

How Are We Doing?

Highlights of activities in 2006 and plans for 2007 to implement the Town of Narragansett's

Stormwater Management Program Plan

Introduction

In 2003, the Town of Narragansett adopted a Stormwater Management Program Plan (SWMPP) and submitted a Notice of Intent to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) for the Storm Water General Permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. The Town identified Best Management Practices (BMPs) to address issues under six "Minimum Measures". Every year the Town reports to RIDEM on progress in implementing the SWMPP.

The intent of this summary is to provide a brief look at the highlights of that progress and the actions planned for this year. Our thanks to those whose actions have complemented our efforts; we've acknowledged your partnership below. Our apologies to those we've missed. The Town cannot take all the credit for improvements in the quality of runoff within its borders, nor can it ever hope to take all the steps necessary to minimize the effects of human activity on our waters. Our hope is that this document will inspire you to consider how your actions, combined with those of other people and organizations, can help us achieve the goal of "fishable, swimmable, drinkable". And please tell us what you do and what you're planning to do, so we can include that information in our next annual report.

Organization of the Report

Under each of the now-famous Minimum Measures, we provide a brief summary of activities that occurred in Narragansett in 2006, and planned activities for 2007. If something could fall under more than one Minimum

Measure, we refer to it only under what seems the most appropriate category.

- ❖ 2007 activities that have already been completed (as of June 30, 2007) are marked with this bullet.

Please refer to the SWMPP and Annual Report dated March 10, 2007 for additional details. For questions, or to report on your activities, please contact John Lawless in the Engineering Department (782-0640; jlawless@muni.ri.net) or Kris Stuart at the Southern RI Conservation District (284-1885; kris@sracd.org).

MINIMUM MEASURE #1: PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

IN 2006:

- The Town produced a new issue of *Stormwater Currents*, with articles on the retrofit of drainage at Mettatuxet Beach, finding your watershed address, the Narrow River Preservation Association's watershed course, and stormwater grant proposals. This has been distributed to more than 8,000 households in Narragansett.
- The Town Engineer spoke to the Narrow River Preservation Association (NRPA) about the SWMPP and the stormwater retrofits installed and planned for the River.
- Healthy Lawn Tips were included in the annual Consumer Confidence Report on drinking water quality.
- The NRPA included articles on the Mettatuxet Beach retrofit and Water Quality meeting in its spring newsletter.
- Southern RI Conservation District (SRICD) distributed posters on pet waste to the library, pet stores and grooming services on behalf of the Town.
- 26 organizations were contacted about possible opportunities to collaborate.
- Surfriider Foundation and RI Resource Recovery held a beach cleanup and hazardous waste collection at the Town Beach.

PLANS FOR 2007:

- Look for new opportunities to collaborate
- Produce next issue of *Stormwater Currents*
- ❖ Include a stormwater-related article in the Consumer Confidence Report
- ❖ Include a stormwater-related article in the Salt Ponds Coalition's newsletter
- ❖ Provide watershed training to the Elementary School
- Provide teachers at all schools with information on the Crooked Brook grant from RIDEM
- Provide posters on car washing to appropriate institutions and businesses
- Develop a flyer on water conservation for local businesses

MINIMUM MEASURE #2: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/PARTICIPATION

IN 2006:

- The Narragansett Land Trust commented on a Nonpoint Source grant proposal by the Town and SRICD for water quality improvements on Sunset Farm.
- A NRPA volunteer conducted water quality sampling of Crooked Brook.
- Concerns about the impact of RIDOT's salt pile were brought to the Town Council.

PLANS FOR 2007:

- Involve NRPA and homeowners' associations in the design of additional retrofits (subject to grant contract)
- ❖ Arrange for volunteer monitoring with NRPA, Salt Ponds Coalition (SPC) and Watershed Watch

MINIMUM MEASURE #3: ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION

IN 2006:

- Additional surveying was completed in the Bonnet Shores area to update the map of outfalls and drainage systems.
- The Town conducted televised scans and dye testing of RIDOT's systems near Scarborough.
- Animal Control Officers increased their patrols along the seawall during the summer.
- The Town has modified the way it records complaints to provide better tracking.

PLANS FOR 2007:

- Continue to update maps, monitor and encourage source reduction

MINIMUM MEASURE #4: CONSTRUCTION SITE STORM WATER RUNOFF CONTROL

IN 2006:

- Town staff had refresher training in site plan review for erosion control and runoff management.
- 163 site plan reviews were completed
- 2,763 construction inspections were conducted

PLANS FOR 2007:

- ❖ Provide training on inspection of erosion and sediment control practices and stormwater structures
- Ensure that all proposals to disturb 1+ acres have Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans to meet RIDEM's Construction Site General Permit

MINIMUM MEASURE #5: POST CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT IN NEW DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT

IN 2006:

- 10 stormwater structures were inspected to insure proper installation.
- 9 stormwater structures were inspected by Town staff for proper operation and maintenance. Town maintained those with maintenance agreements, sent letters to owners of others.
- Ordinance revisions were proposed, including a change in the maximum allowable impervious coverage. Public hearing was held.
- RIDEM's Office of Sustainable Watersheds offered training to the private sector in conservation development, and CRMC provided training on their buffer requirements. The Town posted notices of the workshops.

PLANS FOR 2007:

- Develop a training session for homeowners' associations on "Care and Feeding of Your Stormwater Management Facility"

MINIMUM MEASURE #6: POLLUTION PREVENTION AND GOOD HOUSEKEEPING IN MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

IN 2006:

- Construction was completed on new stormwater management structures at Mettatuxet Beach.
- Town staff participated in training on turf management.
- Public safety vehicles except fire trucks are now washed where water is recycled and/or drains to the sewer system.
- SRICD provided turf management recommendations for the Elementary School soccer field.
- URI Engineering presented preliminary results of monitoring at the Mettatuxet Beach structures to the Town and CRMC
- All catch basins were inspected and cleaned, all roads were swept.

PLANS FOR 2007:

- ❖ Purchase a vacuum truck through RIDEM grant
- Continue monitoring at Mettatuxet Beach
- Design additional retrofits in Narrow River through RIDEM grant
- Assess the feasibility of retrofitting runoff systems at the schools in Crooked Brook watershed, through RIDEM grant
- Follow the flow of runoff from Town Hall and evaluate possible treatment
- Assess the feasibility of restoring/retrofitting stormwater structure at Lilly Lane
- Train Town staff on fleet & building maintenance