

## **Water Quality Monitoring of the Little Calumet East Branch Watershed**

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The Little Calumet East Branch (LCEB) is a 10-digit hydrologic unit code (HUC) watershed that ultimately discharges into Lake Michigan. The watershed begins in unincorporated LaPorte County and discharges west through unincorporated Porter County, converges with the West Branch of the Little Calumet River, and finally discharges into Lake Michigan via the Burns Ditch Waterway. A water quality monitoring study was performed in the summer of 2012 as part of the watershed management process led by a not-for-profit organization, Save the Dunes. Save the Dunes' Great Lakes Innovative Stewardship through Education Network (GLISTEN) liaisons initiated weekly monitoring at eleven LCEB sites for nine weeks during the summer 2012 recreational period. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) conducted monthly monitoring of 48 sites in the LCEB including the sites monitored by the GLISTEN liaisons. Parameters measured for in the watershed included nitrogen, pH, phosphorus, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, water flow, and Escherichia coli.

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Nicholas Feller is a junior civil engineering student. He is on the executive board of the American Society of Civil Engineers and Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity. He also performs in Valparaiso University's Symphony Orchestra. Melissa Dorton is a senior chemistry student at the University of Indiana Northwest.

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