REDUCE & BUILD BETTER

Projects, strategies, and recommendations that aim to reduce pollutants, contaminants, or the volume of water. Additionally, focus on equitable policies, community infrastructure, and qualitative development procedures for the watershed.

Priority Projects:

• **Upgrade & Retrofit** Prioritize the upgrade of older pump and lift stations that are more prone to failures. Retrofit them with modern equipment and technology to reduce breakdowns.

• **Rebuild to Incorporate Climate Adaptive Utilities & Infrastructure**
  - Coordinate and review all levees (use, design, breach-ability) through the equitable lens of communities first. (USACE, levee districts, Farm Bureau, industry, landowners, railroads, IDOT)
  - **Incorporate warning system** for all types of flood events, point source pollution emergencies, levee breach, storm events, sewage breach, etc. (Code Red Alerts, cities, counties, State of IL, USACE, EPA, IEPA)
  - **Repair and secure manholes with access**: Fix manholes at 466 N 73rd St and 304 N 62nd St in Cahokia Heights, as they both discharge during rains. Continue manhole survey work and continue repairs to prevent more trash dumping and stormwater inflow to sanitary sewer. (East St. Louis, Cahokia Heights, USACE)
  - **Stormwater retention requirements**: Recommend new developments must be designed to retain the first 1.25 inches of rainfall on site. All BMPs must be designed to drain from a full condition within a maximum of 24 hours to prevent breeding of mosquitoes and other waterborne pests. (All cities in watershed, especially ESTL, Cahokia Heights, Belleville, Dupo, Columbia, Brooklyn, Fairmont City, St. Clair County)
  - **Elevated construction**: Require new buildings to be elevated above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) depending on the flood zone. Existing structures undergoing significant renovation should also meet this criteria. (floodplain communities, especially ESTL, Cahokia Heights, Dupo, Columbia, St. Clair County, FEMA, State of IL, IEPA, County)
  - **Ordinance to protect downstream properties and receiving waters**: Protect properties and receiving waters downstream from the development sites from erosion due to increases in the volume, velocity, and peak flow rate of drainage water from the project site. Review pass-through costs and fees. (St. Clair County, Fairview Heights, Belleville, Collinsville, etc.)
  - **Clean-up, monitor problem locations, and enforce anti-dumping regulations.**
  - **Check and remediate/remove all septic systems**: Check for addresses that are not receiving sewer bills, no lateral connections, reported leaks, or other factors. (cities, counties, water/sewer districts, IEPA, EPA, MESD)

• See: Living Streets (Qualitative Right-of-Way Improvements)
• See: Increase Urban Forestry

Prairie Du Pont Watershed Plan

HEARTLANDS CONSERVANCY