Municipality/Organization: Town of Weymouth

EPA NPDES Permit Number: MA041070

MaDEP Transmittal Number: **W-035571**

Annual Report Number & Reporting Period: **No. 2: March 04 - March 05**

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report

Part I. General Information

Contact Person: Andrew P. (Chip) Fontaine, P.E. Title: Town Engineer

Telephone #: 781-337-5100, ext. 318 Email: cfontaine@weymouth.ma.us

Certification:

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Signature: David M. Madden

Printed Name: David M. Madden

Title: Mayor

Date: 4/27/05

Part II. Self-Assessment

In 2001, the Town of Weymouth ("Town") entered into a $200,000 contract with engineering consultants BETA Group, Inc. ("BETA"), to develop a watershed master plan for Whitman's Pond which, in separate sections, is both a recreational resource and part of the Town's drinking water supply. That project included analysis of stormwater impacts and recommendations to mitigate stormwater pollution. Half of the funding for that project was provided by the Massachusetts (MA) Department of Environmental Management ("DEM").

In 2002, the Town fully funded a $330,000 contract with BETA to create the first draft of the Town's Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP). A major component of both of these projects was to clean all town catch basins and inspect the entire drain system. The inspection data was used to create town-wide drain system mapping and data management in a Geographic Information System (GIS).

Although these projects represent a major financial commitment by the Town, as well as a significant technical data collection and analysis effort, these accomplishments are in addition to pre-existing Town stormwater management activities (nowadays referred to as Best Management Practices or "BMPs"). Some of these BMPs have been performed by the Town itself while others are being performed by grassroots organizations. These existing BMPs are identified in Part III of this report.

In July of 2004, town representatives involved with development of the SWMP met with USEPA representatives to review our program thus far (see attached letter dated 8/23/04). SWMP development efforts have since included work on the items identified in the EPA letter as identified below.

Notice of Intent (NOI)

The town has obtained plans of Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD) drainage in Weymouth in the past and will continue to do so. In recent discussion with MHD, we are told that MHD expects to locate all of their outfalls as part of their SWMP effort. We will continue to coordinate storm water management with MHD, including obtaining updated drain system/outfall mapping and providing them with our GIS drain system layer when they have the ability to utilize it. The town is currently preparing to construct a modification to an MHD drain in Rte. 53 that will redirect highway runoff away from the South Cove of Whitman's Pond which is a town supplemental drinking water supply.

Our SWMP will prioritize identification and removal/reduction of bacteria levels in storm water, particularly where pathogens are identified as impacting certain receiving waters. Our draft SWMP does identify the water bodies that are identified as Category 5 (impaired/threatened, requiring a TMDL) in the MA Integrated List of Waters [Clean Water Act Sections 303(d) and 305(b)] although MA DEP has yet to develop TMDLs for these water bodies.

The Town has completed the required self-assessment and has determined that our municipality is in compliance with all permit conditions except the following provisions:

Part II.A.1, 2 The Town has been working on complete drafts of the SWMP, written by BETA, for about two years now. It continues to be evaluated by the DPW and other affected town departments. Although the Town's NOI has attempted to identify all necessary actions to comply with Part II.B, various details of the SWMP are still being revised to ensure that the Town accomplishes the NPDES goals to the maximum extent practicable, therefore this provision is still in process of being met.

Part II.B.1-6 Any provisions of Part II.B.1 - 6 that have not been met are detailed in Part III below.

Part II.B.8 The town encourages BMPs that promote groundwater recharge and Standard 3 of the state Storm Water Management Policy. Although the town does plan to develop these, either within the SWMP or as part of the DPW Rules, Regulations and Construction Specifications, specific groundwater recharge/infiltration policies have not yet been developed.

Part III. Summary of Minimum Control Measures

1. Public Education and Outreach

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 2 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 3
1-1	Classroom Education	School Dept.	High school Environmental Science class will include stormwater management issues.	Stormwater pollution awareness and management issues have been included in this class for the last 12 years. The major topics covered are: watersheds and land uses, impact of impervious surface on I/R ratios, types of non point source pollution, storm water pollutants, storm water infrastructure, storm water management and BMPs, impact of storm water on surface waters, sanitary sewers, sewage treatment and septic tanks, eutrophication and several labs dealing with testing storm water quality and the quality of the receiving surface waters.	This classroom training will continue. When finalized, the town's SWMP will be made available to the class.
Revised					
1-2	Flyer and Brochure Distribution	DPW	Obtain stormwater-related flyers and distribute them to the public	The EPA brochure "Protecting Water Quality from Urban Runoff" was printed by the School Department. The town has entered into a partnership called the Greenscapes program with the North and South Rivers Watershed Association (NSRWA), other environmental agencies, and 11 other South Shore communities. Greenscapes flyers and the EPA brochures (copies of each attached) were distributed in water & sewer bills. Also mailed to all residents was the 2005 Greenscapes Reference Guide (see http://www.nsrwa.org/greenscapes/factsheets.html for online version).	Additional flyers will be developed/ obtained and will be distributed, including as utility bill inserts.
Revised					

1-3	Using the Media	DPW	Once a year, do a local cable TV public service announcement. Twice a year do a newspaper press release/article.	Household hazardous waste day, which is held in fall and spring, was announced on cable TV, emailed to members of a town email list, posted on the South Shore Recycling Cooperative website, and published in the newspaper (see attached). Town-wide Waterfront and Whitman's Pond Cleanup Days were also identified in the newspaper (also attached). Through the Greenscapes Program, radio ads were run on a local FM radio station and a 30-minute video was provided to the local cable TV station.	This practice will continue with increasing focus on specific stormwater management issues. In the next couple of months, the EPA video "After the Storm" will be aired on local cable TV with added commentary from the Town Engineer and the Town Conservation Agent.
Revised					
1-4	Hazardous Waste Management	DPW	Conduct Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day twice a year. Will be advertised in newspaper. Quantity of waste collected will be tracked.	Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is conducted in the spring and in the fall and is advertised (see attachment). Quantity of collected waste is recorded. 80 paint boxes were picked-up from the DPW garage. Each box holds about 100 gallons. Additionally, approximately 2,000 gallons of non-paint liquid hazardous waste and 1,600 pounds of solid hazardous waste were collected. The town's recycling contractor also collected 1,547 TVs, 754 computer monitors, 52 microwave ovens and 30 air conditioners.	This practice will continue.

2. Public Involvement and Participation

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 2 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 3
2-1	Adopt-A-Stream/Drain Program	DPW	All town water bodies will be adopted. Track amount of trash removed.	The Whitman's Pond Association, the Herring Run Warden and the Isaac Walton Fishing Association continue to "adopt" Whitman's Pond, the Herring Run and Old Swamp River, respectively. The Fore River Watershed Association adopted the Fore River. Initiated preliminary discussions with District Councilors about Adopt-A-Stream/Drain program. Amount of collected trash is tracked (see 2-2 below; unknown for Old Swamp River).	Will continue to work with District Councilors on getting an Adopt-A-Stream/Drain program started. District Town Councilors will be contacted to consider notifying local groups such as civic associations, Boy Scout troupes, etc., of the possibility of adopting additional town water bodies. Amount of trash removed will be tracked.
Revised					
2-2	Pond & Stream Cleanup & Monitoring	DPW	Coordinate and track cleanup activities	Cleanup Days were held for Whitman's Pond [25 cubic yards (CY)of debris collected], the Herring Run, Old Swamp River and the Fore River (22 CY of debris collected). The Whitman's Pond Committee, the Herring Run Warden and the Fore River Watershed Association are non-municipal partners. There was a cleanup day at Great Esker Park in May '04 and a town cleanup of waterfront areas on 10/23/04.	With assistance from the DPW, the Whitman's Pond Association, the Herring Run Warden and the Isaac Walton Fishing Association, will continue to have these activities. Additional pond and stream cleanups will also be arranged based on the development of the Adopt-A-Stream/Drain Program.
Revised					
2-3	Stencil Storm Drains	DPW	Stencil 300 or more catch basins each year.	More catch basins that are in the Whitman's Pond watershed were stenciled by the Whitman's Pond Association using stencils and paint purchased by the DPW.	Additional catch basins will be stenciled.
Revised					

2-5	Community Hotlline/ Weblink	DPW	Create a Stormwater Hotline/Weblink. Track # of calls and remedied problems.	The town created a Stormwater Hotline/weblink. It is part of the DPW web page on the town website. http://www.weymouth.ma.us/dpw/index.asp?id=2917 There is also a link to contact the Mayor or DPW for emergencies and there are Mayor's Hotlines (800-297-5733 & 800-335-8606). There is also a town emailing list which residents can sign up for to be notified of town activities, including cleanups. The Greenscapes Newsletter is also accessible from the town DPW web page and contains a link to the Greenscapes website. http://www.weymouth.ma.us/dpw/index.asp?id=2587	Continue to update the SWMP webpage on the town web site. Track calls and problem remedies.
Revised					
2-8	Pet Waste Collection	Town Council	Create and enforce an ordinance. Track # of signs posted.	The Town Council has created an ordinance to fine persons who do not clean up after their dog (Ordinance 6-801). The Town has put 2 signs & 1 Mutt Mitt dispenser at Weston Park ("Kids Landing"). Pet waste signs and Mutt Mitt dispensers exist at Humphrey Field and School House Road, respectively.	Continued investigation into options. Implementation of any option(s) found to be feasible and affordable.
Revised					
Revised					

2a. Additions

2-6	Public Workshops	DPW	Develop and advertise public workshops to disseminate information to and receive input from the public.	The DPW Water & Sewer Division, together with the North & South Rivers Watershed Association and the Mass. Bays Program, have developed a GreenScapes free workshop which was held on June 3, 2004. It described ways to protect the environment by reducing the need for water and chemicals.	Public workshops will be planned and advertised with a frequency goal of at least one per year.

