

What is the Alternative Water Source Program?

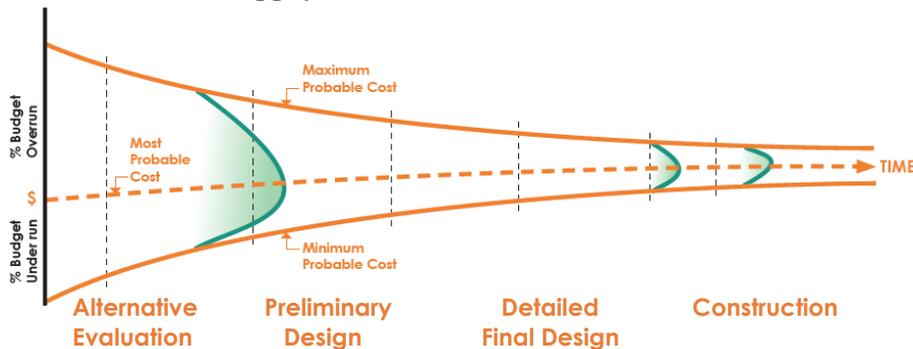
The City of Joliet's existing groundwater source is being depleted and will no longer be able to meet the City's water demands by 2030. The Alternative Water Source Program (AWSP) consists of the planning, design and construction of a new water source for the City of Joliet by 2030. In January 2020 following a comprehensive, two phased study, the City Council selected Lake Michigan as the City's new water source. The program activities in 2020 are focused on the evaluation of two Lake Michigan Water Alternatives – purchasing treated Lake Michigan water from the City of Chicago or going straight to the lake and constructing a new intake and water treatment plant. The 2020 evaluation will further define the alternatives and cost estimates in order to allow the City Council to select one of the alternatives at the end of 2020.

Alternative Water Source Program Highlights

Cost estimating is a critical component of any major improvement program. It is important to not only identify the improvements required for an alternative, but also accurately estimate the cost to construct the improvements. As noted above, one of the focuses of the 2020 Evaluation is to further define the improvements for each alternative in order to be able to prepare more accurate costs estimates.

A cost estimate classification system has been developed by AACE, Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering, to characterize the accuracy range of an estimate class based on the maturity of the project design.

A Class 5 OPCC was used in the Phase II Study. A Class 5 Opinion of Probable Construction Cost (OPCC) is representative of a project with very low maturity (0% to 2% design completion) and a very high expected accuracy range (-50% to +100%). This concept is illustrated in the following graph:



Through the 2020 Evaluation, the goal was to further define the improvements so that a Class 4 OPCC could be used. The Class 4 OPCC is representative of a project with lower maturity (1% to 15% design completion) and a high accuracy range (~30% to +50%). While the Class 4 OPCC is more accurate than the Class 5 OPCC, there is still significant engineering required to reach the Class 1 OPCC at the end of final design.

Program Calendar

Recent and Upcoming Program Activities:

- September 1st - Regional Governance Workshop
- September 9th - Level 2 Transmission Main Workshop
- September 22nd - Submitted Lake Michigan Allocation Application to IDNR
- September 29th - Stakeholder Meeting
- October 16th - Meeting with Southland Water Agency
- October 20th - Quarterly Update to Finance Committee Meeting
- November 19th - City Council Workshop

While most of these meetings are project team meetings, the meetings highlighted in **gray** are public meetings. To attend these meetings, visit the [website](#) for more information.

While not specifically listed in the calendar, project team members have been meeting weekly with potential water supply and water access providers including Chicago, Hammond (IN), Gary (IN) and Whiting (IN).

Educational Topic

As part of the Alternative Water Source Program (AWSP), various educational topics will be highlighted each month. Follow the link to find out more information on the Educational Topic this month:

- ◆ Operation and Maintenance of Water Infrastructure [Click here](#)

Copies of all Educational Topics for the Alternative Water Source Program can be found in the Information Center on the website at www.RethinkWaterJoliet.org.



Public Outreach

In 2020, there have been three Stakeholder Meetings (May, July & September) and two City Council Workshops (June, August). If you have missed any of these public meetings, they are available for viewing on the project website at RethinkWaterJoliet.org.

The third City Council Workshop will be held on November 19th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The workshop will be televised live on Channel 6 as well as live-streamed on the City's website at Joliet.gov. At this workshop the Project Team will present the results of the 2020 Evaluation.

