

CONGRATULATIONS

EEl would like to recognize the following employees for their milestone anniversaries with the company in 2025.

5 Years:

Curt Dettmann
Joe Scheller



25 Years:

Julie Morrison
Josh Boatman



30 Years:

Brad Sanderson



DID YOU KNOW?

EEl offers Geospatial Services and Solutions?

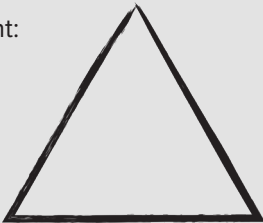
Check out our service page and see how we use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to help local governments manage the development review process, perform comprehensive planning, process building permits and map infrastructure.



ENTERPRISES TRIVIA CHALLENGE

Q: Which ancient structure is considered one of the earliest known examples of civil engineering?

Hint:



Submit answers to eei@eeiweb.com by 8/15 to be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card!



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AN AWARD-WINNING STORY OF A “LEAD SERVICE LINE-FREE COMMUNITY”

In 2020, the Village of Carpentersville set out on an ambitious mission: to remove all lead water services from its community, 400 in total - at zero cost to its residents. With full completion in just over three years, this project highlights the power of community collaboration and a shared commitment to public health.

Step 1: Engaging the Community

The success of the mission relied on proactive communication with residents. One of the first steps included a public information

meeting on December 14, 2021, to inform residents about the scope of the project, the benefits of removing the lead service, and how they could be involved, all without any out-of-pocket expenses. From here, two types of flyers were mailed to residents: an online resident survey and an online booking for home assessment scheduling. The online resident survey was to encourage residents to identify their service line material. Following the mailings, EEl contacted 560 property owners and scheduled an in-home assessment via Bookings software.



IN THIS EDITION

- An Award-Winning Story of a “Lead Service Line-Free Community”
- L² Lookout
- Congratulations
- Did You Know?
- Enterprises Trivia Challenge

SPRING/SUMMER 2025



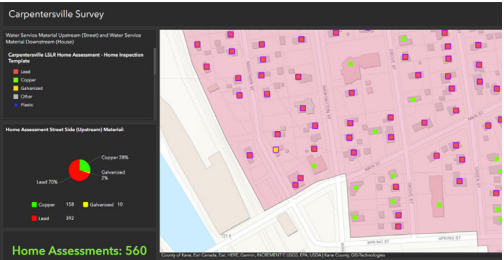
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AN AWARD-WINNING STORY OF A “LEAD SERVICE LINE-FREE COMMUNITY”

Home assessments were conducted from March 2022 to May 2024. The assessments were performed by two teams of two staff members from EEI and/or the Village. The home assessments gathered critical information, including service material, meter location, obstructions, and slab/basement construction. The home assessment data was recorded using GIS (Geographic Information System).

The data was then available to be viewed in real time via a dashboard. Photos and videos of each home assessment were also taken with the resident’s permission. Village staff and EEI staff handled every assessment with care, ensuring every step of the process was smooth and transparent to residents.



Step 2: Funding the Mission

The Village planned to partially fund the project through principal forgiveness funding under the IEPA Public Water Supply Loan Program (PWSLP). The Village received project plan approval and began the loan application process. During this time, the Village was performing additional public outreach to secure the lead service line agreements (LSLA) with each resident which were necessary for construction and required by the loan application process. The Village was approved for a \$4 million loan, all of which was principal forgiveness. The Village also allocated over \$2.2 million in local funding to fund the remainder of the project costs.

Step 3: Design and Construction

EEI compiled the home assessment data, GIS based exhibits, geotechnical and Clean Construction or Demolition Debris (CCDD) reports, and detailed special provisions to create the project’s bidding documents. The project was let for bid on February 24, 2023, and awarded to Joel Kennedy Constructing Corp.

On August 2, 2023, the second and final public information meeting was held, giving residents a chance to meet the contractor and understand the scope of the construction process. This marked the beginning of the final stretch toward a lead service line-free Carpentersville.

Construction commenced on October 2, 2023. New one-inch copper services were installed from the water main to the water meter inside the homes. In most instances, the contractor was able to install via trenchless methods (lead service extraction or directional drilling) and rarely required traditional open-cut excavation. New meters were installed and grounded appropriately.



In addition to replacing the service, the Contractor was contractually responsible for scheduling the in-home work with all of the residents, private property utility locates, scheduling inspections with the

Village’s licensed plumber, and scheduling with the Village to install new meter readers. The Contractor was responsible for all non-structural repairs. Disturbances inside the homes were extremely limited and were often less than a 2’x2’ area.