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 2 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 3
3-1	Inspect and sample all town discharges	DPW	Continue program to locate, sample and test.	All outfalls were inspected and dry weather flows sampled and tested in Year 1. In Year 2, when requested by the Health Dept. or when any potential surface water pollution was suspected, more samples were obtained and tested.	When identified, suspect discharges will be sampled and tested.
Revised					
3-2	System mapping development	DPW	Complete system map. Add soils and land use maps.	Townwide GIS drain system mapping was completed and we have printed an atlas set of drain system maps. 96 drain structures, including outfalls, manholes and catch basins were GPSed by DPW staff. Soil and land use exists as GIS layers.	Additional GPS of inlets and outfalls to be done by DPW.
Revised					
3-3	Illegal dumping enforcement/education	DPW	Flyers; track and prosecute illegal dumping.	Existing ordinances prohibit discharge of untreated waste, garbage, etc. Signs prohibiting dumping of waste have been posted at various locations throughout town. A closed container has been installed next to the DPW building so residents can dispose of their motor oil. Six "no dumping" signs have been installed this year.	Will continue to create signs and post them in areas known for illegal dumping. Create and distribute flyers.
Revised					
3-4	Septic system controls	Health Dept.	Track #, location and inspection of septic systems.	In 2004, 71 septic system sites were switched to the town sewer system, leaving 728 septic systems currently still in use.	Create a Health Dept. regulation that identifies the requirements and conditions under which properties with septic systems will need to connect to the town sewer system. Continue converting properties on septic systems to sewer.
Revised					

3-5	Create illicit discharge ordinance	DPW	Eliminate illicit discharges to the drain system.	Existing ordinances prohibit discharge of untreated waste, garbage, etc. (Ordinances 6-901, 6-1214, 7-401, 11-101 and 12-103) Continued investigation into an ordinance.	Continue working towards development of an outline and format for an illicit discharge ordinance/regulation.
Revised					

4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 2 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 3
4-1	Ordinance review and update	Town Council & Planning Dept.	Develop erosion and sediment control ordinance/regulation.	Reviewed several erosion and sediment control ordinances for consideration of adopting one or to otherwise use as reference to model ours.	Continue working towards development of an outline and format for an erosion and sediment control ordinance/regulation.
Revised					
4-2	Construction inspection	DPW & Building Dept.	Track inadequate sites/plans and # of non-compliant permit.	Preliminary discussions regarding specific procedures for stormwater related inspections and tracking system.	Work on reporting system in conjunction with development of inspector training program with respect to SWMP requirements.
Revised					
Revised					
Revised					
Revised					
Revised					

4a. Additions

5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 2 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 3
5-1	Regulations for post-construction runoff	Town Council/DPW	Develop public works construction rules and regs., including storm drain connection regulation.	Draft documents developed by consultant (BETA Group) and DPW staff. Review process underway.	Continue working towards completion and issuance of a DPW rules, regulations & construction specifications document.
Revised		DPW			
5-2	BMP inspection and maintenance	DPW	Inspect structural BMPs once a year; document problems.	Drainage structures were inspected where deemed necessary. Started identification of structural BMPs in the Drain GIS using type, location and frequency of inspection required.	Complete identification of structural BMPs in the Drain GIS. Evaluate manpower requirements for inspection and maintenance. Inspect BMPs if available manpower allows.
Revised					
Revised					
Revised					
Revised					
Revised					

5a. Additions

6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping in Municipal Operations

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 2 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 3
6-1	Catch basin cleaning program	DPW	Develop program, collect data, refine program.	Approximately half of the catch basins have been cleaned this year by the DPW.	Half of the town's catch basins will be cleaned. Prioritization will be given to specific "higher need" areas such as the Great Pond and Whitman's Pond watersheds. Continue Drain GIS data collection and work on refining catch basin cleaning program.
Revised					
6-2	Street sweeping	DPW	Sweep all roads annually, track quantity of sweepings.	All roads swept. Approximately 6000 cubic yards of sand was swept up.	Sweep all roads. Continue to track quantity of sweepings.
Revised					
6-3	Pipe inspections	DPW	Inspect drain lines on as-needed basis.	Numerous drain lines were inspected. At times, this is accomplished with a remote TV camera but its transporter is not designed for drain pipe use.	Continue inspections as needed. Purchase the required transporter to allow video camera access to all drain lines if funding can be obtained.
Revised					
6-4	Pipe cleaning	DPW	Clean and flush drain lines as needed.	60 drain lines were cleaned out by flushing with high pressure hose.	Continue cleaning pipes as needed.
Revised					
6-5	New pipe & structural installations	DPW	Replace drain pipes, catch basins and other drain structures as needed.	12 drain structures were replaced or repaired.	Drain structures will be replaced or repaired where required.
Revised					
Revised					

6a. Additions

6-6	Employee Training	DPW/ Planning	Develop and implement employee SWMP training program.	Contacted EPA and obtained sample training material. They have given us a few good web sites.	Continue working on development of employee SWMP training program, including one for inspectors.
Revised					
6-7	Spill Containment	DPW/Fire	Implement structural components and training to address spill containment at the DPW	The DPW installed a spill kit near the refueling area. The Fire Dept. has been requested and has agreed to provide spill containment training session for DPW employees. Contacted EPA and obtained sample training material. They have given us a few good web sites.	Continue working on development of spill containment training and procedures. Will discuss existing equipment and procedures with the Fire Dept.
Revised					

7. BMPs for Meeting Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Waste Load Allocations (WLA) *<<if applicable>>*

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 2 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 3
1-1 Revised	Classroom Education	School Dept.	High school Environmental Science class will include stormwater management issues.	Stormwater pollution awareness and management issues have been included in this class for the last 12 years.	This classroom training will continue. The town's SWMP will be made available to the class.
2-2 Revised	Pond & Stream Cleanup & Monitoring	DPW	Coordinate and track cleanup activities	Cleanup Days were held for Whitman's Pond [25 cubic yards (CY)of debris collected], the Herring Run, Old Swamp River and the Fore River (22 CY of debris collected). The Whitman's Pond Committee, the Herring Run Warden and the Fore River Watershed Association are non-municipal partners. There was a cleanup day at Great Esker Park in May '04 and a town cleanup of waterfront areas on 10/23/04.	With assistance from the DPW, the Whitman's Pond Association, the Herring Run Warden and the Isaac Walton Fishing Association, will continue to have these activities. Additional pond and stream cleanups will also be arranged based on the development of the Adopt-A-Stream/Drain Program.
2-3 Revised	Stencil Storm Drains	DPW	Stencil 300 or more catch basins each year.	More catch basins that are in the Whitman's Pond watershed were stenciled by the Whitman's Pond Association using stencils and paint purchased by the DPW.	Additional catch basins will be stenciled.
3-1 Revised	Inspect and sample all town discharges	DPW	Continue program to locate, sample and test.	All outfalls were inspected and dry weather flows sampled and tested in Year 1. In Year 2, when requested by the Health Dept. or when any potential surface water pollution was suspected, more samples were obtained and tested.	When identified, suspect discharges will be sampled and tested.
3-3	Illegal dumping enforcement/education	DPW	Flyers; track and prosecute illegal dumping.	Existing ordinances prohibit discharge of untreated waste, garbage, etc. Signs	Will continue to create signs and post them in areas known for illegal

Revised					

7a. Additions

7b. WLA Assessment

The MA DEP has not yet developed TMDLs for any Weymouth's water bodies that are identified as Category 5 (impaired/threatened, requiring a TMDL) in the MA Integrated List of Waters [Clean Water Act Sections 303(d) and 305(b)].

Continued cleaning of all town catch basins (approximately 4,000) every other year provides a tremendous benefit by removing waste and pollutants from the stormwater that outfalls into water resources. Sweeping all town streets likewise prevents the sand, dirt and road debris that carries pollutants from entering the drain system and eventually polluting the environment.

The Town is reviewing the Whitman's Pond watershed master plan and the SWMP, both developed by BETA, for potential final revision and acceptance. Although numerous BMPs are currently in use and more will be implemented per the recommendations in the BETA reports, a detailed Waste Load Allocation Assessment has not yet been done. The Town will work towards performing this assessment in time to be included in the 2006 annual report.

Part IV. Summary of Information Collected and Analyzed

The completion of the town-wide drain system GIS and issuance of a GIS Drain Atlas were tremendous milestones in the town's SWMP efforts since the last annual report. The Drain GIS represents the best source of information on the town's drain system that has ever existed in a single document. Work by DPW staff will continue to enhance the accuracy and completeness of this data. This will include identification and database development of all town structural BMPs.

The significant quantities of hazardous waste and recycled materials identified in Section III.1-4 confirms that the town is providing an important service to residents who are very willing to properly dispose of these materials when a means to do so is available. The impact on storm water quality and the environment in general from these programs, as well as the various water body adoptions, clean-up days, Mutt Mitt dispenser installations, and conversions from septic system to sewer, is a difficult to quantify, but undeniable, benefit.

Part V. Program Outputs & Accomplishments (OPTIONAL)

Programmatic

Stormwater management position created/staffed	(y/n)	
Annual program budget/expenditures	($)	

Education, Involvement, and Training

Estimated number of residents reached by education program(s)	(# or %)	
Stormwater management committee established	(y/n)	
Stream teams established or supported	(# or y/n)	
Shoreline clean-up participation or quantity of shoreline miles cleaned	(y/n or mi.)	
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days		
▪ days sponsored	(#)	
▪ community participation	(%)	
▪ material collected	(tons or gal)	

School curricula implemented	(y/n)	

Legal/Regulatory

	In Place Prior to Phase II	Under Review	Drafted	Adopted
Regulatory Mechanism Status (indicate with "**X**")				
▪ Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination				
▪ Erosion & Sediment Control				
▪ Post-Development Stormwater Management				
Accompanying Regulation Status (indicate with "**X**")				
▪ Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination				
▪ Erosion & Sediment Control				
▪ Post-Development Stormwater Management				

Mapping and Illicit Discharges

Outfall mapping complete	(%)	
Estimated or actual number of outfalls	(#)	
System-Wide mapping complete	(%)	
Mapping method(s)		
▪ Paper/Mylar	(%)	
▪ CADD	(%)	
▪ GIS	(%)	
Outfalls inspected/screened	(# or %)	
Illicit discharges identified	(#)	
Illicit connections removed	(#) (est. gpd)	
% of population on sewer	(%)	
% of population on septic systems	(%)	

Construction

Number of construction starts (>1-acre)	(#)	
Estimated percentage of construction starts adequately regulated for erosion and sediment control	(%)	
Site inspections completed	(# or %)	
Tickets/Stop work orders issued	(# or %)	
Fines collected	(# and $)	
Complaints/concerns received from public	(#)	

Post-Development Stormwater Management

Estimated percentage of development/redevelopment projects adequately regulated for post-construction stormwater control	(%)	
Site inspections completed	(# or %)	
Estimated volume of stormwater recharged	(gpy)	

Operations and Maintenance

Average frequency of catch basin cleaning (non-commercial/non-arterial streets)	(times/yr)	
Average frequency of catch basin cleaning (commercial/arterial or other critical streets)	(times/yr)	
Total number of structures cleaned	(#)	
Storm drain cleaned	(LF or mi.)	
Qty. of screenings/debris removed from storm sewer infrastructure	(lbs. or tons)	
Disposal or use of sweepings (landfill, POTW, compost, recycle for sand, beneficial use, etc.)		
Cost of screenings disposal	($)	

Average frequency of street sweeping (non-commercial/non-arterial streets)	(times/yr)	
Average frequency of street sweeping (commercial/arterial or other critical streets)	(times/yr)	
Qty. of sand/debris collected by sweeping	(lbs. or tons)	
Disposal of sweepings (landfill, POTW, compost, beneficial use, etc.)	(location)	
Cost of sweepings disposal	($)	
Vacuum street sweepers purchased/leased	(#)	
Vacuum street sweepers specified in contracts	(y/n)	

Reduction in application on public land of: ("N/A" = never used; "100%" = elimination)		
▪ Fertilizers	(lbs. or %)	
▪ Herbicides	(lbs. or %)	
▪ Pesticides	(lbs. or %)	

Anti-/De-Icing products and ratios	% NaCl % $CaCl_2$ % $MgCl_2$ % CMA % Kac % KCl % Sand	
Pre-wetting techniques utilized	(y/n)	
Manual control spreaders used	(y/n)	
Automatic or Zero-velocity spreaders used	(y/n)	
Estimated net reduction in typical year salt application	(lbs. or %)	
Salt pile(s) covered in storage shed(s)	(y/n)	
Storage shed(s) in design or under construction	(y/n)	

Municipality/Organization:	Town of Weymouth
EPA NPDES Permit Number:	MA041070
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ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter from USEPA dated 8/23/04 (5 pages).

