

Public Notice Beginning Date: **June 23, 2020**
Public Notice Ending Date: **July 8, 2020**

Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972

Section 401 Water Quality Certification for Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material

Public Notice Issued By:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water
Permit Section
1021 North Grand Avenue East
Post Office Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
217/782-3362

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has received an application for a Section 401 water quality certification for activities that would result in discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States associated with a federal permit application under Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 received by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Public Notice period will begin and end on the dates indicated in the heading of this Public Notice. The last day comments will be received will be on the Public Notice period ending date unless a commenter demonstrating the need for additional time requests an extension to this comment period and the request is granted by the IEPA. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the project to the IEPA at the above address. Commenters shall provide their names and addresses along with comments on the certification application. Commenters may include a request for public hearing. The certification and notice number(s) must appear on each comment page

Name and Address of Applicant: Urbana Park District – 303 W. University Ave., Urbana, IL 61801

Name of Receiving water: Crystal Lake

Discharge Location: The affected waterbody is located within Urbana in Section 8 of Township 19-North, Range 9-East of the East 3rd P.M. in Champaign County. More specifically, the activity would occur along the lake's shoreline areas that are within Crystal Lake Park that is located at the NW corner of Park Street and Broadway Avenue.

Project Description: The Applicant proposes to conduct shoreline stabilization activities along approximately 1,235 linear feet of Crystal Lake's shoreline to address poorly vegetated, steep and actively eroding banks. The proposed activity would result in the discharge of fill materials including quarried rock to construct a rock toe and construction related sedimentation resulting from rock placement and minor shoreline reshaping activities that would result in a gentler bank profile. The project's goal is to flatten shoreline slopes and replace heavily eroded areas with rock toe shoreline that will reduce active erosion. When construction is complete seed dispersal and native plugs and tree planting will occur in the construction area to promote native vegetation to complement the stone shoreline stabilization. Other activities will occur that involve discharge of dredged or fill material,

such as creation of wetland shelves, construction of a forebay berm, installation of kayak and boat launches and floating wetlands. These activities are covered by an Illinois EPA 401 water quality certification issued for Nationwide Permit 27 and are therefore not addressed by this individual 401 water quality certification review. The entire project is expected to have a construction duration of approximately 6 months.

Identification and Characterization of Receiving Water: The proposed discharge would occur within Crystal Lake, at a point where 0 cfs of flow exists during critical 7Q10 low-flow conditions. The affected water is an isolated ox-bow lake, adjacent to the Saline Branch of the Vermilion River and is identified as waterbody segment IL_RBU on the draft 2016 Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List. The receiving water is classified as a General Use Water. The receiving water is listed on the draft 2016 Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List as impaired for Fish Consumption because of Mercury. The receiving water is not listed as a biologically significant stream in the 2008 Illinois Department of Natural Resources Publication *Integrating Multiple Taxa in a Biological Stream Rating System*, nor is it given an integrity rating in that document. The receiving water is not subject to enhanced dissolved oxygen standards.

Agency Conclusion regarding Antidegradation:

The Agency finds that this activity has no potential to adversely impact designated uses of the water body associated with the project as detailed under 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105(a). The water body has not been designated as an Outstanding Resource Water under 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105(b). The Antidegradation provision affecting High Quality waters in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105(c) are met given that all existing uses will be maintained, and all water quality standards will be met. The nature of any additional loading of pollutants will be temporary, therefore, pursuant to Subsection (b) of 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105, no further review is necessary and no Antidegradation assessment according to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105(f) is warranted.

The application, comments received, and other documents are available for inspection and may be copied at the IEPA at the address shown above between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday when scheduled by the interested person.

If written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in the certification application, the IEPA may, at its discretion, hold a public hearing. Public notice will be given 30 days before any public hearing. If a Section 401 water quality certification is issued, response to relevant comments will be provided at the time of the certification. For further information, please contact Darren Gove at email darren.gove@illinois.gov or phone no. 217/782-3362.