



# VILLAGE OF WINNETKA PRESS RELEASE

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**Contact:**

Megan Pierce  
Assistant to the Village Manager  
847-716-3543  
[mpierce@winnetka.org](mailto:mpierce@winnetka.org)

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Winnetka Stormwater Management Program Winnetka Avenue Pump Station Project Completed**



In July, 2013, the Village Council authorized bidding for improvements to the Winnetka Avenue Pump Station. The existing Station, located where a ditch on Cook County Forest Preserve property enters the Skokie River, was constructed in 1995. It provides drainage for over 900 acres in the Village and allows the Village to pump out flood waters that occur when the Skokie River is higher than the ditch. The Village engaged consulting engineer Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) to design improvements that would increase the capacity of the Pump Station, thereby improving flow in upstream storm sewers.

The project was awarded to Boller Construction Company in September for \$1,038,300. Work began over the winter, and despite harsh weather conditions, work progressed fairly steadily. Construction was coordinated so that at least two of the Station's four pumps would remain operational at all times, in case of a large rain event.

New pumps increase the Station's pumping capacity from approximately 40,000 gallons per minute to 60,000 gallons per minute. CBBEL also designed new intake structures and an automatic cleaning system that will remove debris from intake grates. Most notably, passers-by will notice the new intake grates (pictured here) which rise above ground surface. This improvement will also make the Station more reliable, which will release manpower to other operations during flood events. All four pumps were installed in July and testing is being completed in August.

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