2. USEPA brochure "Protecting Water Quality from Urban Runoff"; used as insert in water and sewer bills (2 pages).

3. NSRWA email describing Greenscapes Program, 4/13/05 (2 pages).

4. NSRWA letter to Greenscapes Program Partners, 4/15/05 (3 pages).

5. Greenscapes flyers; used as inserts in water and sewer bills (3 pages).

6. Public notices/articles: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, CoastSweep 2004, town-wide waterfront and Whitman's Pond cleanups (11 pages).

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

August 23, 2004

Mr. Andrew Fontaine
Department of Public Works
120 Winter St.
Weymouth, MA 02188

RE: NPDES Stormwater General Permit Number: MAR041070

Dear Mr. ~~Fontaine~~: Chip

Thank you for meeting with Abby Swaine and me on July 15, 2004, to review Weymouth's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Stormwater Management Program. The meeting provided us an opportunity to discuss the content of your program as well as understand obstacles the town may face.

This letter summarizes the key topics we discussed and provides comments and recommendations concerning the implementation of your Storm Water Management Plan.

The City has shown insight into what is required from the Phase II permit and has made a good start toward developing a comprehensive storm water management program. Now that the first year of the permit has passed, you should evaluate the goals you expected to complete and make realistic adjustments where needed.

Notice of Intent (NOI)

a. Your NOI notes that the Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD) has state roads in Weymouth. The Town and MHD should discuss if there are opportunities to collaborate on a common storm water plan.

b. Pathogens are listed as a source of impairment in several of your receiving waters. The storm water plan should give priority to identifying and removing/reducing sources of bacteria.

Public Education

We support your working with the North and South Rivers Watershed Association. Through this association you may find opportunities to coordinate with other towns to share public education

materials, costs and other storm water information.

Weymouth already has many services and activities for citizens where they can become informed about their role in the environment, such as recycling, drain stenciling, community clean-up days, household hazardous waste collection and pet waste pick-up. Each of these programs presents an opportunity to increase awareness about stormwater.

Outreach programs should also be considered to reach commercial and industrial entities that might have significant stormwater impacts to your system. On EPA's web site you will find many education/outreach products free of charge– see

http://cfpub1.epa.gov/npdes/whatsnew.cfm?program_id=6

We also support your plans to develop a community storm water website. I hope the web information we provided will be useful to you.

Public Participation

At the meeting, you described the City's efforts to invite the public to participate in the storm water program, including classroom exercises, storm drain marking and working with citizen groups like the Whitman Pond Association. You mentioned that other departments have been informed of the City's efforts to build a stormwater program. Involving them may present other opportunities to increase public awareness and involvement in preventing stormwater pollution. Ideas we discussed included showing EPA's After The Storm video in the environmental science class at the high school and on the local cable TV station, printing stormwater info on water & sewer bills, displaying stormwater brochures at the water and engineering departments for visitors to see, and at the DPW recycling drop-off location and at household hazardous waste days. You mentioned that the Council is considering providing Mutt Mitts to encourage pet owners to pick up after them, which is a positive way to combat bacterial contamination.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

The City has almost completed mapping the municipal drainage system, including outfalls, and entered the data into a Geographic Information System. A consultant performed an inspection of 505 outfalls and tested any dry weather flow found. Testing indicates no illicit connections. Identifying, mapping and testing these outfalls is a significant accomplishment and the City is commended for completing these projects so early in the 5 year Permit term.

Weymouth does have 5 water bodies listed as impaired by bacteria. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection will be developing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for these water bodies, which may give direction on actions you can take to reduce impairment. To check if a TMDL has been developed for any of your receiving waters, go to

www.mass.gov/dep/brp/wm/tmdls.htm

The NPDES Permit requires the City to have an ordinance or other mechanism to control the discharge of non-stormwater to the storm drain system. To help in this effort, you will find a model ordinance on the Attorney General's web site at

www.ago.state.ma.us

Educating the public about illicit discharges to storm drains (like dumping used oil and paint waste) and about runoff from lawns may help reduce non-bacteria pollutants. The information we left with you may be useful for public education. Although the percentage of the population still served by septic systems is small, enclosed is a brochure on proper maintenance of septic systems for those that may remain for the short- or long-term.

Construction Site Runoff Controls and Post Construction Runoff Controls

During the meeting, you explained that proposals for construction projects are submitted to the Planning and Community Development department, where they are distributed to Public Works, Building, and/or Conservation for technical review, depending on the type of project. The Conservation Commission requires (through Orders of Conditions) construction projects taking place within buffer areas around surface waters to implement erosion and sedimentation plans, and maintains authority to inspect sites. The Conservation Commission also requires that post-construction maintenance of stormwater handling facilities be conducted by the developers, their assignees or successors. Massachusetts Conservation Commissions derive their authority from the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, which protects alteration of wetlands resource areas from activities within the resource area or a 100-foot buffer zone. You stated that you are not aware of a separate City requirement that erosion and sediment control plans be submitted for construction taking place outside the buffer zones where the Conservation Commission has jurisdiction.

For projects disturbing one or more acres of land, the NPDES Stormwater Permit requires the community to develop and implement an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism that:

- Requires erosion and sediment controls based on best management practices
- Requires control of wastes such as discarded building materials, chemicals, litter, and sanitary wastes
- Includes sanctions to insure compliance
- Lays out procedures for site plan review (including preconstruction)
- Includes procedures for inspection and enforcement at sites

The Permit also requires that the City have an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism authorizing a program to address long-term ("post-construction") stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment. The program needs to include procedures to insure that storm water controls really work and are maintained long-term. The City can choose from a broad array of options for addressing long-term runoff, from traditional detention ponds to procedures to encourage Low Impact Development. For ideas, see EPA's website:

www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/post.cfm

As noted earlier, the Conservation Commission has many of these powers, but its jurisdiction is limited and may not have adequate enforcement authority. Many community subdivision rules rely on the authority of the Conservation Commission but are applied throughout the community. Through a combination of the Conservation Commission authority and the City's Planning Board rules, many aspects of the NPDES stormwater permit construction and post construction requirements may be satisfied. To ensure that all the components of the Permit are addressed, you could compare the City's subdivision rules and the Conservation Commission's authorities with the model ordinances located on the MA Attorney General's website at:

www.ago.state.ma.us

The model ordinances posted on the AG's website are fashioned for those communities that wish to develop stand-alone storm water bylaws or ordinances rather than modifying those already in place. Incorporation of the authorities required by the NPDES permit into existing subdivision rules or other existing legal mechanisms is acceptable to EPA and MA DEP.

Some communities reference MA DEP's Stormwater Policy Handbook, Stormwater Technical Handbook, and Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines: A Guide for Planners, Designers, and Municipal officials as best management practices. You may want to check to see that referencing these materials does not cause conflict with other sections of the City's rules. As an example, if state regulations prescribing use of the MA Stormwater Policy contain an appeal procedure, they could conflict with the City's own appeal procedures.

Good Housekeeping/Pollution Prevention in Municipal Operations

We were pleased to learn about the numerous beneficial practices you have put in place at the DPW garage, notably, covering the salt pile, washing vehicles inside, and connecting floor drains to the sanitary sewer. Since your refueling station is not covered or bermed, providing a convenient spill cleanup kit, spill prevention instructions, and emergency contact numbers is advisable. Entering catch basin locations into your GIS will be a worthwhile enhancement that should help schedule maintenance activities and budgeting. Regarding training for municipal staff, it can take many forms, including videos, workshops, and the general awareness information you use for the general public.

As your storm water program matures, look for opportunities to measure the success of your program. This could be the number of illicit connections removed, number of storm drains marked, amount of debris collected from streets and catch basins, number of construction sites inspected, number of people reached through public awareness, etcetera.

Thank you again for meeting with us. Please note that the second annual report is due May 1, 2005 to both EPA and MA DEP. If you have comments or questions about any information contained in this letter, don't hesitate to contact me at 617/918-1844 or by email at healey.jack@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Jack

John R. Healey
Municipal Assistance Program

cc: Linda Domizio, MA DEP
R. O'Connor, Weymouth

Enclosure:

EPA
United States Environmental Protection Agency

EPA 841-F-03-003

Protecting Water Quality *from* URBAN RUNOFF

Clean Water Is Everybody's Business

In urban and suburban areas, much of the land surface is covered by buildings and pavement, which do not allow rain and snowmelt to soak into the ground. Instead, most developed areas rely on storm drains to carry large amounts of runoff from roofs and paved areas to nearby waterways. The stormwater runoff carries pollutants such as oil, dirt, chemicals, and lawn fertilizers directly to streams and rivers, where they seriously harm water quality. To protect surface water quality and groundwater resources, development should be designed and built to minimize increases in runoff.

The most recent National Water Quality Inventory reports that runoff from urbanized areas is the leading source of water quality impairments to surveyed estuaries and the third-largest source of impairments to surveyed lakes.

Did you know that because of impervious surfaces like pavement and rooftops, a typical city block generates more than 5 times more runoff than a woodland area of the same size?

How Urbanized Areas Affect Water Quality

Increased Runoff

The porous and varied terrain of natural landscapes like forests, wetlands, and grasslands traps rainwater and snowmelt and allows them to filter slowly into the ground. In contrast, impervious (nonporous) surfaces like roads, parking lots, and rooftops prevent rain and snowmelt from infiltrating, or soaking, into the ground. Most of the rainfall and snowmelt remains above the surface, where it runs off rapidly in unnaturally large amounts.

Storm sewer systems concentrate runoff into smooth, straight conduits. This runoff gathers speed and erosional power as it travels underground. When this runoff leaves the storm drains and empties into a stream, its excessive volume and power blast out streambanks, damaging streamside vegetation and wiping out aquatic habitat. These increased storm flows carry sediment loads from construction sites and other denuded surfaces and eroded streambanks. They often carry higher water temperatures from streets, roof tops, and parking lots, which are harmful to the health and reproduction of aquatic life.

