



City of Goshen

STORMWATER TOOLBOX

Public Works & Utilities
Department of Stormwater
 204 E. Jefferson Street
 Goshen, Indiana 46528
 574-534-2201

bit.ly/goshen-stormwater

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December **Stormwater Fact:**

**One teaspoon of salt
 can pollute five
 gallons of water!**
**Apply with care this
 winter.**

Find out how at:
www.goshenindiana.org/salt-pollution

Goshen has New-Old Fish!

Fish Success Story—The removal of the Elkhart River Dam in the City of Elkhart in early February 2020, has been years in the making. For decades the dam impeded fish movement/mobility—preventing several species from reaching the vast waterways of the Elkhart River Watershed. Aquatic biologists and others hoped dam removal would allow many fish species to move upstream and repopulate areas where they had died out.

Hopes were realized in September when a monitoring crew found both Logperch and Shorthead Redhorse fish in the Elkhart River by Goshen's Shanklin Park. Neither species could be found in the area prior to dam removal. That means these little fish swam over 18 miles upstream in just seven months!

The City of Elkhart's Aquatic Biologist, Daragh Deegan, led the study, which sampled in many parks along the Elkhart River before and after dam removal. Deegan's team is looking especially for species known to be somewhat abundant downstream of the former dam, but absent or scarce upstream of the dam prior to removal. As they continue the monitoring project in the years to come, we are excited to see what new-old species might make their way up to Goshen!

Besides the possibility of reintroduced species in the Elkhart River, dam removal will also benefit species previously found on both sides of the dam by improving fish habitats and increasing population connectivity. The genetic diversity resulting from greater connectivity promotes healthier, more resilient fish populations to the benefit of the river ecosystems and us!

To find the full 2020 fish monitoring report, check out the Aquatic Biology page on the City of Elkhart's website: bit.ly/Elk-FishReport2020.



Photos by Daragh Deegan, City of Elkhart Aquatic Biologist



A DROP OF NEWS

Your Stormwater Newsletter

Give the Gift of Clean Water This Year

To our community, those living downstream, and to all the creatures who depend on clean, healthy waters!

Report a Pollutant

Anything other than rain flowing into a storm drain is considered a pollutant or illicit discharge. If you see something that doesn't look right please call 574-534-2201, send an email to stormwater@goshencity.com or submit a Stormwater Report through the City of Goshen's new "Report an Issue" button in the upper corner of the City's website (www.goshenindiana.org).



A December Full of News!

New Indiana Stormwater Permits Slated for 2021

The Stormwater Department could be undergoing a few changes in the near future with the release of new state stormwater permits expected in 2021. IDEM has made a draft form of the new Construction and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) general permits available for public review and comments until January 25, 2021. You can access the new permit drafts at bit.ly/NewSWGPP.

National Geographic Feature Story

Goshen's waterways are part of the Great Lakes Watershed. Check out the National Geographic December issue feature story all about the future of the Great Lakes!

Study Finds Flood-Healthy North Branch of the Elkhart River

The St. Joseph River Basin Commission worked with Christopher B. Burke Engineering to study the overall functional health of the North Branch of the Elkhart River and to identify opportunities to mitigate flood hazards. The study found the North Branch of the Elkhart River to be an incredibly resilient, stable, and healthy river system. Find out more at bit.ly/NBERplan.

