Wes Cattoor, P.E. CFM
Office of Water Resources
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
State Water Supply Activities

- Lake Michigan Allocations
- Federal Reservoir Allocations
- **Water Supply Planning**
- Policies & Regulations
- IL Water Inventory Program
- Water Demand Forecasts
- Supply & Demand Analysis
- State Services
- Midwest Initiatives
Start of Water Supply Planning in IL
Water Supply Planning Since

- State Water Plan Task Force Formed in 1980
- Executive Order 2006-01 issued
- State Drought Preparedness and Response Plan in 2011
Regional Water Supply Planning

GOVERNOR’S EXECUTIVE ORDER
Jan 2006.

• A comprehensive program for state and regional water supply planning & implementation

• Establishing a scientific basis & an administrative framework for implementation of state and regional water supply planning and management

• Encourages creation of locally-based regional water supply planning committees
Regional Planning Process

1. Form Regional Committee
2. Water Demand
3. Water Supply Yield
4. Identify Shortages or Conflicts
5. Develop Regional Report
6. Implement Recommendations
7. Re-evaluate
Regional Water Supply Planning Areas

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>RWSPA</th>
<th>Initial Report</th>
<th>Revise Report</th>
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<tr>
<td>American Bottoms</td>
<td>7/1/2023</td>
<td>7/1/2033</td>
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<td>Kaskaskia</td>
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<td>Lower Illinois</td>
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<td>7/1/2022</td>
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<td>Wabash and Ohio</td>
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Purpose of Reports

- Water Needed?
- Water Available?
- Experienced and Forecasted Shortfalls or Conflicts?
- Recommended Solutions
When a Supply is at risk

- Additional research & survey needs
- Coordination meetings with at-risk water users
- Recommend alternative sources
- Conservation measures & public education
- Assist communities with ordinances or policies
Is Regulation a Solution?

- No Comprehensive or Statewide Statues

- Laws Illinois has
  - Common Law Riparian Rights
  - “Rivers, Lakes and Streams Act”
  - “Water Use Act of 1983”
  - “Water Authorities Act”
  - Municipal Code and Special Districts
  - “Level of Lake Michigan Act”
“Riparian Rights” - ”Rule of Reasonable Use”

• Evans v. Merriweather, 4 Ill. 492 (1842)
  • following a drought, Evans diverted all of the stream to his mill

• Court stated:
  • “There may be, and there must be, of that which is common to all, a reasonable use.”
  • The wants of man in regard to water are either:
    • natural - are absolutely necessary to be supplied, in order to his existence.
    • artificial - such only as, by supplying them, his comfort and propriety are increased.
  • After all natural wants along a natural water course are satisfied, the riparian proprietors may use the remaining water for artificial uses….but no more than their just proportion.
“Rivers, Lakes and Streams Act”

• DNR/OWR- Core Regulatory Authority
• Passed in 1911
• Authorizes
  • Public Waters Protection
  • Floodway Construction Permits
  • Dam Safety Permits
  • Regulates drawdown behind dams
“Water Use Act of 1983”

- Public Notice of Planned Withdrawals (>100,000gpd)
  - conflict resolution/impact analysis by SWS+SGS

- Groundwater emergency restrictions
  - applies only to Kankakee, Iroquois, Tazewell & McLean Counties
  - high capacity wells register with County SWCD
  - IDOA guidelines for well construction (adequacy stds.)
  - complaints, investigations & restrictions to protect impacted wells
  - district wide restrictions to preserve adequate water supply

- Unified Illinois’ groundwater and surface water law
What About Our Neighbors?

- **Iowa** - statewide for surface and groundwater
  - 25,000 gpd threshold
- **Minnesota** - statewide for surface and groundwater
  - 10,000 gpd threshold
- **Kentucky** - statewide for surface and groundwater
- **Wisconsin** - 2,000,000 gpd threshold for diversions
- **Indiana** - restricted use groundwater only
- **Missouri** - registration only
- **Michigan** - registration only
Not Covered in Illinois Water Law

- Instream Flow Protection - Statewide
- Drought and emergency management
- Groundwater development-domestic well impacts
- Recreational stream access
- Future needs for Public Water Systems
- “data” - hydrology, geology, mapping & models
Thank you

Wes Cattoor, P.E. CFM
Wes.Cattoor@illinois.gov
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