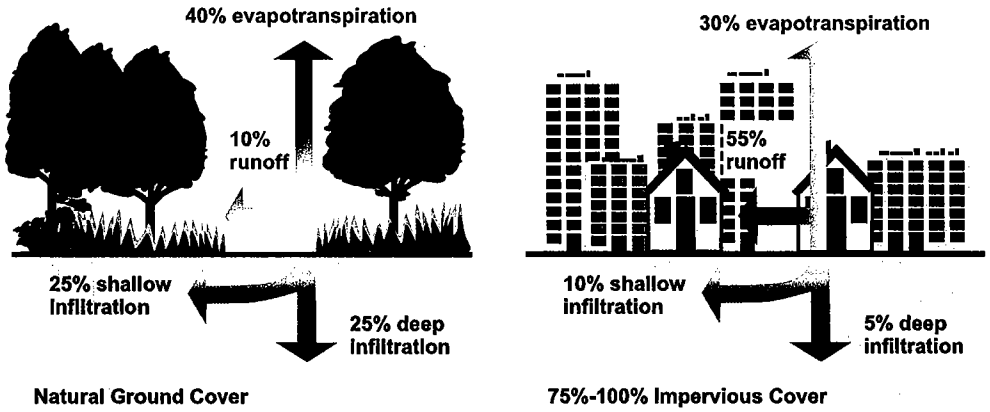
The loss of infiltration from urbanization may also cause profound groundwater changes. Although urbanization leads to great increases in flooding during and immediately after wet weather, in many instances it results in lower stream flows during dry weather. Many native fish and other aquatic life cannot survive when these conditions prevail.

Increased Pollutant Loads

Urbanization increases the variety and amount of pollutants carried into streams, rivers, and lakes. The pollutants include:

- Sediment
- Oil, grease, and toxic chemicals from motor vehicles
- Pesticides and nutrients from lawns and gardens
- Viruses, bacteria, and nutrients from pet waste and failing septic systems
- Road salts
- Heavy metals from roof shingles, motor vehicles, and other sources
- Thermal pollution from dark impervious surfaces such as streets and rooftops

These pollutants can harm fish and wildlife populations, kill native vegetation, foul drinking water supplies, and make recreational areas unsafe and unpleasant.



Relationship between impervious cover and surface runoff. Impervious cover in a watershed results in increased surface ruunoff. As little as 10 percent impervious cover in a watershed can result in stream degradation.

Managing Urban Runoff

What Homeowners Can Do

To decrease polluted runoff from paved surfaces, households can develop alternatives to areas traditionally covered by impervious surfaces. Porous pavement materials are available for driveways and sidewalks, and native vegetation and mulch can replace high maintenance grass lawns. Homeowners can use fertilizers sparingly and sweep driveways, sidewalks, and roads instead of using a hose. Instead of disposing of yard waste, they can use the materials to start a compost pile. And homeowners can learn to use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to reduce dependence on harmful pesticides.

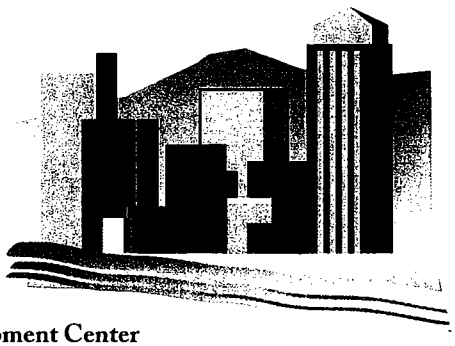
In addition, households can prevent polluted runoff by picking up after pets and using, storing, and disposing of chemicals properly. Drivers should check their cars for leaks and recycle their motor oil and antifreeze when these fluids are changed. Drivers can also avoid impacts from car wash runoff (e.g., detergents, grime, etc.) by using car wash facilities that do not generate runoff. Households served by septic systems should have them professionally inspected and pumped every 3 to 5 years. They should also practice water conservation measures to extend the life of their septic systems.

Controlling Impacts from New Development

Developers and city planners should attempt to control the volume of runoff from new development by using low impact development, structural controls, and pollution prevention strategies. Low impact development includes measures that conserve natural areas (particularly sensitive hydrologic areas like riparian buffers and infiltrable soils); reduce development impacts; and reduce site runoff rates by maximizing surface roughness, infiltration opportunities, and flow paths.

Controlling Impacts from Existing Development

Controlling runoff from existing urban areas is often more costly than controlling runoff from new developments. Economic efficiencies are often realized through approaches that target "hot spots" of runoff pollution or have multiple benefits, such as high-efficiency street sweeping (which addresses aesthetics, road safety, and water quality). Urban planners and others responsible for managing urban and suburban areas can first identify and implement pollution prevention strategies and examine source control opportunities. They should seek out priority pollutant reduction opportunities, then protect natural areas that help control runoff, and finally begin ecological restoration and retrofit activities to clean up degraded water bodies. Local governments are encouraged to take lead roles in public education efforts through public signage, storm drain marking, pollution prevention outreach campaigns, and partnerships with citizen groups and businesses. Citizens can help prioritize the clean-up strategies, volunteer to become involved in restoration efforts, and mark storm drains with approved "don't dump" messages.



Related Publications

Turn Your Home into a Stormwater Pollution Solution!
www.epa.gov/nps

This web site links to an EPA homeowner's guide to healthy habits for clean water that provides tips for better vehicle and garage care, lawn and garden techniques, home improvement, pet care, and more.

National Management Measures to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution from Urban Areas
www.epa.gov/owow/nps/urbanmm

This technical guidance and reference document is useful to local, state, and tribal managers in implementing management programs for polluted runoff. Contains information on the best available, economically achievable means of reducing pollution of surface waters and groundwater from urban areas.

Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Resources
www.epa.gov/owm/onsite

This web site contains the latest brochures and other resources from EPA for managing onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) such as conventional septic systems and alternative decentralized systems. These resources provide basic information to help individual homeowners, as well as detailed, up-to-date technical guidance of interest to local and state health departments.

Low Impact Development Center
www.lowimpactdevelopment.org

This center provides information on protecting the environment and water resources through integrated site design techniques that are intended to replicate preexisting hydrologic site conditions.

Stormwater Manager's Resource Center (SMRC)
www.stormwatercenter.net

Created and maintained by the Center for Watershed Protection, this resource center is designed specifically for stormwater practitioners, local government officials, and others that need technical assistance on stormwater management issues.

Strategies: Community Responses to Runoff Pollution
www.nrdc.org/water/pollution/storm/stoinx.asp

The Natural Resources Defense Council developed this interactive web document to explore some of the most effective strategies that communities are using around the nation to control urban runoff pollution. The document is also available in print form and as an interactive CD-ROM.

For More Information

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Nonpoint Source Control Branch (4503T)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460
www.epa.gov/nps

February 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 13, 2005

CONTACT: Wendy Garpow, Greenscapes Program Manager/NSRWA Director of Community Programs
Or Samantha Woods, NSRWA Executive Director
North and South Rivers Watershed Association
Phone: 781-659-8168 or Email: wendy@nsrwa.org or samantha@nsrwa.org

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Greenscapes: Beautiful Landscapes That Protect Our Water

Local environmental organizations have teamed up with twelve South Shore communities and other partners to protect the region's water resources. The result is the Greenscapes program, a multi-faceted outreach effort designed to teach citizens how to have attractive, healthy lawns and gardens without using excess water and chemicals.

By Earth Day (April 22), more than 70,000 households on the South Shore will be mailed a complimentary Greenscapes Reference Guide that contains helpful landscaping tips, money-saving coupons for Greenscapes goods and services, a free workshops schedule, and much more.

The goal of Greenscapes is to let nature provide your landscapes' water and nutrient needs. In southeastern Massachusetts, our soils, climate and water supply make it unrealistic to have lawns that resemble golf greens, even if we had all the time and money in the world. Established Greenscapes have plants and turf with deep roots, which are naturally resistant to drought, weeds, and disease.

Greenscapes are good for you, your wallet, and our environment in many ways. By following the recommendations of the Greenscapes program, you will:

- Increase your property values;
- Save money on your water bills;
- Nuture a safe environment for your family;
- Create more habitat for wildlife;
- Enjoy more free time by doing less landscape maintenance;
- Reduce stormwater pollution; and
- Protect your community's water resources.

"By making a few simple changes, you can have a beautiful lawn and landscape without using too much water or potentially harmful chemicals" notes Wendy Garpow, Director of Community Programs for the North and South Rivers Watershed Association (NSRWA) and Greenscapes Program Manager. "If you follow the recommendations of the Greenscapes program, you'll save money and time while protecting your family and the environment too."

The free Greenscapes Guidebook will tell you everything you need to know to get started. Some Greenscapes recommendations can be immediately and easily implemented, such as modifying how you mow and water your lawn. For example, a simple thing you can do right now is to spread organic corn gluten on your lawn to prevent unsightly crabgrass later in the season. Other Greenscape concepts will require a bit more effort, such as amending your soil and overseeding your lawn with drought-tolerant grasses. Over time, you might consider replacing part of your lawn with lower-maintenance plants that are drought-tolerant and noninvasive.

"South Shore residents should learn to Greenscape because we all share the responsibility of making sure there is enough clean water for people and the environment," says Samantha Woods, NSRWA Executive Director. There are two major threats facing the water resources of southeastern Massachusetts. First, like many

urbanized areas in the U.S., we are running out of drinkable water sources and there is less and less water available to sustain our rivers, streams and wetlands. Second, water quality of our ponds, rivers and bays is impaired, and improvements are difficult and expensive. "These two inter-related problems are partially due to how we maintain our lawns and gardens – often using excess water and inappropriately using fertilizers and pesticides," says Woods.

In addition to the free Guidebook, there are several ways South Shore residents can learn more about Greenscapes and help support the program:

Attend free workshops this spring.
One evening a week for six weeks starting in May, you can learn about different aspects of Greenscaping from highly-qualified professionals. Topics include soils, lawns, chemicals, irrigation, low-maintenance plants, and stormwater management. Workshop schedule, directions, and complete details are available in the Guidebook and at www.Greenscapes.org. Pre-registration is required by contacting NSRWA.

Sign-up for the free email newsletter.
You will receive six monthly issues this spring and summer, which will have timely landscaping tips and information about the weather, watering restrictions, and upcoming Greenscapes opportunities. To receive the free e-mail newsletter, send a blank email to **greenscapes-subscribe@lists.nsrwa.org**.

Watch the Greenscapes video.
This spring and summer, keep an eye on your local cable station for the 30-minute Greenscapes video. You can also borrow it from your local library or purchase your own copy for $10 through www.Greenscapes.org or by contacting NSRWA.

Use Rainbarrels and Compost Bins.
Recycle water and kitchen scraps for a more beautiful, healthy landscape. Several South Shore towns are offering rainbarrels and compost bins at great discounts with financial assistance from the MA Department of Environmental Protection. For more information about these and other Greenscapes goods and services, consult the Guidebook, visit **www.greenscapes.org**, or contact NSRWA.

Display a Greenscapes lawn sign.
Let your community know you are doing your part to help protect our water with a small, attractive Greenscapes sign in your yard. Your neighbors will be green with envy as they admire your beautiful landscape and coveted sign. For more details, consult the Guidebook, visit **www.greenscapes.org,** or contact NSRWA.

