

July 13, 2011

John Therriault, Chief Clerk
Clerks Office
Attention Docket #R2008-09
Illinois Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph, Suite 11-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE

JUL 14 2011

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

PC#1060 ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Therriault,

My name is Linda Schroyer and I have lived in Chicago since the 1970s. I have seen many changes and have watched in awe at the wonders that the City of Chicago is able to perform. I am proud to be a Chicago citizen, and would like to contribute to the future of this great City by addressing a growing problem.

As an avid scuba diver, I am especially aware of the waters in and around Chicago with their rhythmic changes through the seasons and decades. There have been high points and low points with the waters of Chicago, and I believe we need to learn from its history to make it cleaner in the future. While the "zebra mussel" phase of Lake Michigan I am sure is a sore subject from the Administration point of view, from a diver's point of view it was a wonderful high point. The zebra mussels certainly cleaned up Lake Michigan. Suddenly, we could see for miles down there! We found new wrecked planes to dive, enjoyed crayfish races and investigated new territory we would never have been able to discover had Lake Michigan stayed in its murky, low visibility state.

I think the Chicago River would benefit from the zebra mussels. Now that we know what the problems are with them, we can create a structured strategy using them to our benefit that will be low cost and high ROI. Placing the zebra mussels in specially built containers for their colonies to multiply in, we can put these containers exactly where we need the zebra mussels to clean up the water and move them from site to site along the River. This would accomplish our goal of cleaning up the Chicago River probably within a year - the trick is to simply make the zebra mussels part of the solution and not the problem. There are several groups which can be tapped to assist in the maintenance and monitoring of the zebra mussels - The Sierra Club and Friends of the Chicago River, to name a few. I would love to offer my services as well. Please contact me should you want to discuss this matter further.

Thank you.
Linda Schroyer
839 South Laflin Street
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-243-7828



Zebra mussel

The **zebra mussel**, *Dreissena polymorpha*, is a small [freshwater mussel](#). This species was originally native to the lakes of southeast [Russia](#)^[1] being first described in 1769 by a German zoologist [Peter Simon Pallas](#) in the [Ural](#), [Volga](#) and [Dnieper](#) rivers. They are still found nearby, as [Pontic](#) (Black Sea) and [Caspian](#) (Caspian Sea) species.^[2] However, it has been accidentally [introduced](#) in many other areas, and has become an [invasive species](#) in many different countries worldwide.

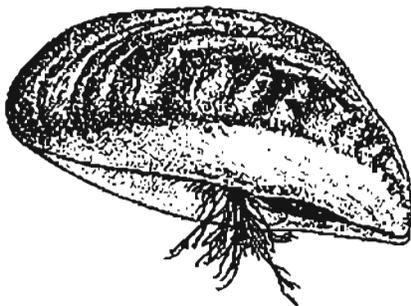
Zebra mussels superficially resemble marine mussels in the family [Mytilidae](#), and like them, are attached to solid substrates with a [byssus](#). However, zebra mussels are not at all closely related to the mytilids; they are much more closely related to the [Veneridae](#), the [Venus](#) clams.

Zebra mussels get their name from a striped pattern which is commonly seen on their shells, though not all shells bear this pattern. They are usually about the size of a fingernail, but can grow to a maximum length of nearly 2 in (5.1 cm).^[3] The shape of the shell is also somewhat variable.

Zebra mussels and other non-native species are credited with the increased population and size of [smallmouth bass](#) in Lake Erie^[21] and [yellow perch](#) in [Lake St. Clair](#).^[22] They cleanse the waters of inland lakes, resulting in increased sunlight penetration and growth of native [algae](#) at greater depths. This cleansing also increases water visibility and filters out pollutants. Each quagga and zebra mussel filters about 1 US quart (0.95 l) of water a day when confined to small tanks.^[23] In lakes, their filtering effects are usually spatially restricted (near the lake bottom) due to non-homogeneous [water column](#) mixing.

