

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2022

6:45 P.M.

Introduction

Mrs. Fosbaugh explained that MS4 is an acronym for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, which means the storm and sanitary sewer systems are separate and distinct and not combined. The purpose of the MS4 mandate is to assist in protecting the integrity of the freshwater supply which has been negatively impacted by runoff, pesticides and flooding, as well as other types of pollutants. MS4 was established in 2008 by DEP and has become increasingly more expensive and restrictive to all municipalities.

Routine Activities

- A part-time employee collects litter to prevent trash from impacting the functionality of the inlets, which prevents stormwater from properly draining into the system.
- The Public Works Department continually rebuilds inlets. The inlets are inspected and rated each year to determine whether the inlets need repaired or rebuilt. The rating is entered into the GIS System, which is an ESRI software product. ESRI is an engineering software that is used across the engineering industry.
- The South Hills Council of Governments (SHACOG) is a consortium of a number of municipalities. The Township participates in the use of the flusher truck and the camera truck several times per season in order to flush out problematic areas. The sanitary sewer system functioning properly helps keep the integrity of the freshwater system.
- The Township submits grant applications for Community Development projects, for both storm and sanitary sewers. The projects are specifically dedicated to low-income areas. The Township has secured millions of dollars in funding to help rebuild our system.
- The Township replaces damaged storm sewer lines, which is determined by the Director of Public Works.

Township/Developer Projects

- The Township uses GIS mapping of the storm sewer system using ESRI software. One component is rating the storm sewer inlets which assists in determining a maintenance schedule. Stormwater inlets are a critical component of MS4 in order to direct runoff to the proper location.

- The Township uses GIS mapping of the stormwater retention ponds that are both Township-owned and privately held. Prior to 2000, South Park Township was responsible for all stormwater retention projects' maintenance and repair. In 2000, the developers became responsible for building the ponds, and the Homeowners' Associations are responsible for the maintenance. A perpetual maintenance bond of \$5,000 is required for each of the ponds for maintenance purposes. In the event of a malfunction, it would not be the burden of the Township to make the repairs. Stormwater ponds are the way of the future. Additional stormwater lines cannot be added, because the systems are being overburdened and cannot accommodate all of the stormwater.

- Robinwood Drive stormwater drainage line, which drains into the retention pond, has been completed under the 2022 Sanitary Sewer Township-Wide Program.

- In the Library Heights area there was significant replacement of service lines by PA American Water Company and People's Gas Company. While the repairs were being made, they also cleaned out the inlets to provide for greater functionality.

- The Township is involved in the lining project with Bethel Park Municipal Authority. It is the main interceptor line that begins after the Trolley Stop Restaurant and continues down to the treatment plant. It is a 7 million dollar project, and the Township percentage is 27%.

- In order to stop the flow of storm water into the Broughton area, the Township has been working continually for the past 3-4 years on the retention pond project on the golf course property in the County Park. The Township is working with Allegheny County and has an agreement to install swales in that particular area of the park. The DEP is involved, and there are a number permitting issues. The Township is hopeful that the project will be completed within the next several years.

- Developers are required to install stormwater retention ponds in new developments. Summit Station has three ponds and the Villas of South Park has one. The ponds allow the stormwater to be held back and released slowing into the system, keeping pollutants out of the fresh water supply.

What you can do: Mrs. Fosbaugh explained that there are a number of ways that homeowners can assist in effectively managing stormwater, such as:

- Clean up after your pets to prevent animal waste from draining into the fresh water supply.
- Limit the application of chemicals on your lawn or use earth friendly applications.
- Wash vehicles in the grass to prevent soap and other chemicals from reaching the fresh water supply.
- Implement a rain barrel to collect rainwater for flower and vegetable gardens, and other outdoor activities.
- Direct stormwater runoff to grass areas, such as a mulch bed or a rain garden.

Mrs. Fosbaugh informed the audience that there is a MS4 display in the Lobby that provides information to the public. Residents can also visit South Park Township's website that has additional MS4 information.

Public Comments There were no comments from the public audience.

Adjournment Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Lucot to adjourn the meeting. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Time: 6:55 p.m.