

October 2024

Community Involvement



If you've been out to Beckley community events lately, you may have seen some of the Beckley Sanitary Board team! This summer, BSB joined the Family Fun Day hosted by Just For Kids and the Beckley Kids Classic Festival where we helped share with 160 kids and their families the importance of cleaning up after their pets.

Children who stopped by BSB's booth received information about their important role in preventing stormwater pollution. They learned how properly disposing of pet waste can benefit both us and our waterways! The kids also got a chance to play "Scoop the Poop!" where they practiced using a pet waste bag to pick up some fake doo doo for a candy prize. Whenever you and your four-legged friend are out and about, remember to do your "doody" and pick up after your pet!



Beckley Raingarden Research Study

This summer, Abigail, an Environmental Community Planning student at WVU, joined our Beckley Sanitary Board team as an intern to study some of the raingardens here in Beckley. Her work provided us with valuable insights into the current condition and function of some of the city's rain gardens.

Raingardens are intricate systems that require special design and maintenance to help filter pollutants out of stormwater runoff. Abigail's work focused on two Beckley rain gardens, studying how each one performs to remove pollution. Her effort provided insight into the long-term effectiveness of our rain gardens, and helped inform ongoing maintenance plans for bioretention systems in Beckley.

In addition to her rain garden work, Abigail helped inspect sewer lines, update system mapping, and install a new litter-catching "Trash Trout™"! It was a pleasure having Abigail join us this summer here at BSB! We wish her all the best as she continues to pursue her degree at WVU!

If you'd like to learn more about BSB's internship program, email jobs@beckleysanitaryboard.org.



Abigail collecting water samples from a raingarden after rainfall.



"Leaf" Them out of the Drains

As we enter fall, remember that autumn leaves can clog storm drains and lead to flooding. To help prevent street and yard flooding this fall, be mindful of leaf removal. You can mulch leaves in your yard, or bag them and dispose of them in designated yard waste containers or areas — not in the street or in the storm drains.



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Stormwater System Upgrades

Beckley Sanitary Board construction crews have been hard at work this summer. Pinewood Drive and Evans Street areas have received major stormwater system upgrades recently. After discovering a collapsing stormwater pipe under Pinewood Drive, BSB contracted engineering services to design a much-needed upgrade to prevent any further problems. This system carries runoff from a large watershed, so a larger, more durable pipe was installed to convey the stormwater. Pinewood Drive was closed and traffic was rerouted for safety, while nearly 400 feet of new pipe was installed.



Crews preparing a ditch line for the new pipe installation.



A new headwall and concrete matting being installed.

The Evans Street project was initiated to address deteriorating stormwater pipes in a residential area. Our team's survey and design work identified the need for an overall upgrade to the size and materials used to convey the public stormwater. The BSB construction crews have installed over 500 feet of new pipe, new drain inlets, headwalls, and wing walls. A large stormwater channel has also been widened and stabilized for the future.

Stormwater improvement projects like these help to reduce and prevent flooding or high water events, and also protect the environment and public safety!

New Clean Stream Efforts



Keeping our watershed clean is a priority here at Beckley Sanitary Board. Protecting the watershed helps protect water quality, recreational areas, and wildlife habitat. To help remove litter pollution from our streams, BSB purchased and installed a third Trash Trout™ later this summer, thanks to support from WVDEP Litter Control.

The new Trash Trout™ was installed on Cranberry Creek, near Cook Out. Since this stream flows through a very urban area, a lot of litter can end up in its waters. This new Trash Trout™ will help us catch as much floating litter as possible. If you would like to help with a Trash Trout™ cleanup, contact our office at 304-256-1760 and follow us on Facebook!

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