The 2005 Greenscapes program is a multi-partner outreach effort sponsored by the North and South Rivers Watershed Association, the Massachusetts Bays Program, the Massachusetts Riverways Program, Aquarion Water Company, City of Weymouth, the Pinehills LLC, and the Towns of Cohasset, Duxbury, Hanover, Kingston, Marshfield, Norwell, Pembroke, and Plymouth. The 2005 Greenscapes program is also financed in part by two government grants, including a Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Grant from the NOAA (administered by the MA Office of Coastal Zone Management), and a Section 319 grant from the EPA (administered by the MA Department of Environmental Protection).

For more information about the Greenscapes Guidebook or other program offerings, please visit www.Greenscapes.org or contact the North and South Rivers Watershed Association at 781-659-8168 or greenscapes@nsrwa.org.

To: **Greenscapes Program Partners**
From **Wendy Garpow, NSRWA Director of Community Programs and Greenscapes Program Manager**
Date: **April 15, 2005**
Re: **Mid-April Greenscapes Update**

Dear Greenscapes Program Partners,

Spring is finally here, and with it is the official launch of the 2005 Greenscapes Program! This memo is intended to give you an update of our progress and let you know where we stand regarding the list of promised deliverables.

This year, the NSRWA has received two generous state grants for the 2005 Greenscapes program totaling over $57,000 ($35,000 from the MA Office of Coastal Zone Management, $22,773 from the MA Dept. of Environmental Protection). These grants have allowed us to subsidize the cost of participation to each community, as well as increase the quality and quantity of deliverables. The subsidy has made it possible for more communities to join the program, which strengthens the program and reduces the per capita cost for all participants. We are already seeking grant funds for next year's program.

1. Workshop Series for Landscape Industry Professionals
In February and March, we hosted five, 3-hour Greenscapes workshops for professionals in the landscape industry. We partnered with the Plymouth County Cooperative Extension to distribute 1000+ invitations to professionals in the region. Guest speakers from Cooperative Extension and environmental consulting firms spoke on topics including soils, turf care, irrigation, chemical usage, and stormwater management. Over fifty professionals attended one or more of the workshops (many attended the entire series), and the written evaluations were all very positive. We are happy to share copies of the evaluations if you are interested.

2. Utility Bill Inserts
Around the first of March, we sent each of you enough 4-panel, color brochures to be inserted in your customer's spring utility bills. These inserts promoted the Greenscapes website, contained a "Top 5" list of Greenscapes tips, promoted the upcoming Citizen Workshops, and listed the program sponsors. We very much appreciate your efforts in getting these brochures to your customers by inserting them into your bills.

3. Greenscapes Reference Guide
This week, nearly 70,000 households in our participating communities will be directly mailed a copy of the 16-page Greenscapes Guidebook. The grant funding has allowed us to pay for a direct mailing rather than inserting the Guidebook in the local newspapers, which we believe is a much more effective way to get the message to your citizens. This 16-page color flyer is full of helpful landscaping tips that will reduce the need for excess water and chemicals. It also has coupons and additional information about "Greenscapes goods and services", such as rainbarrels, compost bins,

irrigation system audits, and programmable sprinkler timers. We are partnering with local nurseries and companies who are willing to honor the coupons, at no cost to the program. The Guidebook also contains information about the other program components of interest to residents, including the citizen workshop series (starting in May), free email newsletter, cable TV video, and the Greenscapes lawn sign campaign. We will be delivering extra copies of the Guidebook to each community next week, which you can distribute as you like. If you would like a sneak preview, you can download a copy from the Greenscapes website: http://www.nsrwa.org/greenscapes/factsheets.html.

4. Table Top Displays and Posters
Next week we will deliver to each community a Greenscapes tabletop display and color posters. This full-color display is mounted on foam core and measures 4'x 3' when open, and folds flat to 2' x 3'. It is suitable for display in your town hall, community center, library, schools, or special events. We will also be providing you with lots of extra copies of the Guidebook and brochures, and holders to display them neatly. The tabletop display will also have a sample yard sign and information for citizens interested in receiving one of their own. We will also provide each participating community with five color posters (measuring 11" x 17") for display on bulletin boards and other public venues.

5. Media Kits
Earlier this week, we sent out press releases and media kits to the local newspapers and radio stations. We have already been interviewed by Globe South for a story that will run on Thursday, April 21. We are happy to send you a copy of the press release if you are interested.

6. Citizen Workshop Series
Starting in early May, we are hosting a six-part Greenscapes workshop series for citizens. The 2-hour workshops will be held at the South Shore Vocational High School in Hanover. Guest speakers from Cooperative Extension and environmental consulting firms will speak on topics including soils, turf care, irrigation, chemical usage, and stormwater management. We will have door prizes and promotional materials at each workshop. The series is described in detail in the Greenscapes Guidebook, or you can visit our website for more information:
http://www.nsrwa.org/greenscapes/schedule.html

7. Radio Ads on WATD 95.9 fm
Starting this week and running through September, we are airing several different commercials on local radio station WATD. For example, we are running 10 ads a day for the rest of this month to tell citizens to be on the lookout for their Greenscapes Guidebook and to direct them to the website (www.Greenscapes.org) for more information. May's commercials will be focused on mowing tips, we will be giving irrigation tips during the summer months, and September's commercials will focus on lawn alternatives. We would be happy to send you a copy of the scripts for these commercials if you are interested.

8. Greenscapes 30-minute Video
This week we are sending copies of the 30-minute Greenscapes video to your community's cable access television station and local libraries. New participants will also receive five copies of the video that you can use or distribute as you wish (we will be delivering your videos with the tabletop displays next week). If you would like additional copies of the video, they are available (at cost) for $5 each.

9. Email Newsletter

Today we sent out the first of six monthly email newsletters that will have timely landscaping tips and information about the weather, watering restrictions, and upcoming Greenscapes opportunities. These newsletters will be sent around the middle of each month, April through September 2005. To date, there are our mailing list has over 200 subscribers and we anticipate the number to increase dramatically next week once the Guidebooks have been received. Interested citizens can subscribe at our website, and we have sign-up sheets at all public Greenscapes events. Each of you has been subscribed to the list and should receive copies of the e-newsletter. You can unsubscribe at any time by sending a blank email to greenscapes-unsubscribe@lists.nsrwa.org.

10. Lawn Sign Campaign

We have 500 waterproof lawn signs (7.5" x 11.25") with the Greenscapes logo and tagline that will be given to citizens in your communities who pledge to implement Greenscapes recommendations. Citizens can obtain a checklist and pledge form from the website, tabletop display, or Greenscapes events. When they mail the pledge form to NSRWA, we will send them a free sign. We will be giving each partner a sample lawn sign with your tabletop display.

11. Greenscapes website

We are in the process of finalizing extensive improvements and additions to the Greenscapes website (www.Greenscapes.org). The current website, while serviceable, does not fully reflect all of the new components of the 2005 program. The new website will up next week before the Guidebook reaches resident's mailboxes.

12. Nursery and Garden Club Outreach

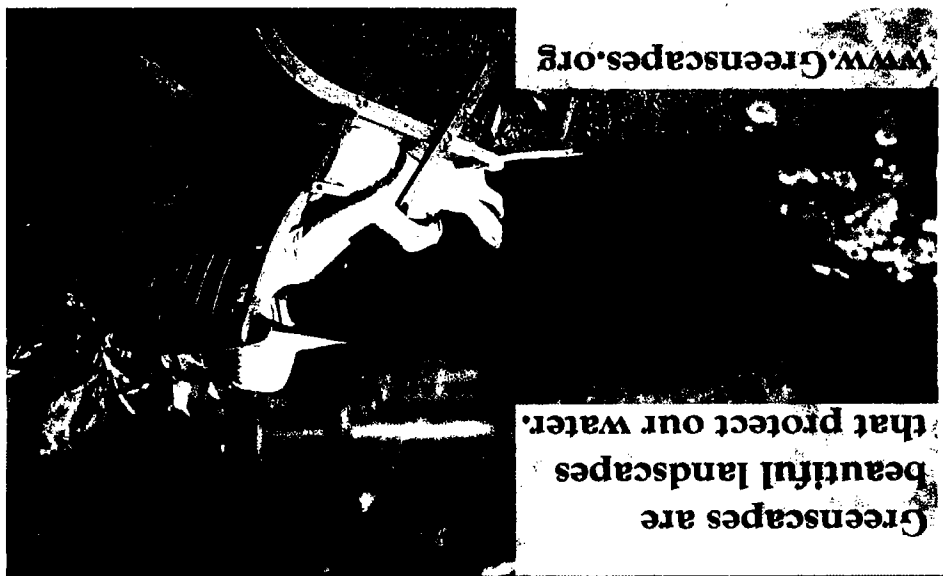
Next week, we will send Greenscapes promotional packages to approximately 40 garden centers and nurseries in the region. These packages will include a Greenscapes poster and copies of the Greenscapes Guidebooks and brochures. We will also be sending Guidebooks and brochures to the local Garden Clubs.

We appreciate your continued support of the Greenscapes program. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for improving the program. Your feedback is very important to us as we try to develop the best outreach campaign possible.

I hope to see many of you next week when I deliver the tabletop displays and other materials.

Sincerely,

Wendy Garpow
wendy@nsrwa.org
781-659-8168



Greenscapes are beautiful landscapes that protect our water.

www.Greenscapes.org

Greenscaping will save you time and money, & protect our environment by reducing the need for water and chemicals.

greenscapes

See inside for tips for a low-maintenance landscape & FREE workshop schedule!

NSRWA

The 2005 Greenscapes program is a multi-partner outreach effort sponsored by the North and South Rivers Watershed Association, the Massachusetts Bays Program, Plymouth County Cooperative Extension, the Massachusetts Riverways Program, Aquarion Water Company, City of Weymouth, The Pinehills LLC, and the Towns of Cohasset, Duxbury, Hanover, Kingston, Marshfield, Norwell, Pembroke, and Plymouth.

MASSACHUSETTS BAYS PROGRAM

The 2005 Greenscapes program is also financed in part by two government grants, including a Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Grant from the NOAA (administered by the MA Office of Coastal Zone Management), and a Section 319 grant from the EPA (administered by the MA Department of Environmental Protection). Views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of NOAA, CZM, EPA, DEP, or any of their sub-agencies, nor does the mention of any trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

Five tips for a beautiful, low maintenance lawn.

