

ATTENTION TEACHERS !!!

Applications Being Accepted for Mini-Grants Program

The Hampton Roads Environmental Education Teams (HR WET, HR STORM and HR CLEAN) offer competitive mini-grants of up to \$250 each year to provide supplemental funding for environmentally-related projects. All school teachers (K-12) and youth leaders in the Hampton Roads region are eligible.

Funded projects shall be specifically tied to litter prevention, waste minimization and recycling or beautification; water conservation; stormwater pollution prevention; or efficiency.

For a list of appropriate topic areas, more information and access to the easy-to-fill-out application, refer to the HR STORM website at: <http://www.hrstorm.org/MiniGrant.shtml>

\$\$ FREE \$\$

THE MAIN DRAIN

The Main Drain is a publication that addresses local Stormwater and Erosion and Sediment Control issues concerning Portsmouth residents and employees and is produced by The City of Portsmouth, Department of Public Utilities / Public Works - Division of Stormwater Management.

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THE MAIN DRAIN

STORMWATER NEWS YOU CAN USE

A Publication of the Portsmouth Department of Public Utilities/Public Works -

Division of Stormwater Management

Fall 2007

Greenwood Drive Regional Retention Pond

An Environmental Jewel at New Port



Welcome to Portsmouth's newest community - New Port, a beautiful new subdivision which serves not only as a gateway to beautiful residential homes and a top-notch golf course but also to a piece of *Mother Nature* at the award-winning Greenwood Drive Regional Stormwater Retention Pond.



The Greenwood Drive Regional Stormwater Retention Pond provides a tranquil Backdrop to the New Port Subdivision.

STORMWATER TIP OF THE MONTH:

Fertilize in the Fall and be sure to:

- Test your soil to see what nutrients it needs.
- Use low-phosphorous or phosphate free fertilizers.
- Use slow release granular fertilizers - they leach less and work longer.

LOOK WHAT WE DID. . .

1. The Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation awarded the City our first -ever "Consistent" rating regarding implementation of the State Erosion & Sediment Control Program.



The PW/Stormwater Division is responsible for implementation of the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program, which regulates land-disturbing activities associated with commercial and residential construction. The program focuses on the control of sediments from construction sites to prevent their entry into state-owned receiving waters. Since the inception of the state-mandated program in the mid seventies, some 30 years ago, this is the first time the City has been found to be in full compliance with the state program and regulations. Such compliance indicates Portsmouth is doing its part to ensure responsible land development throughout the City and improve water quality in our local waterways.

Vision Principles Advanced: A Robust & Prospering Economy; Pride of Past, Promise of Future

2. Lake Assessment Report Completed /First Maintenance Project Underway

The PW/Stormwater Division contracted with a national Engineering firm, CH2MHILL and a Richmond-based Lake & Pond Management firm, Aquatic Services, to field assess, prioritize and make recommendations for the long-term maintenance of the 31 lakes and ponds that receive stormwater runoff from City streets. The first project to be implemented is the maintenance dredging of Cavalier Canal. This project marks the City's very first effort to dredge accumulated sediments from lakes and ponds that receive incoming stormwater. The project will serve as a wonderful improvement to the Cavalier Manor community, particularly to the residents whose properties abut the canal. (See cover story.)

Vision Principles Advanced: Bold New Directions; Thriving Neighborhoods & a Sense of Community

NOTICE

Stormwater Utility Fee Increase

Effective July 1, 2007

New Rate is \$5.50 per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) per month
(. . .or \$16.50 per ERU per quarter)



Local Businesses Join the *Chesapeake Club*SM Campaign "Saving the Crabs So We Can Eat 'em. . ."

The Chesapeake ClubSM campaign is a nutrient reduction program developed to help people realize that crabs in the Chesapeake Bay are dying due to pollutants. The official campaign slogan "Save the crabs then eat 'em" is aimed to help folks make the connection that our activities on land have an effect on our resources in local waterways. Area lawn care companies were recruited to adopt the Chesapeake Club standard of fertilizing in the fall and limiting phosphorus and nitrogen applications. Area restaurants handed out coasters to help spread the word.

Many thanks to participating Portsmouth Businesses:

Lawn Care Companies

*Affordable Lawn Care
LawnBiz Lawn Service, Inc.
Classic Lawn & Landscape LLC*

Restaurants

<i>Mario's Italian Restaurant</i>	<i>Roger Brown's</i>	<i>The Deck</i>
<i>The Bar & Bistro at 506</i>	<i>The Bier Garden</i>	<i>Thumpers</i>
<i>Boomerangs Seafood Restaurant</i>	<i>Paddy O'Brien's</i>	<i>Baron's Pub</i>
<i>Dave's Cove Café & Fresh Seafood Market</i>	<i>Bide-a-Wee Grille</i>	
	<i>The Flagship Restaurant</i>	