

NPDES PHASE II SMALL MS4 GENERAL PERMIT

Annual Report

April 2012 – March 2013

TOWN OF EXETER, NH

NHRO41007



May 1, 2013



Municipality/Organization: TOWN OF EXETER, NH

EPA NPDES Permit Number: NHR041007

MassDEP Transmittal Number: W-

Annual Report Number Year 10
& Reporting Period: April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report (Due: May 1, 2013)

Part I. General Information

Contact Person: Phyllis Duffy

Title: Engineering Tech

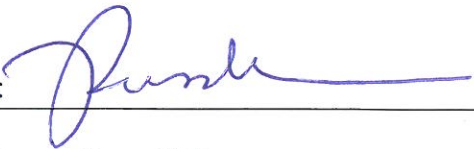
Telephone #: 603 77201345

Email: pduffy@town.exeter.nh.us

Mailing Address: 13 Newfields Road, Exeter, NH 03833

Certification:

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Signature: 

Printed Name: Russell Dean

Title: Town Manager

Date: 4/30/13

Part II. Self-Assessment

The Town of Exeter, NH has completed the required self-assessment and has determined that our municipality is in compliance with all permit conditions from the previous Stormwater Phase II permit.

Exeter continues to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff to the maximum extent practicable through outreach and education, public participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction and post construction rules and oversight and pollution prevention in municipal operations.

2012 was a year of great progress. The town voted to address our aging infrastructure needs. The inflow and infiltration project in the Jady Hill area nears completion. The project replaced sewer mains, failing private sewer services and removed groundwater from the sanitary sewer system; reducing the possibilities for combined sewer overflows. The 2013 March vote approved a sewer replacement project for one of our older sanitary sewer systems in a high traffic commercial area.

The Town launched a new website. Our new site is more community driven emphasizing functionality and flexibility. We believe that our new virtual “front door” featuring areas for residents, business, government, and a resource center; will be a great improvement over its predecessor.

A 50KW solar array system was constructed on town property at the Department of Public Works and provides power to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. To date, the array has produced 31.1 megawatt hours of energy, the equivalent of 2,200 gallons of gas.

Members of the Conservation Committee (volunteers) provided training to students on water quality monitoring in local waterways and participated in outreach and education at the local Fall Festival.

The Exeter River Committee (volunteers and town employees) began a Non-point Sources of Pollution Information program. The program works with the Department of Public Works and the Conservation Commission using various media to inform the public about how to reduce the effect of their behavior on our local watersheds and thus the Great Bay and introduced “Think Blue Exeter”.

The Exeter-Squamscott River Local Advisory Committee (ESRLAC) is made up of volunteers from Exeter and 11 other communities in the Exeter-Squamscott River watersheds. This year was marked by productive partnerships with landowners, towns and several organizations. These partnerships provide ESRLAC with an opportunity to advocate effectively for the protection of water quality, water quantity, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities and historic resources.

The Planning Department continues to oversee construction project submissions coordinating technical review and encouraging stormwater infiltration and green infrastructure.

The Department of Public Works partnered with a professor from the University of New Hampshire on a project entitled “Citizen Volunteer Scientist Participation in Monitoring Stormwater Discharges in NH Seacoast Municipalities”. This program uses citizen volunteers to sample and analyze runoff from prioritized stormwater discharges. This program was very successful and lead to the removal of an illicit connection to the town’s drainage system.

2. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

BMP #1 – Display at Alewife Festival

The Conservation Commission participated with a display at the local Fall Festival providing stormwater information on the new “Think Blue Exeter”, handouts on lawn care activities (Do’s and Don’ts) and other general stormwater pollution prevention education.

Conservation Commission, Natural Resources Department & Public Works Department participated in 2012 Earth Day Festival at Swasey Parkway; information on new “Think Blue Exeter”, Pet Waste, Lawn Care, Rain Gardens, Septic System Care & Watersheds.

BMP #2 – Stencil Storm Drains

Students participating in Summer Recreation Camp volunteered to stencil storm drains (used storm drain markers) and distribute door hanger lawn care education in large older Exeter neighborhood. Town educated students on stormwater runoff, sources of pollution and effect on local waterways.

BMP #3 – Stormwater Video on Local Public Station

Conservation Commission and River Study meetings are televised and these meetings present information on the local stormwater program, including upcoming and completed outreach projects.

BMP #4 – Display at Town Building

Permanent educational sign – “Why Rain Gardens” at demonstration rain garden – Town Library/Founders Park

Large Single Stream Cart on display at Town Office and DPW with information on solid waste – litter prevention.

