

## STORMWATER 101

### CHAPTER 3: WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT STORMWATER?

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We may not think about where the water goes when it rains. The truth is, all the water that rolls off your roof, patio, driveway, and sidewalk has to go somewhere. Your yard only soaks up a small portion of the rain. Without a stormwater management program, Dormont's storm water sewer system may be overburdened. State and Federal laws do not allow connection between the stormwater and sanitary sewer system; therefore, a severe storm could mean flooding in some areas. No one wants that, but it happens regularly in Dormont.

A stormwater management program may help with the following concerns that we as residents have:

- **Prevent Flooding**

- Water needs somewhere to go. Since it always follows the path of least resistance, let's try to prevent that from turning our alleys and streets into ponds. Worse yet, we want to keep excess water from storms out of our houses.

- **Government Mandate**

- Since the government has mandated that Dormont manage its stormwater runoff, we have to do it. That being said, the best way to answer the call is proper planning.

- **Being Green**

- Dormont does care about the environment. Future chapters will explain what all gets picked up in the water that flows off your property and through Dormont. As citizens concerned about the environment, here again we need to plan well in order to be green.



*Athens Alley - June, 2010*



- **Aging Infrastructure**

- Do you know how old the pipes are that carry the water away? Unfortunately, they are quite aged. Even if a given section is intact, it may not be enough to handle a large storm.



These points offer reasons why we, the citizens of Dormont, should care about stormwater. In the next installment in this series, Dormont residents will offer thoughts on why we should bother making changes and what we may do better.



**INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW  
FROM THE BOROUGH OF DORMONT:**

**STORM WATER 101 – A MULTI-PART  
SERIES ON WHAT STORM WATER IS,  
HOW IT IMPACTS YOU AND WHY IT IS  
IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE THIS  
INFORMATION.**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE MEMBERS  
OF THE BOROUGH OF DORMONT  
STORM WATER COMMITTEE AND THE  
DORMONT COUNCIL.**