



The Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership exists to solve critical water quality and flood prevention needs in our communities



The Papillion Creek Watershed is a common thread that joins our communities.

- The Papillion Creek Watershed is the area through which rain and snowmelt enter the Papillion Creek system, which threads through our communities to the Missouri River.
- Three main tributaries join to form the Papillion Creek system: Little Papillion Creek, Big Papillion Creek and West Papillion Creek.
- The watershed includes portions of three counties and over one-third of Nebraska's population. It covers 402 square miles.
- Water quality is affected by and affects all of us within the watershed. Rain in one part of the Watershed could cause flooding and impaired water quality in another area. Green areas benefit all communities.

The Partnership is comprised of 11 local governments that are wholly or partially in the Papillion Creek Watershed.

- Bellevue, Bennington, Boys Town, Gretna, La Vista, Omaha, Papillion, Ralston, Douglas County, Sarpy County and the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District have an interlocal cooperative agreement to work together as the Partnership.
- The northern part of the watershed is in Washington County, a jurisdiction not participating in the Partnership.
- The Partnership welcomes all governments in the watershed to participate.
- The Environmental Protection Agency encourages a watershed partnership approach because it benefits all involved communities.


The guiding principles of the Partnership are cooperation, community participation and comprehensive watershed planning.

- The Partnership works through an open process of looking at our communities' needs and building consensus for solutions.
- Representatives from each of the 11 partners have worked together to develop water quality and flood prevention policies. The 11 governmental bodies each decide independently to adopt common policies.
 - Engineering studies have been completed to examine existing and future flood potential and water quality concerns.
 - Continuing studies are underway to assess the comprehensive results of implementing different measures for improving water quality and preventing flooding. Results showing the benefits and effects of different measures will be analyzed and reported to partner communities.
- Open meetings have and will continue to be held to gather public input. Coordination meetings take place among government bodies for an exchange of ideas.

It is the mission of the Partnership to address issues related to surface water quality and stormwater quantity in the watershed by establishing goals and standards common to the region for development within the watershed through 2040.




Available Fact Sheets




Land: Our watershed has limited options, time and available land for water quality and flood prevention improvements

- Past land use decisions have left us with challenges for tomorrow.
- Current flood control and water quality measures will not meet future needs.
- The Partnership's comprehensive policies will help all watershed communities meet vital water quality and flood prevention goals.




Water Quality: Papillion Creek water quality must be improved

- Water quality is directly related to water quantity.
- Partnership policies provide water quality solutions for our watershed.
- Our watershed's water quality is everyone's responsibility.



Process: Partnership communities have worked together in a six-year process to develop comprehensive policies for watershed solutions

- Comprehensive engineering and scientific analysis is the guiding process for Partnership plans and policies.
- Regional development trends indicate that we must act now to keep our watershed safe and clean.
- The public has been involved in Partnership planning and studies every step of the way.



Policy: Partnership policies provide solutions for our communities to meet watershed regulations

- Federal and state regulations require our communities to improve water quality.
- Many watershed communities have limited resources and need help to meet regulatory requirements.
- The Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership has developed policies that provide our communities with water quality and flood prevention solutions.




Water detention sites help with water quality and flood prevention

- Water detention sites of different sizes slow water to prevent flooding while improving water quality.
- Our watershed is running out of viable locations for water detention sites.
- Over time, water detention sites are proven to save lives and property.



LID: Low Impact Development can help protect our watershed

- Low impact development mimics natural hydrology.
- Low impact development improves stormwater quality and quantity.
- Low impact development can help reach watershed goals.



Stage IV: The Partnership is reaching its fourth stage of water quality and flood prevention planning

- Stage IV will study five options for meeting comprehensive regional flood prevention, water quality and land use policy goals.
- Increased development in the watershed requires action to improve water quality and reduce the threat of flooding.
- The public will be involved in recommending solutions.

Frequently asked questions

Stage IV: Study results

The Papillion Creek Watershed's current water quality and flood prevention measures will not meet our future needs. Through cooperation, community participation and comprehensive planning, the Partnership is working through an open process to set the foundation for meeting our communities' needs.

**Papillion Creek
Watershed Partnership**
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