1a. Additions

1. Town Website
2. Newspaper Articles
 - a. “Exeter asked to go – Blue” – Town undergoes public education campaign on stormwater pollution
 - b. “They have a nose for tainted water” – Specially-trained dogs sniff out E.coli in Exeter Samples
 - c. Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day
 - d. Exeter Police Drug Take Back Day
 - e. Curbside Leaf and Grass Pick-up
3. Radio Announcements – Think Blue Exeter
 - a. General Stormwater Education
 - b. Car Washing

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BMP #5 – Public Notice

Completed 1st Year – will public notice the new Stormwater Permit once Finalized

BMP# 6 – Review need for Stormwater Committee

Will revisit with new permit

BMP#7 – Stencil Stormdrains

See BMP# 2

2a. Additions

1. Citizen Volunteer Scientist Participation in Monitoring Stormwater Discharges – See BMP # 8
2. Door Hangar Education – see BMP #2
3. Local Girl Scout Troop organizes Earth Day Event
4. Local Citizen organizes Earth Day Cleanup
5. Local Boy Scout Group pond cleanup

3. ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION

BMP #8 Survey Outfalls

See below

BMP #9 Map/Update Outfalls

Updating Storm Drainage System in new online GIS program – People MapsOnline

Purchased new GPS unit – awaiting unit and training

BMP #10 Ordinance to Prohibit Non-stormwater Discharges

Existing Storm Drainage Ordinance preventing illegal discharges to drainage system, with fines.

Awaiting new permit to update ordinance

BMP #11 Create Education Program for Businesses

BMP #12 Hotline

Police Dispatch and DPW

BMP #13 Sample Suspect Outfalls

BMP #14 Test Suspect Connections

BMP #15 Correct Illicit Connections

BMPs #8, #13, #14 & #15

The Department of Public Works partnered with a professor from the University of New Hampshire on a project entitled "Citizen Volunteer Scientist Participation in Monitoring Stormwater Discharges in NH Seacoast Municipalities". This program uses citizen volunteers to sample and analyze runoff from prioritized stormwater discharges. This program was very successful and led to the removal of an illicit connection to the town's drainage system.

- Identified high bacteria in dry weather flow
- Town contracted with consultant to bring Logan and Sable (Canine Services) to Exeter to help determine source of bacteria
- Dogs alerted on certain catch basins; consultant additionally took samples at all catch basins to bracket area of concern
- DPW with help of consultant conducted dye test and smoke test of sanitary sewer and storm drain systems connected to and/or in the vicinity of outfall
- Wash sink at restaurant was directly piped to catch basin
- Letter of Violation was sent to the restaurant
- Code Enforcement and DPW worked directly with restaurant owner and observed proper relocation of piping to sanitary sewer
- Catch Basin and drain manhole on property were cleaned
- Will resample at outfall
- Additional investigations will continue this summer for additional areas identified as possible concern

4. CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF CONTROL

BMP #16 Update Site Regulations

Updated

BMP #17 Site Plan Review for all Construction Projects Greater than 1 Acre

All development projects are reviewed by Technical Review Committee

BMP #18 Site Inspections

All construction projects are inspected

BMP #19 Develop and Implement Construction Site Information and Reporting Program

Signs are placed at construction sites with contact information

Public Reporting of sediment runoff and other issues at construction sites are directed to the Department of Public Works, the Planning Department and the Conservation Commission

5. POST CONSTRUCTION RUNOFF CONTROL**BMP #20 Implement Site Appropriate Non-structural, Structural, Infiltration, and Vegetative Practices, BMPs as Determined during Site Review**

BMPs are in place

BMP #21 Develop and Implement Long Term Operation and Maintenance Program for BMPs

Maintenance Agreements for all agreed upon BMPs-

6. MUNICIPAL GOOD HOUSEKEEPING**BMP # 22 Create Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping Program for Municipal Employees**

All town employees involved with snow plowing were trained on equipment calibration

BMP #23 Sweep Streets

Street sweeping is continuous from spring through fall

BMP #24 Inspect Catch Basins

All catch basins were inspected and cleaned in 2011 and for 2014

BMP #25 Clean Catch Basins

All catch basins were inspected and cleaned in 2011 and CIP project for 2014

Material is staged at Transfer Station until tested

Public Outreach & Public Participation

Summer 2012 - Recreation Department – Community Service

Storm Drain Markers at Catch Basins and Lawn Care Door Hangers



Exeter asked to go 'blue'

Town undergoes public education campaign on stormwater pollution

BY AARON SANBORN

asanborn@seacoastonline.com

EXETER — Residents are being asked to think blue.

Think Blue Exeter is a new public awareness campaign to educate residents about stormwater pollution.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) has designated the majority of Exeter's streams and rivers as impaired and the town will soon be receiving a new federal permit for stormwater.

According to Phyllis Duffy, an engineering technician with the town working on the stormwater program, the new permit is expected to contain stricter public education requirements and will require proof that the town's educational outreach efforts about stormwater pollution have worked.

To get a jump on outreach efforts, the

Department of Public Works, the Exeter River Study Committee, Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership and the N.H. DES teamed up to put together the Think Blue Exeter program.