Recent research has found that zebra mussels don't attach to [cupronickel](#) alloys (60% copper and 40% nickel) which can be used to coat intake and discharge grates, navigational buoys, boats, motors and so on, where the species tend to congregate.^[14]

Anatomy



 Drawing of zebra mussel, showing the [byssus](#)

Zebra mussels are relatively small, with adults ranging from 0.25 to 1.5 in (0.63 to 3.8 cm) long.^[4] They have tiny stripes down their shells. Zebra Mussels have a D-shaped shell. They attach to things with 'strings', [byssal](#) threads, which come out of their [umbo](#) on the dorsal (hinged) side. Removal of the mussel is therefore difficult.

Ecology



Three color varieties of the shell of the zebra mussel



Close-up of a typical shell of a zebra mussel

Zebra mussels and the closely related and ecologically similar [quagga mussels](#) are [filter-feeding](#) organisms. They remove particles from the [water column](#). Some particles are consumed as [food](#), and [feces](#) are deposited on the lake floor. Non-food particles are combined with [mucus](#) and other matter and deposited on lake floors as [pseudofeces](#).

Lake floor food supplies are enriched by zebra mussels as they filter pollution out of the water. This biomass becomes available to bottom feeding species and to the fish that feed on them.^[5] The catch of [yellow perch](#) increased 5 fold after the introduction of zebra mussels into [Lake St. Clair](#).^[6]

Zebra mussels attach to most [substrates](#) including sand, [silt](#), and harder substrates. Other mussel species frequently represent the most stable objects in silty substrates, and zebra mussels attach to, and often kill these mussels.^[citation needed] This has eliminated many native mussel species from affected lakes in North America.^[citation needed] This pattern is being repeated in Ireland where zebra mussels have eliminated the two [freshwater](#) mussels from several waterways, including some lakes along the [River Shannon](#).^[citation needed]

Life cycle

The life span of a zebra mussel is four to five years.^[7] A female zebra mussel begins to reproduce within 6-7 weeks of settling. (see Borcharding, J. (1991): The annual reproductive cycle of the freshwater mussel *Dreissena polymorpha* Pallas in lakes. *Oecologia* 87: 208-218) *Oecologia* 87:208-218. In terms of reproduction, zebra mussels are among the most prolific of all animals. An adult female zebra mussel may produce between 30,000 and one million eggs per year.^[8]^[not specific enough to verify] [Spawning](#) usually begins in the months from late spring to early summer by free-swimming larvae ([veligers](#)), which are microscopic in size, thus invisible to the naked human eye. About two to five percent of zebra mussels reach adulthood.

Predators

There are a number of natural predators of zebra mussel. Zebra mussels have high nutritional value (Walz, 1979^[not specific enough to verify]) and are consumed in large quantities by [crayfish](#), [waterfowl](#) and in smaller quantities by [muskrats](#).

Crayfish could have a significant impact on the densities of 1 to 5 mm long zebra mussels. An adult crayfish consumes an average of nearly 105 zebra mussels every day, or about 6000 mussels in a season. Predation rates are significantly reduced at cooler water temperatures.

Several species of fish consume zebra mussels. Of these, [roach](#) seems to have the most significant impact on mussel densities. In some Polish lakes the diet of the roach consists almost exclusively (~95%) of zebra mussels (Stanczykowska, 1957^[not specific enough to verify]). Despite all this, it seems that fish do not limit the densities of zebra mussels in European lakes. [Smallmouth bass](#) are a predator in the zebra mussels' adopted North American [Great Lakes habitat](#).^[9]

As an invasive species



Sign advising boaters on how to prevent zebra mussel spread on [Titicus Reservoir in North Salem, New York](#)

The native distribution of the species is in the [Black Sea](#) and [Caspian Sea](#) in [Eurasia](#). Zebra mussels have become an [invasive species](#) in [North America](#), [Great Britain](#), [Ireland](#), [Italy](#), [Spain](#), and [Sweden](#). They disrupt the ecosystems by [monotypic colonization](#), and damage harbors and waterways, ships and boats, and water treatment and power plants. Water treatment plants are most impacted because the water intakes bring the microscopic free-swimming larvae directly into the facilities.

Grossinger reported it in [Hungary](#) in 1794. Kerney and Morton described the rapid colonization of Britain by the zebra mussel, first in [Cambridgeshire](#) in the 1820s, London in 1824, and in the [Union Canal](#) near [Edinburgh](#) in 1834.^[9] In 1827 zebra mussels were seen in the [Netherlands](#) at [Rotterdam](#). Canals that artificially link many European waterways facilitated their early dispersal. It is non-indigenous in the [Czech Republic](#) in [Elbe river](#) in [Bohemia](#) since 1893;^[10] in southern Moravia is probably native.^[11] Around 1920 the mussels reached Lake [Mälaren](#) in [Sweden](#).

