

NEXT STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING Thursday, October 22, 2015

Question of the Month

What are the top three services you would like the stormwater management district to be responsible for? [Please click the survey link to provide your answer.](#)

Project Update

Stakeholder Group - The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) were emailed to the Stakeholder Group and posted on the project website. The FAQs were developed based on questions presented at the first Stakeholder Group meeting and from experience with other community's stormwater programs.

Steering Committee - The steering committee is currently assisting with development of the existing Level of Service (LOS) for each of the municipalities. The next Steering Committee meeting is Wednesday, October 7th.

Current Work

LOS Protocol - CDM Smith described in a [technical memorandum](#) the process and methods used for determining the LOS for each municipality. The technical memo was distributed to the steering committee and to the stakeholder group. The LOS analysis process involved individually evaluating the five categories that make up stormwater programs. The five categories are:

- Program Administration
- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)
- Operations and Maintenance (O&M)
- Capital Improvement program (CIP)
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

Determining the Stormwater Level of Service (LOS) - The existing LOS for each of the six municipalities was evaluated and summarized in individual technical memorandums. CDM Smith is in the process of meeting with each municipality to discuss their existing LOS. This information will be included in the final report. A [LOS matrix](#) uploaded on the project website breaks down the different levels of service based on the five stormwater program categories.

Case Studies - The team is researching other regional stormwater programs for the purpose of identifying potential key issues that must be addressed in the formation of a stormwater management district.

An example of a stormwater program being researched is the [Long Creek Watershed Management District](#) located in Maine that was developed in response to a preliminary order issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under legal pressure by the Conservation Law Foundation. The EPA served notice to landowners within the Long Creek Watershed with greater than 1 acre of impervious area¹ requiring them to either participate in the Long Creek Watershed Management District or clean up their property's stormwater on their own. Of the 127 designated parcels, 97% have chosen to participate in the collaborative approach. The District is making steady progress in installing structural retrofits to treat stormwater and improve Long Creek's water quality and habitat.

¹*Impervious Area* is an area containing an artificial surface, such as a roadway, sidewalk, and building rooftops, which prevents rainfall from naturally soaking into the ground, therefore increasing surface runoff.



In the News

CLF Sues EPA for Failure to Protect Rhode Island Waterways from Stormwater Pollution Including Ponds in Providence and Cranston

The Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) reported on April 28, 2015 that they are suing the US EPA for failure to protect Rhode Island waterways from stormwater pollution. Of relevance to the Upper Narragansett Bay region, the lawsuit cites US EPA's failure to notify certain commercial, industrial, and institutional property owners located in Providence and Cranston that they



RI Statewide TMDL for Bacteria Impaired Waters – Mashapaug Pond Watershed Summary (June 2011)

must obtain permits for their stormwater discharges into Mashapaug Pond and Spectacle Pond, a mandatory requirement under the Clean Water Act. [Click here to read more.](#)

Report: Bacteria Levels in Narragansett Bay Cut by 50%

The Providence Journal on August 10, 2015 reports on the reduction in bacteria levels due to the recent CSO work being conducted by NBC. Although the work has reduced the number of beach and shellfish closures, it is important to note that it has not, and will not, eliminate them completely. Other stormwater pollution prevention actions are needed to make our water bodies clean for the habitat and recreational uses. [Click here to read more.](#)

Upcoming Events

[STORMTOOLS Presentation & Demonstration](#)

Rhode Island Flood Mitigation Association
Thursday, October 8, 2015 – Warwick, RI

[Implementing a Stormwater Financing Program in the Narragansett Bay](#)

Narragansett Bay Stormwater Financing Workshop
October 15, 2015 – Providence, RI

[Stormwater Finance Workshops](#)

Massachusetts Rivers Alliance
Workshops are scheduled for the following three days:

Thursday, October 15, 2015 - Marlborough, MA
Tuesday, October 20, 2015 - Hadley, MA
Thursday, October 22, 2015 - Taunton, MA

[Stormwater Management in RI](#)

Environmental Business Council
Wednesday, November 4, 2015 – Providence, RI
NOTE: This event is currently in the planning process and has not yet been posted on the website. Further detail will be posted on the website once details are finalized.

Stakeholder Group Meeting #2

Meeting topics include:

- Existing Cost of Service and LOS
- Capital Needs
- Funding Framework

Thursday, October 22, 2015 - 4:30PM-7:00PM

Project Background

Six municipalities at the head of the Narragansett Bay are exploring regional solutions to a wide range of shared challenges including flooding, stormwater pollution, and degraded drainage infrastructure. With funding from RIDEM, the six municipalities are exploring the creation of a regional stormwater management district as a coordinated approach to a long term, sustainable solution to stormwater management.