Exeter Natural Resource Planner Kristen Murphy said educating the public about ways to reduce stormwater pollution is essential, particularly now with the concern about pollution in the Great Bay.

About 70 percent of the pollution in the Great Bay comes from non-point sources, such as runoff from stormwater, lawn fertilizer, septic systems and pet waste.

Murphy said Exeter's program is modeled after a similar program in Maine. "It's a pretested campaign, so we thought this would be a good approach," Murphy said. "You just can't educate someone once, it's got to be an ongoing effort."

A special Think Blue page has been created on the town's Web site and the

group has an education video about stormwater pollution running on Channels 22 and 98.

This past weekend, town officials teamed up with local Girl Scout Troop 2786 for an educational picnic on Swasey Parkway. The event featured multiple booths with information about various forms of stormwater pollution.

"We're doing whatever we can to get the word out," Murphy said. "Maybe we can change some people habits and benefit the town."

In order to document outreach progress, surveys were distributed to residents at Town Meeting and through the town Web site. The hope of the surveys was to gauge how much residents know about stormwater pollution.

At some point in the future after more outreach has been done, residents will be resurveyed, according to Murphy.

"If we can change people's habits locally, it could be a much more cost effective way to treat these non-point sources," she said.

For more information about Think Blue Exeter go to www.town.exeter.nh.us/ThinkBlue/Home.cfm.

Brown's Lobster Pound on Prescott Route 286 in Seabrook. For a \$15 do residents can eat New England clam chowder and meat

senator, Prescott and Stiles p run for re-election late year, and both face the spect of representing very different areas, if re-elected result of redistricting.

Prescott is losing the of Seabrook, Kensington, South Hampton, Stratham — all of which moving over to Stiles' district.

He said the goal of today's fund-raiser is to duce Stiles to some of constituents he has served the last two years and to building support for Stiles election campaign.

"I thought it would be n have a transition fund-ra Prescott said. "A chan reach out the constituent been serving and ask the give her the same support they have given me."

Prescott, a Republican Kingston and an Exeter ness owner, said the will give the two senators opportunity to discuss cu

Maine cafe owes Wiggins \$7,500

YORK, Maine — The Stolen Menu Cafe LLC, which had been featured on television shows "The Phantom Gourmet" and "TV Diner," has filed for bankruptcy, according to records filed with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Portland.

Chef and owner Mary-Jane "M.J." Bailey filed for Chapter 11 on March 14, according to court documents. Bailey could not be reached for comment.

The court's list of the 20 largest creditors includes \$7,500 owed to Wiggins Egg Service of Stratham, N.H.; more than \$30,000 owed to the Maine Revenue Service; \$18,000 to the Internal Revenue Service; and \$16,000 to Village Management Corp., which owns Long Sands Plaza where the restaurant is located.

The restaurant at 127 Long Sands Road has attracted both regular customers and tourists. On weekend mornings

during the summer, people could regularly be seen waiting outside the cafe to be seated.

In June 2010, the restaurant received a visit from a video crew from the New England Cable News show "TV Diner," which awarded the menu item "Take a Bite Out of Maine," a butter-poached Maine lobster dish, its Platinum Plate Award in July 2011. In February 2011, "The Phantom Gourmet" also shot a segment at the Stolen Menu, calling it a "hidden gem."

Others on the list of the largest creditors are Duffy Welding of Stratham, N.H., \$400; Custom Climate Control LLC of Alfred, \$601; Florida's Son Carpentry of York, \$630; J. Golder Plumbing & Heating, Portsmouth, N.H., \$1,645; Central Maine Power Co., Augusta, \$2,670; Albert P. Stowe, CPA, Portsmouth, N.H., \$5,208; and The Cardinal Law Firm PLLC, York, \$7,531.

— Susan Morse

EXETER POLICE LOG

Tuesday, April 17

- 10:23 a.m. — Harassment reported on Ernest Avenue.
- 11:57 a.m. — Motor vehicle accident reported on Water Street.
- 6:14 p.m. — Motor vehicle accident reported on Water Street.
- 7:09 p.m. — Timothy Mechem, 35, of Exeter, was arrested on a charge of operating after suspension. Mechem was released on \$500 personal recognizance bail.
- 11:20 p.m. — Jesse Gerstman, 29, of Exeter, was arrested on a bench warrant. Gerstman was released after posting \$335 cash bail.

Wednesday, April 18

- 7:38 a.m. — Theft reported on King Arthur Court.
- 8:21 a.m. — Criminal mischief reported on Chestnut Street.

- 12:36 p.m. — Criminal mischief reported on String Bridge.

- 5:08 p.m. — Harassing phone calls reported on Ernest Avenue.

- 6:28 p.m. — Criminal mischief reported on White Oak Drive.

