

THE IMPORTANCE OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Stormwater management is important because the water quality of Little Buck Run and its two tributaries is important.

Little Buck Run is the stream (surface water) that flows through the Borough. The headwaters of Little Buck Run are located in Sadsbury and West Sadsbury Townships just north of the Borough. Little Buck Run enters the northside of the Borough just west of Route 10. Downstream of this point, Little Buck Run flows into the Crystal Springs Pond and over the Crystal Springs Dam. Downstream from the dam, Little Buck Run crosses under Route 10 at a point just north of Chapel Avenue. From this point, Little Buck Run flows north-to-south, east side of Route 10, under the Amtrak railroad line, down to the intersection of Route 10 and First Avenue. At this intersection, Little Buck Run flows beneath the intersection, within a culvert, to a point south of First Avenue and west of Route 10. From this point Little Buck Run continues to flow north-to-south, west of Route 10, to a point just north of Beale Drive. At this point just north of Beale Drive, Little Buck Run crosses under Route 10 and flows through a farm meadow to the point where the stream exits the Borough, at the southeast corner of the Borough.

The confluence of the Minch Tributary into Little Buck Run is located a short distance upstream of the south-most crossing of Route 10, just north of Beale Drive. This tributary receives stormwater from the northwest area of the Borough.

The confluence of the Knoll Tributary into Little Buck Run is located in the farm meadow, downstream of the south-most crossing under Route 10. This tributary receives stormwater from the south area of the Borough.

Little Buck Run is part of the headwaters of the Christina River. Half a million people in three states depend on drinking water from the Christina River. The total watershed of the Christina River is 565 square miles.

Little Buck Run has been designated as an impaired stream, on the 305 (b) list. An impaired stream means that the water quality of that stream is below minimum standards. Contributing to the impairment status of the stream is excess nutrients and sediments from stormwater.



Effective stormwater management can improve water quality. For the Borough of Parkesburg, effective stormwater management is an ongoing priority. Best stormwater management practices recognize that simply conveying rainfall through pipes to surface waters such as Little Buck Run is not effective. The adverse impacts include: (1) downstream flooding; (2) erosion of streambanks; (3) scouring of streambeds; (4) discharge of excess sediment and pollution into the streams; and (5) failure to properly recharge groundwater aquifers. Degradation of streams is critical to aquatic life and wildlife, as well as personal health and welfare.

The MS4 program emphasizes the implementation of effective stormwater management practices. Effective stormwater management practices include activities, features, measures and procedures used to protect and improve water quality. Features include rain barrels, rain gardens, infiltration beds, retention ponds, riparian buffers, and forested areas. When properly designed, constructed and maintained, these features can be attractive amenities to any neighborhood. The following DEP website provides information about best management practices:

<http://164.156.71.80/WXOD.aspx?fs=2087d8407c0e00008000071900000719&ft=1>

It is anticipated that future requirements of the MS4 program will include routine monitoring of the "total maximum daily load" (TMDL) of various pollutants such as sediments, nitrates and phosphates.

Effective stormwater management is the responsibility of everyone.