The first Italian appearance of the organism was in northern [Italy](#) in [Lake Garda](#) in 1973;^[12] in central Italy they appeared in [Tuscany](#) in 2003.^[13]

Zebra mussels are also present in [Cardiff Bay](#) in Wales, in great quantities. The local government is very concerned about how easily they have spread to other freshwater bodies in [Wales](#) and it is believed that the spread will continue.

North American invasion

In the U.S. and Canada, they were first detected in the [Great Lakes](#) in 1988, in [Lake St. Clair](#), located between [Detroit, Michigan](#), and [Windsor, Ontario](#).^[14] It is believed they were inadvertently introduced into the lakes in the [ballast](#) water of ocean-going ships traversing the [St. Lawrence Seaway](#). Another possible often neglected mode of introduction is on anchors and chains, although this has not been proven. Since adult zebra mussels can survive out of water for several days or weeks if the temperature is low and humidity is high, chain lockers provide temporary refuge for clusters of adult mussels that could easily be released when transoceanic ships drop anchor in freshwater ports. They have become an [invasive species](#) in North America, and as such they are the target of Federal policy to control them, for instance in the [National Invasive Species Act \(1996\)](#).

By Location

From their first appearance in American waters in 1988, zebra mussels have spread to a large number of waterways, including [Lake Simcoe](#) the Great Lakes region and the [Mississippi](#), [Hudson](#), [St. Lawrence](#), [Ohio](#), [Cumberland](#), [Missouri](#), [Tennessee](#), [Colorado](#), and [Arkansas](#) Rivers. Today the invasion continues, for instance in 2009, The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation confirmed that zebra mussels had been found in Laurel Lake in the Berkshires.^[15] That same year the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources announced that live zebra mussels have been found in [Pelican Lake, Minnesota](#). This was the first confirmed sighting in the [Red River Basin](#), which extends across the international border into the province of Manitoba.^[16] In July, 2010, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department confirmed the presence of zebra mussel veliger in the Red River between Wahpeton, N.D. and Breckenridge, Minnesota.^[17] As recently as 2010 California similarly reported invasions.^[18]

A common inference made by scientists predicts that the zebra mussel will continue spreading passively, by ship and by pleasure craft, to more rivers in North America. Trailered boat traffic is the most likely vector for invasion into [Western North America](#). This spread is preventable if boaters thoroughly clean and dry their boats and associated equipment before transporting them to new bodies of water. Since no North American predator or combination of predators has been shown to significantly reduce zebra mussel numbers,^[citation needed] such spread would most likely result in permanent establishment of zebra mussels in many North American [waterways](#).

Cost

The cost of fighting the pests at power plants and other water-consuming facilities is substantial, but the exact magnitude of the damage is a matter of some controversy. According to the Center for Invasive Species Research at the University of California, Riverside,^[14] the cost of management of Zebra mussel in the Great Lakes alone exceeds \$500 million a year. A more conservative study estimated total economic costs of \$267 million for electric generation and water treatment facilities in the entire United States from 1989 through 2004.^[19]

Effects of zebra mussels



Zebra mussel infestation on the walls of Arthur V. Ormond Lock on the Arkansas River



Zebra mussel-encrusted Vector Averaging Current Meter from Lake Michigan

Zebra mussels are [filter feeders](#). When in the water, they open their shells to admit [detritus](#).

Zebra mussels are a great nuisance to people. Since [colonization](#) of the [Great Lakes](#), they have covered the undersides of docks, boats, and anchors. They have also spread into streams and rivers nationwide. In some areas they completely cover the [substrate](#), sometimes covering other freshwater mussels. They can grow so densely that they block pipelines, clogging water intakes of municipal water supplies and [hydroelectric](#) companies.

As their shells are very sharp, they are known for cutting people's feet, resulting in the need to wear [water shoes](#).