Thursday, April 19

- 12:09 a.m. Motor vehicle accident reported on Newfields Road.
- 5:32 p.m. — Mark Matheson, 18, of Stratham, was arrested on charges of possession of controlled drugs and possession of controlled drugs in a motor vehicle. Matheson was released on \$1,000 personal recognizance bail.
- 5:53 p.m. — Motor vehicle accident on Portsmouth Avenue.
- 9:05 p.m. — Adam Levy, 17, of Stratham, was arrested on charges of possession of drugs in a motor vehicle and possession of drugs with intent to distribute. Levy was released on \$2,500 personal recognizance bail.

Friday, April 20

- 10:04 a.m. — Harassing phone calls reported from Chestnut Street.
- 11:38 a.m. — Motor vehicle accident on Water Street.
- 3:48 p.m. — Motor vehicle accident at Water Street.
- 10:41 p.m. — Samuel Burn 19, Wenham, Mass., was arrested on charges of possession of drugs in a motor vehicle and possession of narcotic/controlled drugs. Burn was released on \$750 personal cognizance.

EXETER MONUMENT WORKS

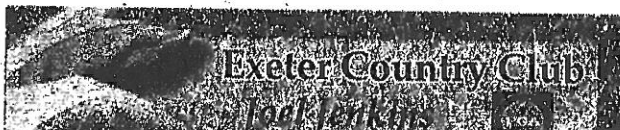
100% Satisfaction
Guaranteed

Custom Monuments - Markers
Memorials - Quality Lettering & Cleaning

We will
Not
Under-Size

OP'
BAN

Commercial
Equipment
Line
SB



Project
Blue:



An Earth Day Event
brought to you by
the



girl scouts



**and the Exeter
Conservation Commission**

Swasey Parkway, Exeter, NH

Sunday, April 29th

10am – 2pm

**Come learn how you can reduce
stormwater pollution in our community!!**

Fun for all ages:

- *Children's Activities**
- *Informational Booths**
- *Bring a Picnic Lunch**



A Silver Award project of Girl Scout Troop 20786
with support from the Exeter Conservation Commission



If stormwater pollution

were rubber ducks....

it wouldn't matter what we

put in our storm drains.

But it does...because stormwater pollution is **NOT** rubber ducks.

Its soil, trash, oil, chemicals, and pet waste

flowing untreated into our water.

**That's not good for any of us
because we all live downstream.**

What can
you do???

think blue

clean water starts with you!

Visit the "Think Blue Exeter" link on the Town's website for more information



Clean up after
your pets



Test your soil to
determine
fertilizer
needs



Regularly maintain
your septic system



Direct gutter downspouts
away from paved surfaces and
into a rain garden or rain barrel

Never dump
anything into
a storm drain

NO DUMPING

DRAINS TO RIVER

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Broken clouds, 7°C / 44.6°F

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Exeter
New Hampshire

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[Town of Exeter Home](#) » [Public Works Home](#) » [Services](#) » **Stormwater**

Stormwater

Rain and snowmelt (stormwater) on buildings, streets, parking lots, and other impervious surfaces cannot soak into the ground. As stormwater moves across these hard surfaces it collects dirt, debris, and chemicals carrying them directly to our rivers and streams.

In March 2003, Exeter was required to apply to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a permit to discharge stormwater. In order to meet the requirements of the permit, Exeter must reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges to the "maximum extent practicable." The permit required development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to address how we would reduce stormwater pollution. We continue to look for feedback and input from the public.

For more information on the Think Blue Exeter Program, [Click Here](#).

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Contact

Public Works Complex:
 13 Newfields Road
 Exeter, NH 03833
Phone: 603-773-6157
Fax: 603-772-1355
Information line: 603-418-6450
Emergency: 603-772-1212
 (nights, weekends or holidays)
Hours:
 Monday - Friday
 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Transfer Station:
 9 Cross Road
 Exeter, NH 03833
Hours:
 Tuesday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM
 Thursday: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
 Saturday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

[Full Contact Details...](#)

Upcoming Events

Drug Take Back Day
 Sat, Apr 27th 10:00am - 2:00pm

National Public Works Week!
 Sun, May 19th (All day) - Sat, May 25th (All day)

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Broken clouds, 7°C / 44.6°F

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 New Hampshire

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Think Blue Exeter

STARTS WITH YOU!!!

What is Stormwater Pollution?

As stormwater (or rain and snow-melt) flows across buildings, streets, parking lots, and other hard surfaces it collects dirt, debris, and chemicals and carries them directly to our rivers and streams. Collectively, these surfaces which do not allow water to penetrate are called impervious surfaces. The polluted run-off that flows across them and into our streams is called Stormwater Pollution.

What's the Water Quality Status of Exeter's Streams and Rivers?

As a result of water testing, NH Department of Environmental Services has designated the majority of Exeter's streams and rivers as "impaired" for one or more uses. This means the water contains pollutants which can be harmful to aquatic life, fish consumption, or humans during either direct or indirect contact.

