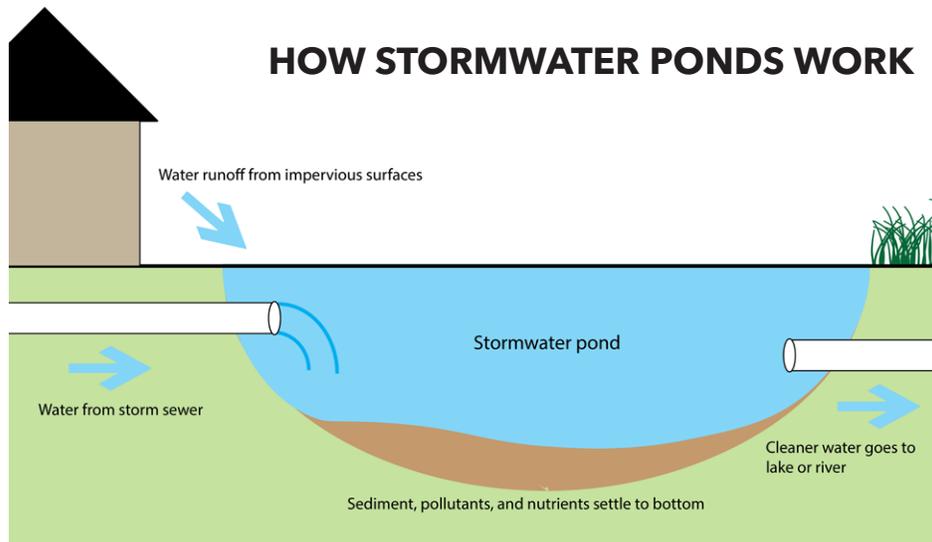


STORMWATER PONDS

WHAT ARE THEY & WHAT DO THEY DO?

A stormwater pond captures runoff and snowmelt from impervious surfaces like roads, parking lots, roofs, and sidewalks, as well as from storm sewers.

The stormwater running off from these surfaces carry sediment and pollutants like road salt, fertilizer, grass, leaves, and oil. The water carrying these pollutants enters the stormwater pond and is held there. Sediment and pollutants are then able to settle out before the water slowly releases to lakes, streams, and rivers, or infiltrates into the ground.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

If you live near a stormwater pond, here are some tips for what you (and your neighbors!) can do to help it function properly:

- Regularly clean up any trash and pet waste
- Leave an unmowed buffer of 25-50 ft along the edge to capture sediment and pollutants so they don't enter the water
- Plant native plants along the shoreline to act as a natural and attractive buffer
- Avoid applying fertilizer or herbicides to your lawn, and keep grass clipping and leaves out of the water (do not pile in the buffer)
- Do not introduce fish as they may upset the effectiveness of the pond
- Do not install fountains or aeraters in the pond

WHAT TO EXPECT IF YOU LIVE ON A STORMWATER POND

Stormwater ponds may look like natural ponds, but they are not and should not be treated as such. Because their purpose is to capture pollutants, the water in the ponds will most likely not always look clear or clean. The pond may produce algae, weeds, and other vegetation due to the high amounts of nutrients in the water. As such, these types of ponds should not be used for recreation, and fish should typically not be introduced as they may decrease the treatment effectiveness of the pond.

MINNEHAHA CREEK

QUALITY OF WATER



WATERSHED DISTRICT

QUALITY OF LIFE