

April 2026

Emergency Infrastructure Repair

Recently, the Beckley Sanitary Board (BSB) responded to an unexpected infrastructure failure that impacted both the sanitary sewer and stormwater systems in one area of the city. System failures require a rapid, well-coordinated response to protect public health and prevent environmental harm.

During a routine check of the system, Beckley Sanitary Board staff discovered a collapsed sanitary sewer pipe near an old and damaged storm pipe. As this posed a threat of wastewater entering the storm sewer, BSB immediately mobilized to correct the situation. Field staff quickly developed a temporary fix that kept the sewer and storm pipes operating while long-term repairs were designed.

BSB's engineering team redesigned the affected section to improve overall system efficiency and resilience. BSB contracted a construction team to install the new sanitary and storm system very efficiently. Throughout the project, BSB's engineering and environmental staff closely oversaw the work to ensure it followed the design, safety standards, and environmental requirements.

Once complete, this project significantly improved the sewer and stormwater systems. The new sewer lines keep wastewater from leaking out in the environment. And the new stormwater system includes new pipes and channels, which can manage more water and help protect areas from flooding. Projects like this highlight both the importance and the complexity of maintaining and upgrading aged underground infrastructure. Although these systems are largely out of sight, they play a vital role in protecting public health, supporting economic activity, and safeguarding local waterways.

BSB is proud of the teamwork demonstrated throughout this repair. The quick response, thoughtful planning, and dedication of our staff and our construction partners ensured the issue was resolved efficiently — protecting both the community and the environment.



April Showers

April showers bring May flowers, but it can also wash pollution into our waterways. You can help protect our local waters by being mindful of what gets washed away. Pick up pet waste, avoid over-fertilizing your lawn, properly dispose of trash, and never pour chemicals or oil down storm drains. Small actions at home make a big difference in keeping our waterways clean for everyone.

Beckley Sanitary Board
301 S. Heber St.
Beckley, WV 25801
(304) 256-1760

beckleysanitaryboard.org

 [www.facebook.com/
BeckleySanitaryBoard](https://www.facebook.com/BeckleySanitaryBoard)

Next Generation of Clean Water Stewards

The Beckley Sanitary Board's Environmental Team recently visited Beckley Stratton Middle School to talk with students about the importance of clean water and the work that goes on behind the scenes at BSB to protect it. During the visit, students learned how a wastewater and stormwater utility operates, why they are essential to public health and the environment, and simple actions everyone can take to help protect water resources.

The students were very engaged and asked thoughtful questions like "What's the most difficult thing you've encountered?" and "Do you ever see animals in the pipes?"

BSB always enjoys opportunities to connect with students and help inspire the next generation of clean water stewards. Educational visits help build awareness about the importance of protecting our water and the role each of us can play in keeping our community's waterways healthy.

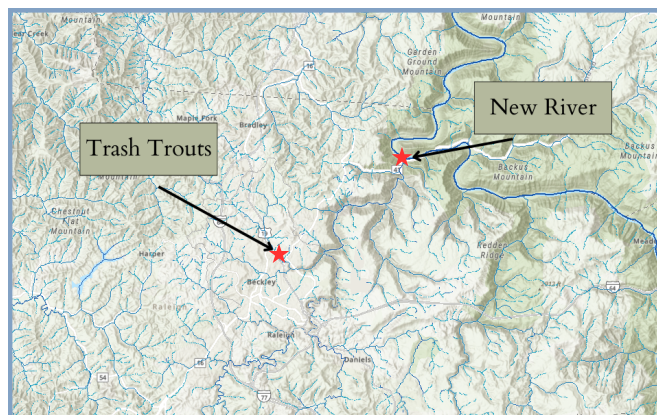


Spring Cleaning in the Creek

With the arrival of spring, the Beckley Sanitary Board partnered with Beckley Outdoors to give our local waterways a spring cleanup. Together, the team visited the three Trash Trout locations throughout the city to remove litter that had accumulated over the winter months.

Trash Trouts are floating litter collection devices placed in creeks to capture trash before it can travel farther downstream. During the cleanup, the crew removed more than 40 pounds of trash from the devices, preventing that waste from reaching larger waterways and impacting the environment.

While these devices play an important role in protecting our streams, the best solution is preventing trash from entering waterways in the first place. Simple actions like properly disposing of waste and picking up litter when you see it help keep our community cleaner and protect local water resources.



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