Step 4: Construction Mission Completed in One Year

Despite challenging winter conditions, construction pushed forward, and by October 4, 2024, the last lead service was replaced. Although the project was originally anticipated to be multi-phased, both the Village and EEI remained proactive in collecting the remaining replacement consent forms from residents and all lead service lines were successfully replaced during Phase A—the only construction phase needed. As a result, the project was completed ahead of schedule and under budget, at no cost to residents. The project met its goals while ensuring minimal disruption to the community.

Celebrating a Lead Service Line-Free Community

The Village of Carpentersville can now proudly say they are a lead service line-free community, removing all 400 lead services at no cost to residents. The accomplishment highlights the Village’s commitment to protecting both the physical and financial well-being of its residents. By securing \$4 million in IEPA loan principal forgiveness funding, the Village ensured that residents were not burdened with repair costs, demonstrating fiscal responsibility and careful stewardship of public funds.

The project faced challenges, including homes with different foundation types and the need to minimize disturbances inside the homes and to the residents. The use of trenchless technology like directional

drilling and lead service extraction allowed the project to move forward with minimal disruption.

Through careful planning, public outreach, and financial stewardship, this project is a testament to how municipalities can tackle big challenges with creativity and care-building a safer, healthier future for their residents.



An Award Winning Project

This successful project has won the following awards in 2025:

- ACEC-IL Engineering Excellence Honor Award
- ACEC-IL Judge’s Choice Award: Water Resources
- ACEC Engineering Excellence National Recognition Award



-Kristen M. Meehan, PE, Project Manager
kmeehan@eeiweb.com | (630) 466-6787



L² LEADERSHIP LOOKOUT

Jeffrey Freeman, PE, CFM, LEED AP, Chief Executive Officer

SECURING OUR FUTURE THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCY

In today’s rapidly changing world, the need for resilient infrastructure has never been more critical. As we face increasing challenges from climate change, population growth, and aging infrastructure, it is essential to develop systems that can withstand and adapt to these pressures. Infrastructure resiliency ensures that our communities remain safe, functional, and sustainable, even in the face of unexpected disruptions.

One of the primary reasons for resilient infrastructure is to safeguard public health and safety. For instance, water systems, which include treatment plants, pipelines, reservoirs, and distribution networks, are vital for ensuring a reliable water supply. Aging infrastructure, built decades ago with outdated materials and technologies, poses significant challenges to resiliency and reliability. Corroded pipes, struggling treatment facilities, and structurally vulnerable reservoirs can lead to inefficiencies, costly repairs, and even catastrophic failures.

To address these challenges, communities must plan for and invest strategically in resilient systems. Communities currently are in the next cycle of updating their Risk and Resiliency Assessments (RRAs). Large communities, Community Water Supplies (CWS) serving 100,000 or more people, were required to certify their RRA update by March 31, 2025. CWS serving 50,000 – 99,000 are required to certify by December 31, 2025, and CWS serving 3,301 – 49,999 are required to certify by June 30, 2026. As communities work on updating their RRAs, it is critical that the community be able to devote the time and resources to the update process.

Developing RRAs is crucial for preparing for and mitigating the impacts of potential disruptions. Benjamin Franklin once said, “By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail”. With Ben’s thought in mind, RRAs involve conducting thorough analyses to understand the unique needs, vulnerabilities,

and opportunities of each community. Factors such as source water protection, climate/weather impacts, mechanical failures, and malevolent attacks are just a few scenarios that should be considered.

Once the RRAs are complete, communities will need to switch their focus to updating their Emergency Response Plan (ERP). ERPs are due six months after the RRA certification deadline. Emergency response plans are another essential component of infrastructure resiliency. These plans outline the steps to be taken in the event of a disruption, ensuring a coordinated and efficient response.

Infrastructure resiliency is not just a necessity but a fundamental aspect of community planning and development. By investing in resilient systems and updating Risk and Resiliency Assessments (RRAs), communities can better prepare for and mitigate the impacts of potential disruptions. Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) further enhance this resiliency by ensuring a coordinated and efficient response to emergencies. These efforts collectively contribute to the safety, functionality, and sustainability of our communities, enabling them to thrive even in the face of unforeseen challenges. As we move forward, it is imperative that we continue to prioritize infrastructure resiliency to secure a better future for all.