

Stormwater Management and Pollution Prevention Update

The Village has a number of stormwater detention facilities around town. Their function is to hold water when heavy rainstorms occur. They are designed to hold the rainwater, which is greater than the capacity of the storm sewer system and release the water, once the rain stops. Detention facilities are very important to the stormwater control system, which helps to reduce or eliminate flooding. Mayor Kyle R. Hastings instituted a plan to develop this safety precaution, when he was first elected, in 1993. In order for the stormwater management system to continue being viable, your Public Works Department performs maintenance on a regular basis.

You can assist this maintenance process by contacting the Village when you notice debris accumulations in the detention areas or storm sewer inlets, which become clogged with leaves or other debris. Working together, we can continue to keep Orland Hills the “Best Kept Secret in the Southwest”.

According to FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), some property is located within the boundaries of the floodplain as established by this federal agency. The Village of Orland Hills wants to make you aware of these flood hazards, what the Village is doing about flooding, and some things you can do in addition to the Village's efforts. The Village is expanding their outreach efforts to include two public hearings each year, where stormwater management issues will be discussed. We strongly encourage residents to become engaged in this process.

The Village Building Department at the Village Complex provides the following:

- Information on whether a property is in a mapped Floodplain and related Flood Insurance Rate Map data;
- Records of past flooding;
- Advice on how to protect a building from water problems;
- Guidance on the laws that govern construction and property improvements;
- Site visits to view the cause and possible solutions to a problem.
- Guidance on how to improve yard drainage from stormwater.

Flood maps and flood protection references are also available at the Tinley Park Public Library. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMS) may be viewed on line at <http://www.fema.gov>.

A copy of the Village's updated “Guide to Flood Protection” is available at the Village Hall. The guide is filled with additional information on flood proofing, protection and prevention along with information on wetlands and water quality issues. This publication is also available at the Tinley Park Library or on their website at www.tplibrary.org. This publication is also available at the Orland Hills Village Complex, at no cost. Guides are also available for reference in the plumbing aisle of your local hardware store, Park Ace Hardware Orland Hills and Tinley Park, as well as, Home Depot in Orland Park.

Additional information regarding water quality issues and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) is available on line at <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes>. and <http://epa.state.il.us>. If you have any questions on this information, please contact Joe, Karen or Conrad in our Building Department at 708-349-4887. The Public Works telephone number is 708-349-6792.