



For Immediate Release 9/29/2016

Village of Homewood Public Works  
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## UPDATED: Homewood Prairie Lakes Business Park Sanitary Sewage Intrusion

### UPDATE:

We have found no evidence of a broken sewer or a sanitary sewer connected to a storm sewer causing a cross connection. We believe the problem was caused by someone dumping sanitary water into the storm sewer system thinking that it was a combination-type sewer. As of right now we have had no further incidents at the lake and have remediated the site.

Furthermore, there was no environmental damage to the lake, plants, or wildlife, nor was the Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve affected. We will continue monitoring the site for future sanitary water intrusion.

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In the afternoon of Tuesday, September 28, 2016, the Village of Homewood discovered sanitary sewage in a stormwater retention pond in the Prairie Lakes business park. The pond is at the east side of the business park, directly west of the Kohl's and Walmart stores.

Yesterday Homewood Public Works crews began pumping water from the pond in order to determine the source of the sewage. They have not yet determined the source. Lowering the water level in the pond is preventing the sewage from being released into the adjoining ponds. Walton Lake located in the Izaak Walton Preserve will not be affected. The president of the Izaak Walton Preserve has been notified of the situation.

Because raw sewage is entering into a stormwater drainage system that eventually drains into creeks and other waterways, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has been notified, as is required by law. A representative from the IEPA met onsite with Public Works and determined that appropriate actions are being taken by the Village. Once the source of the sewage is found and the impact to the pond is determined, the Village will consult with the IEPA and take necessary steps to correct the problem and perform remediation if required.