

- P.1** Budget News
- P.2** Updated Flood Maps
- P.2** We Need Your Help
- P.3** Sign UP – Volunteer with The Stormwater Division

- P.3** Important Reminders
- P.4** Contact Information



URBAN WATERSHEDS



UPCOMING EVENTS

Raleigh's Neighborhood Exchange

Saturday, September 19
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
McKimmon Center
1101 Gorman Street, Raleigh

Stormwater Volunteer Stream Monitoring Workshop

Pre-Registration is required space is limited

Contact the Stormwater Division at 919-996-3940 or via [email](#)
Saturday, September 26
10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Walnut Creek Wetland Center
950 Peterson Street, Raleigh

New Wake County Digital Flood Maps Available for Review

Discuss the latest flood hazard and flood risk data. Monday, October 5, Wednesday, October 7, Thursday, October 8, and Thursday, October 15
More Information contact Ben Brown, PE at 919-996-3940 or via [email](#)

Foster-a-Stream Event

Come join staff from the Stormwater Division October 24 and help clean up a local stream. For more information or to sign up, contact Carmela Teichman at 919-996-3940 or via [email](#)

Budget News *By: Blair Hinkle, Stormwater Program Manager*



Having successfully navigated my first budget season as the City of Raleigh's Stormwater Program Manager, I thought it important to update those with an interest in the Stormwater Program about our fiscal year 2016 budget and Capital Improvement Plan. Fiscal year 2016 began on July 1 and our new budget is similar to that of fiscal year 2015.

As an enterprise fund, the Stormwater Program's revenues come mainly in the form of stormwater utility fees collected based on impervious area. In addition, the program collects

development review fees for grading and stormwater permits issued through the development review section. In total, the program's projected fiscal year 2016 revenues are approximately \$17.75 million.

We seek to utilize these revenues in a way that provides a high level of service to our ratepayers, and we're always looking for opportunities to become more efficient. For instance, in this year's budget, the program has added two positions to assume responsibility for much of the construction inspection work associated with our capital stormwater projects. Where we previously spent upwards of \$500,000 per year for these services from consultants, we now anticipate spending much less by bringing them in-house.

Overall, we plan to spend approximately \$8.75 million on operational costs associated with the program over the next year. These expenditures cover things like personnel, equipment, billing services, water quality sampling, project management, and enforcement activities. In addition, the program contributes about \$3 million per year to fund operational activities housed in other divisions related to stormwater management - things like street sweeping and infrastructure maintenance. Finally, each year, the program dedicates a significant level of funding to capital projects - \$6 million in fiscal year 2016.

The Stormwater Program's Capital Improvement Plan incorporates all planned capital expenditures over a five-year planning horizon. Within this period - ending in Fiscal Year 2020 - the program anticipates spending \$36.27 million on stormwater improvements throughout the City.

Budget News (contd.)

These improvements include projects and studies related to neighborhood and street drainage, infrastructure replacement, drainage petitions, stream restoration, lake preservation, and water quality. There are currently about 35 stormwater projects under active design or construction, with many more to come.

If you are interested in learning more about the City of Raleigh's budget and Capital Improvement Plan, the full documents can be found online at raleighnc.gov. In addition, Stormwater Program staff members are always available to answer your questions about any of our operations. You can reach the Stormwater Management Program by calling 919-996-3940. _____

Updated Flood Maps

By: Ben Brown, PE
Raleigh Floodplain
Manager

For the first time since 2006, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) floodplain maps are being updated. These maps are used to identify flood risks and also set flood insurance premiums for insurable structures in the FEMA floodplain. The City partnered with the State of North Carolina to ensure that these maps as accurate as possible. Using more accurate data, the floodplain limits on the new maps are as accurate as possible.

On Monday, October 5, Wednesday, October 7, Thursday, October 8, and Thursday, October 15, residents and business leaders in Wake County communities will be able to review and discuss the latest flood hazard and flood risk data.

Now available digitally, preliminary flood hazard information can be layered on top of the County's parcel data so property owners can better determine potential risks to their land. An open-house event will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday, October 5 in the Holly Springs Cultural Center, located at 300 West Ballentine Street in Holly Springs. On Wednesday, October 7, the open house will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Barwell Park Community Center, located at 5857 Barwell Park Drive in Raleigh. On Thursday, October 8, the open house will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Wake Forest Town Hall, located at 301 S. Brooks Street in Wake Forest. The final open house will also be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Bond Park Community Center, located at 801 High House Road in Cary.

Residents can access the flood hazard data online at <http://fris.nc.gov/fris/>.

