



Office of the Mayor

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April 10th, 2023

Madison Office
115 E. Capitol Dr. #1
Madison, WI 53702

RE: Support for Wisconsin Stormwater Week

Dear Governor Tony Evers,

Water is a prominent feature for the City of Superior. Seven named streams twist and turn through Superior while the St. Louis River Estuary frames the western, northern, and eastern shorelines of the city. These urban streams serve double duty as naturally occurring aquatic habitats but also as part of the City of Superior's stormwater conveyance system. Eventually all water leaving the city will enter Lake Superior (in Ojibwe, Gichigami, meaning 'a sea, a large lake'), our drinking water source.

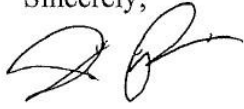
The US Environmental Protection Agency has identified stormwater pollution as the biggest threat to lakes and rivers nationwide. As stormwater flows over the ground, it picks up pollutants in its path, including cigarette butts, road salt, and pet waste. Within the City of Superior, there are over 3,000 storm drains conveying stormwater, untreated in most cases, to the nearest stream. The City of Superior's leadership and stormwater management team work to address these issues daily through water quality programming and outreach.

The City of Superior is collaborating with municipalities, organizations, and agencies across Wisconsin to coordinate Wisconsin Stormwater Week. The main goal of WI Stormwater Week is to engage WI residents in stormwater educational programming to raise awareness about stormwater pollution prevention. Establishing a WI Stormwater Week will increase the understanding of what stormwater is and how it impacts our freshwater sources. The aim is to provide actionable practices for residents to reduce stormwater pollution through local and regional Adopt-a-Storm Drain programs, clean ups, and other backyard practices like rain barrel installations.

The City of Superior would be honored if you would sponsor an official proclamation to recognize August 7th to August 11th as Wisconsin Stormwater Week. Your proclamation is crucial to developing public awareness regarding the important role we all play in keeping our waterways clean and free of pollutants.

We, the City of Superior, fully support the proclamation to designate the second week of August as Wisconsin Stormwater Week to raise awareness about stormwater and protecting Wisconsin's waterways.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Paine', written in a cursive style.

Mayor Jim Paine