This year's Public Forum will be held virtually. There will be three different opportunities for the public to ask questions and provide comments ahead of the City Council's selection of an alternative at the end of 2020:

- Beginning at the end of November through December 14th - on the RethinkWaterJoliet.org website, 2020 Evaluation documents will be available for review and the public can submit questions and comments.
- December 2nd from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm and again on December 3rd from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - the 2020 Evaluation results will be presented live by the Project Team followed by a Q&A session.

From Joliet's Department of Public Utilities – Preparation tips for cold weather

As the weather is starting to get cold and temperatures are dipping below freezing, it is important to perform some maintenance to prepare for the cold weather:

- To prevent exterior water pipes from bursting when the weather gets below freezing, turn off the valves to the exterior hose bibs. Run the water until the pipes are empty. Make sure all the water is drained from the pipes, if not, the water can freeze and damage the pipes. Remove exterior water hoses and drain as well.
- Wrap any water pipes that run along exterior walls or that are in an unheated crawl space or basement with heat trace wire. It will save energy and prevent them from freezing.
- Keep the area around the water meter warm to prevent frozen pipes, frozen meter, or broken pipes.
- Regularly clean gutters and downspouts.
- Make sure all drainage areas are unblocked by leaves and debris.
- Check sump pump discharge area to be sure it will not create icing issues on the sidewalk or road.

Winter Tips on Finding Your Water Shut-off Valve, Frozen Water Pipes, and Smart Salting are attached to the end of this newsletter.

If you have any questions, please call the Public Utilities Department at (815) 724-4220.

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RethinkWaterJoliet.org

Water Conservation – Everyday ways to Conserve Water

While the City of Joliet can take action to promote water conservation by updating its City Codes to include water conservation-oriented regulations and by becoming a USEPA WaterSense Partner, each resident needs to help the City of Joliet achieve its water conservation goals.

What can residents do to conserve water?

- Take advantage of incentive programs offered by the City of Joliet for rain barrels and low flow toilets.
- Turn off the tap while you brush your teeth.
- Fill up the sink while scrubbing or washing a lot of dishes.
- Run full loads in the dishwasher and clothes washing machine.
- Take shorter showers.

It is important that the City of Joliet and its residents work together on this important goal of water conservation.

The Water Conservation Subcommittee meets the first Wednesday of every month at 3:30 pm in the Executive Conference Room – 2nd Floor, City Hall. Please check the City's website at www.joliet.gov to confirm meeting dates and times. These meetings are open to the public.

For more information on water conservation, contact Amy Ferris, at 815-724-4220 or aferris@joliet.gov.

GET INVOLVED IN 2020

Be sure to stay informed by reading our program newsletter which will be published on a monthly basis. Stay up-to-date with public meetings and receive the monthly newsletter in your inbox by joining the mailing list at www.RethinkWaterJoliet.org.

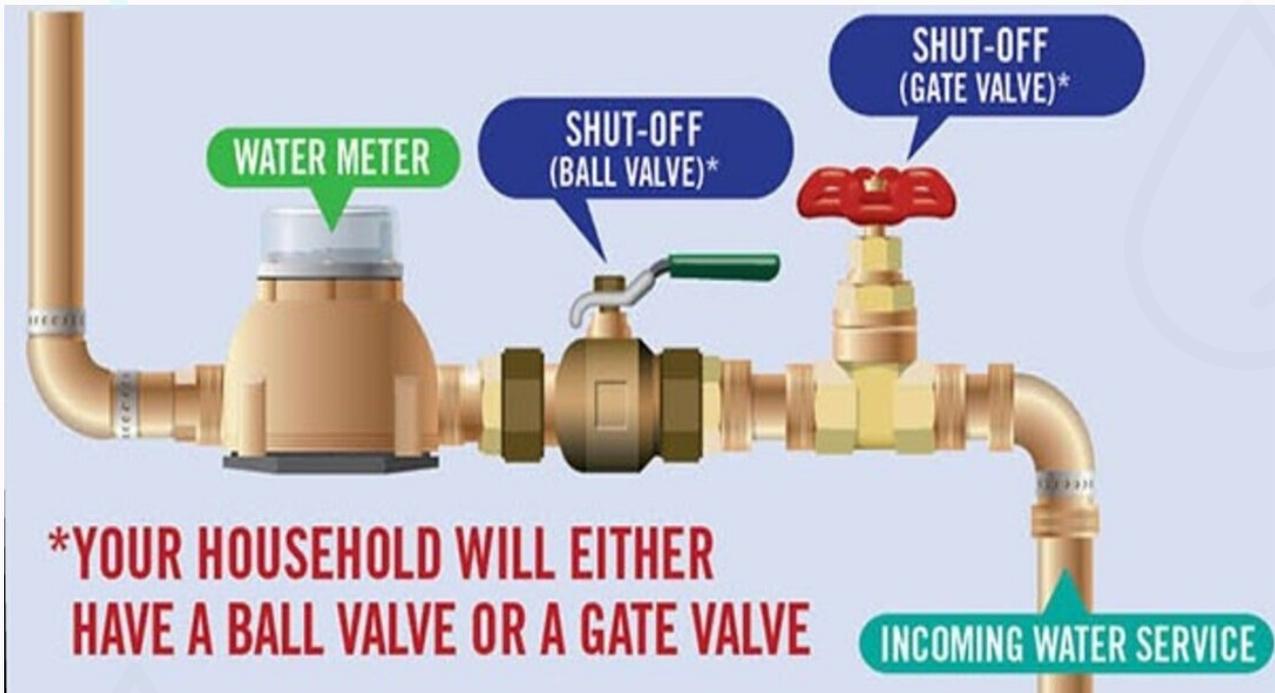
To learn more check us out at RethinkWaterJoliet.org