To view how widespread this designation is, click [here](#) to view Exeter's "impaired rivers". As you look at this map remember, **BLUE** means the water course meets standards, **RED** means it does not. With the majority of Exeter's waterways in red on this map, you may be starting to understand the purpose of the THINK BLUE program.

How Can You Help?

Our habits play a major role in this type of pollution. To find out what simple changes you can make to reduce the amount of pollutants entering our rivers, explore the links below and be sure to check out our "Ducky Ads" at the bottom of the page. You may have seen or heard them on Channel 98 or WXEX.

We need more people to THINK BLUE because **CLEAN WATER STARTS WITH YOU!!!**

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W X E X Radio (FM 92.1 and AM 1540)
 PO Box 1540
 Exeter NH 03833
 (603) 583-4767 (207) 324-1183
 www.WXEXradio.com

W X E X FM 92.1 & AM 1540 Radio Order

OrderID: 0237-001

Sponsor: Town of Exeter New Hampshire
 Product: Exeter DPW (Think Blue Exeter)
 Estimate/PO:
 AccountRep: Steve Thomas
 BillingCycle: Calendar Month
 InvoiceType: Times/Rates
 Run Dates: 5/26/2012 - 7/22/2012
 Items Ordered: 290
 Gross Amount: 1,632.00
 Discounts: 0.00
 Agency Commission: 0.00
 Net Amount: 1,632.00

TOWN OF EXETER NEW HAMPSHIRE
 13 NEWFIELDS ROAD
 EXETER, NH 03833

Scheduled Station(s): WXEX DPW (Think Blue Exeter)

Printed 5/21/2012 12:00:07 PM

Page 1

Run Dates	Run Weeks	Run Times	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Week Total	Length	Description	Avail Type	Copy ID	Qty	Item Cost	Total Cost
01 5/26/2012 - 7/22/2012	All Weeks	06:00 AM - 07:00 PM	2		2		2			6	:60	Think Blue Ex			48	34.00	1,632.00
02 5/26/2012 - 7/22/2012	All Weeks	06:00 AM - 07:00 PM	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	11	:60	Think Blue Ex			92	0.00	0.00
03 5/26/2012 - 7/22/2012	All Weeks	07:00 PM - 11:59 PM	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	11	:60	Think Blue Ex			92	0.00	0.00
04 5/26/2012 - 7/22/2012	All Weeks	12:00 AM - 06:00 AM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	:60	Think Blue Ex			58	0.00	0.00

Calendar Month Projected Billing:

Apr-12	0.00	May-12	136.00	Jun-12	884.00	Q2-2012	1,020.00
Jul-12	612.00	Aug-12	0.00	Sep-12	0.00	Q3-2012	612.00

Signature of Authorized Representative on behalf of
 Advertiser listed on this document - Confirmed Correct
 Payment Guaranteed

Accepted for WXEX FM 92.1 & AM 1540 Radio

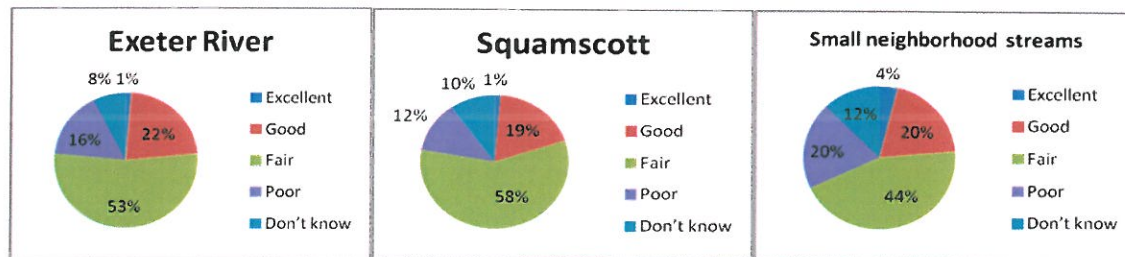
Effectiveness Monitoring Through Survey

We modified the questions from the sample survey in the [Think Blue Maine outreach campaign report](#). We developed the survey using [Survey Monkey](#) and offered an incentive of raffling an [Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce](#) \$30 gift certificate drawing for people who agreed to participate in both the initial and follow-up survey (pre- and post- educational efforts). It took some playing with but overall survey monkey was pretty easy to use. We printed hard copies of the survey (Phyllis \$\$\$) as well as a stack of postcards with the link to the survey for those who preferred to fill the survey out online. We set up a table at Town Election on March 13th, had various pamphlets that Phyllis had on hand from previous outreach efforts regarding septic systems, bookmarks, etc. Generally we had great response. Approximately ____ surveys were turned in. The eagerness to respond may have been partially due to the fact that residents were recently given notice about elevated levels of arsenic in their drinking water.

