

The Galesburg Sanitary District owns and operates the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) that services all of Galesburg and the Village of East Galesburg. This Plant, with original construction begun in 1930, safely and effectively treats all sanitary wastewater generated by the communities and discharges clean water back to the environment and efficiently disposes of the treated biosolids, often used as fertilizer on nearby farm fields. The original WWTP was enlarged to handle greater capacity in 1970, and these Plants have operated continuously since.

Beginning with an exhaustive Facilities Plan in 2018, conducted by the engineering firm of Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Springfield Illinois, the Galesburg Sanitary District has embarked on a total replacement of all WWTP infrastructure, owing to both age-related failing structures and facilities, as well as an ever-changing Regulatory environment. 1930 / 1970 design, treatment and disposal standards are being strengthened, requiring higher levels of treatment to meet more stringent discharge standards.

Construction of these new facilities, which began in the Fall of 2021, has been undertaken in phases. The first phase saw the construction of new ultraviolet disinfection facilities as well as biosolids handling, dewatering and storage facilities. The second phase provided for the construction of activated sludge tanks configured for biological nutrient removal, secondary clarifiers, a flow measurement structure, various appurtenances and buildings for future chemical feed and blowers. This phase was completed in the Fall of 2025. The third phase of construction was started in the Summer of 2025 and includes rehabilitation of the 1990's-era bar screen, a new headworks building to include fine screens, grit removal, influent raw sewage pumps and flow measurement, primary clarifiers and primary sludge fermenter, plus all equipment that was not procured as a part of the second phase project. Additionally, a new Operations building and a new Shop / storage building will be added as a part of this project. When complete, this phase will see a new WWTP become operational. A final phase will be undertaken which will construct facilities for septage receiving, waste sludge thickening and sidestream processing, as well as demolition of the 1930 and 1970 facilities and all final paving.

These projects would not be possible without and were financed through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF). The SRF program is administered by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency which receives a portion of its money to fund these types of projects from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. SRF programs operate in each State to provide communities the resources necessary to build, maintain and improve the infrastructure that protects one of our most valuable resources: water. Since its incorporation in 1924, the Galesburg Sanitary District has been dedicated to preserving the quality of life for area residents and preserving the quality of the environment of which we are a part.



Illinois Environmental
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