

Braintree Stormwater Division: An Introduction

March 2019

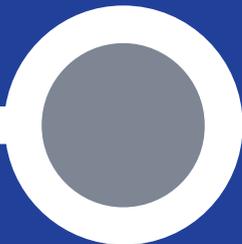


JOSEPH C. SULLIVAN, MAYOR

Town of Braintree
Stormwater Division
Department of Public Works

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WHO WE ARE

- Cynthia O'Connell, Stormwater
Manager
- Julie Sullivan, Stormwater Outreach
Coordinator
- Susan Sass, Stormwater Billing
Analyst



WHAT IS STORMWATER?

When it rains or when snow melts, water runs off impervious surfaces like Washington Street and picks up pet waste, oil, sand, fertilizers, and other pollutants.



Flooding on Washington Street, March 2010

WHAT IS STORMWATER?

The water collected by storm drains discharges directly into Braintree's waterways without treatment.

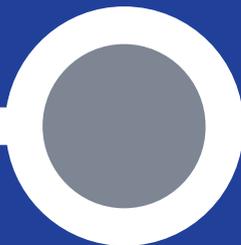




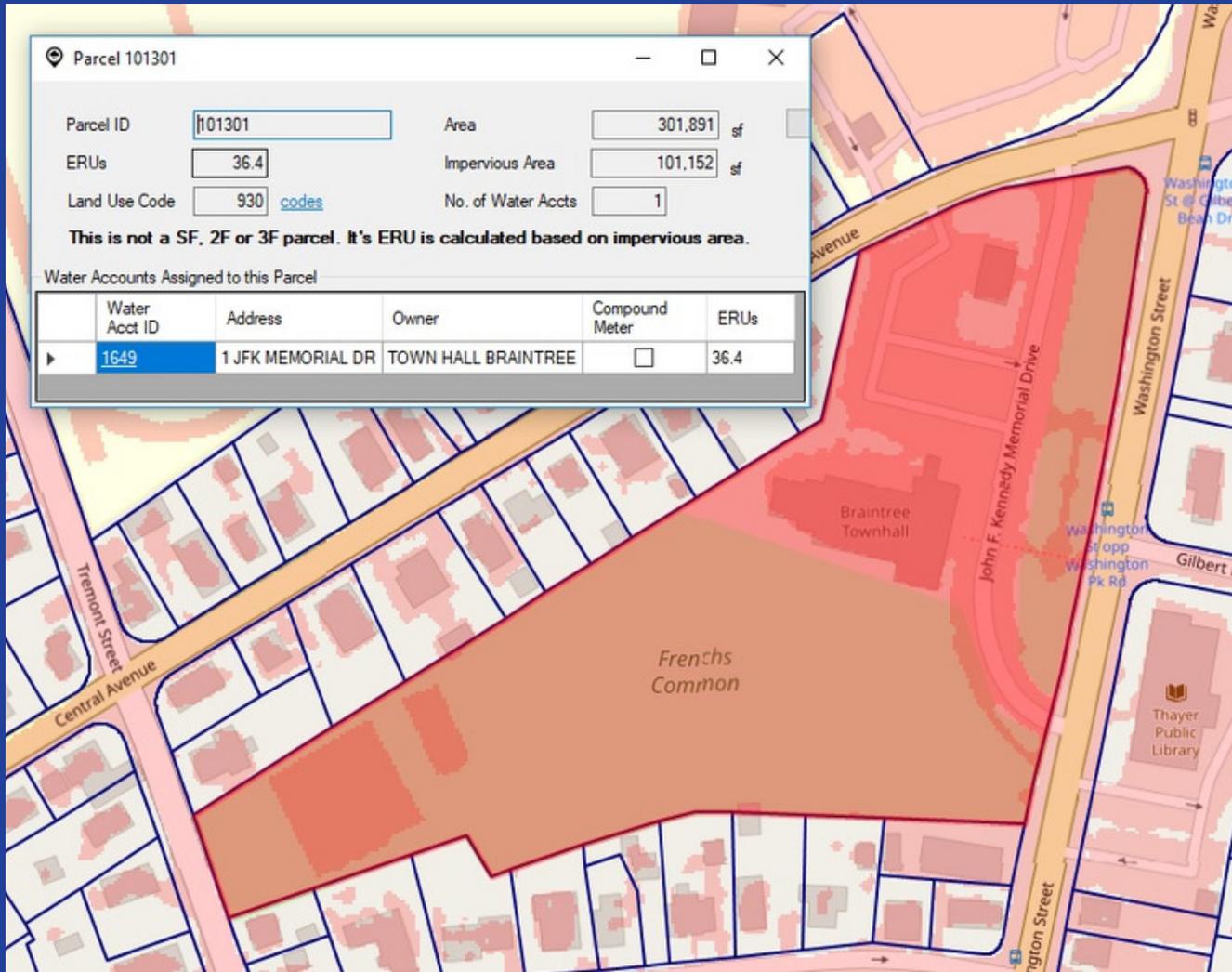
Litter at Eaton's Pond (left), Monatiquot River (right)

