

SKOKIE CONSOLIDATED DRAINAGE DISTRICT

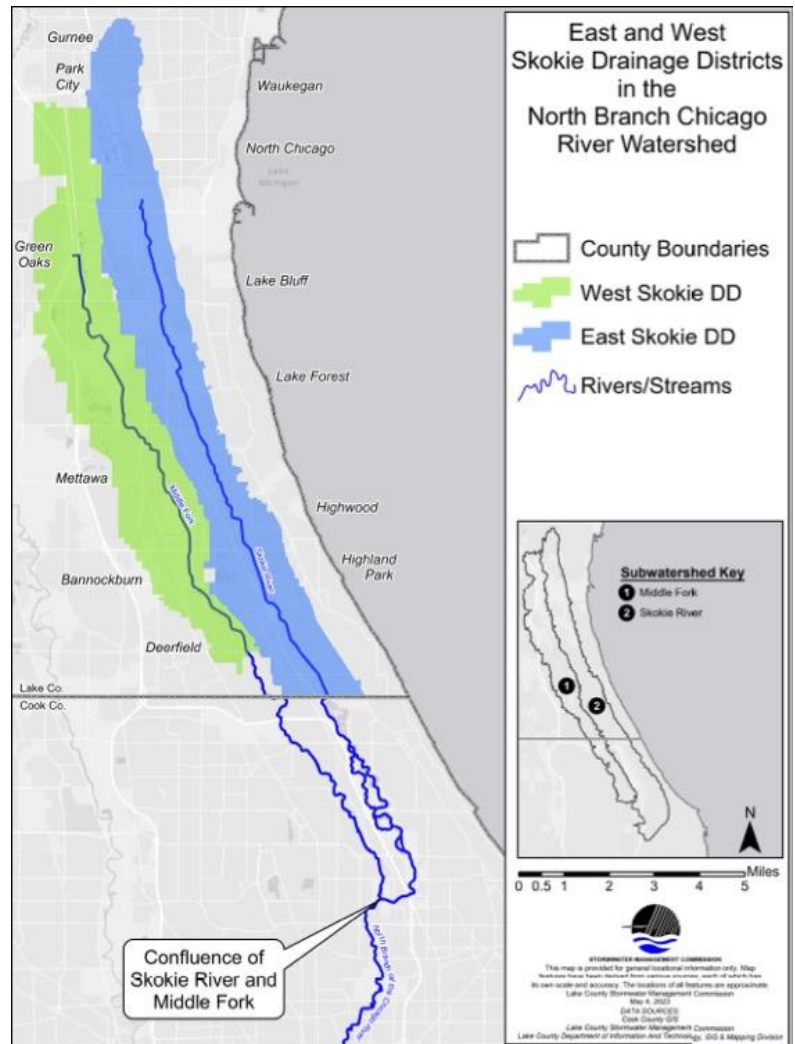
A proposed Skokie Consolidated Drainage District (SCDD) will combine the East and West Skokie Drainage Districts in Lake County into one administrative district. Current property assessment fees, operational activities and level of service will remain the same following consolidation, with an expected cost benefit from improved administrative and operational efficiency.

The East Skokie (ESDD) and West Skokie Drainage District (WSDD) propose consolidation in response to a Lake County Board initiative to find efficiencies with shared services, and to reduce the number of units of government. Following consolidation, regular operational services will continue as they are, but the cost of these services will be shared in a consolidated district. This is expected to result in lower administrative, legal, and engineering consulting expenses for regular operations. The reduction in operational costs will result in more money being available for conveyance maintenance and capital projects to improve the waterways.

About Drainage Districts:

Drainage Districts are municipal entities organized under the Illinois Drainage Act. The East and West Skokie districts are authorized to acquire, construct, own and operate a drainage system within court approved areas in Lake County Illinois and are responsible for maintaining conveyance of water flows in the Skokie River and Middle Fork channels. Drainage districts also conduct operations with Illinois EPA stormwater permits.

Drainage district functions are carried out by three Commissioners that are appointed by the Lake County Board. Operations are funded through assessments on properties that drain to each of the waterways. Annual assessment revenue is supplemented with grant funds for capital improvement projects.



Skokie River and Middle Fork are two of the three tributary streams that form the North Branch of the Chicago River (NBCR). The Skokie River and Middle Fork flow from north to south in eastern Lake and Cook Counties and join together to form the NBCR at Watersmeet Woods Forest Preserve in Glenview. From this confluence, the NBCR flows south to join the West Fork of the river in Morton Grove and then into downtown Chicago.

East Skokie Drainage District (ESDD) includes 16.37 miles of the Skokie River from its headwaters in Waukegan just north of Rt. 132 south to Lake Cook Road. There are 13,313 parcels in the ESDD.

West Skokie Drainage District (WSDD) includes the 11.9-mile portion of the Middle Fork that extends from its headwaters in Waukegan south of Rt 120 to just south of Deerfield Road in Deerfield. There are 7,249 parcels in the WSDD.

After consolidation, the SCDD will manage the ESDD and WSDD drainage areas as separate subdistricts for purposes of annual assessments and funding capital projects.

Drainage District Consolidation at a Glance

DRAINAGE JURISDICTIONS:	ESDD	WSDD	SCDD
Stream Miles	16.37 mi	11.9 mi	28.27 mi
Drainage Area	13,612 acres	11,955 acres	25,567 acres
Number of Parcels	13,313	7,249	20,562
Annual Assessment Revenue	\$515,000	\$159,800	\$674,800

Services Provided by the Drainage Districts

Maintaining and improving conveyance

- removing downed trees and other debris that block flow in the channels within the drainage district easement
- stabilizing severely eroding streambanks that cause sediment to accumulate and impede conveyance

Improving water quality

- monitoring the waterways for illicit pollution discharges and excessive channel erosion
- reducing sediment pollution caused by erosion
- maintaining membership in the North Branch Watershed Workgroup formed to address water quality impairments caused by pollution in the waterways

Mitigating flood damage

- improving conveyance and providing extra flood storage within the district's easement
- cooperating with local communities and agencies on flood mitigation projects that affect flows in the Skokie River or Middle Fork

RECENT EXAMPLES OF EAST SKOKIE DRAINAGE DISTRICT PROJECTS

- Skokie River Channel Improvements Phase 2 currently underway and Skokie River Streambank Stabilization Phase 1 completed in 2021: ESDD is stabilizing one mile of severely eroding streambanks in Lake Forest preventing property damage and improving water quality and conveyance in the Skokie River
- 2015 Best Management Practice Project of the Year: ESDD daylighted the Skokie River in North Chicago by creating a two-stage river channel where the headwater was formerly conveyed in an underground pipe.



Skokie River daylighting – open channel with native plants



Skokie River streambank stabilization Lake Forest