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## DuPage Water Commission Receives Prestigious Awards from Environmental Nonprofit “SCARCE”

*Water Commission Strives to be a National Safe-Environment Leader*



*SCARCE Executive Director Kay McKeen presents the Earth and the Water Quality Flags to DuPage Water Commission Chairman Jim Zay and other members of the DuPage Water Commission. For more photos, see [here](#).*

**OAK BROOK, IL (Jan. 18, 2019)**—The DuPage Water Commission (DPWC) received two prestigious awards last evening in recognition of their successful efforts to foster a safe and green environment. SCARCE, School and Community Assistance for Recycling and Composting Education, presented DPWC with the **Earth Flag** and the **Water Quality Flag**.

In a quest to be a national safe-environment leader, DPWC has dedicated countless hours and resources to improve its operations and facilities as a provider of reliable, quality, responsive, and cost-efficient Lake Michigan water service to communities in DuPage County.

“Every day the Water Commission strives to be a good steward of our community’s water supply, our most vital resource,” said DuPage Water Commission Chairman Jim Zay. “We are pleased to work with SCARCE and other environmental groups on education, awareness and a continuous program of improvement so that our customers know we are leading the way in best practices as a regional water supplier.”

To earn the Earth and Water Quality Flags, DPWC organized employee training sessions (and received 85 percent attendance) and a GREEN audit of all buildings by SCARCE staff. The Commission also instituted a 13-thousand-gallon rainwater collection system, attended and hosted conservation in action events and installed low-flow plumbing fixtures and water aerators, saving 40 percent of water use in their facilities, among many more initiatives.

SCARCE is an award-winning environmental education nonprofit dedicated to creating sustainable communities. Their Earth Flag award is funded by the DuPage County Environmental Committee and the Water Quality Flag is funded by the DuPage County Stormwater Committee.

To see how the DPWC is “Preserving Every Drop,” see a full list of environmental accomplishments [here](#).

**About DPWC:**

DuPage Water Commission was formed in 1985 and has been serving its customers since 1992. DPWC is committed to providing reliable, quality, responsive, and cost-efficient Lake Michigan water service for existing and future customers as required by, or pursuant to, state statutes in the communities of DuPage County, Illinois.

**About SCARCE:**

Founded in 1990, SCARCE inspires people through environmental education. The nonprofit organization preserves and cares for the Earth’s natural resources while working to build sustainable communities.

Please see the following page for the DuPage County Resolution.

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION  
DUPAGE WATER COMMISSION, ELMHURST, IL

**WHEREAS**, DuPage County adopted the DuPage County Solid Waste Management Plan which includes environmental education activities and leadership in recycling; and

**WHEREAS**, DuPage Water Commission employees completed environmental education training to gain sustainability expertise; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has engaged their employees on the importance of sustainability and shared with them techniques to conserve natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has implemented many significant sustainable practices including reducing their waste stream and improving stormwater water quality with native landscaping, permeable parking areas, integrated pest management, a vegetated roof and green lawn care practices; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has conserved substantial amounts of energy with installation of a white roof, energy saving windows, lighting upgrades and has committed to tracking future energy use which supports the County's Cool DuPage program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has proven a dedication to sustainability by constructing a LEED Silver building and utilizing a fleet management system; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has enhanced their multitude of efforts with the launch of the Preserve Every Drop program and by providing teachers the opportunity to view and learn about the importance of the facility; and

**WHEREAS**, the DuPage County Board recognizes the DuPage Water Commission for its leadership in reducing their impact on the environment and has thereby earned their Earth Flag as a symbol of their accomplishments; and

**WHEREAS**, the DuPage County Board finds the DuPage Water Commission is a valuable member of the County of DuPage and their efforts have improved the quality of life of the DuPage County community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Daniel J. Cronin, Chairman of the DuPage County Board and Members of the County Board do hereby commend the DuPage Water Commission on their exemplary efforts and sustainability accomplishments.

Passed this 17th day of January, 2019 at Wheaton, Illinois.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. Cronin", is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel J. Cronin, Chairman  
DuPage County Board