

## Regional Stormwater Protection Team Presents “Creek News”

Weekly updates of regional surface water information



**Week of February 27, 2006**

### **Faxon Creek – An Urban Waterway**

Though a number of streams wind their way through the City of Superior, Wisconsin, many exist on the outskirts of town where there is currently not a lot of development. By contrast, Faxon Creek flows through some of the most developed areas of the city and its riparian area (the buffer of plants between the stream and upland areas) has been almost completely removed. Monitoring data show that the stream becomes murkier (more [turbid](#)) and more polluted the closer it gets to Lake Superior. Such data confirms the harmful, combined effects of many inputs that occur over the course of the stream’s path to Lake Superior. Some of these inputs are from stormwater runoff but city managers need to know more to help Faxon and other city streams.



Faxon Creek as it exits the culvert under 28th Ave. on its way through UW- Superior on its way to Lake Superior

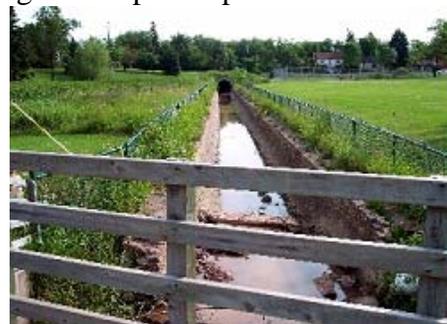


April 11, 2002 - Faxon Creek flooded in Central Park. Flooding like this often results from too much water and not enough space in the storm sewer system.

Faxon Creek is one of eight streams that the City of Superior Wastewater Division of Public Works is monitoring. The water quality data will help generate an impaired waterway ranking from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the streams. The city can then use the ranking to gain funds for improving water quality in the city’s streams.

well as wetlands on the grounds of the Richard Bong Municipal Airport. It flows northwest through three campuses, including Northern Lights Elementary School, the University of Wisconsin- Superior, and Superior High School, as well as heavily developed residential areas. Faxon Creek is channelized underground for its last half-mile before feeding into Superior Bay near Barker's Island.

The creek is about 3 miles long, draining wetlands near Tower Ave and 39<sup>th</sup> St. as



Central Park is also where Faxon Creek becomes channelized for its final run into Lake Superior.

To learn more about Faxon Creek or other Superior area streams contact Kari Jacobson Hedin, City of Superior [Environmental Services](#) Division Ph: 715-394-0392

Creek news is a weekly press release of happenings along our streams, lakes, and rivers. For more information, contact the Regional Stormwater Protection Team c/o Marnie Lonsdale, City of Duluth, (218) 730-4063.