The public meetings provide an opportunity for residents to see the results of the revised studies and new flood hazard areas. County and municipal employees will be on hand to help residents locate particular properties from the flood hazard data and determine their level of flood risk. Representatives from the North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program will make a short presentation on the flood study process, how the new digital hazard data can be used to reduce future flood losses, and how the preliminary hazard data may impact flood insurance and floodplain management. Attendees also may see a demonstration of the North Carolina Flood Risk Information System. Following the presentation, state emergency management representatives will be available to answer questions about the hazard data update process, flood insurance coverage and floodplain management.

The North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program was established in 2000 with a mandate to update flood hazard data for all 100 counties. Through a partnership with FEMA, the State was charged with creating and maintaining the Flood Insurance Study for all North Carolina communities. Since 2003, the North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program has analyzed, updated and digitized the flood hazard data for all 100 counties and associated communities in North Carolina. This preliminary flood hazard data was developed based on local community requests for new flood hazard risk studies for the updated streams. Please note that only those portions of the revised streams have been updated. Therefore, some communities in the county will not have new flood hazard data, although adjacent counties may have some updates due to the seamless statewide format for the mapping program.

Stay informed by keeping up with alerts on Raleigh's website at www.raleighnc.gov.

If there are any questions about the new maps, feel free to contact Ben Brown at 919-996-3515 or ben.brown@raleighnc.gov. _____

We
Need
Your Help.



Help keep grass clippings and leaves off our streets and out of our streams. Left in the street, grass clippings and leaves not only are an eyesore and a hazard to cyclists and motorists, they damage our creeks and lakes, clog storm drains, cause flooding, and increase maintenance costs. They also can lead to citations and fines.

Street runoff of rainwater washes grass clippings, leaves, and other debris into storm drains and neighborhood stormwater conveyance systems. This material not only clogs up the system, it ends up in our creeks and lakes where it decays, using up oxygen and releasing

nitrogen and phosphorous - fertilizers that feed algal blooms and can kill fish and other aquatic life. For these and other reasons, **City code** prohibits leaving your yard waste in the street, and City inspectors can **issue citations and fines** to residents and contractors who do not comply.

There are simple ways to maintain attractive landscapes without casting yard waste into the street:

- Leave grass clippings on the lawn (they are fertilizer);
- Direct mowers to cast clippings away from pavements when possible;
- Sweep or blow clippings from pavements back onto the lawn;
- Mix grass clippings with leaves and soil to make compost, a soil conditioner;
- **Properly prepare** leaves and other yard waste for curbside pickup by the City; and
- Utilize the Seasonal Leaf Collection program starting in November.



The City's Transportation Field Services Division runs the Leaf program and curbside collection service which runs for approximately 12 weeks. The City will make two passes throughout Raleigh during the collection period with each pass taking approximately six weeks.

For more information on the Seasonal Loose Leaf program, up-to-date route schedules and guidelines, please visit www.raleighnc.gov, search for: Seasonal Loose Leaf Collection. You can also call 919-996-3720.

Sign up to volunteer with the Stormwater Division



The Stormwater Management Division has four volunteer opportunities available to City residents who want to join in and help protect the environment and improve the health of Raleigh's streams.

- **Adopt-a-Stream** volunteers organize stream walks and clean-ups each year.
- **Foster-a-Stream**, is a drop in stream clean-up held twice a year.
- **Storm drain marking** volunteers glue colorful discs onto storm drain inlets to discourage illegal dumping.
- **Stream monitoring volunteers** measure various water quality parameters to determine a stream's health, you must attend a Stream Monitoring workshop to volunteer in this program.

The next Stream Monitoring workshop will be on September 26 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Walnut Creek Wetland Center. Contact the Stormwater Management Division to sign up by calling 919-996-3940.

Important Reminders

Fall is a Great Time to Walk Your Stream:

- Walk your stream twice a year and submit your field data sheets
- Perform at least one stream clean-up activity and submit your field data
- Be sure to let us know how much debris you remove from your adopted stream reach
- Remember to call 919-996-3940 if you notice any illicit discharges on your stream walk



Used Cooking Oil and Grease Collection Starting in November

The City of Raleigh runs an annual program to collect cooking oil and grease at the curbside helping to prevent sanitary sewer overflows. From November 1st through January 15th Raleigh residents are able to recycle these products by calling Solid Waste Services at 919-996-6890 to set up a collection date. Once the appointment date is set, residents put the cooking oil and grease on the curb along with their garbage, recycling and yard waste.

