



Program Facts ▶

Our plan to Renew Evansville

The Evansville Water and Sewer Utility (EWSU) is launching the city's largest-ever capital improvement project—Renew Evansville. Estimated to cost \$729 million, Renew Evansville will significantly upgrade Evansville's aging and outdated sewer system in accordance with a state and federal mandate. Under its agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), the Utility has 24.5 years to implement Renew Evansville and comply with the Clean Water Act of 1972.

The plan includes:

- ▶ **Upgrades to existing infrastructure**
- ▶ **Construction of new infrastructure**
- ▶ **Sustainable and "green" infrastructure solutions**
- ▶ **Improved operations and maintenance**

Renew Evansville is primarily funded through customer rate increases. EWSU will pursue low-interest loans and grants to help offset some of the costs. We'll also coordinate planning,

design and construction with several City departments, including those related to sustainability and maintaining streets and sidewalks.

The Clean Water Act of 1972

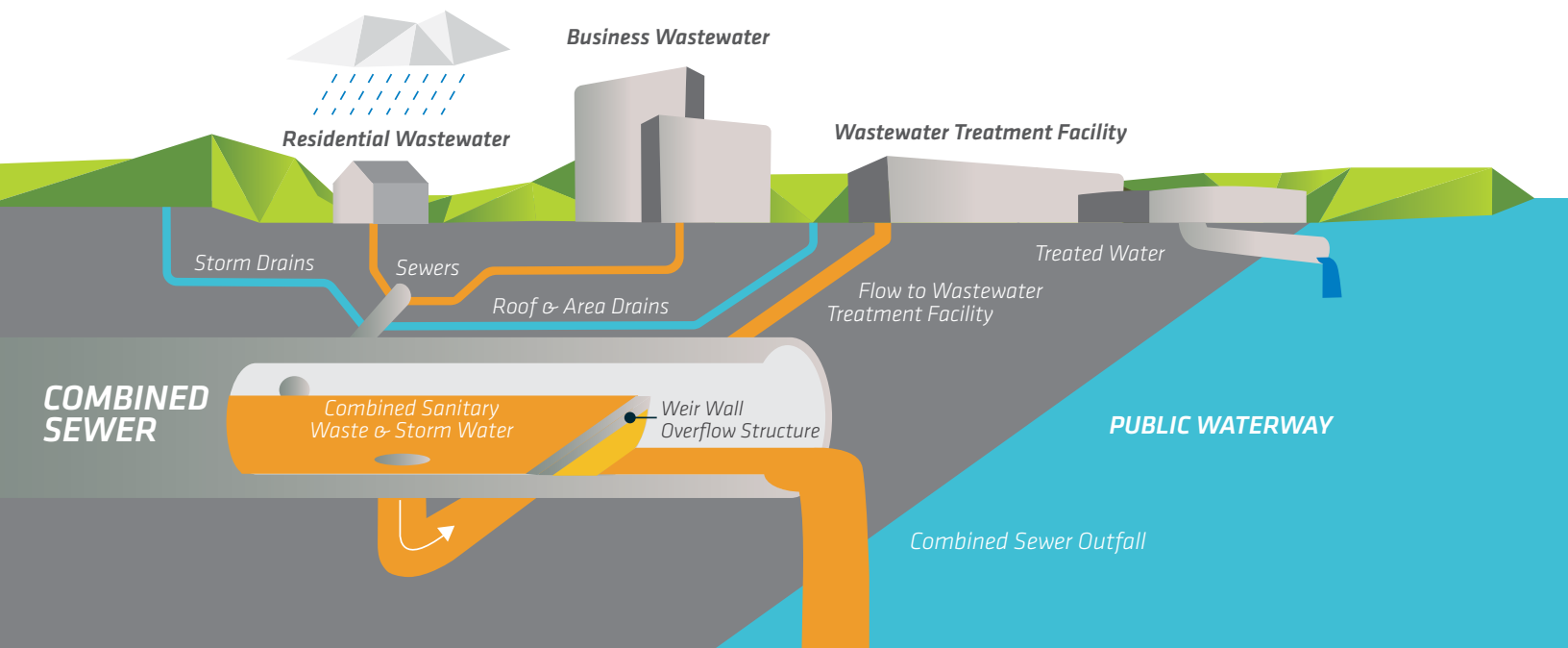
In 1994 the EPA issued the National CSO Policy, which was incorporated into Section 402(a) of the Clean Water Act. The Clean Water Act, enforced by EPA and IDEM, mandates the control of sewer overflows across Indiana. Approximately 10 cities in Indiana, including Evansville, entered into a consent

