

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

JUL 01 2009

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

PC#224

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I really think that pollution in the lake and river or any water body is driving sea creatures wild with all of this junk in there. You see, my class, teachers, and I recently took tests for the river. Most of our test results were basically bad results under 3 or 4. The main teacher of the trip said numbers under 3 or 4 were like grades C or a D. The nature of the water is in grave danger, so please do something about or else your name will not make any sense. For crying out loud, you are the Illinois Pollution Control Board (I.P.C.B). So please just do something about this madness.

I could not imagine living in a world where water everywhere was polluted, because going to begin to live in one. You see, the first field trip that we went on this year, was the river to do some testing because one of our teachers told us what was going wrong. After our first field trip, the water testing results were below 3 which meant it was similar to a grade C or D. Just some pollution in the water can cause a new species to be born to come out with a problem. Since you are a pollution control board, I say you should at least make a net that is capable of holding enough oxygen underneath but hold all the garbage on top.

All I am trying to say here is that you people are professionals and you should know what you are doing with these rivers. I want to grow up with memories of the rivers near my area, but clean rivers. On the news, reporters have, well, been reporting that pollution under the water is a little more serious than pollution up in our atmosphere.

So, my opinion on pollution is that we should come up with a new era of technology that is efficient and healthy for the economy. At the same time, we need to improve the environment for the species here on our Earth.

As the future comes closer and closer to our lives, we need an answer, a solution to pollution.

Sincerely,
A student caring for Earth,
Enrique Escalante

PC# 225

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Dear IL State Pollution Control Board,

Hi I'm Megan and my school (Waters) did a test on the water in the Chicago River! Let's just say if the river was a student in a school it would get and D---! I know that's a very poor score and we need to improve it! I think that we need to help save the Chicago River before it's too late and my class and ecology teacher Mr. Leki agrees! Imagine nice clean rivers were there are blue herons, good fish, and night time animals like raccoons, possums, and foxes! Because all I see when I go are ducks and geese! But we can't fix it on our own and we can't fix it completely! The problem I think is too much to handle for any one but if we can make I difference in any way, I would have to ask you the fallowing questions!

If you would be so grateful to in some way help us to save the Chicago River like maybe sending some kind of volunteer help for when we go to the Chicago river or send some letters of advice to us so we can help the river! That would be greatly appreciated! But I also have some questions of concern of the river.

I wanted to know what you are doing to help our river. If you are even doing anything, I wanted to know in detail what? I hope you will get back to me because it is also your responsibility to help us and the river! Why does the river look so dirty? Because last time I checked you were the pollution control board! So why is it the river like that? Please tell me and write me what are you doing because my class and my school test the water. Help the river and the Chicago environment! You are part to the Pollution Control Board. Please help.

Sincerely,

Megan Turner

Pct#226

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Dear Illinois State Pollution Control Board,

I am 12 years old and a student at Thomas J. Waters Elementary school. Lately, we have been visiting the Chicago River and doing tests to see how our river is doing. During our trips we write about the river what we see, and what we smell. After we finish writing we sit in a circle by the river and we do the tests. Once we finish with the test we go and look for life in rocks with our environment teacher Mr. Leki. We leave and then wait days to see the results. Today, our teacher Mr. Leki told us the results in all the tests that we did the river got a grade of C+. In the bug tests the river got a grade of D. As you can tell these results are very bad, because of this all of the life in the river is dying out. Soon, all the animal life from the river will be extinct. Then, the river will be forbidden from entering and people won't be able to do the things they like to do most. For example, people won't be able to go fishing, or sit and enjoy the peaceful quietness of the river. No animals would be allowed to roam the roads and they wouldn't be able to play with children on the field.

Another huge problem that causes pollution in the river is chemicals from dishwasher soap. Dishwasher soap is used to wash dishes then it is accidentally dumped into the river, which harms plant life and animal life. Even though it's against the law people still "accidentally" dump it in, the soap attacks the oxygen and soon there is little or no oxygen left. This causes animals to die and soon we won't be able to feed ducks, look at ducklings, and we won't be able to enjoy the sounds that they make. PLEASE HELP US!!!!