Churches and synagogues in Raleigh can also participate in the program at no charge. Commercial establishments in Raleigh are not eligible for the service.



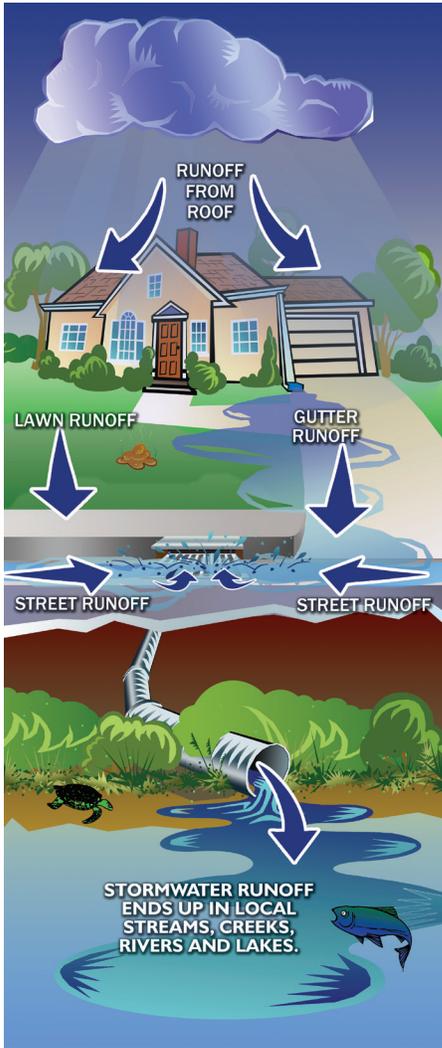
Program Information

- A minimum of 1 gallon of cooking oil is required to set up a collection date.
- Only animal grease and vegetable cooking oil can be collected curbside.
- Residents must place cooled cooking oil in a plastic bottle or jug and write "Cooking Oil" on the outside of the container.
- Cooled grease can be placed in a coffee can with a lid.
- No glass containers are collected.
- Motor oil and other petroleum products are not acceptable.

The goal of this program is to protect the environment by keeping cooking oil and grease out of the City's sanitary sewer system and to prevent sewer overflows. The collected cooking oil and grease is converted to bio-fuels, a renewable source of energy used to power vehicles, heat homes and cook food. The holiday season typically generates a high amount of grease from holiday gatherings.

The program is a joint effort of the City of Raleigh's Public Utilities, Solid Waste Services and Public Affairs departments and Triangle Bio-fuels Industries Inc. Triangle Bio-fuels reimburses the City 25 cents for each gallon of cooking oil and animal grease collected, and converted the material to bio-fuels.

During the rest of the year, cooking oil and grease can be taken to a Wake County Convenience Centers



**Stormwater Division
Staff Contacts**

Stormwater Staff & Fee Inquiries

- Volunteer Coordinator
- Illicit Discharge Response
- Sedimentation and Erosion Control
- Floodplain Inquiries
- Drainage Complaints on Private Property
- Drainage Complaints in the Street

919-996-3940

RaleighStormwater@raleighnc.gov

- Kevin Boyer
- Pete Duffy
- Lauren Witherspoon
- Ben Brown
- Chris Stanley
- 919-996-6446

**RALEIGH'S STORMWATER
WEBSITE RESOURCES**

- City of Raleigh
- Stormwater Management Division
- Adopt-A-Stream Volunteer Program
- Storm Drain Marking Volunteer Program
- Stream Monitoring Volunteer Program
- Water Pollution
- Flood Information

www.raleighnc.gov

- keyword search "stormwater division"
- keyword search "adopt a stream"
- keyword search "drain marking"
- keyword search "volunteer stream monitoring"
- keyword search "water pollution helpline"
- keyword search "flooding"

**ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL
& VOLUNTEER RESOURCES**

- Clean Water Education Partnership
- North Carolina Stormwater and Runoff Pollution
- Neuse Riverkeeper Foundation
- River Guardian Foundation

www.nccleanwater.org

- www.ncstormwater.org
- www.neuseriver.org
- www.riverguardfdn.org

THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT MISSION

The Stormwater Management Division's focus is to partner with the citizens of Raleigh to effectively manage flood control and environmental protection in our water bodies, ultimately the Neuse River by using proactive management techniques to plan, identify, maintain, monitor, design, inspect and construct drainage systems to alleviate structural flooding and preserve water quality. Protecting our waterways provides for the future well-being of our environment.

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MORE INFO

raleighnc.gov

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