- **Keep your mower blade sharp.** Dull blades will rip and tear your lawn, causing disease and damage. If you can press your thumb on the edge of the lawn mower blade without it creasing your skin, it must be sharpened.
- **Water *only* when your lawn is thirsty.** Deep, infrequent watering encourages strong root growth, while too much water may weaken plants and cause disease. If grass springs back underfoot, it doesn't need water. Abide by your town's watering restrictions, even if you have a private well.
- **Mow your grass high.** Grass that is about 3" tall will shade its own roots, crowd out weeds, and better withstand drought conditions. Mow frequently so you don't cut off more than 1/3 of the height at once.
- **Use nature's nutrients.** Leave grass clippings on the lawn and occasionally spread fine-finished compost (when needed) to build the soil. Acidic soil minimizes plant ability to absorb nutrients, so test your soil's pH and add lime if acidic.
- **Choose the right plants.** Overseed your lawn with a fine fescue grass blend, which needs much less water than other types. Minimize lawn by expanding planting beds with attractive drought-resistant, non-invasive plants.

Learn more at www.Greenscapes.org and sign up for our FREE email newsletter!

FREE Workshop Series for Citizens

Soils: Building Blocks of Environmentally Sustainable Landscapes
Tuesday May 3, 2005 (7-9 pm)
Bill Clark, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

Best Management Practices for Environmentally Sustainable Lawns
Wednesday May 11, 2005 (7-9 pm)
Mary Owen, UMass. Cooperative Extension

Protecting Watersheds from Landscaping Chemicals
Tuesday, May 17, 2005 (7-9 pm)
Ron Kujawski, UMass. Cooperative Extension

Landscape and Turfgrass Irrigation
Tuesday May 24, 2005 (7-9 pm)
Brian Vinchesi, The Irrigation Association

Low Maintenance Plants
Wednesday June 1, 2005 (7-9 pm)
Deborah Swanson, Plymouth County Cooperative Extension

Stormwater Management Through Creative Landscaping
Wednesday, June 8, 2005 (7-9 pm)
Stephanie Hanson, Comprehensive Environmental, Inc.

All workshops will be held at the South Shore Vocational Technical High School in Hanover.
From Route 3, take Exit 13 and head north on Route 53. At the first traffic light, turn left on Route 123 West. The school is approximately one mile on your left. The Lecture Hall is in the right wing of the building.

Registration is required as space is limited. Register online at www.greenscapes.org or contact Wendy Garpow at wendy@nsrwa.org or 781-659-8168. You must arrive 15 minutes early to claim your seat.

GreenScaping will save you time and money, attract birds and wildlife, and protect our environment by reducing the need for water and chemicals.

greenscapes

Attend a free GreenScapes workshop (see schedule on back).

Visit the GreenScapes website at www.GreenScapes.org, or call your local water department for more information.

All Weymouth residents are invited to learn how to GreenScape by attending this FREE two-hour workshop. You will learn the basics of GreenScaping from a landscaping professional, and receive complimentary GreenScapes instructional materials.

greenscapes

Thursday, June 3, 2004

7:00 – 9:00 pm

The instructional materials will also be available free-of-charge at the Weymouth Water Department, and can be downloaded from **www.GreenScapes.org.**

GreenScapes is brought to you by
the Town of Weymouth Water Department
and the North and South Rivers Watershed Association.

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On June 2, 1940, Eileen and Lester were wed. Seven children followed: four sons and three daughters.

Lester left the shipyard and became a Boston firefighter, which he remained for 18 years. Then it was on to the Boston school department as an electrical engineer.

"Eileen went into labor with one of the kids when I was working at the fire department. I had to borrow the chief's car to take her to the hospital. She told me, 'If you put on that siren or red light, I'll have the baby right here,'" Lester said.

It was a quiet trip to the hospital, he added.

"I took all the Civil Service exams. I was even offered a job as a correction officer at Alcatraz. They would give us a house, but Eileen said no.

"We've been married 65 years. Do you know what our secret is? When Eileen wants to do something her way, we do it her way. When I want to do something my way, we do it her way."

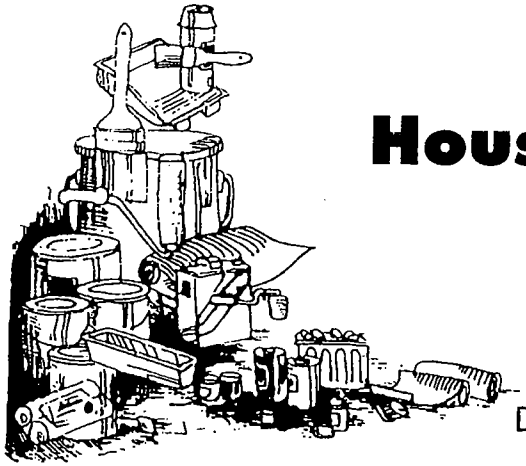
As a young mother, Eileen was a whirlwind of activity. She was a den mother and Girl Scout leader. She volunteered to drive the nuns at her children's school anywhere they wanted to go. She climbed ladders and painted rooms in her home.

Polio was the furthest thing from her mind.

A horrific epidemic struck in the early fifties when her children were young before the Salk vaccine was invented.

"I was told because I had polio, my children couldn't get it," she said.

Life has brought Eileen and



Town of Weymouth
Household Hazardous Waste
Collection Day

Help the Environment, Bring Your Hazardous Waste

Saturday, April 9, 2005
9 am to 1:30 pm (Rain/Shine)
DPW Parking Lot, 120 Winter Street, Weymouth, MA

Let's All Pitch In To Make Our Environment A Safer Place

1. Once again this spring, Weymouth residents can reach into their cupboards and literally move the issue of hazardous waste out of their homes.

2. On April 9, 2005, between the hours of **9 am and 1:30 pm,** residents will have the opportunity to bring their hazardous household products, unwanted pesticides, solvents, oils, paints, cleaners, etc. to the parking lot of the D.P.W. Building at 120 Winter Street.

3. A professional waste handling company will be on hand to safely receive and transport this material to licensed out-of-state facilities for environmentally sound disposal.

4. This program is town funded and open only to Weymouth residents. Only hazardous materials will be accepted. **POSITIVELY NO HOUSEHOLD RUBBISH OR TRASH.**

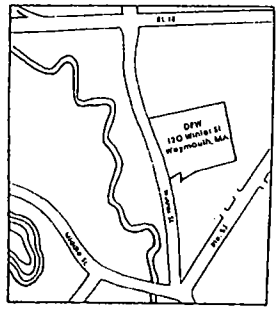
5. Businesses are excluded from participating in this collection.

6. For more information about the household hazardous waste collection, call the Department of Public Works, 120 Winter Street, (781) 337-5100.

From The House	From The Garage-Workbench	From The Yard/Garden
• Drain Cleaners	• Gasoline (5 gals. Limit)	• Pesticides
• Oven Cleaners	• Paint Thinners	• Herbicides
• Furniture Polish	• Paint Removers	• Insect Pump Sprays
• Metal Polish	• Antifreeze	• Rodent Killers
• Flashlight Batteries	• Chemistry Kits	• Pool Chemicals
• Outdated Medications	• Brake Fluid	• Muriatic Acid
• Floor Cleaners	• Wax Polish	• No-Pest Strips
• Window Cleaners	• Engine & Radiator Flushes	• Septic System Cleaners
• Dry Cleaning Fluids	• Transmission Fluid	• Waste Oil
• Radiator Cleaners	• Lead Paints	
• Arts & Crafts	• Wood Preservative	

ALL WASTE OIL AND VEHICLE BATTERIES WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY AT WINTER STREET.
5 DAYS A WEEK
FROM 8:30 AM TO 3:30 PM

WHAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
Asbestos • Explosives
Fireworks • Ammunition • Radioactives



SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE

Hazardous Waste

Abington Cohasset Duxbury Hanover Hingham Holbrook Hull King
Marshfield Norwell Plymouth Rockland Scituate Weymouth Whitmar

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SSRC in the News
Business Recycling
Banned Materials
Links
Meeting Minutes
Annual Reports
Contact Us

Bring them to a

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS PRODUCT COLLECTI

4/9/05 **Weymouth** DPW, 120 Winter St.

4/23/05 **Kingston** Highway Garage, 32 Evergreen St., with **Du**

4/30/05 **Hanover** Recycling Transfer Station, 118 Rockland S 139) *Hanover residents only*

5/7/05 **Scituate** Highway Dept., Capt. Pierce Rd.

5/14/05 **Plymouth** DPW, 159 Camelot Dr.

5/21/05 **Hingham** Plymouth River School, High St.

6/4/05 **Hull** MDC lot, Rockland House Rd. / G. Washington B\ **Cohasset**

- Residents may attend their own town's event at no charge. Proof of residency is
- Depending on the availability of funds, visitors from participating SSRC membe may attend events in other member towns at no charge, **WITH A SIGNED SSRC VI AUTHORIZATION FORM** from their own town's Hazardous Waste Coordinator (see page). Proof of residency is required.
- Visitors without permission will be charged a fee of $40 per 15 gallons or 30 lbs. material. Liquids are measured in gallons based on container size, solids are meas weight.
- Commercial "Small Quantity Generators" may attend by calling Mitch Garrity at (Harbors at 800-282-0058, x3466 to arrange payment.
- If the above dates are inconvenient, residents may bring materials to Clean Har 1501 Washington St., Braintree, for a fee of $2.50/lb. Call 800-282-0058.

Residents who turn in their **toxic mercury** thermometers may swap them for a **free** digital one.
Sponsored by American Ref-Fuel or Massachusetts DEP.

Subject: Weymouth digest, Vol 1 #71 - 2 msgs
From: <weymouth-request@weymouth.ma.us>
Date: Thu, 07 Oct 2004 12:00:02 -0400
To: <weymouth@weymouth.ma.us>

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weymouth-admin@amber.weymouth.ma.us

When replying, please edit your Subject line so it is more specific
than "Re: Contents of Weymouth digest..."

Today's Topics:

1. Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, 10/16 (Tom Rose)
2. Flu Clinics On Hold, October 6th (Thomas Rose)

--__--__--

Message: 1
Date: Wed, 06 Oct 2004 13:11:15 -0400
To: weymouth@amber.weymouth.ma.us
From: Tom Rose <trose@weymouth.ma.us>
Subject: [Weymouth] Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, 10/16

<html>
Town of Weymouth

FOR WEYMOUTH RESIDENTS ONLY

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

Saturday, October 16, 2004

9:00 AM to 1:30 PM (Rain/Shine)

DPW Parking Lot
120 Winter Street
Weymouth MA

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL DPW at 781-337-5100

On October 16th, between the hours of 9 AM and 1:30 PM, resident will
have the opportunity to bring their hazardous household products,
unwanted pesticides, solvents, oils, paints, cleaners, etc. to the
parking lot of the D.P.W. Building at 120 Winter Street.

A professional waste handling company will be on hand to safely receive
and transport this material to licensed out-of-state facilities for
environmentally sound disposal.

From The House
=B7<x-tab>   </=
x-tab>Drain
Cleaners
=B7<x-tab>   </=
x-tab>Oven
Cleaners
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x-tab>Furniture
Polish
=B7<x-tab>   </=
x-tab>Metal
Polish

Subject: Weymouth digest, Vol 1 #73 - 2 msgs
From: <weymouth-request@weymouth.ma.us>
Date: Mon, 18 Oct 2004 12:00:02 -0400
To: <weymouth@weymouth.ma.us>

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When replying, please edit your Subject line so it is more specific
than "Re: Contents of Weymouth digest..."