Sincerely,

Annette Aragon

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board,

10/27/09

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

You may not know me, I am Antonio Gamez. My class room 303 from Thomas j Waters recently visited the Chicago River, to make some important tests with the water. Our results didn't change much from our last trip, but still the results are pretty bad. Is there anything you can do to fix this enormous problem? Is there any way you could help to clean our river? Native species and plants are being killed off painfully every day, due to the fact that the river is immensely contaminated. I do realize that cleaning the river would take a great amount of efforts, but that is precisely what we need ; strong leaders.

You don't even have to think about the Environment if you don't want to, you don't even have to think about the river itself if you don't wish to do so. Think about the community around you, children and adults alike. Day by day they are victims of this horrible act. For goodness sake, we practically get our *drinking* water from here! Is it even healthy to pollute the river and environment this way? I'm really not sure, but I am sure of one thing: it is not too late to fix our river. And it is up to us to do the job, for NO ONE will do the job for us. Let's not think what the earth can do for us, let's think about what WE can do for the earth. And I am sure you agree with this as well, we can give the earth something much better that this don't *you* think? I mean, think for a second, do you realize that it is our own *home* we're talking about here? Wouldn't you love to keep it clean? We can start a change by helping the river; we should start by helping ourselves.

Sincerely,

Antonio Gamez

Dear Illinois State Pollution Center Board,

PC# 228
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JUL 01 2009

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Hello I am Aliah of Thomas J. Waters Elementary School. Here at Waters we take pride in our Chicago River. We have gone on multiple trips to the Chicago River. While we visited the river we studied aqua life in the water and taken several tests on the river water. Some of the tests include the Dissolved Oxygen test and other tests like the tests for Phosphates and Nitrates. While doing these tests and some others we discovered that there was human waste in the waters like hair and trash. This shows that the water is being cleansed but not cleansed enough. This means we are not doing something because if every other state can keep their water clean than so can we. If we have to add another process to the water cleaning system then so be it. Never in my lifetime have I seen a state were they had to separate the river from other water sources with series of humongous gates because it was so filthy. It is shameful and embarrassing I'm sure we can do better. All we need is a couple of great thinkers, some money and brainstorm. I already have one idea we could use. I noticed that people like to hang around the Chicago River Park. It's a nice place to go fishing and play soccer. I also noticed there weren't any garbage cans around the park area making the river a convenient place to dump. Well I have a solution and it revolves around some trash bins. All we have to do is buy maybe five trash cans for the park. One by the play ground, two by the field and three along the path of the river (not to close to the water☺). Then there is a more convenient place to dump and it's not in the river. Right know your probably thinking just because we set down some garbage cans does not mean people will still put garbage in the bins. So I have another plan, we make a fine for anyone who litters from 100-300 \$ it doesn't matter you decide just as long as it shies people away from the idea of littering. I also think that we should add another step to the water cleansing process because who ever is cleaning it needs to clean it more. Every time I visit the Chicago River I always want to swim in it or dip my feet in it, but I can't because I'm told it is to dirty and filled with chemicals. We as a community have made a mess of the Chicago River and we as a community will fix it instead of trying to ignore it.

Sincerely,
Aliah

PC#229

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JUL 01 2009
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Max Michaels
Waters school
4540 n. Campbell
Chicago, IL 60625
5/28/09

Dear Illinois Pollution Control Board

I, Max Michaels am sad to say the tests we ran on our great Chicago River have all been low. If the river was a student in school they would be stuck in summer school big time. I think you should add in sponges to cleanse our water next to our ways of cleaning the water I hope we can find a way to clean our water that dose not harm our planet.

There is always adding in more facilities that will clean the water in safe ways. Maybe start a research fund for researching ways to clean our water with out harming it. The water treatment plants that could be built could also be used to make energy while is moving through. It could open a whole new world for making energy for homes. The plants could be environment friendly with solar panels and wind turbines and the third from of energy water. The excess power could be stored and donated to people how can barely pay their energy bills. We don't need just one of these plants we need at least 5 of them and they can't pollute at all no waste coming out of the plants.

No garbage at all just recycling nothing else but clean energy and fresh water and we can't just mix it back in with the dirty water we need to block of the water coming in with the water coming out so we don't mix the water and get the same results that we had before that's the big mistake we are doing right now. When we dump the treated water back into the river that we are treating it mixes and then becomes dirty water once more. We need to fix what we have done. It's our fault we are living in a dieing planet we need to save it before its gone forever. Please take my letter in consideration. Deep deep consideration.

Sincerely,
Max Michaels