



City of Goshen

STORMWATER TOOLBOX

Public Works & Utilities
Department of Stormwater
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bit.ly/goshen-stormwater

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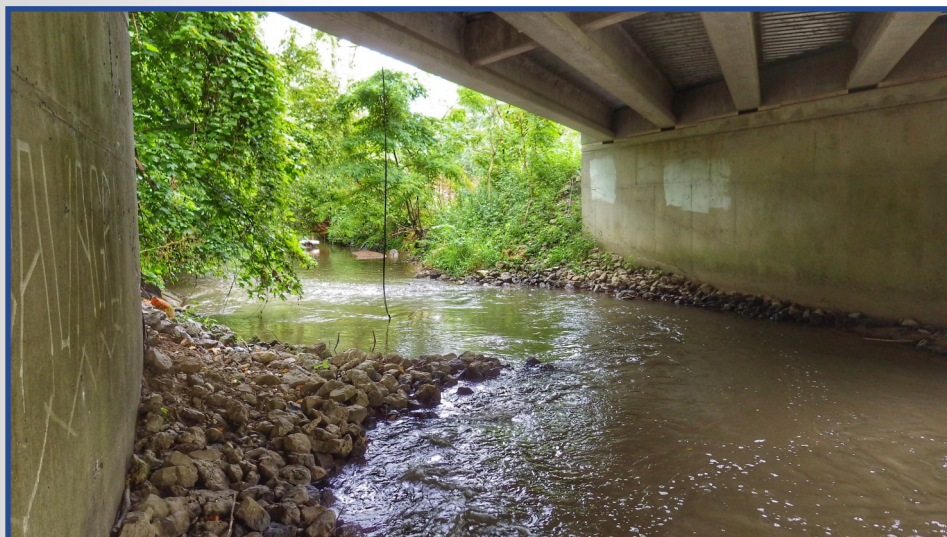
August is National Water Quality Month

**"It makes a lot of sense
to draw attention to the
importance of having
clean water during a
month when people are
enjoying rivers, lakes,
and oceans across the
country."**

Routine Inspections of Areas & Equipment Exposed to Stormwater

One way City employees can help to reduce the potential for stormwater to come into contact with stormwater runoff is by doing routine inspections of the areas and equipment routinely exposed to stormwater. Checking the following areas should be done as often as necessary and at least once weekly.

- ❖ Inspect storm drains and pavement/parking lots for accumulation of trash and sediment. Pick up all trash and sweep up the sediment.
- ❖ Inspect dumpsters for closed lids (daily), leaks, and loose trash.
- ❖ Inspect vehicles for spills or leaks and take any necessary steps to clean them up from pavement or soil.
- ❖ Inspect stormwater basins for trash and pick it up if it is present. It is very important to clean up trash before mowing any City owned property as well.
- ❖ Sweep up grass clippings, sediment, and other excess materials and dispose of the properly when working along a roadway or sidewalk.
- ❖ Make sure soil, stone, and salt stockpiles are properly contained and if not clean up material that is outside of the containment area.
- ❖ If there are other areas or pieces of equipment you know of that come into contact with stormwater then make sure to check those too.



Remember, a once-a-week walk-through or inspection (or more often if required by your Department) can help identify potential issues before they become major problems.

Thank you to StormwaterOne and their "Stormwater Training Tips" for which lead to this article (www.stormwaterone.com).

Picture Caption: Rock Run Creek under the 1st Street Bridge looking west.



A DROP OF NEWS

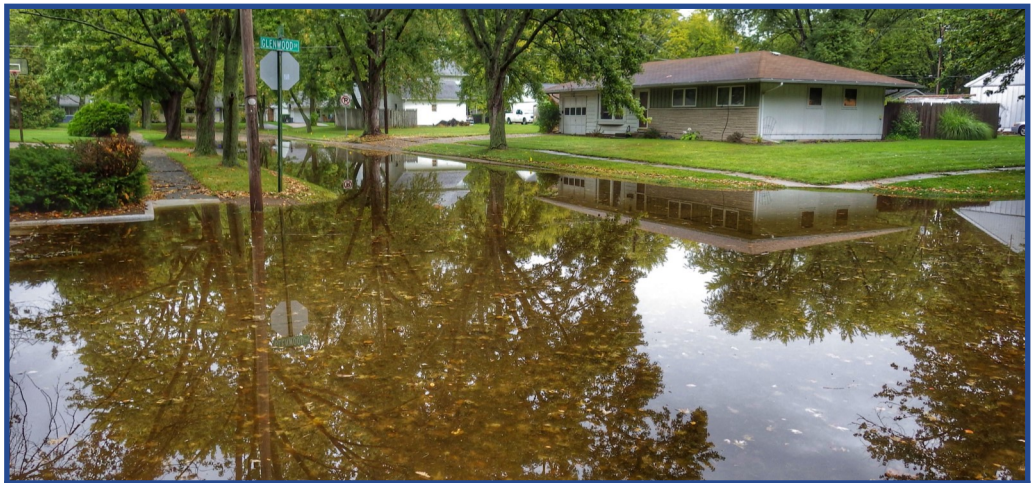
Your Stormwater Newsletter

The Growing Threat of Urban Flooding

Flooding has always been an issue in areas near rivers, streams, and ditches, however, the impact of urban flooding is growing outside of the typical flood risk areas due to increased development (increases in hard surface areas), changing patterns of rainfall, and aging and undersized infrastructure (e.g., inlets, pipes, and basins). Additionally, when storm drains become blocked by debris, like grass clippings in the summer or fallen leaves in autumn, localized flooding occurs. A good example of this was the flooding of roadways after the June 1st hail storm in the south half of the City.

Over the past few years there have been many examples of urban flooding resulting from extreme rain events like the stalled hurricanes of Harvey (2017) and Florence (2018) or the back to back 1,000 year rain events Baltimore and Ellicott City, Maryland endured in July 2016 and May 2018. A report released in 2018 called *The Growing Threat of Urban Flooding: A National Challenge 2018*,

(bit.ly/UrbanFloodReport2018) explains how urban flooding is a national issue but one that must be dealt with at a local level. One of the main conclusions the study team found is:



Picture Caption: Flooding at Glenwood Dr. and Maple Ct. due to storm drains covered by leaves.

"In much of the United States, urban flooding is occurring and is a growing source of significant economic loss, social disruption, and housing inequality. Extensive suburban development that creates higher flood flows into urban areas, aging and frequently undersized infrastructure in older sections of communities, an inability to maintain existing drainage systems, increases in intense rainfall events, and uncoordinated watershed management all contribute to these increases in urban flooding."



Picture Caption: Flooding along Denver Ave near Kroger during the May 2019 Flood.

We must take this issue seriously and work together to reduce the impact of stormwater runoff by slowing it down, soaking it in, and spreading it out. We must do our part to keep storm drains clear of debris during all seasons. Lastly, when the next flood impacts our community, let's make sure we continue to reach out to our neighbors and help one another in the recovery effort. Goshen has been and continues to be very good at doing this.