Zebra mussels are also believed to be the source of deadly [avian botulism](#) poisoning that has killed tens of thousands of birds in the Great Lakes since the late 1990s.^[20]

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2. ^ (Slovak) Lisický M. J. 1991. *Mollusca Slovenska* [The Slovak molluscs]. VEDA vydavateľstvo Slovenskej akadémie vied, Bratislava, 344 pp.
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5. ^ Garton, D. W.; Berg, D. J.; Stoeckmann, A. M.; Hagg, W. R. (1993). *Biology of recent invertebrate invading species in the Great Lakes: The spiny water flea, Bythotrephes cederstroemi, and the zebra mussel, Dreissena polymorpha*. (in B. N. McKnight editor. Biological pollution: The control and impact of invasive exotic species. ed.). Indianapolis, Indiana.: Indiana Academy of Science.. pp. 63-84
6. ^ Saggoff, M. (Accessed July 2007) (^{[dead link](#)}). [What's Wrong with Exotic Species?](http://www.puaf.umd.edu/IPPP/fall1999/exotic_species.htm). College Park, Maryland: Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy, Maryland School of Public Affairs. http://www.puaf.umd.edu/IPPP/fall1999/exotic_species.htm
7. ^ Amy Benson (2009-12-22). ["Zebra mussel FAQs"](http://fl.biology.usgs.gov/Nonindigenous_Species/Zebra_mussel_FAQs/zebra_mussel_faqs.html). Fl.biology.usgs.gov. http://fl.biology.usgs.gov/Nonindigenous_Species/Zebra_mussel_FAQs/zebra_mussel_faqs.html. Retrieved 2010-06-29.
8. ^ /nationalatlas.gov
9. ^ ^{[a](#)} ^{[b](#)} Mackie, G; Gibbons, W; Muncaster, B; Gray, I (1989). *The Zebra Mussel, Dreissena polymorpha: A synthesis of European Experiences and a preview for North America*. Ontario Ministry of Environment
10. ^ Blažka, F. (1893). "Do Čech zavlečená slávka: *Dreissena polymorpha* Pall" (in Czech). *Vesmír* **22** (15): 177–178.
11. ^ (Czech) Horsák M., Juříčková L., Beran L., Čejka T. & Dvořák L. (2010). "Komentovaný seznam měkkýšů zjištěných ve volné přírodě České a Slovenské republiky. [Annotated list of mollusc species recorded outdoors in the Czech and Slovak Republics]". *Malacologica Bohemoslovaca*, Suppl. 1: 1-37. [PDF](#).
12. ^ "Dreissena polymorpha (Pallas) nuovamente in Italia. (Bivalvia, Dreissenidae)" (in Italian). *Mem Mus Civ St Nat Verona* **20**: 45–49. 1973.
13. ^ ["New records of Dreissena polymorpha \(Pallas, 1771\) \(Mollusca: Bivalvia: Dreissenidae\) from Central Italy"](http://www.aquaticinvasions.ru/2006/AI_2006_1_4_Lori_Cianfanelli.pdf). *Aquatic Invasions* **1** (4): 281–283. 2006. doi:10.3391/ai.2006.1.4.11. http://www.aquaticinvasions.ru/2006/AI_2006_1_4_Lori_Cianfanelli.pdf.
14. ^ ^{[a](#)} ^{[b](#)} ^{[c](#)} ["Zebra Mussels Overwhelm U.S. Waterways in the Great Lakes Region and Beyond - Copper Screens and Coatings Provide a Solution to this \\$500 million Problem"](http://www.webcitation.org/5x9UPINSt). Copper Development Association. 2009-07-30. Archived from [the original](#) on 2011-03-13. <http://www.webcitation.org/5x9UPINSt>.
15. ^ ["2 Mass. towns start fight against zebra mussel"](http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/200907132_mass_towns_start_fight_against_zebra_mussel/srvc=home&position=recent). *Boston Herald*. 2009-07-13. http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/200907132_mass_towns_start_fight_against_zebra_mussel/srvc=home&position=recent
16. ^ MN Department of Natural Resources (2009-09-17). ["Zebra mussels found in Pelican Lake in Otter Tail County"](http://news.dnr.state.mn.us/index.php/2009/09/17/zebra-mussels-found-in-pelican-lake-in-otter-tail-county/#more-43227). Press release. <http://news.dnr.state.mn.us/index.php/2009/09/17/zebra-mussels-found-in-pelican-lake-in-otter-tail-county/#more-43227>. Retrieved 2009-09-18.
17. ^ ND Game and Fish Department (2010-07-01). ["Zebra Mussel Discovered in North Dakota"](http://gf.nd.gov/multimedia/news/2010/07/100701.html). Press release. <http://gf.nd.gov/multimedia/news/2010/07/100701.html>. Retrieved 2010-07-02.
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19. ^ ["Economic impacts of zebra mussels on drinking water treatment and electric power generation facilities"](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17530329). 2007-05-24. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17530329>.
20. ^ Janega, James (2008-01-15). ["Botulism takes fatal toll on thousands of Great Lakes birds"](http://www.webcitation.org/5xiuS7cmi). *Chicago Tribune*. Archived from [the original](#) on 2011-04-05. <http://www.webcitation.org/5xiuS7cmi>. Retrieved 2011-04-05.

