CCM-101

City of Cambridge

104.

IN CITY COUNCIL

July 27, 1998

COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR BORN
MAYOR DUEHAY
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: Many Cambridge kids may believe that water comes from the faucet but in truth the faucet is only part of a much more elaborate system bringing water from our watershed; and

WHEREAS: Children from other communities are studying the Cambridge watershed as part of their science curriculum (see attachment); and

WHEREAS: At this critical point in the history of Cambridge water, when the City has taken the critical and costly step to bond for and build the long-awaited new water treatment facility, we owe our children the chance to learn about our water supply and what we are doing to preserve what was entrusted to us for future generations; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is request to confer with the Executive Director of the Cambridge Water Department to make educational programs about the Cambridge Watershed and water treatment and production available to the children of Cambridge.

In City Council July 27, 1998.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

#104

Sally Kent Receives Award

Sally Kent (center) was named an EPA Environmental Educator in May. Sally, a science teacher at Minuteman Science and Technology Regional High School in Lexington, has been a key to the successful partnership between CWD and the school. Sally was accompanied by William Callahan (left), principal of Minuteman-Tech, and received the award from Linda Murphy (right), Director of the Office of Ecosystem Protection at EPA. Sally's students use the Cambridge Watershed as their classroom, working on projects to monitor water quality, investigate geese management techniques, learn GIS, and evaluate stream health using benthic organisms.

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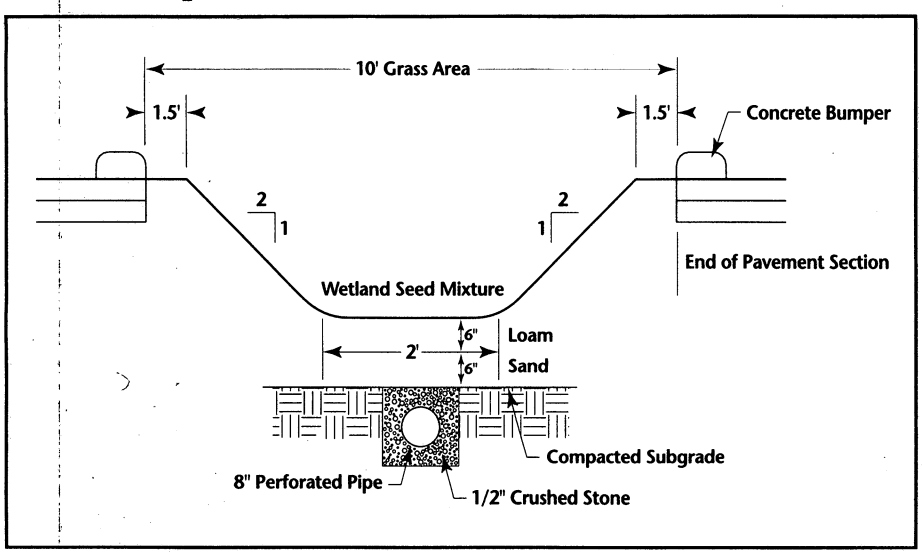
CAMBRIDGE • LEXINGTON • LINCOLN • WALTHAM • WESTON

FROM THE SOURCE

NEWSLETTER OF THE CAMBRIDGE WATER DEPARTMENT SOURCE PROTECTION PROGRAM

VOL. 2, NO. 2, SUMMER 1998

Redevelopment Project Surpasses DEP Standards



Schematic of the biofiltration swale to be installed at 200 West St., Waltham.

200 West Street in Waltham, formerly the Little Brown & Company warehouse, will soon be a new four-story, 257,000 square-foot office building. Boston Properties, Inc. is redeveloping the 15-acre site in the Hobbs Brook watershed.

Before redevelopment, untreated stormwater from impervious areas (48% of the site) left the site via four 15-inch storm drains leading to an unnamed brook located in the southern portion of the site, and eventually to Hobbs Brook. The unnamed brook is perennial and therefore is regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as a river and an Outstanding Resource Water (ORW) requiring a higher level of stormwater treatment.

Boston Properties and their Engineers from Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. worked closely with the City of Waltham Conservation Commission, Waltham's Engineering Department, and Chip Norton, CWD's Watershed Manager, to evaluate concept plans for the site. The goal was to identify the site plan that would both improve existing site conditions and protect Hobbs Brook most effectively. The group also developed a Stormwater Manage-

...continued on page 2

Cambridge Wins Award

For the second year in a row, the Department of Environmental Protection awarded the Cambridge Water Department a Source Water Protection Award. DEP presented the award on May 6 – National Drinking Water Day – to highlight CWD's innovative and effective water supply protection implementation strategies.

The department's two-part approach to source protection includes partnerships with watershed communities, and initiatives to target specific areas. The award recognizes outstanding efforts by water suppliers and community groups to protect the quality of their drinking water. In the past year, CWD initiated several important projects.

From the Source

This quarterly newsletter describes the issues, techniques, and progress in implementing the CWD source protection program. It is mailed to about 350 people.

Management Tool

With its new GIS Watershed Management Tool (GISWMT), CWD can map, plan, track, and report watershed management

...continued on page 3

Redevelopment...

continued from page 1

ment Plan to ensure protection of groundwater, surface water, and wetland resources both during construction and long term.

DEP's Stormwater Performance Standards for redevelopment projects states that all standards need to be met only to the maximum extent practicable. The redevelopment program for the site includes catch basins with sumps and hoods, biofiltration swales and water quality basins. While DEP asks for removal of 80% of total suspended solids (TSS) from 1 inch of runoff, this program exceeds the standard: 95% of TSS is removed from most of the parking lot runoff. This higher level of treatment was achieved by incorporating state-of-the-art biofiltration swales within the standard parking lot design wherever possible. Two such swales were designed based on recommendations from the Center for Watershed Protection "Design of Stormwater Filtering Systems" manual dated December 1996. Each swale is designed as a grass channel "biofilter" with a minimal slope, providing enough time for infiltration of stormwater runoff down through several filter layers into a perforated pipe. These biofilters alone can remove up to 85% TSS. Detail of the biofiltration swale is shown on page 1. Upon exiting the treatment swale, stormwater then travels via a standard piped drainage system to an on-site water quality basin for additional treatment. Stormwater will either infiltrate, or discharge to the unnamed brook via a new level spreader outlet which has been set back away from the brook.

The site layout was specifically designed to protect resources in addition to treating stormwater. For example, mature trees were preserved by designing around them or transplanting them to permanent locations. Drive by and take a look — the mature crab apple trees recently transplanted along West Street are in full bloom.

For more information call Bethany Eisenberg, Project Manager at Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., 617-924-1770.

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#1

(104) ✓

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Whereas: Children from other communities are studying the Cambridge watershed as part of their science curriculum; and

Whereas: At this critical point in ~~the~~ history of Cambridge water, when the long-awaited new water treatment facility, ~~Cambridge children should have the opportunity~~ to ~~study~~ we want our children to ~~know what~~ have the chance to learn about our water supply and what we are doing to preserve what was entrusted to us for future generations; now therefore be it

[City has taken the crucial steps to bond for and build the]

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Consent Order #104 369CM

Councillor Davis re: confer with the Water Department to develop educational programs regarding the Cambridge Watershed and water treatment for the children of Cambridge.

In City Council July 27, 1998

ORDER ADOPTED