



Friends of Green Hill Pond

To Preserve and Protect Green Hill Pond

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Stormwater Project Update

We would like to provide an update on the Green Hill Stormwater Project that we announced last August. As you may recall, the aim of this project is to produce specific designs to reduce the stormwater discharge of bacteria and nitrogen into Green Hill Pond.

In December, South Kingstown sent out RFPs to several engineering firms, reviewed their responses, and selected the environmental engineering firm Woodard & Curran (W&C) to do the work. Friends of Green Hill Pond (FGHP) provided input to South Kingstown during this process. After receiving the official notification of federal funding in January, the SK Town Council formally awarded the contract. Since then, both SK and FGHP shared prior studies, GIS maps, and extensive documentation with W&C.

More recently, W&C has prepared a number of maps of the Green Hill watershed to help identify and prioritize potential catchment areas for stormwater. These maps include:

- **Impervious cover**. Generally, the more impervious surface areas (for example, paved roads) there are in a watershed, the higher the runoff and the more degradation of water quality.
- **Stormwater outfalls**. Outfalls are areas where sewers that gather stormwater from a large area empty into wetlands, tributary streams, or directly into the Pond. As such, they present a potentially attractive location for catchment areas.
- **Land use**. Generally, the more concentrated and intense the land use, the more runoff will occur with higher levels of bacteria and nitrogen.
- **Soil Type**. Catchment areas must drain in a reasonable amount of time to avoid becoming a mosquito habitat and to recover storage for subsequent rain storms. The government uses four soil groups to assess drainage—A through D. A and B are suitable for catchment areas, C is questionable, and D is not suitable.
- **Water lines**. Potential catchment areas need to avoid or at least consider the impact on underground utilities, especially water lines.

Using this "desk" information and that gathered from field visits, W&C is now in the process of identifying potential catchment areas. As part of that process, they are asking for local knowledge to help identify neighborhood overland flow sources—that is, significant stormwater that flows along a road or other land surface and empties directly or indirectly into the Pond without passing through a municipal sewer. If you know of such an area, please let us know by emailing

isodjb12@gmail.com so they can evaluate its potential in controlling stormwater.

As you can see, this process is complicated and multifaceted, requiring considerable expertise and lots of hard work. We will keep you up to date as this project moves forward. Thank you again for your interest and support.