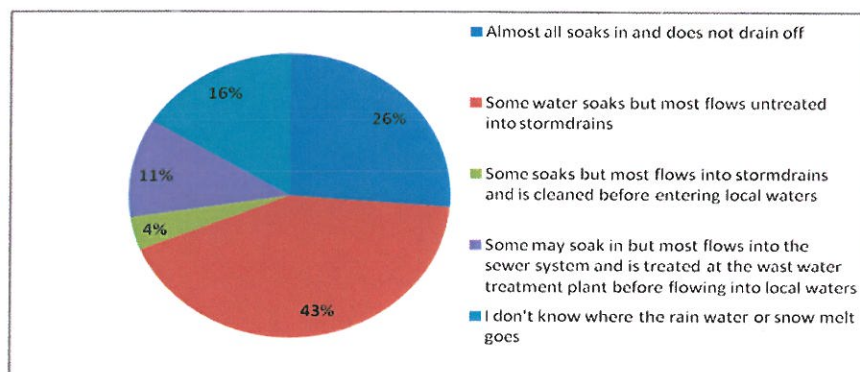
Overall we received 81 surveys, 34 of which agreed to be re-contacted. Four of those however forgot to leave a way to contact them.

About an equal portion of surveyors said they had seen, heard or read advertisements about stormwater pollution in the past 30 days (51% vs 49%).

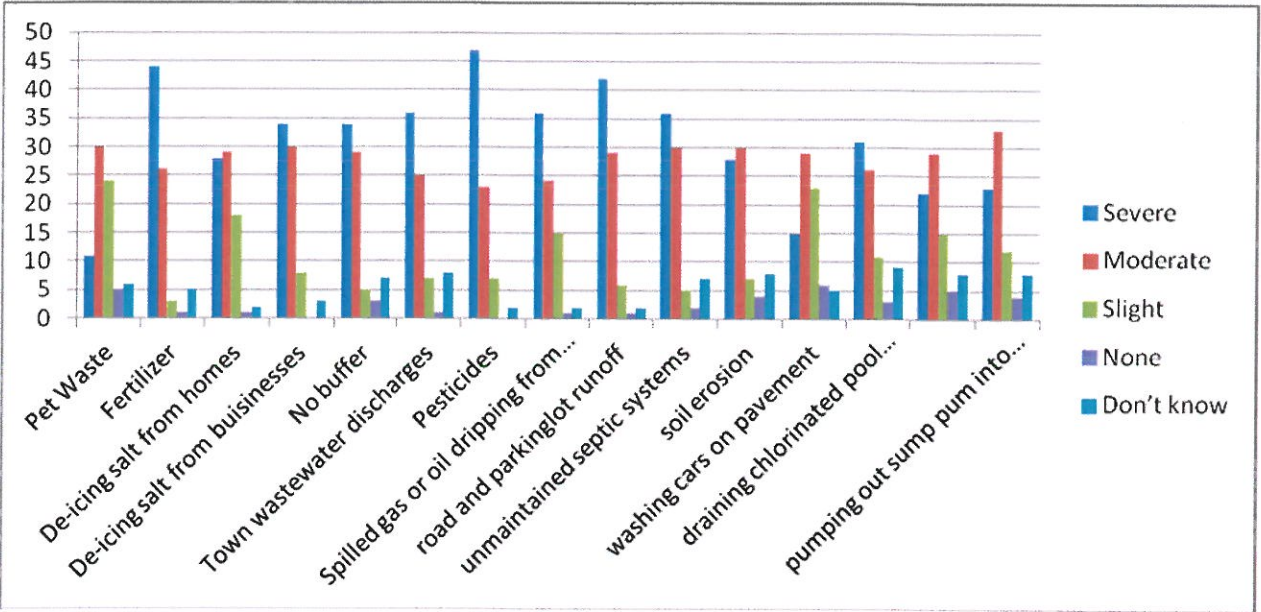
When asked how clean you think the water is, we received the following responses....



When asked what happens during a heavy rain or snowmelt at your house.....



When asked to what degree to the following contribute to pollution of Exeter's wetlands, streams and rivers....





Earth Day 2012 Celebration!

Neighborhood Community Cleanup

When: April 21 and 22

Where: Your neighborhood!

Exeter DPW will provide the bags at Newfields Road garage the week of 4/16 – 4/20 7AM to 3PM. The bags will be picked up roadside the following week.

Please help us keep our beautiful Town clean and our environment healthy for future generations to enjoy!

- More info: kathylewisthompson@gmail.com

RAIN BARREL SALE!

Exeter residents can purchase Rain Barrels at a reduce cost through the "Hodgson Brook Community Program". The Great American Rain Barrel is offered in three colors; Forest Green, Earth Brown or Nantucket Grey at the lost cost of \$68 versus retail price of \$119. (see Flyer)

Deadline for ordering is: 5pm May 25, 2012

Pick up rain barrels at Great Bay Community College on Friday, June 1, 3-5:00pm or Saturday June 2, between 9-11am

To Order:

www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com - click on "Community Programs"

There will be a list of communities – **Please order under "Hodgson Brook Community Program"**

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Overcast, mist, light rain, 12 °C / 53.6 °F

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What's New?

