



Friends of Green Hill Pond

To Preserve and Protect Green Hill Pond

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The Smaller Actions to Improve Green Hill Pond



We often discuss the major grants and big projects in our newsletters. Today, we would like to spotlight one of the smaller actions that was recently taken to preserve and protect Green Hill Pond.

First, some quick background. The recent stormwater study identified runoff from Route 1 as an important source of nitrogen and bacteria. Stormwater from Route 1 feeds into Factory Pond which in turn feeds into Green Hill Pond. The area around Route 1 is owned by the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Earlier this year, we reached out to the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) for their help and advice on what could be done. Although DEM was busy with other projects, they quickly reached out to DOT. In response to DEM's request, DOT came out to our area in February to clean out a badly clogged, 19-year-old stormwater treatment unit near Route 1 and Zech Drive (see picture). Sediment, oil, and debris that was removed filled a large-scale vacuum tanker truck twice. According to the experience in other states, this type of stormwater treatment unit can remove over 50% of sediment in stormwater when working optimally. While this unit does not directly remove nitrogen or bacteria, it controls the siltation and filtration efficiency of downstream wetlands, ponds, and catchment areas.

We applaud DEM and DOT for taking this small but important action to improve Green Hill Pond!

Dennis Bowman
President
Friends of Green Hill Pond