

June 20, 2011

John Theriault, acting clerk  
Illinois Pollution Control Board  
100 W Randolph  
Chicago, Il. 60601 June 20, 2011

R08-9(A,B)

PC# 1042

RECEIVED  
CLERK'S OFFICE

JUN 22 2011

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

Dear John,

This letter is in response to the clean-up of the Chicago River using reference # R2008-09. I am a very strong advocate of fishing and feel that the Chicago River could offer great fishing if it the waterway was cleaned up, dredged, and made more accessible for people to enjoy it. The enclosed attachment tells my story on the river which I call "a jewel in the rough". I hope that this dream comes through in the future.

Sincerely,



Don Dubin  
7357 N. Kolmar  
Lincolnwood, Il. 60712

Tel. 847-679-1531

Email: don.dubin@yahoo.com

**Fw: What Our Water's Worth: Fishing the Chicago Rive**

Tue, June 7, 2011 4:56:01 PM

From: Don Dubin <don.dubin@yahoo.com> [View Contact](#)To: ira.lawrence <ira152@comcast.net>; baiffhehook@comcast.net; coreydubin1@gmail.com; fmsamat2@comcast.net; lee737@comcast.net; midebsdubin@yahoo.com; don.dubin@yahoo.com; mppehanich@msn.com; musky513@centurytel.net; shiva.selvaraj@gmail.com; robert.long@chicagoparkdistrict.com ... [more](#)

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** What Our Water's Worth <[info@chicagolandh2o.org](mailto:info@chicagolandh2o.org)>**To:** don.dubin@yahoo.com**Sent:** Tue, June 7, 2011 4:07:28 PM**Subject:** What Our Water's Worth: Fishing the [Chicago River](#)Having trouble seeing this email? [View it in your browser](#)



**WHAT  
OUR  
WATER'S  
WORTH**



**E-NEWSLETTER**

*What Our Water's Worth is a campaign led by the [Metropolitan Planning Council](#) and [Openlands](#) to raise awareness about the value of water in northeastern Illinois and northwestern Indiana.*

**Hall of Fame fisherman sees Chicago River as 'jewel in the rough'**



Angler Don Dubin shows off a fish he caught from the Chicago River, which he calls "a jewel in the rough waiting to be discovered." (Photo by Emily Cikanek)

To say 72-year-old Don Dubin is passionate about fishing is a vast understatement. A Fishing Hall of Fame "Legendary Angler" and an inductee into the [Illinois Outdoor Conservation Hall of Fame](#), he is also a founding member of local fishing organizations Salmon Unlimited and Muskies, Inc., and sits on the Fishing Advisory Boards for the [Shedd Aquarium](#) and City of Chicago.

An angler for more than 60 years, Dubin has fished all over the world, but he claims that the best and most diverse fishing is right here in northeastern Illinois. In addition to the cold water fishery of [Lake Michigan](#), "the [Chicago River](#) is a fantastic fishery. It's a jewel in the rough waiting to be discovered," he says.

True to his claim, he tosses a line into the river at Chicago's

**June 2011**  
[www.chicagolandh2o.org](http://www.chicagolandh2o.org)



**What Our Water's Worth is a campaign led by the [Metropolitan Planning Council](#) and [Openlands](#) to raise awareness about the value of water in northeastern Illinois and northwestern Indiana. From Lake Michigan to the Fox River, how we use our water resources—including what we conserve, how much we waste, and what we choose to invest in water quality—is up to each of us. This is our water—and it's worth more than we know.**

**WOWW factors**

**\$.90 per month per household**

U.S. EPA's estimate for the average increase homeowners would pay per month for MWRD to build disinfection systems at their Calumet and Northside plants (less than most cups of coffee). This estimate does not factor in Sen. Dick Durbin's (D-Ill.) pledge of federal assistance.

River Park near Foster and [Kedzie](#), and in less than a minute he has reeled in a bluegill. With a gleam in his eye from hooking the first fish of the day, Dubin muses that the Chicago area has an incredibly valuable, but largely untapped, resource on its hands. Dubin is genuinely excited: "Where else can you find the potential for a world-class warm water fishery – right here in the middle of the city?"

Even though he still cannot eat the fish he catches from the Chicago River, the improvements Dubin has seen over his [angling](#) career gives him great hope and high expectations for this jewel in the rough. "It's a great resource that we are just touching right now," Dubin says. "So I welcome changes. It would be great for the people of [Chicago](#)."

Disinfection is one important step to improving the quality and safety of the Chicago River for recreational users. [Read about how far the river has come, as well as the challenges it still faces in this month's What Our Water's Worth.](#)

#### Conservation tips

**The waterways are for water.** Lots of things that don't belong there end up in the river, such as litter, pharmaceuticals, fertilizers and detergents. Buy products with less packaging and fewer pollutants, then dispose of them properly.

**Conserve water during storms.** When it rains, stormwater flows into the sewer and can overwhelm the system, leading to flooding. Just before, during, and immediately after rain, limit your water use—don't water your lawn, wash your car, run the dishwasher, etc.—because those small actions contribute to overwhelming the sewer system.

**Tell the State to protect people and wildlife.** For the first time in almost 40 years, the State of Illinois is considering how to better protect both people that recreate and wildlife that live in and along Chicago's Rivers. [Tell the State](#) that you use and value these waterways, and that they need to act now to protect them for future generations.

## \$3.76 billion

Estimated cost to build the TARP Deep Tunnel Project to reduce combined sewer overflows into Chicago waterways. Approximately \$2.9 billion has been spent on the project to date, according to the Dec. 1, 2008, TARP Status Report.

## > 70 fish species

Inhabit the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS), up from only 10 different fish species that were in CAWS 30 years ago.

## \$38.2 million

Combined cost to construct the five MWRD Sidestream Elevated Pool Aeration (SEPA) stations, which helped bring back a wider variety of fish to the Chicago waterways by infusing the water with more oxygen. According to the MWRD web site, these "waterfalls create a healthier waterway and are an attractive addition to the riverbank."



What Our Water's Worth is a monthly e-newsletter. Tell us what you think. Email [info@chicagoandh2o.org](mailto:info@chicagoandh2o.org) with **feedback** in the subject.

To subscribe, visit our website at [chicagoandh2o.org](http://chicagoandh2o.org).