



THE MAIN DRAIN

STORMWATER NEWS YOU CAN USE

A Publication of the Portsmouth Department of Public Utilities/Public Works -

Division of Stormwater Management

Fall 2007

Sediment Removal Project Underway in Cavalier Canal

A sediment removal project is underway in Cavalier Canal. The work is progressing from the upstream end, nearest Cavalier Boulevard and continuing downstream towards Roosevelt Boulevard. All work will be conducted within the City's drainage easement, which is 100 feet in width. The project is expected to last for approximately 45 to 60 days.

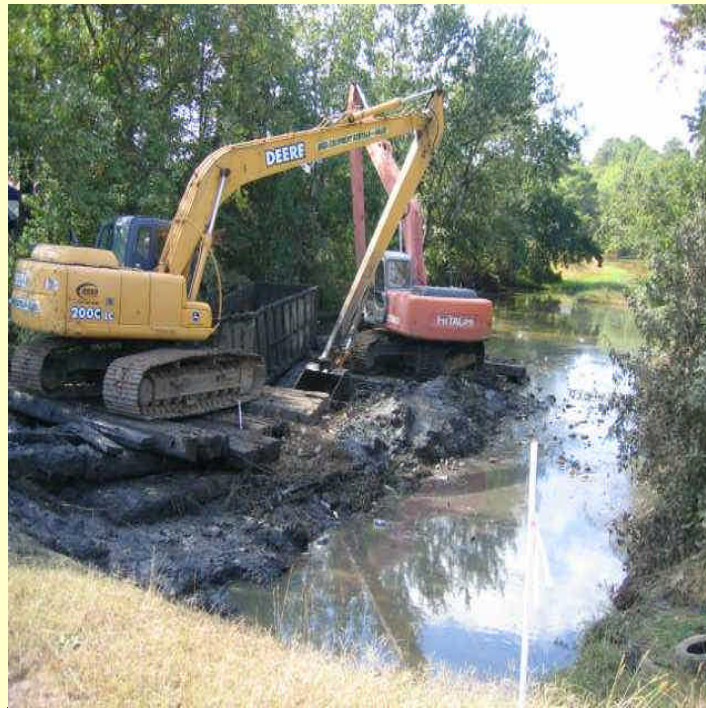
The City's contractor, Lynnhaven Dock Corporation (LDC), will remove the existing "sand bar" at the upstream end of the canal. This sand bar is comprised of sediments that have collected on the canal bottom just below the incoming twin storm drain pipes.

Additionally, LDC will construct an underwater storage area (called a forebay) to collect future incoming sediments.

The contractor will also "spot dredge" areas of

the canal where eight other stormwater pipes enter the canal. Access to these pipes will be gained by using a small floating barge.

Excavated materials will be transported from the canal by sealed trucks to a disposal area. Once the project is complete, the access area will be re-graded and seeded to restore the area to its original condition.



Removing "sand bar" in Cavalier Canal

Construction of the forebay and smaller areas of spot dredging will provide easily accessible areas for incoming sediments to accumulate, thereby minimizing their transport downstream. By capturing the sediments in a localized manner, future maintenance will be less difficult.

Three trash booms exist on the canal. Each will be lengthened, as needed, and re-used at their current locations to capture floating trash for easy removal.

STORMWATER TIP OF THE MONTH:

Fertilize in the Fall and be sure to:

- Test your soil to see what nutrients it needs.
- Use low-phosphorous or phosphate free fertilizers.
- Use slow release granular fertilizers - they leach less and work longer.

LOOK WHAT WE DID. . .

1. The Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation awarded the City our first-ever "Consistent" rating regarding implementation of the State Erosion & Sediment Control Program.



The PW/Stormwater Division is responsible for implementation of the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program, which regulates land-disturbing activities associated with commercial and residential construction. The program focuses on the control of sediments from construction sites to prevent their entry into state-owned receiving waters. Since the inception of the state-mandated program in the mid seventies, some 30 years ago, this is the first time the City has been found to be in full compliance with the state program and regulations. Such compliance indicates Portsmouth is doing its part to ensure responsible land development throughout the City and improve water quality in our local waterways.

