1

Step 4

Two-Year Citywide Incentive Period (Phase 1)

- During the first two (2) years of the program (2019-2020) the City will promote and fund disconnections (where required) by:
 - Coordinating disconnection work using City hired contractors and qualified community organizations
 - Providing rebates of \$50 per downspout up to \$100 total to homeowners that complete the work themselves
- Follow up inspection by DNS staff to verify incentive work
- The incentive period sign up will be available online and through mailer provided to the homeowner

Mandatory Disconnection Period (Phase 2)

- At the end of the two-year incentive period, properties that did not complete disconnection work will be processed by the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS)
- Non-compliant owner is sent an advisory notice to disconnect
 - DNS inspectors will follow-up with property owners to attempt to gain compliance and may take enforcement action as necessary

General Schedule

Surveys & Notifications

- Surveys:
 - Fall 2018 - Desktop surveying, consists of using GIS software in combination with 3D aerial imagery to identify ineligible parcels
- Notifications:
 - Winter 2018/19 – General informational mailer
 - Spring 2019 - Summer 2020 - Follow up notifications sent to potential parcels identified during desktop surveys about disconnection options / incentive program



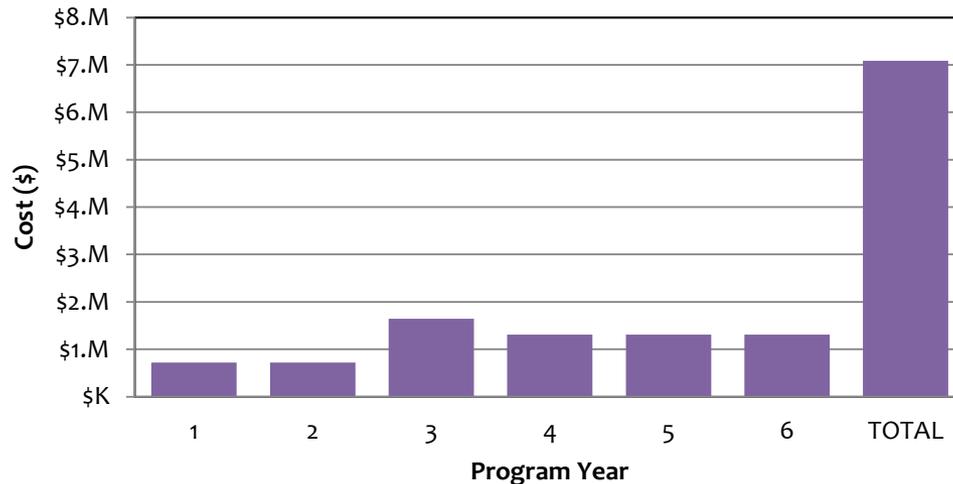
Marketing and Neighborhood Participation

- Develop informational mailers and website
- Create a phone hotline to answer questions
- Work with neighborhood groups: train on bidding processes and requirements; train groups' members on how to perform disconnections

Project Staffing and Estimated Budget

- DPW and DNS require new full time staff to perform the program
 - DNS to utilize an apprenticeship program for staffing
- Estimated Project Cost: \$7.1M over the 6 year program period

Estimated Project Cost



Questions