Today's Topics:

1. CoastSweep2004, 10/23 (Tom Rose)
2. Living Without A Flu Shot (Tom Rose)

--__--__--

Message: 1
Date: Mon, 18 Oct 2004 11:11:57 -0400
To: weymouth@amber.weymouth.ma.us
From: Tom Rose <trose@weymouth.ma.us>
Subject: [Weymouth] CoastSweep2004, 10/23

Mayor David Madden, the Weymouth Town Council &
the Fore River Watershed Association are Pleased to Announce:

CoastSweep 2004
Saturday October 23rd
12:00PM to 3:00PM

Volunteers are Needed to Clean Weymouth's 12 Miles of Shoreline from
Weymouth Landing to Great Esker Park

Weymouth Landing - Idlewell - King's Cove Beach - Keen's Beach
Johnson Beach - Sandy Beach - Bluff Road Beach - Wessagussett Beach
George Lane Beach - Boat Ramp - Prospect Hill Beach - Rose Cliff Beach
- Great Esker Park

Volunteers throughout Massachusetts turn out in large numbers each year for
COASTSWEEP, the state-wide beach cleanup sponsored by the Massachusetts
Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM), and the Urban Harbors Institute at
the University of Massachusetts Boston. COASTSWEEP, now in its 17th year,
will kickoff on Saturday, September 18, 2004. Every year the cleanups are
led by a dedicated group of local coordinators who in 2003 organized over
3,000 volunteers. As a result, over 35,000 pounds of trash and marine
debris was removed from 155 locations. That's over 130 miles of
Massachusetts' coastline! COASTSWEEP is part of an international campaign
organized by the Ocean Conservancy in Washington, DC. Participants all over
the world collect marine debris and record the types of trash they collect.
This information is then used to help reduce future marine debris problems.
Volunteers in Weymouth are needed to help clean our 12 miles of
coast. Residents, business owners and community leaders are needed
throughout the community. District One, North Weymouth, Councilor, Greg

Shanahan, Town-wide Councilor, Mike Molisse and Jodi Purdy-Quinlan, Executive Director of the Fore River Watershed Association are leading cleanup efforts. Assisting in the effort will be Town-wide Councilor, Sue Kay, District Two, Weymouth Landing, Councilor, T. J. Lacey and District Three, East Weymouth, Councilor, Ken DiFazio.

Anyone interested in volunteering should wear warm clothes, sensible shoes and bring along gloves, rakes, and shovels. Data cards, trash bags and water can be picked up from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at Purdy-Quinlan Studios, 416 Bridge St., Rte. 3A, Bicknell Square, North Weymouth or by calling Jodi at 781-492-9442 or Greg Shanahan at 781 340-6175 or Mike Mollisse at 781 331-4339

Volunteers are also needed to help coordinate efforts at each location!!

To learn more about CoastSweep visit www.coastsweep.umb.edu

APPRECIATION PARTY TO FOLLOW WITH FREE REFRESHMENTS

--__--__--

Message: 2
Date: Mon, 18 Oct 2004 11:30:44 -0400
To: weymouth@amber.weymouth.ma.us
From: Tom Rose <trose@weymouth.ma.us>
Subject: [Weymouth] Living Without A Flu Shot

TOWN OF WEYMOUTH
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

LIVING WITHOUT A FLU SHOT

Since the shutdown of the vaccine company in England, people want to know what they are supposed to do without the flu vaccine. Here are several other strategies for avoiding or surviving the flu.

Pneumonia vaccine
Anyone who is at high risk for developing complications of influenza should consider the pneumonia vaccine. Pneumonia is a common complication of influenza and can be prevented in many cases with the use of the pneumonia vaccine. Since it is usually pneumonia, not the influenza itself that kills, this is a good strategy. The Health Department CAN provide pneumonia vaccine.

Other Tips to Avoid the Flu
Whether or not you got a flu shot, since it isn't 100% effective, you should follow these steps to help prevent you and your family from getting sick with the flu:

Be germ conscious-don't share eating or drinking utensils. Sharing cups; shaking hands with strangers; kissing relatives at holidays are all popular behaviors but do spread germs.

Wash your hands often. Remember that one of the most common ways people catch the flu is by rubbing their nose or their eyes after their hands have been contaminated with a virus. When you wash your hands, wash also the faucet handles or shut water with paper towels.

Wash your hands often, especially:

- before, during, and after you prepare food
- before you eat, and after you use the bathroom
- after handling animals or animal waste
- when your hands are dirty, and more frequently when someone in your home

this measure.

The fee would grant the merchant a license to sell for the remainder of the calendar year. Failure to comply with this ordinance would result in a fine of up to $300.

Councilor Michael Smart said last month that he and colleague Paul Leary, chairman of the ordinance committee, had been working on the legis-

Town Councilor
Michael Smart

"It will certainly protect business owners who contribute so much to the community," Smart said in August, noting contributions to the town's food pantry and recreational activities, among oth-

said. They don't pay taxes or fees to the town, and they don't contribute to any organizations."

England said that he first complained to town hall about the issue two years ago.

Sellers will now have to obtain permission from the license commission to do business.

By appearing before the

visible badge, with failure to do so resulting in a fine of $300.

Smart has also expressed concern about those who canvass door-to-door.

"I've had someone come to my door and ask which homes have children on my street," he said. "This is not a good thing."

WEY. NEWS 10-6-04

Waterfront cleanup is scheduled for October 23

By Mark Goodman
MGOODMAN@CNC.COM

A town-wide waterfront cleanup has been scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 23.

Weymouth is home to over 14 miles of waterfront shoreline. Town Councilor Greg Shanahan, who represents North Weymouth where a majority of the town's waterfront is located, is leading the effort to organize the cleanup.

He said in a September interview that while efforts are made, the town needs help in maintaining all of its shoreline.

"The town can't keep up with it on its own," Shanahan said. "It's an important issue because of the recreational value the waterfront provides, as well as its effect on people's property."

There are hundreds of homes in town that directly abut the shoreline, mostly in small neighborhood beaches.

Shanahan, who has been working closely with fellow councilor Michael Molisse, said help is needed in all parts of town.

"It's not just East Weymouth or North Weymouth or Weymouth Landing, it's townwide," said Shanahan, who heads the council's environmental sub-committee.

Molisse is chairman of the parks and recreation subcommittee.

While not significant, there is some pollution in many of the waterfront areas across town. It is small scale in most places, with rubbish such as cardboard boxes and empty soda and beer cans.

Some areas, such as King Cove, for example, are prone to having trash wash up on the shoreline from the ocean. Shanahan called the Back River area near the Hingham line "a big mess."

Otherwise, the problems seem to be mostly small, but ones that still need to be addressed, according to the District 1 councilor.

"It's not like it's an environmental disaster," Shanahan said. "With a little custodianship, year in and year out, we can keep these areas clean."

"With a little custodianship, year in and year out, we can keep these areas clean."

Town Councilor
Greg Shanahan

In an interview last month, Molisse also spoke on the issue.

"We have some beautiful shoreline that definitely needs to be maintained," he said. "There definitely needs to be some work on the waterfront."

Shanahan added that "getting volunteers are key." Along those lines, both councilors say they have gone to their colleagues and various town and neighborhood organizations for help. Shanahan said the Fore River Watershed Association has lent its support, among others.

The councilors are also hoping to get Weymouth seniors involved, mainly to help check in volunteers at the various cleanup sites.

"A lot of seniors are active, and they always want something to do," Molisse said.

Both councilors said they wanted to see a town-wide waterfront cleanup become a regular event.

"It would be nice to say we cleaned every inch of the waterfront," Shanahan said. "That is the goal, and we want to keep doing it year in, year out."

Shanahan said he also hopes to track the amount and type of rubbish collected each cleanup, in order to monitor progress and try and figure out where some of the rubbish is coming from.

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& another demanding lots of attention & affection?
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9:30 pm
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tree, MA
per person, $150 per couple prepaid.
lease call 781.828.8955 by 10.20.04

Information Kit

RECYCLING

Send your news tip to

STAFF PHOTO/TOM GORMAN

Gino Buccello poses at his North Weymouth home where he attached a greenhouse to increase the warmth in his home during the winter.

ment in how solar energy works.

Over the summer, he used a solar blanket to heat his pool so his grandchildren could swim

demonstrating high environmentally friendly" energy performance which will be open to the public on Saturday.

The tour is designed to edu-

Wey. News 9/29/04

Townwide waterfront cleanup is set for Oct. 23

By Mark Goodman
MGOODMAN@CNC.COM

A town-wide waterfront cleanup has been scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 23.

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h Dickie Morgan
and DeMorat
s.

mer games in June.

Both completed three deadlifts, three squats and three bench presses–two of only three competitors to achieve a good lift on every attempt. Melanson earned a combined three-lift score of more than 600 lbs. and DeMorat more than 500 lbs.

"Every time, they lifted weights they'd never lifted before," said their coach, Richard "Dickie" Morgan of Weymouth. "I just told them they could do it and they did it. David's only been powerlifting for three months and Danny for six months."

Melanson won two silver medals and DeMorat two gold medals for lift accuracy (the number of good lifts) and for combined lift score in their respective weight classes.

"Bench press is the most fun. I love it, pushing it up in the air," said Melanson. "My mom is proud. She cried. She's happy for me."

Melanson started lifting weights last winter with Morgan, a retired sheet metal worker and long-time family friend.

"My house is fully equipped. I have over 2000 pounds in weights," said Morgan. "I used to be a rugby player, and I kept them around."

When they learned about the Special Olympics powerlifting program, Melanson was eager to compete. Morgan contacted Weymouth businessman George Toma, volunteer sports director for the statewide powerlifting program, and took the certification training to be approved as a coach.

Melanson, meanwhile, stopped by the office at

NEWS 8/25/04

David DeMorat displays top form in the deadlift, spotted by Coach Dickie Morgan and George Toma, rear, volunteer sports director of the powerlifting program.

Town eyes waterfront cleanup

By Mark Goodman
MGOODMAN@CNC.COM

Weymouth is home to over 14 miles of waterfront shoreline.

With so much land to cover, keeping it clean can be an arduous task.

This Thursday, two town councilors will be meeting to try and work out particulars for a town-wide waterfront cleanup. The effort would hit all waterfront areas, including small neighborhood beaches.

Both Councilors Greg Shanahan and Michael Molisse say those areas could use some cleaning.

"I don't think it's horrible by any stretch of the imagination," said Shanahan, who heads the town council's environment sub-committee. "But there are some areas where rubbish has been disposed, or it has washed up on the shore. Particularly in some smaller neighborhood beaches, where things can't always get picked up."

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Melanson, meanwhile, stopped by the office at Weymouth High School to share his news with Beverly DeMorat, the mother of his good friend David. Soon the two young men were working out together under Morgan's direction.