Upcoming Events

Movie Night at Swasey Parkway

Canceled; due to inclement weather. Pending reschedule.

[READ MORE](#)

Exeter Police Department Drug Take Back Day

EXETER, NH – On September 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

[READ MORE](#)

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Saturday, October 6th, 2012 is Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day in Exeter. HHV will be accepted at the Department of Public Works at 13 Newfields Road, Exeter, from 8:30 a.m.

[READ MORE](#)

[Town Meetings](#)
[Events](#)

Heritage Commission

Fri, Sep 28th 3:00pm

Selectmen's Meeting

Mon, Oct 1st 7:00pm

Economic Development Commission Meeting

Tue, Oct 9th 8:30am...

Conservation Commission Meeting

Tue, Oct 9th 7:00pm

Water/Sewer Advisory Committee Meeting

Wed, Oct 10th 6:30pm

[View the Town Meeting Schedule](#)
[View the Monthly Calendar](#)



FALL FESTIVAL

Educational Display at Town Building – BMP # 4



Citizen Volunteer Scientist Participation in Monitoring Stormwater Discharges in NH Seacoast Municipalities



Some of the volunteers! Exeter (top) and Greenland (bottom)

THANKS TO YOU ALL!!

They have a nose for tainted water

■ Specially-trained dogs sniff out *E. coli* in Exeter samples

BY ALEXIA TSAGARIS

newsletter@seacoastonline.com

The dogs, who are scent-trained to detect human bacteria in water, sniffed out five samples, three from Watson Brook and two from Norris Brook. While the town of Exeter had samples from the Norris Brook tested by the state and knew *E. coli* was present, the dogs were helpful in determining if illicit human discharges were in the water.

The dogs were busy this past week visiting the Exeter Water Treatment Plant Friday to sniff out the samples and

EXETER — Collie mix Logan and German shepherd mix Sable detected *E. coli* in two water samples from the Norris Brook Friday morning. Environmental Canine Services LLC, FB Environmental and the town of Exeter collaborated Aug. 10 to uncover whether human bacteria is contaminating Exeter waters.

DOGS

Continued from page A1

This is the first time FB Environmental and the town have teamed with Environmental Canine Services, and the first time the canines have been to the East Coast.

Sable, 7, has been scent sniffing since 2007 and will bark when he finds a water sample that's contaminated. Logan, 5, has been sniffing since 2009 and he sits down

when he detects a bad water sample. Scott and Karen Reynolds, owners and directors of canine training, said Logan isn't much of a barker.

The two samples the dogs identified as contaminated were taken from the Norris Brook in the area of Water Street and the gas line.

The Environmental Protection Agency has recognized Environmental Canine Services as a valid method to detect human bacteria in water bodies.

"We read about ECS and wanted to bring them to the Seacoast area," said Phyllis Duffy, engineering technician for the town of Exeter.

Duffy said the human bacteria found in the Norris Brook samples could be coming from a number of areas: a leaking sewer line, a faulty septic tank or a misconnection in pipe lines.

The five samples Logan and Sable sniffed out on Friday were sent to a lab for further testing. The results should come back within a few days,

according to Emily DiFranco water-quality specialist from FB Environmental.

"With the help of the ECS and consistent findings, this will lead us in more of a direction as to what the cause is," said Duffy.

ECS is based in Michigan and was founded by the Reynolds. ECS is a leader in illicit-discharge detection and source tracking in storm water drainage systems.

There are three ECS team members with five scent trained dogs, who have been rescued or adopted. Scott Reynolds said it takes eight months to a year to scent train the dogs. "They are specifically trained for (sniffing out human bacteria)," said Reynolds.

He explained that the health department calls them when storm water drains and sewage systems need investigation. ECS has done work in California, Wisconsin and the Great Lakes Region.

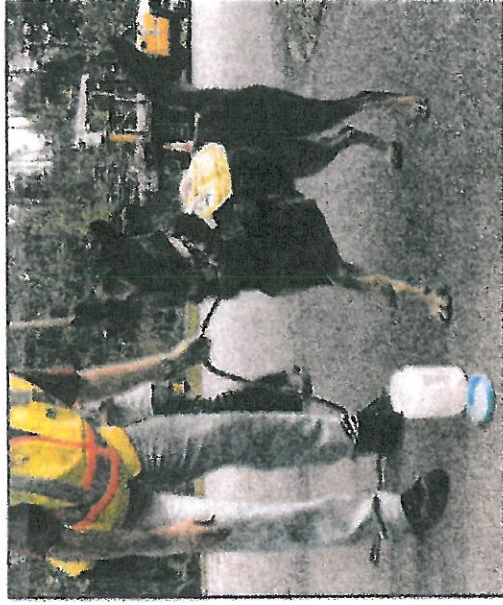
in Kittery, Maine, assisting the town and Spruce Creek Association detect if contaminated storm water was emptying into Spruce Creek.

