



City of Holmes Beach

Notice to Residents and Tenants

As part of the City's ongoing Capital Improvement Program for Storm Water Management; the City's Contractor, Woodruff & Son's, will be installing storm water filtration/percolation systems starting October 26th, 2015 within the City's rights of way in the open and/or grassed areas adjacent to the edges of asphalt or curb (where applicable). These percolation trenches will be filled with coarse gravel and have a filter cloth on the sides and within the top 4-6 inches to help keep dirt and fines from clogging up the gravel.

- The actual solution will vary from street to street as well as along any specific street based on local topology and related property needs.
- The specific solutions will be developed by the City Engineer, the construction crew based on local assessments and discussions with residents, including top layer treatment options for aesthetics.
- Driveways and heavily landscaped areas will not be disturbed unless absolutely necessary to ensure proper drainage.
- Existing drainage inlets and pipes will be repaired/replaced/modified/eliminated as necessary as many of the pipes are failing with leaking joints resulting in some sinkholes and causing sedimentation into the navigable canals.

The improvements will be installed along the following Streets:

- Marina Drive from 85th to Palm Drive
- 500 Block – 77th Street
- 500 Block – 75th Street
- 500 Block – 74th Street
- 500 Block – 72nd Street
- 500 Block – 71st Street
- 500 Block – 70th Street
- 500 Block – 69th Street
- 500 Block – 68th Street
- 500 Block – 67th Street

The construction activities within each street will last approximately 7-10 business days. Each construction area will be excavated and filled within the same work day to ensure that no hazards are left open overnight or over the weekends.

The many benefits of these improvements include but are not limited to the following:

- Reduction in long term maintenance of the City's storm water management system;
- Long term reduction in Storm Water Utility Fees and Assessments;
- Flood Reduction;
- Elimination/reduction of dependence on low tide for drainage to occur;
- Elimination of sediment and pollutants discharging to the Bay (an outstanding Florida Water Body);
- Replenishment of fresh water lens (groundwater supply – see attached description);

The costs for the project are cooperatively funded by a grant from the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the City of Holmes Beach through the City's Storm Water Utility Assessment Fees.

Please take note: the City Engineer will be conducting neighborhood meetings on a **street by street basis as follows:**

- 77th Street – October 6th @ 3:00 – 3:45 pm
- 75th Street – October 6th @ 3:50 – 4:35 pm
- 74th Street – October 13th @ 3:00 – 3:45 pm
- 72nd Street – October 13th @ 3:50 – 4:35 pm
- 71st Street – October 20th @ 3:00 – 3:30 pm
- 70th Street – October 20th @ 3:45 – 4:15 pm
- 69th Street – October 20th @ 4:20 – 5:05 pm
- 68th Street – October 27th @ 3:00 – 3:45 pm
- 67th Street – October 27th @ 3:50 – 4:35 pm

Each meeting will commence at the street intersection with Marina Drive at the time listed above. Opportunity will be provided at that time to discuss any concerns that residents may have. If you are unable to attend the meeting and wish to discuss the project details, please contact Lynn Burnett at 941-526-3375.



Existing application along 6th Avenue (behind Publix Plaza)

What is a Freshwater Lens

What is a “Freshwater Lens?” I’m so glad you asked. It is the basis for this whole Storm Water Management project that is happening on Anna Maria Island. We know that when we get a big rain we have a lot of standing water or flooding. What are we going to do to fix this mess? Drain it into our canals and bays? No, that’s no good because it causes a mucky mess in our waterways and during some real high tides, the flow is either real slow or, sometimes, it reverses causing even more flooding.

Freshwater lenses occur when rainwater seeps through the surface and gathers over a layer of seawater. Because freshwater is less dense, it floats on the seawater. The weight of the rain water that percolates into the ground depresses the salt water beneath it forming a profile that has the appearance of a lens. On islands that are in the middle of an ocean, the main source of fresh water is this lens. On our Island, we want to get rid of our storm water by putting it into our lens.

We are going to create “percolation trenches” which will absorb this storm water and then slowly drain down in to our freshwater lens.