STORMWATER UTILITY UPDATE

- Overall level of resistance against stormwater fee is low
- A small number of residents dissatisfied with the "principle" of the stormwater fee, others left nasty comments on bill remittances
- Billing of Town properties has been questioned
- Brown & Caldwell software in need of improvement
- Hoping to optimize billing system prior to rate increase in Year 3 - more equitable billing for households, incentivize green infrastructure implementation



STORMWATER UTILITY UPDATE



Brown & Caldwell
stormwater utility
billing software -
PeopleGIS may
be able to
integrate this into
their system

EPA MS4 PERMIT

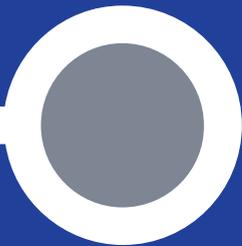
Six Minimum Control Measures



- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)
- Management of Construction Site Runoff
- Management of Post Construction Site Runoff (New Development & Redevelopment)
- Good Housekeeping in Municipal Operations

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- Providing educational material about stormwater to four audiences - Braintree residents, industries, businesses, and developers
- Generating material for each target audience and explaining how their actions may impact stormwater quality
- Two messages for each audience throughout five-year permit term



OUTREACH EXAMPLES

What is stormwater?

Stormwater Utility

Ordinance / Regulations

Residents

Businesses

Developers

Industrial Operations

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)

Other Resources

Stormwater Infrastructure Map (PDF)

Home > Departments > Public Works > Stormwater Division

Stormwater Management



Welcome to the Braintree Stormwater Division website!

Stormwater pollution is a growing problem that Braintree residents, businesses, developers, and industries must work together to solve. Explore the links on the sidebar to learn more about stormwater and what you can do to keep it clean!



If you see something, say something! To report [illicit discharges](#), call our office at (781) 794-8930.

Contact Us

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Phone: 781-794-8930

Braintree Stormwater Division website: www.braintreema.gov/stormwater

OUTREACH EXAMPLES

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Santa visits Pond Meadow Park for wreath sale

Sat. 12/1, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Pond Meadow Park. Hayrides, and wreaths available for purchase—bring a camera for great pictures! Call 781.843.7663 for questions.

Gardeners' Guild of Braintree Annual Christmas House Tour & Boutique

Sun. 12/2, 1-5 p.m., 72 Mount Vernon Ave (house tour); 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Town Hall (boutique). Tickets \$16 in advance, \$20 that day. Gail Rotondi, President of the Guild, 781.356.7771.

Braintree's stormwater utility

Due to new federal requirements, Braintree must reduce the amount of pollution in the stormwater runoff it dis-

charges to waterways. The new stormwater utility assesses user fees based on the amount of hardened or impervious surface that creates stormwater runoff on each residential, commercial, government and non-profit parcel in Town. Questions? Contact DPW's Stormwater Division at 781.794.8947 or braintreema.gov/stormwater.

Braintree recycling update

The State has new rules for recycling so the following are no longer acceptable because of the amount of contamination left in them and due to declining demand: plastic prescription and vitamin bottles, takeout food containers (Styrofoam & plastic), foil tops from yogurt containers and aerosol cans & canisters such as the ones that hold Pringles chips.

What is a Stormwater Utility, and why is it important for Braintree?

If you're a Braintree resident, you may have noticed a new line item on your quarterly Water & Sewer bill – a Stormwater fee. Due to new federal requirements, Braintree must work to reduce the amount of pollution in the stormwater runoff it discharges to waterways. The new Stormwater Utility assesses user fees based on the amount of hardened or impervious surface that creates stormwater runoff on each residential, commercial, government and non-profit parcel in Town.

