

Village of Dorchester

The Village of Dorchester is located in southern Macoupin County, and the Village has a population of approximately 150 residents living in about 50 households. The Village established their water distribution system in 1970, and they serve approximately 210 customers today. Many of their customers are rural households and farms. Dorchester purchases their water supply from the City of Gillespie, and that water is provided by surface water from Gillespie Lake. Historically, Gillespie Lake has had its share of problems with water quality and all of the problems that surface water has with run off of chemicals and waste.

The Village has never had the opportunity to have any input or vote as to the price of water that the supplier would charge, and they really did not have any other options for many years. However, in 2017, they learned about the IL Alluvial Regional Water Company, and the opportunity it offered to become a member and obtain water from the Alluvial Aquafer, which is high quality ground water, and actually have a “seat at the table and a vote”.

A member of the Village Board attended an informative meeting, and it really was not a difficult decision to make to become a member of Alluvial. The Village of Dorchester is one of the charter members, and they are so excited to have the promise of high quality potable water for their customers at a reasonable price. The Village will need to extend their lines a bit to connect to the Alluvial network, but it will be well worth the effort and cost to have access to an excellent source of water for their customers at a reasonable cost. We are really looking forward to drinking that first glass of Alluvial water!