

## ***Stormwater in Ocean City Fact Sheet***



- \* **The way stormwater (rainwater) drains on the barrier island of Ocean City has changed over time because there are hard surfaces like roads, driveways, rooftops, and turf.**
- \* **Stormwater in the Ocean City flows untreated (including gasoline, oil, trash and sediment) directly into our Coastal Bays.**
- \* **The Town of Ocean City is at sea level—so drainage is a big issue when it rains or with a storm surge.**
- \* **Ocean City is 79% *impervious*, which means most of the land is covered by streets, buildings and other hard surfaces that do not allow water to get into the ground.**
- \* **On the northbound lanes of Coastal Highway, stormwater drains from approximately 3 acres of impervious surface cross at each intersection. Coastal Highway does not have catch basin inlets on the east side of the highway. Drainage has to cross the street to get into the catch basin inlets on the west side.**
- \* **Ocean City has 82, 974 linear feet of Corrugated Metal Pipe underground to help drain the city. This pipe is known to deteriorate in a salt-water environment and is overdue for**

**replacement. The cost to replace this is approximately \$6.14 million.**

\* **90% of all rain events result in about 1 inch of rainfall. We can design simple stormwater systems, such as rain gardens, to catch 1 inch of rainfall before it drains into a storm sewer.**

\* **In Ocean City, 2,660 parcels were developed that have no stormwater management controls and could benefit from upgrades.**

\* **Existing private stormwater systems are inspected every three years. The town sends owners maintenance notices and requires upgrades on new or retrofitted properties.**

\* **The Town currently provides the following programs and projects:**

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| * Pervious pavers on public projects    | * Rain Gardens & Bioretention areas |
| * Dune and wetland restoration & patrol | * BayScape Gardens                  |
| * Street & Beach Cleaning               | * Beach District Planting           |
| * Hazardous waste cleanup day           | * Rain Barrel Program               |
| * Bulk pickup days                      | * Catch basin inserts               |
| * Cost share program                    | * Nutrient Separating Baffle Box    |
|   | * Outfall retrofits                 |

\* **Programs and projects needed but not currently funded:**

- \* Retrofit catch basins for water quality treatment
- \* Storm drain catch basin and pipe cleaning program
- \* Maintenance, repair and replacement of degraded storm drain pipes
- \* Raising infrastructure and roads to reduce flooding
- \* Outfall retrofits for water quality treatment
- \* Outfall retrofit for flood reduction
- \* Installing new storm drain pipes and catch basins for efficient conveyance

*Please contact Megan Hughes at the Environmental Finance Center with any questions or comments about this fact sheet or project at [mhughes3@umd.edu](mailto:mhughes3@umd.edu) or 301-405-4035.*