

Stormwater Pond Maintenance

Fact Sheet

What is a Stormwater Management Pond?

A stormwater management pond is an engineered structure intended to collect rainfall and surface runoff (stormwater) from your subdivision. Stormwater enters a series of catch basins and storm sewers, and then drains to a stormwater management pond. The stormwater pond temporarily stores, and slowly releases this water to prevent downstream flooding. The stormwater pond also allows sediment (sand and gravel) and other pollution to settle out, improving the quality of water that is discharged to the natural environment.

What should I expect during stormwater pond maintenance activities?

The City will occasionally undertake minor maintenance such as grass cutting and debris removal. Major maintenance involving sediment removal is required every few years, and may involve:

- Temporarily emptying water from the pond using pumps.
- Heavy machinery in, and around the pond, removing and stockpiling sediment.
- Other repair activities as necessary, such as replacing vegetation, and repairing fences, pipes, or eroded banks.

- Temporary disturbance to local wildlife. Invasive and non-native fish species (e.g. Koi fish) present in the pond will be removed.

Why is it important for the City to maintain stormwater ponds?

Unmaintained stormwater ponds will:

- Not remove pollutants as intended, resulting in polluted water entering streams and rivers.
 - Become filled with sediment and debris, reducing the ponds storage capacity and increasing the risk of flooding and pond failure.
 - Look unsightly with excessive weed and algae growth.
 - Cost more to fix in the future.

A well maintained stormwater management pond reduces flood risk, prevents erosion in our creeks, and improves the quality of water discharging to the natural environment.

The City is also mandated to maintain its ponds in accordance with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks approval for the facility.

For more information, please contact the City at:

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To learn more about stormwater, visit our website at:

www.peterborough.ca/rethinktherain