21. ^ "Report at ESPN Sports". Sports.espn.go.com. 2005-03-16.
http://sports.espn.go.com/outdoors/bassmaster/news/story?page=tourn_03_north_open_NY_erie_preview. Retrieved 2010-06-29.
22. ^ [Exotic species](#) at PUAFA.
23. ^ "Great Lakes: 'Amazing change'".
<http://michigantoday.umich.edu/2009/07/story.php?id=7510&tr=y&auid=5077806>.

Zebra mussel



Live zebra mussels underwater with shells open, animals respiring, siphons visible.

Scientific classification

Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Mollusca
Class:	Bivalvia
Subclass:	Heterodonta
Order:	Veneroida
Superfamily:	Dreissenoidea
Family:	Dreissenidae
Genus:	Dreissena

Species: *D. polymorpha*

Binomial name

Dreissena polymorpha

Pallas, 1771

From: Catherine Vidal <vidal50@yahoo.com>
To: <therriaj@ipcb.state.il.us>
Date: 7/18/2011 2:13 PM
Subject: Protect Chicago River from Dirty Sewage

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
JUL 20 2011
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Jul 18, 2011

Mr. John Therriault
100 West Randolph St., Ste 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. Therriault,

As a supporter of American Rivers, I am writing to ask you to kill the pathogens that are contained in the sewage released into the Chicago River every day.

Directly connected to the toilets of Cook County, more than 70 percent of the water in the river is from MWRD plants, and while it receives basic treatment, pathogens remain from human sewage that can harm the thousands of people who use the river. These microorganisms are of particular concern for some special populations, like kids, who have a higher risk of contracting a waterborne illness and have no way of knowing what is in the water. Due to this pollution concern, American Rivers has named the Chicago River one of America's Most Endangered Rivers™ of 2011.

The Chicago River has become a true community resource with all kinds of wildlife, new riverfront parks, residential communities, restaurants, and businesses that are dependent on a healthy river. As a region we have spent billions of dollars to clean up the river, but we have not finished the job.

As you know, the U.S. EPA has recently notified Illinois EPA that they must enact stricter regulations that protect the public from the polluted water of the Chicago River. I request that you proactively take steps to tackle the issue of disinfection to protect the citizens of Chicago.

The Clean Water Act requires that we continually improve our waterways to the greatest extent possible. The law clearly states that we need to keep trying until we get it right. The Illinois EPA, and now the U.S. EPA, have recognized that it is time to improve our water quality and establish new standards for how we treat the river. We support the national and state EPA, and call on you to take responsibility for cleaning up the sewage effluent in Chicago's water.

Please begin work immediately to implement the changes needed to begin disinfection of the water destined for the Chicago River.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Ms. Catherine Vidal
5116 Sandpiper Way
Oxnard, CA 93035-1047

PC# 1061

From: Devin Baker <serverunit27az@yahoo.com>
To: <therriaj@ipcb.state.il.us>
Date: 7/19/2011 8:47 PM
Subject: Protect Chicago River from Dirty Sewage

Jul 19, 2011

Mr. John Therriault
100 West Randolph St., Ste 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

PC#1062

Dear Mr. Therriault,

As a supporter of American Rivers, I am writing to ask you to kill the pathogens that are contained in the sewage released into the Chicago River every day.

