Toms Creek Information Session 6/26/2019

Staying informed

- Sign up to receive alerts from Carrboro (https://townofcarrboro.org/list.aspx) and Orange County (https://member.everbridge.net/index/45300308561768#/signup)
- View stream gauges and sign up to receive alerts on the Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network (https://fiman.nc.gov/map.aspx)
- Review the Flood Risk Information System (https://fris.nc.gov/fris/)
- USGS Water Alert sign up (https://maps.waterdata.usgs.gov/mapper/wateralert/)
- View Town floodplain map (http://gis.ci.carrboro.nc.us/Carrboro/Floodplain/)
- View Town flooding event map (http://gis.ci.carrboro.nc.us/Carrboro/FloodEvents/)
- View stormwater updates, information, links, and data on the Town's Stormwater webpages (https://townofcarrboro.org/287/Stormwater)
- Follow Stormwater Advisory Commission meetings, currently scheduled for the second Thursday of each month

Providing input

- Report Flooding Events (http://gis.ci.carrboro.nc.us/Carrboro/FloodReport/)
- Apply to become a member of the Stormwater Advisory Commission
- Contact Town's Stormwater Staff at stormwater@townofcarrboro.org or 919-918-7425

What can I do to be prepared for flood events

- Use the My RainReady online tool to assess your property and get recommendations/options tailored to your conditions.
- Investigate if you qualify for FEMA programs, i.e.: The National Flood Insurance Program, Hazard Mitigation Assistance, etc. (https://www.fema.gov/)
- Review FEMA's:
  - "Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting" (https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1404148604102-f210b5e43aba0fb393443fe7ae9cd953/FEMA_P-312.pdf)
  - "Reducing Damage from Localized Flooding" (https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1446-20490-0539/FEMA511-complete.pdf)
  - "How to Prepare for a Flood" (https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1409002852888-3c5d1f64f12df02aa801901cc7c311ca/how_to_prepare_flood_033014_508.pdf)
- Review EPA's "Soak Up the Rain" campaign for information and how-to guides for residents (https://www.epa.gov/soakuptherain)
- Know your flood risks (https://flood.nc.gov/ncflood/)
- Plan ahead for disasters, see https://www.ready.gov/ for guidance on preparing your family and home.

What can I do to decrease the impact of my property on flooding in the watershed?

There are several things you can do to help prevent or minimize drainage problems. These precautions keep the area open for proper drainage. Before and after a heavy rain, please remember to:

- Check the gutters on your house and floodplain and drainage swale around your property. Blockages can cause runoff to pond in your yard, or cause damage to your house.
- Consider property and landscaping alterations that decrease runoff and increase infiltration: rain gardens, rainwater harvesting, permeable hardscaping, soil amendments, restoration of stream buffers, impervious disconnection, etc.

- Rake or remove leaves, branches, roadside litter, weeds or any material that can block drains, swales, and culverts. Vegetative debris is a primary cause of storm drain problems.
- Keep the floodplain on your property free from any materials such as grass clippings, leaf piles, other vegetative debris, tires, toys, yard items, branches, signs, etc. that can be carried by water flows and block culverts.
- Check the path of water flow in the floodplain <u>during</u> a storm and remove any debris. This will help prevent materials from causing blockages. Similarly keep the roadside ditch/swale and any inlets free from obstructions.
- Call Public Works at 919-918-7425 about assistance for issues in the public right of way.
- Public Works should be notified of any defects in or around the drainage system such as broken concrete, holes in the ground over pipes or around structures, and severe erosion. Keep the area easily accessible in case repairs or maintenance is required.
- Do not place sheds or other structures or fill in drainage easements, stream buffers, or floodplains without first getting permission from the Town.
- If you are proposing any improvements on your property, please consider the drainage impacts to neighboring properties. The installation of raised driveways, fences and landscape beds can block the natural flow of runoff, resulting in areas of standing water. If you extend your downspouts, consider the outlet points and the impact it may have on your neighbor's property.

Toms Creek Page

The information presented today (including this handout) and subsequent updates will be available at: https://townofcarrboro.org/1227/Toms-Creek

Monthly report

The Stormwater Utility has just starting providing a monthly report to the Board of Aldermen on the first Tuesday of the month. Check the Board agendas for these reports.

Stormwater Management vs. Floodplain Management

The land next to our rivers—our floodplains—and the runoff from rain that meets them—stormwater—are hydrologically connected but managed separately under environmental laws. A good first point of contact for stormwater questions and concerns is the Stormwater Utility, and the Planning Department for floodplain management questions and concerns.

What kind of public oversight does the Stormwater Utility have?

In addition to oversight from the Board of Aldermen and the Town Manager and Public Works Director, Carrboro has established a Stormwater Advisory Commission (SWAC) that provides this function.

Links to additional information

Rate Structure Study: http://www.townofcarrboro.org/1138/Draft-Stormwater-Utility-Rate-Structure

Carrboro Stormwater homepage: http://www.townofcarrboro.org/287/Stormwater

Carrboro Stormwater Utility page: http://www.townofcarrboro.org/1136/Stormwater-Utility

Stormwater Advisory Commission page: http://www.townofcarrboro.org/1119/Stormwater-Advisory-Commission

Report flooding problems: http://gis.ci.carrboro.nc.us/Carrboro/FloodReport/

NC Floodplain mapping: http://fris.nc.gov/fris/Home.aspx?ST=NC

Carrboro Online GIS: http://www.townofcarrboro.org/142/Geographic-Information-Systems