"It's quite a reward to see these guys keep digging and digging and digging and go and go and go," said Morgan. "They work real hard, two hours every Monday and Wednesday, then three days a week close to the tournament. They really push themselves, and they do whatever I tell them to do."

DeMorat is active in sports at the Cardinal Cushing Center in Hanover, and plays competitive baseball and basketball. The powerlifting makes him feel really strong, he said, and he likes having his friend Danny as a training buddy.

DeMorat's mother said his achievements are a special source of pride for her and for his grandmother, Virginia Snowman of Weymouth.

"There's quite a satisfaction in accomplishing something," said Morgan, who likes to work with his athletes on other skills, too. "We have so much fun together. I showed them how to ride a mower—with me holding on, but they drove. I taught them how to cook ratatouille and American chop suey. We've bonded and become great friends."

Melanson and DeMorat agree that their coach is "Awesome!" too.

For more information on Special Olympics of Massachusetts, call 617-244-3334 or visit the website at

beaches, where things can't always get picked up."

"We have some beautiful shoreline that definitely needs to be maintained," said Molisse, chairman of the council's parks and recreation committee. "There definitely needs to be some work on the waterfront."

Both councilors say they are hoping to hold the cleanup on a weekend day between mid-September and early October. Molisse said the first weekend of October is highly unlikely, since that Saturday is Weymouth Day.

The councilor-at-large commended Shanahan for coming up with the idea and getting the process started.

"I was excited when Greg approached me with it," Molisse said. "It's definitely a worthwhile project."

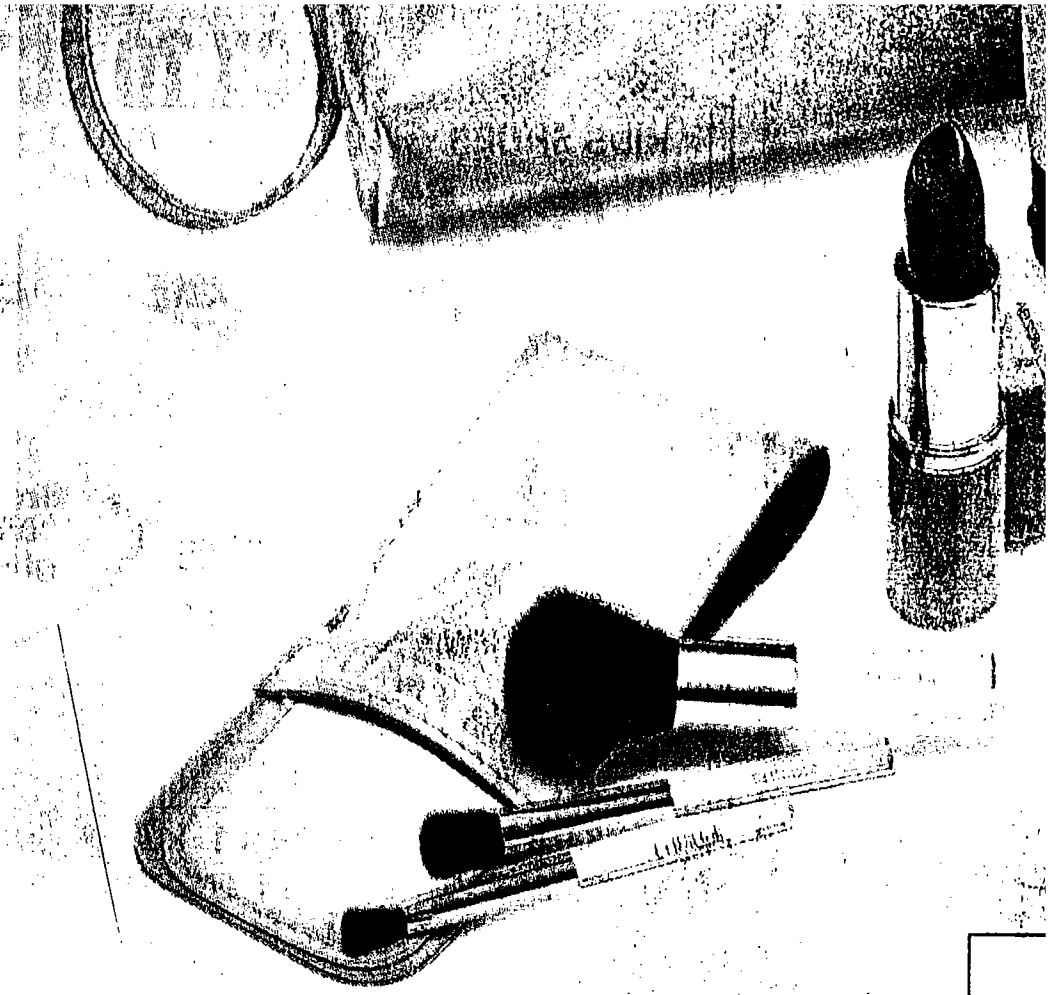
Shanahan said last week he had spoken with several other councilors, all of whom were receptive to the idea. Both Molisse and Shanahan said residents and neighborhood associations say they would be willing to help out.

The District 1 councilor is optimistic for a high turnout.

"I don't know what the scope of it is going to be yet, but I think it's going to be big," Shanahan said. "I'd like to see 1,000 people. That's what it will take to do a real thorough job."

Both councilors said they wanted to see a town-wide waterfront cleanup become a regular event.

"It would be nice to say we cleaned every inch of the waterfront," Shanahan said. "That is the goal, and we want to keep doing it year in, year out."



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Donahue
HE NEWS

rom Alaska, Switzerland, Virginia and Hingham, bington. All od turnout for , twenty-five ceiving our ading off into gathering at lks Club fea- hour, then a l music by a

last reunion, ate and con- ssional disc kett, acted as onies, spin- nties hits for This year he around from ntable, and dinner table. the new guy lot when he sic from our f us have and we can e – to any- iop. As the good."

vas a 9-page g our class phecy, class latives, and the speeches given by our valedictorian and salutatorian. There were some humorous, tongue-in-cheek updates. The class flirt reportedly has joined a convent, and an avid hiker classmate has apparently climbed Mount Everest and has been up there ever since. No wonder we never see him at the reunions.

And then there were the earnest messages written to us by our valedictorian and salutatorian in their speeches on that warm day in June, 1979. Jane Materazzo cautioned us against relying too much on science and technology to improve our lives – "The array of knowledge we possess is truly invaluable, but without a fusion of science and spirit, satisfying solutions to the problems of the future will elude us."

Ginnie Osterman, now Doctor Ginnie Osterman, lent words of encouragement to us young women coming up the ranks, reminding us that we had many options and possibilities, and to go for whatever career we desire. Since then we've gone back and forth and back again on the issue of raising a family versus pursuing a career. We've learned you can have it all, only not at the same time, and not without a lot of work! I'm sure there are some men in our class who have changed a few more diapers and cooked a few more meals than their fathers did.

Eighteen plus twenty-five equals a still relatively young person, though when we were 18 someone who was 43 was definitely old. Some of us have aged well and changed very little, and some of us show the effects of the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" more keenly. The world has changed much since then. We grew up worrying about the Soviet Union and the Cold War. The iron curtain has since come down on communism, but now we worry about planes and tall buildings.

Weymouth itself has experienced some changes in the past quarter century, looking ever more like a city, and having recently adopted a city form of government, complete with its own mayor. The traffic is heavier, the houses are much more expensive, and there's been a return to one high school. We were part of the baby boom generation – which spawned the need for two high schools, Weymouth North and Weymouth South. The result was a long-standing rivalry between the football teams, who faced off every Thanksgiving Day, to the thrill of everyone. North's colors – maroon and gold - have been retained as the school colors, just as they were that of the original Weymouth High School. Our blue and gold has been relegated to the paper napkins, table cloths, and decorations in the function hall. At least the legacy of *our* almost forgotten high school lives on in the team name, "Wildcats."

Much can happen between reunions. Though the numbers are still few, every five years we realize that some who graduated with us no longer inhabit this world. We're still young enough for that to be a tragedy, yet is serves as a reminder of how precious every day is – a lesson for all ages.

I look forward to checking in with everyone five years from now. Perhaps the blue and gold of Weymouth South will finally give way to North's maroon and gold, and we'll combine the reunions, and talk about old rivalries, and auld lang syne.

STAFF PHOTOS/TOM GORMAN

POND CLEANUP

Volunteer Barry Wood uses a metal rake to remove algae from Whitman's Pond during the cleanup day.

PARENTS' CORNER

Upcoming events

Resource officer kayed for WHS

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school was not in session.

The resource officer's role, not as a teacher, but still a figure in the school that is visible and approachable is an important aspect of the position and its effectiveness, Karen Berry, school committee member said.

"It's worked well in other school systems and I think it will work out great here."

Town councilor Michael Molisse

"This is a huge opportunity for the resource officer to mix with the kids," Berry said. "It's a way for the students to see someone in uniform and develop a relationship with, and to gain a sense of trust and understanding."

"The students will see the person as someone they can reach out to," she said. "I think it's a tremendous step forward for the Weymouth schools."

Chief of Police James Thomas said he thought the resource officer would handle some of the disturbances, but would be as much of an educator and counselor.

"The officer will bring to students and to faculty a knowledge of law enforcement, and a knowledge of the community," Thomas said. The officer could also conduct workshops for students, including workshops on areas of law, Thomas said.

"This would be another resource the community is providing," Thomas said, adding that the officer and students will build a rapport together.

Superintendent of Schools Joseph Rull said he was pleased with the town council's decision.

"I feel this is a good addition to our staff and will enhance the safety and security for all students in the school," Rull said.

The position for this year

ER, DAVIS & CANTWELL, P.C.
Attorneys At Law

STAFF PHOTO/TOM GORMAN

R.J. DiSantis and Michael Robado rake along the edges of Whitman's Pond.

Pond St. project gets nod

FROM PROJECT, PAGE 1

height and will shield lighting on the property to be less imposing. The design also specifies that the building will be built toward the back of the lot, away from surrounding neighbors. Also, at the request of the fire department, a radio controlled fire alarm will be installed.

The zoning board also requested that the development make no increase on peak water flow in the area, and that detention flows for drainage and storm water be built. The board also asked that

To address the build up of water, the DPW installed an alarm system in the area's pumping station to notify the DPW if the pump fails. The pump is attached to a generator, should failure occur.

At last Wednesday's zoning board meeting, South Weymouth residents in attendance voiced their anger over the new housing development and stormed out of the meeting after the board took the vote.

Despite residents' remaining apprehensions over the project,

By building this, Foley said, "the public convenience will be served. There is a need for affordable housing, and this will be helpful for young people who can't afford rent in the area to still stay here."

The next day, Town Councilor Michael Molisse spoke to neighborhood concerns.

"They're very upset over a lot of issues, like traffic and water," Molisse said. "I don't think we should be building anything up there until we figure out what's going to happen with the base.