

## **OVERVIEW OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN GREEN OAKS**

A large portion of stormwater drainage within Green Oaks flows overland in man-made ditches and swales. These are normally located along side the streets or on easements along rear or side lot lines. Several natural creeks also flow through the Village. These include Meadow Haven Creek, Irondale Creek, and the beginning of the North Branch of the Chicago River. In addition, there are storm sewer systems in many of the newer subdivisions including Forest Lake, Glenmore Woods, Lake Sommerset, Tantara, Reigate Woods, Brookhaven and Arbor Lakes.

The roadside ditches and backyard swales play an integral role in moving water out of the subdivisions and into the various detention ponds. Some of the swales and ditches drain slowly because they have silted up over the years, are overgrown with vegetation, or have been the victim of well intentioned, but misguided landscaping efforts. Per Village Ordinance No. 85-07, every property owner is responsible for the maintenance of those swales and ditches adjacent to their lots, including those in the frontage. Maintaining the ditches and swales will help the overall system, and also keep your neighbors happy by reducing run-off onto adjacent properties and standing water.

Via Ordinance No. 2009-0-02, the Village has adopted the latest version of the Lake County Watershed Development Ordinance. This ordinance establishes rules and regulations for floodplain and stormwater management throughout Lake County. As part of Ordinance No. 2001-0-23 the Village has adopted certain more stringent requirements than those included in the Lake County Ordinance. Copies of Ordinance No. 2009-0-02 and Ordinance No. 2001-0-23 are also posted on this section of the website.