Implementing a Stormwater Utility provides vast benefits to the Town such as an improved drainage system for handling flooding and weather emergencies, increased drainage system maintenance, and less polluted, more swimmable and fishable public waterways. Clean, fresh water is an incredibly valuable natural resource and creating a more resilient stormwater infrastructure will help the Town preserve that resource in the long term.

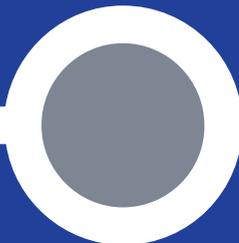
BELD Newsletter (distributed to 13,855 households)

Braintree Blue Newsletter (sent to 1,600 subscribers)

- Presentations to all grades at Ross Elementary School and Sustainable Braintree Annual Meeting
- Pet waste brochures at Town Clerk's office
- General Stormwater informational brochures at Water/Sewer front desk
- Both of the above brochures included in new resident mailings from Trash & Recycling Office

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

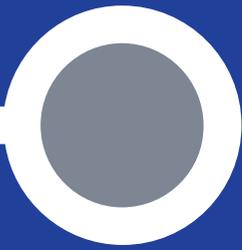
- Provide an opportunity for the public to participate in the development/implementation of their Stormwater Management Program



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

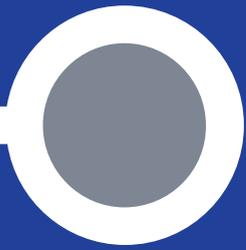
Stormwater events currently being planned:

- Rain barrel distribution on Earth Day 2019 (April 22, 2019)
- Assist with river cleanups on Beautification Day
- Eagle Scout project - storm drain stenciling
- Pond Meadow Park summer camp
- Documentary screenings at the Thayer Public Library
- CZM CoastSweep at Smith Beach - October 5, 2019
- Tabling at Town events and Braintree Farmers' Market

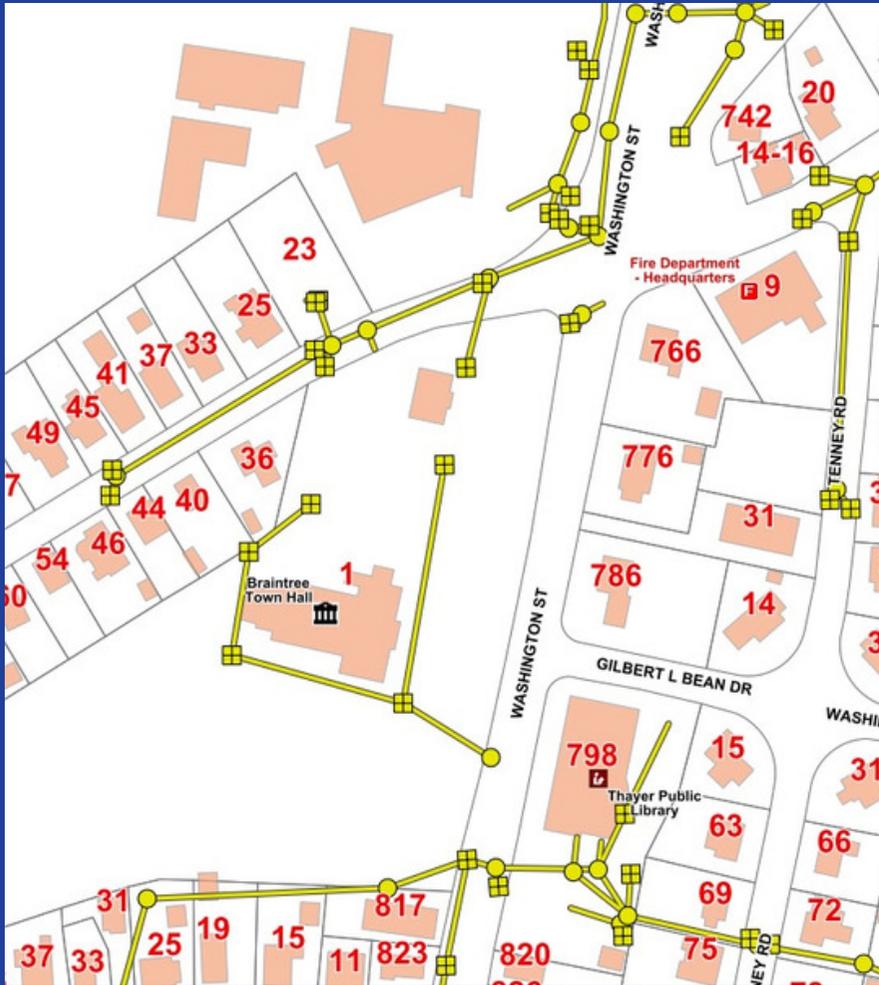


ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION & ELIMINATION

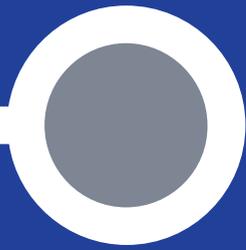
- Finding and eliminating sources of non-stormwater from storm sewer system
- Requires a proactive rather than a reactive approach
- Development of system wide storm sewer system map



ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION & ELIMINATION



- Storm sewer system mapping on PeopleGIS
- Draft IDDE plan in progress with Brown & Caldwell



MANAGEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF

- Managing stormwater discharges from construction sites that disturb 1 acre of land or more
- Implementing sediment and erosion control practices, as well as requirements for site plan review



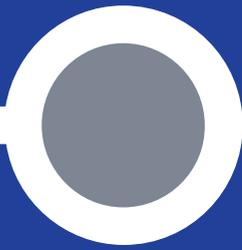
MANAGEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF



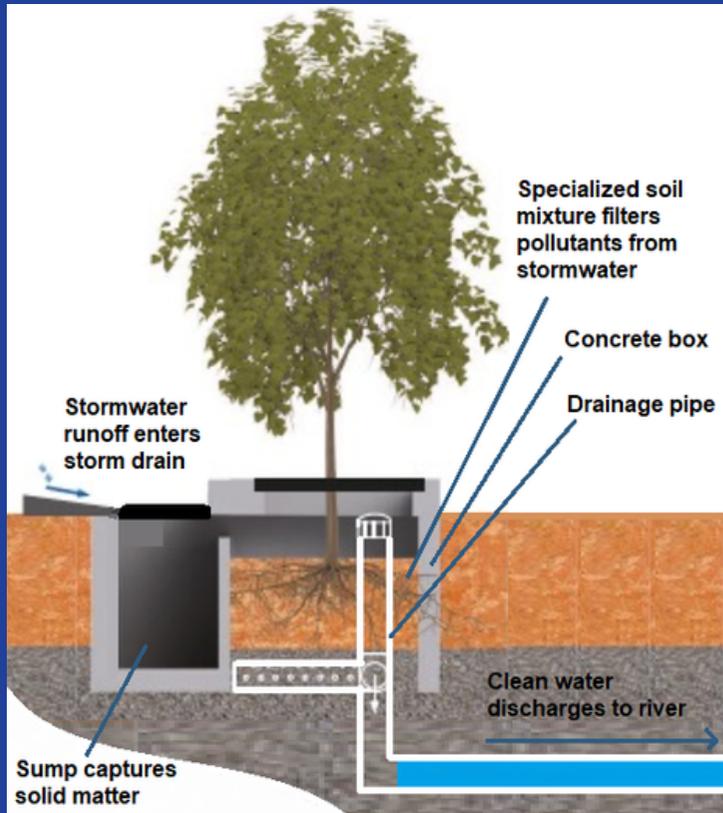
Implementation of erosion control

POST-CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF MANAGEMENT

- Managing stormwater runoff from new construction or redevelopment on 1 or more acres by encouraging implementation of Low Impact Design or Green Infrastructure
- New stormwater regulations contain design criteria for new and redevelopment projects to ensure compliance once the construction is completed



POST-CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF MANAGEMENT



Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

- Implementing good housekeeping practices in municipal operations such as vehicle maintenance, open space, buildings, and infrastructure
- Street sweeping required at least once a year
- Optimization of catch basin cleaning
- Monitoring road salt use
- Pollution prevention plans at waste management facilities and maintenance garages



GOOD HOUSEKEEPING



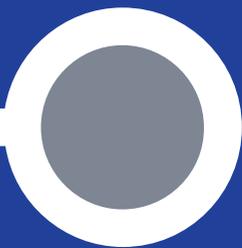
Street sweeping



Catch basin cleaning

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Progress on regulations for ordinance
- Coordination with other departments (Engineering, Planning & Community Development, Conservation)
- Stormwater Utility Billing Software
- Participation in statewide stormwater coalition
- Reaching out to surrounding communities to gauge interest in forming local stormwater coalition
- **Grant programs** → MAPC Accelerating Climate Resiliency Mini-Grant proposal submitted, EPA/DEP §604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grant proposal in progress



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



THANK YOU!

