

# Fontenelle Park: Pond Expansion and Sewer Separation Project



The Fontenelle Park Project is one of a series of projects in the Minne Lusa Basin intended to remove and/or control flows in the Combined Sewer System (CSS) and reduce the frequency, magnitude and duration of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs).

## This project will:

- Expand the size and storage capacity of the existing Fontenelle Pond,
- Separate portions of the upstream drainage basins to direct additional stormwater for detention in Fontenelle Pond,
- Provide additional storage capacity. Stormwater flow rates and volumes will be reduced in the downstream combined sewer system,
- Reduce the size and cost of downstream facilities,
- Reduce overflows to the Missouri River.

## By partnering with Omaha Parks Department for this project:

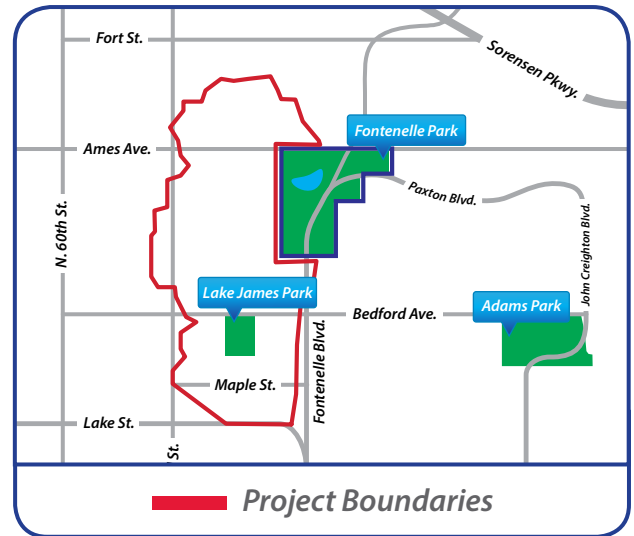
- The pond will be improved by expansion,
- Water quality of the pond will be improved,
- The additional depth of the pond will support fish

## Phase 1 Timeline: Construction began in February 2017

- The pond has been drained and excavated
- Additional sewer construction and structures to control trash will be installed
- Water quality within the park will be improved

## Phase 2 Timeline: Construction begins Spring 2018

- Fontenelle Park Sewer Separation to south, west and north will connect to facilities constructed in Phase 1
- The pond will be refilled by stormwater
- Landscaping will be completed



# A Water Quality Improvement Program

**Omaha is a national leader among the more than 772 cities who have an unfunded, federal mandate to improve the water quality in their rivers and streams.** In 2006, the Clean Solutions for Omaha (CSO) Program was initiated to study and plan changes required by 2025 under the Federal Clean Water Act. In 2014, the timeline was extended to 2027 because of the Missouri River Flood.

## Improved Water Quality Has Benefits

While the challenges facing the CSO Program are significant, there are also benefits. Many of the projects offer opportunities to improve and enhance neighborhoods. Where streets and curbs are removed for construction, new streets, curbs, handicap ramps and driveway approaches will be built. Where trees are removed, new trees or other plants will replace them. Green infrastructure options such as bioswales, rain gardens or the creation and expansion of ponds for water retention all add beauty and recreation to some of the projects.

## Funding the Program

The CSO Program is funded through sewer fees which will increase throughout the life of the program. The program will be financed primarily with 30-year revenue bonds issued in periodic increments as approved by the Mayor and City Council. Sewer fees will be used to pay off the bonds, with 60 percent coming from Residential customers, 30 percent from Industrial and commercial users, and 10 percent from regional customers who use the City's sewer services.

Calculate your estimated sewer fees on the Omaha CSO website:  
[www.omahacso.com/funding/rates](http://www.omahacso.com/funding/rates)

## Ratepayer Assistance Program

The CSO Program recognized that increased rates could be a hardship for some residents, so the City took a proactive role in finding a solution and created an assistance option for fixed and low income residents which was implemented in 2011. Residents will qualify for this assistance if they are receiving low income energy assistance (LIHEAP) from the State of Nebraska.

Get assistance on the Ratepayer Assistance Program by calling the CSO Hotline:  
**402-341-0235**

## Job Creation: Local Labor and Materials

The City and the CSO Program actively encourage the use of local labor along with locally purchased or locally available materials. Through the Small and Emerging Business program of the City, businesses of many sizes have the opportunity to work on contracts or to bid on projects for their company. Over the course of the 18-year CSO Program, it is anticipated that over 2000 existing and new jobs will be part of the workforce.

Get more information about Small and Emerging Business opportunities:  
**402-444-5055**