decree—a binding legal agreement—with the EPA, DOJ and IDEM to comply with the CSO policy. Cities that do not meet the terms of the consent decree face fines and penalties ranging from \$1,000-\$8,000 for each day the terms are not met.

Fixing sewage overflows

Storm water and sewer water combine in sewer pipes throughout Evansville. When the sewer becomes too full due to heavy rains or snowmelt, the sewer pipes can overflow—instances we call Combined Sewer Overflows, or CSOs—and enter the Ohio River and Pigeon Creek. CSOs contain municipal and industrial wastes, floating debris and disease-causing pathogens, and other contaminants.

Evansville currently captures approximately 35 percent of wet-weather flow and averages 50 overflows each year. The planned projects through Renew Evansville will help capture 98 percent of that flow and have no more than four overflows a year, greatly improving the quality of our waterways.





Projects

The breakdown for the \$729 million plan includes:

- \$148** MILLION ▶ to transform Bee Slough into one of the largest wetland treatment systems in the U.S.
- \$54** MILLION ▶ in sanitary sewer overflow abatement, expanding all sanitary sewer capacity to accommodate 10-year storm precipitation levels.
- \$30** MILLION ▶ in projects to separate storm water and sanitary sewer pipes.
- \$175** MILLION ▶ for sewer projects on the west side of Evansville.
- \$71** MILLION ▶ in new downtown underground storage.
- \$122** MILLION ▶ to replace the 7th Avenue lift station.
- \$107** MILLION ▶ in wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) modifications, expanding capacity to 45 million gallons/day for the West WWTP and 40 million gallons/day for the East WWTP.
- \$22** MILLION ▶ in green infrastructure projects designed to reduce the amount of storm water in the combination sewer systems, including projects related to the new hotel and parking garage, the IU medical campus, the streetscape projects around downtown, the Jacobsville Main Street project, the YMCA parking lot, the CK Newsome Learning Garden and projects at local churches.

Impacts to your neighborhood

Clear Path

Under the consent decree, Evansville must inspect and clean all manholes and sewer lines by November 2017. To meet this deadline, the Utility launched the Clear Path initiative in 2015, prompting property owners to

remove obstacles in easements (water and sewer access points). Examples of obstacles include plants, fences, pools and even buildings—which can make these inspections nearly impossible.

Traffic Delays

While traffic will be disrupted during some of the sewer construction for Renew Evansville, EWSU will work

closely with other City departments to make sure traffic restrictions are temporary, and are kept to a minimum.

Downspouts

Some homes have downspouts and sump pumps illegally connected to the sewer system. By disconnecting those downspouts, property owners reduce the amount of storm water in

the combined sewers. This not only reduces overflows—but also helps keep your basement from flooding and saves you from costly fines.

Timeline

<i>November</i>	2010	The consent decree is signed by all parties
<i>June</i>	2011	Federal district court approved the November 2010 consent decree
<i>November</i>	2012	Evansville is granted a six-month extension on its IOCP deadline
<i>May</i>	2013	Evansville submits its final IOCP, outlining a 20-year, \$540 million plan
<i>June</i>	2014	The EPA rejected the plan, providing nine objections for the City and Utility to address
<i>June</i>	2015	Clear Path is launched
<i>February</i>	2016	EPA and EWSU file the Revised Consent Decree in federal court
Summer	2016	Construction is expected to begin
<i>May</i>	2040	Construction will be completed



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