

From Your Stormwater
Manager:

Your infrastructure is turning green. Beckley Sanitary Board is following and adapting to a national change in how we plan and build stormsewer infrastructure. "Green Infrastructure" is a method of building our drainage infrastructure to mimic how natural systems work. The goal is to clean up polluted runoff and reduce runoff volume and its downstream impacts. Green infrastructure includes rain gardens, grassed waterways, constructed wetlands, rainwater harvesting cisterns, pervious parking surfaces, roof gardens and other approaches.

BSB is embracing this change. We recently were the 1st city in WV to receive American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) State Revolving Fund "stimulus" green reserve funding for our Witherspoon project. We have a number of additional capital projects in planning or design stage that will be based on "green design" We continue to seek public and private demonstration projects. In 2010, our goal is to offer green building and design training opportunities for local design professionals and builders. Green infrastructure presents a tremendous opportunity for us to find better solutions to fulfill our mission of controlling polluted runoff and protect nature. We encourage you to learn more about the green opportunities in our community.



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HYDROLOGIC

CITIZENS GUIDE TO PREVENT POLLUTED RUNOFF & PROTECT NATURE

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Clean Water Begins in Your Front Yard This Fall

Fall is upon us. With every leaf that drops from the trees, you can make a difference. Runoff begins on your rooftop and in your yard. By practicing good habits in the yard, you can reduce polluted runoff. What you can do to protect nature and control pollution:

- ◆ Keep your leaves and grass clippings out of the street and storm drains. Plant debris can clog storm sewer inlets and drainage pipes, which contributes to flooding. Dead parts of plants that get into our storm drains and streams also reduce oxygen levels for aquatic life as the plants decay.
- ◆ Leaves and grass clippings should be raked, swept or blown off of driveways and streets.
- ◆ Leaves and grass clippings should never be dumped into or near drainage ditches or creeks. Instead create compost piles in yard or wooded areas upstream.
- ◆ If you pay someone for your yard work, request that they do their part and follow these tips to protect nature.
- ◆ Remember that fall is the best time for your lawn to be de-thatched, aerated, re-seeded, and fertilized (use a phosphorous-free fertilizers at the correct rate). By maintaining a healthy lawn, you will reduce the amount of chemicals needed that not only reduces the amount of pollutants leaving your lawn reducing harm to aquatic life, but also can save you money.
- ◆ Don't forget to clean out the leaves that accumulate in your gutters. Not only do these create polluted runoff, but they also are one of the most common causes of household drainage problems and expensive roof and foundation repairs.



Thank you for being a responsible citizen. Working together, we can ensure safe clean water for our residents and future generations.



Teaching Future Generations

BSB partners to educate students on ways to prevent polluted runoff

What do soil babies, tie dye t-shirts, and the limbo game have in common? They are all methods our stormwater program has recently used to teach local students about polluted runoff and how it impacts local streams. For over 5 years, BSB has partnered with the Piney Creek Watershed Association, a local volunteer nonprofit group to fulfill our obligation to educate the public about stormwater runoff. So far this year, we have

provided support for a community watershed festival, where students were able to get their hands wet with aquatic insects and learned about soil erosion by making soil babies. In October, we were a featured presenter at the National Park Service's Water Festival where we reached over 180 students. They learned how their actions can either generate harmful pollution or benefit life in our streams by playing a fun game of stormwater limbo. Our staff members also helped PCWA work their community booth at chili night where they sold tie dye t-shirts made from natural pigment recovered from acid mine drainage treatment. Whether we share information on rain barrels, rain gardens, or our efforts to control pollution, BSB welcomes the opportunity to promote awareness of the part we all play in protecting our natural surroundings. Teachers and community groups are always welcome to contact Mandy at our office to schedule educational programs.

Pardon Our Mess During Challenging Construction Projects

BSB appreciates our customers patience during emergency stormsewer repairs adjacent to our main office on Heber St. An approximately sixty year old stormsewer failed creating a sinkhole that was a potential risk to the public. Our crews were able to replace 70' of stormsewer in a couple of weeks. We apologize for the inconvenience this project created.

Over the last several months, a major force main sanitary sewer in the Airport Road-Cherry Hill area also required emergency replacement. Replacement of this 38 year old sewer after numerous breaks will reduce the potential of untreated sewage in area streams.

Construction projects are complete or underway on Circle St, Witherspoon St, Tanglewood Dr., Roberts St, Brookshire, the Pincrest area, Hedrick St, Howe St, Springdale, and City Avenue. All of these projects represent a significant investment by BSB to improve our storm and sanitary sewer infrastructure.



Report Polluted Runoff

To report suspected stormwater pollution, please call BSB at 304-256-1760.

Recent calls by concerned citizens have helped us get untreated sewage out of neighborhood streams. You can make a difference. Keep up the good work!