

# Storm Drains: An Environmental Education and Clean-up Activity

Boy Scout Eagle Project  
By Sean Peacock, Troop 234  
Chesapeake, VA

Long Point Lake in the Long Point neighborhood has a pollution problem. The storm drains carry litter and excess nutrients into this Best Management Practices lake.<sup>1</sup> Most people in the area don't realize that what goes down the storm drains comes out in the lake. Sean Peacock decided that this problem would be a good one to tackle for his Boy Scout Eagle project.

With help and information from Mrs. Cindy Linkenhoker of the Portsmouth Dept. of Engineering, Sean formed a committee of scouts and developed an educational brochure. On June 7, 2002, Sean and nine other scouts distributed these brochures to each of the 415 homes in Long Point.



Sean Peacock, Troop 234, • Portsmouth, Virginia

The boys then put their ideas into action. They donned old clothes, wet suits, and/or life jackets and went to work on the lake on June 8, 2002. Working from the shore, standing in the lake, and from a boat, these boys pulled 160 pounds of trash from Long Point Lake. This trash included many small pieces of litter, old tires, and even a bicycle! The ducks and other wildlife are now enjoying a much cleaner lake, and hopefully the homeowners will be wiser in their actions that affect the lake.

For more information on Stormwater Management in Portsmouth, contact the Department of Public Works at 393-8592.

<sup>1</sup>In the Stormwater Industry, this refers to a device or facility that is used for treating stormwater to improve its water quality. The assumption is that you select the best technology that is available for the project.

## Local News:

- Free Master Gardening Training. Training offered to 1st 25 applicants by calling Portsmouth's Virginia Cooperative Extension @ 393-5314. Ask for Traci.
- Annual Recognition Contest coming up in early fall 2002. Stay tuned.
- Volunteer Adopt-A-Spot Program Manager needed. Volunteer up to 20 hours a month. For more info call 393-5628.
- Commissioners wanted. Ever consider becoming a distinguished City Council appointed commissioner? We need you! To apply call Monte at 393-8746 or get an application from [www.ci.portsmouth.va.us](http://www.ci.portsmouth.va.us); click on City Clerk; Boards & Commissions.
- Operation Clean Up Portsmouth Award recipient to be awarded at Recognition Banquet in October.

## Operation Clean Up Portsmouth 2002

Truxton/Wilson Ward	27,160
Churchland West	21,980
Cradock - ERP	9,500
West Park View	3,740
Highland Biltmore	21,760
Parkview (next Clean Up August 30)	*750

★ VIRGINIA ★  
Grand total Operation Clean Up

84,890