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WINTER TIPS

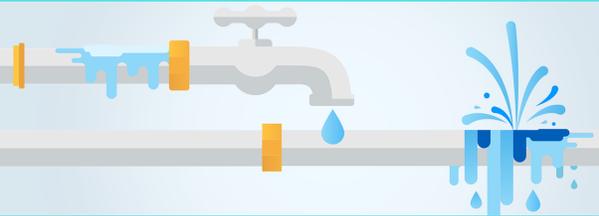
FIND YOUR WATER SHUT-OFF VALVE



Knowing **how** and **where** to shut off your home's main water supply is as important as knowing how and where to turn-off or reset an electric breaker or replace a fuse.

Home construction differs greatly; basements, crawl-spaces, and slab-on-grade.

Water shut-off valves may have round "wheel" handles or lever handles.



Water shut-off valve not working or have a leak and the valve is not holding?

Please contact the Department of Public Utilities to arrange shut-off 815-724-4220.



WINTER TIPS FROZEN WATER PIPES

WHEN
TEMPERATURES
STAY BELOW
FREEZING



Open doors to cabinets or vanities that have pipes on an outside wall. Let the room temperature air flow in.

Insulate all pipes on outside walls or in cold prone areas with pipe insulation.

Keep a small trickle of cold water running through the pipes. The cost of the extra water is typically lower than the cost of repairing a broken pipe.



Is your main shut off valve not working or leaking? Please call the City of Joliet Department of Public Utilities at 815-724-4220 to have water temporarily turned off so that your plumber can replace the main shut off valve.

Shut off the water immediately at the inside main shut off valve.



Thaw pipes with warm air. Using a hair dryer or carefully attended space heater warm the air around the pipe slowly. **NEVER** use an open flame.



Be careful turning water back on. Once pipes are thawed, slowly turn the water back on and check pipes and joints for any cracks or leaks that might have been caused by freezing.



WHAT TO DO
IF MY PIPES
FREEZE



Pipes frozen for longer than 24 hours?
**Call the City of Joliet
Department of Public Utilities
24 hour line: 815-724-4220**



WINTER TIPS

SMART SALTING

1

SHOVEL FIRST

Clear all snow from driveway and sidewalks before it turns to ice. Salt should only be used after the snow is removed and only in areas needed for safety.



2

SIZE UP

More salt does not mean more melting. A 12-ounce coffee mug of salt should be enough for a 20-ft driveway or about 10 sidewalk squares.



3

SPREAD

Distribute salt evenly, not in clumps.



4

SWEEP

If you see leftover salt on the ground after the ice melts, then you've used too much! Sweep up leftover salt to keep it out of our rivers and streams.



5

SWITCH

Rock salt stops working if the temperature is below 15 degrees. When temperatures drop that low, switch to sand for traction or choose a different deicer formulated for colder temperatures.



Midwest winter can be tough on our roads and commuters. Road salt is used to keep our roads safe, but the cost of using too much salt goes beyond the pavement. Excess road salt damages vehicles and infrastructure, harms our pets and plants, and degrades our rivers and wetlands. The City of Joliet is using best management practices to keep you safe while using less salt.

Our Commitment:

We will strive to use the best technology and practices within our means to keep roads and sidewalks safe all winter long. Smart salt use will ensure the City of Joliet uses tax dollars responsibly and keeps our precious water resources healthy for generations to come.