See DOGS, Page A2

Logan, a 5-year-old rough-coat collie mix, sniffs a water sample from a brook in Exeter for bacteria. Logan is one of the dogs owned by Scott and Karen Reynolds of Environmental Canine Services LLC, based in Vermontville, Mich., trained to detect human bacteria in water bodies.

SUZANNE LAURENT PHOTO

The Environmental Protection Agency has recognized Environmental Canine Services as a valid method to detect human bacteria in water bodies.



SUZANNE LAURENT PHOTO

Sable, a 7-year-old shepherd mix, barks as he detects bacteria in a water sample from a brook in Exeter. Sable is one of the dogs owned by Scott and Karen Reynolds of Environmental Canine Services LLC based in Vermontville, Mich., trained to detect illicit discharges in water bodies.

The Sewage-Sniffing Dogs are Coming Back to New England!

Save the Date!
July 25—31, 2013

Based on the success of this program in 2012, FB Environmental is pleased to be hosting the dogs from Environmental Canine Services for another week of Bacteria Source Tracking.

What is Canine Detection?

- *A cost-efficient and effective bacteria source tracking tool.*
- *Investigate storm drain systems, stream channels, and shorelines.*
- *Proven successful in multiple studies including projects in New England.*
- *Excellent opportunity for education and outreach.*



Environmental Canine Services LLC

Protecting Our Precious Resources With Nature's Gift

If interested, contact: Emily DiFranco
FB Environmental Associates, Portsmouth, NH
emilyd@fbenvironmental.com, (603) 343-6311
Or visit our website for more information
www.fbenvironmental.com/CanineDetection2013.html



SMOKE TESTING PORTSMOUTH AVENUE – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 10AM

The Department of Public Works will be conducting a smoke test of the storm drainage system on Portsmouth Avenue – from the Exeter/Stratham Town Line to Wheelwright Creek.

This is part of an ongoing investigation of an illicit discharge (a source other than stormwater entering the storm drain system) investigation.

A non-toxic smoke will be introduced into the storm drainage system. This smoke will be observed coming out of catch basins along Portsmouth Avenue.

An illicit tap is suspected if smoke is observed in a sewer vent from a building.

Jennifer R. Perry, P.E.
Department of Public Works
Town of Exeter, NH
13 Newfields Road
Exeter, NH 03833



October 30, 2012

Dear Jennifer,

During the August 10, 2012 bacteria investigation conducted by FB Environmental and Environmental Canine Services, multiple locations throughout the Town of Exeter were identified as “hotspots” or areas of high bacterial contamination. Through the use of canine detection, many of these areas were also found to have the presence of human wastewater. As you know, the tributaries and outfalls in Exeter flow into the Exeter and Squamscott Rivers. These rivers are impaired due to bacteria and ultimately flow into Great Bay.

FB Environmental Associates (FBE) staff are highly trained in bacteria investigations and proper quality assurance methods for this type of field work and data analysis. We have been assisting local municipalities for more than ten years to help address current issues and improve water quality and aquatic habitat in their waterbodies with the goal of complying with TMDLs, re-opening clam flats, and preventing beach advisories. We have modeled this project after successful efforts to remediate bacteria in the surface waters of Kittery, Maine and New Ipswich and North Hampton, New Hampshire. FBE offers the following proposal to protect the waters in Exeter and identify potential sources of pollution. It is always our goal to work in close collaboration with the communities we serve, and look forward to discussing this proposal with you further.

SCOPE OF WORK: *Wheelright Creek – Smoke Test, Drainage Mapping, and Source Identification*

Wheelright Creek is considered impaired due to *E. coli* bacteria. To address this impairment, FBE proposes to accurately map the drainage area to this stream including documenting the location of all stormwater outfalls. Once the drainage area is more completely and accurately mapped, FBE will identify specific locations upstream and downstream of the outfall on Route 108 to conduct further water quality analyses at **three locations** on six dates: **three dates** during dry weather and **three dates** during wet weather.

Based on the June 2012 Volunteer Monitoring Report prepared by Dr. Steve Jones of UNH and the August 2012 bacteria source tracking project conducted by FBE, one stormwater outfall draining to Wheelright Creek off of Route 108 has already been identified as a “hotspot” of bacterial contamination to Wheelright Creek. From bracket sampling conducted in the FBE project, the bacteria appear to be limited to the first three catch basins draining to the outfall. To address this concern, FBE proposes to work with the Town of Exeter to conduct a smoke test from the outfall to determine the location and/or presence of any illicit discharges to the storm drain system. This type of testing will guide remediation