Vision Principles Advanced: A Robust & Prospering Economy; Pride of Past, Promise of Future

2. Lake Assessment Report Completed /First Maintenance Project Underway

The PW/Stormwater Division contracted with a national Engineering firm, CH2MHILL and a Richmond-based Lake & Pond Management firm, Aquatic Services, to field assess, prioritize and make recommendations for the long-term maintenance of the 31 lakes and ponds that receive stormwater runoff from City streets. The first project to be implemented is the maintenance dredging of Cavalier Canal. This project marks the City's very first effort to dredge accumulated sediments from lakes and ponds that receive incoming stormwater. The project will serve as a wonderful improvement to the Cavalier Manor community, particularly to the residents whose properties abut the canal. (See cover story.)

Vision Principles Advanced: Bold New Directions; Thriving Neighborhoods & a Sense of Community

STAY TUNED. . .

The PW/Stormwater Division expects to implement a new Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Virginia Pollution Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit in 2008. This state-issued permit will likely impose many new, more stringent water quality requirements throughout the City. Permit tracking & reporting requirements are expected to increase and additional resources will likely be needed to meet these new state-mandated requirements.

NOTICE

Stormwater Utility Fee Increase Effective July 1, 2007

New Rate is \$5.50 per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) per month
(..or \$16.50 per ERU per quarter)



Where does the money go?

- Ditch & Pipe Maintenance in the City Right-of-Way
- Construction of Water Quality Structures
- Water Quality Monitoring & Testing
- Lake & Pond Management
- Illicit Discharge Investigation
- Enforcement of City Code & Program Standards
- Public Education
- VPDES Permit Compliance & Reporting



Local Businesses Join the *Chesapeake Club*SM Campaign “Saving the Crabs So We Can Eat ‘em. . .”

The Chesapeake ClubSM campaign is a nutrient reduction program developed to help people realize that crabs in the Chesapeake Bay are dying due to pollutants. The official campaign slogan “Save the crabs then eat ‘em” is aimed to help folks make the connection that our activities on land have an effect on our resources in local waterways. Area lawn care companies were recruited to adopt the Chesapeake Club standard of fertilizing in the fall and limiting phosphorus and nitrogen applications. Area restaurants handed out coasters to help spread the word.

Many thanks to participating Portsmouth Businesses:

Lawn Care Companies

*Affordable Lawn Care
LawnBiz Lawn Service, Inc.
Classic Lawn & Landscape LLC*

*Mario’s Italian Restaurant
The Bar & Bistro at 506
Boomerangs Seafood Restaurant
Dave’s Cove Café & Fresh
Seafood Market*

Restaurants

*Roger Brown’s
The Bier Garden
Paddy O’Brien’s
Bide-a-Wee Grille
The Flagship Restaurant
The Deck
Thumpers
Baron’s Pub*

ATTENTION TEACHERS !!!

Applications Being Accepted for Mini-Grants Program

The Hampton Roads Environmental Education Teams (HR WET, HR STORM and HR CLEAN) offer competitive mini-grants of up to \$250 each year to provide supplemental funding for environmentally-related projects. All school teachers (K-12) and youth leaders in the Hampton Roads region are eligible.

Funded projects shall be specifically tied to litter prevention, waste minimization and recycling or beautification; water conservation; stormwater pollution prevention; or efficiency.

For a list of appropriate topic areas, more information and access to the easy-to-fill-out application, refer to the HR STORM website at:
<http://www.hrstorm.org/MiniGrant.shtml>

\$\$ FREE \$\$

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The Main Drain is a publication that addresses local Stormwater and Erosion and Sediment Control issues concerning Portsmouth residents and employees and is produced by The City of Portsmouth, Department of Public Utilities / Public Works - Division of Stormwater Management.

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