Directly connected to the toilets of Cook County, more than 70 percent of the water in the river is from MWRD plants, and while it receives basic treatment, pathogens remain from human sewage that can harm the thousands of people who use the river. These microorganisms are of particular concern for some special populations, like kids, who have a higher risk of contracting a waterborne illness and have no way of knowing what is in the water. Due to this pollution concern, American Rivers has named the Chicago River one of America's Most Endangered RiversTM of 2011.

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Please begin work immediately to implement the changes needed to begin disinfection of the water destined for the Chicago River.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Mr. Devin Baker
121 E Summit St Apt 2
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1048

From: William G Gonzalez <wgonzalezgarcia@yahoo.com>
To: <therriaj@ipcb.state.il.us>
Date: 7/20/2011 1:18 PM
Subject: Protect Chicago River from Dirty Sewage

Jul 20, 2011

Mr. John Therriault
100 West Randolph St., Ste 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

PC# 1063

Dear Mr. Therriault,

As a supporter of American Rivers, I am writing to ask you to kill the pathogens that are contained in the sewage released into the Chicago River every day.

Directly connected to the toilets of Cook County, more than 70 percent of the water in the river is from MWRD plants, and while it receives basic treatment, pathogens remain from human sewage that can harm the thousands of people who use the river. These microorganisms are of particular concern for some special populations, like kids, who have a higher risk of contracting a waterborne illness and have no way of knowing what is in the water. Due to this pollution concern, American Rivers has named the Chicago River one of America's Most Endangered RiversTM of 2011.

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Please begin work immediately to implement the changes needed to begin disinfection of the water destined for the Chicago River.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Mr. William G Gonzalez
200 Dashew Dr
Apt A15
Airmont, NY 10901-4289

From: Michael Bailey <michaelebailey@cox.net>
To: <therriaj@ipcb.state.il.us>
Date: 7/20/2011 1:18 PM
Subject: Protect Chicago River from Dirty Sewage

Jul 20, 2011

Mr. John Therriault
100 West Randolph St., Ste 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

PC#1064

Dear Mr. Therriault,

As a supporter of American Rivers, I am writing to ask you to kill the pathogens that are contained in the sewage released into the Chicago River every day.

Directly connected to the toilets of Cook County, more than 70 percent of the water in the river is from MWRD plants, and while it receives basic treatment, pathogens remain from human sewage that can harm the thousands of people who use the river. These microorganisms are of particular concern for some special populations, like kids, who have a higher risk of contracting a waterborne illness and have no way of knowing what is in the water. Due to this pollution concern, American Rivers has named the Chicago River one of America's Most Endangered RiversTM of 2011.

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Please begin work immediately to implement the changes needed to begin disinfection of the water destined for the Chicago River.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Bailey
25801 Marguerite Pkwy Apt 103
Mission Viejo, CA 92692-3144

From: Karen Naiman <knaiman@earthlink.net>
To: <therriaj@ipcb.state.il.us>
Date: 7/20/2011 2:49 PM
Subject: Protect Chicago River from Dirty Sewage

Jul 20, 2011

Mr. John Therriault
100 West Randolph St., Ste 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

PC# 1065

Dear Mr. Therriault,

As a supporter of American Rivers, I am writing to ask you to kill the pathogens that are contained in the sewage released into the Chicago River every day.

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The Chicago River has become a true community resource with all kinds of wildlife, new riverfront parks, residential communities, restaurants, and businesses that are dependent on a healthy river. As a region we have spent billions of dollars to clean up the river, but we have not finished the job.

As you know, the U.S. EPA has recently notified Illinois EPA that they must enact stricter regulations that protect the public from the polluted water of the Chicago River. I request that you proactively take steps to tackle the issue of disinfection to protect the citizens of Chicago.

The Clean Water Act requires that we continually improve our waterways to the greatest extent possible. The law clearly states that we need to keep trying until we get it right. The Illinois EPA, and now the U.S. EPA, have recognized that it is time to improve our water quality and establish new standards for how we treat the river. We support the national and state EPA, and call on you to take responsibility for cleaning up the sewage effluent in Chicago's water.

Please begin work immediately to implement the changes needed to begin disinfection of the water destined for the Chicago River.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Ms. Karen Naiman
PO Box 221564
Denver, CO 80222-1015