

DITCH AND POND MAINTENANCE

The Stormwater Division maintains man-made structures designed to collect, convey, hold, divert or discharge storm water. This includes sewers, canals, ditches, culverts, detention and retention structures. Stormwater Division crews routinely clean storm water inlets, pipes and mow retention / detention areas to ensure that Kissimmee's storm water management system runs properly.

The Stormwater Division is divided into three separate groups: ditch and pond maintenance, pipe maintenance and repair, and mowing and spraying.



The ditch and pond maintenance crew uses heavy equipment to remove sediment from roadside and outfall ditches. They also maintain and re-work ponds when necessary.



The pipe maintenance crew routinely cleans culverts, concrete pipe and box culverts, as well as makes repairs to these. Typical failures range from broken catch basin lids to separating pipe joints, resulting from settling or concrete failure.



The mowing crew mows more than 60 retention ponds and 16 miles of ditches. To reduce heavy mechanical dredging, herbicide is applied to limit plant growth in and along the water.

The Stormwater Division strives to keep a pro-active approach to maintenance. During the winter months, crews focus on preparation for the summer rains. During the hurricane season, from June through November, rains are more frequent. While a pro-active approach is desirable, increased growth and flow many times puts the division into a reactive mode, which usually peaks in August or September. Time spent "catching up" in the winter months is vital to the operation. Along with the division's major responsibilities, it is called upon for assistance in other areas, due to the unique inventory of the crew's equipment.

As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water. By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater.



Remember . . .
Only Rain Down the Drain!

WAYS TO PREVENT STORMWATER RUNOFF POLLUTION

- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep driveways, sidewalks and roads
- Never dump things down storm drains
- Vegetate bare spots in the yard
- Compost yard waste
- Avoid pesticides; learn about Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces
- Wash cars on the lawn, instead of in the driveway
- Check cars for leaks and recycle motor oil
- Pick up after your pet
- Septic tanks should be pumped and inspected regularly



The Stormwater Engineering Division monitors water quality, which includes regular sampling at 19 monitoring stations located throughout the City in strategically placed locations.

Solar-powered automatic samplers are located at each monitoring site, testing for a number of analytical parameters, including rainfall through all seasons and over a range of stream flow conditions.

The City's stormwater Web page provides a link to view real-time rainfall information, stream/ditch water elevation and temperature for each monitoring station.

The ability to have access to this data allows the City to be proactive in planning for adverse conditions and to address such conditions before they become unmanageable. The positive outcome of such a project is a water quality program, which protects citizens, property, businesses and the environment as a whole.

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STORMWATER DIVISION

CITY OF KISSIMMEE STORMWATER RUNOFF



CITY OF KISSIMMEE
PUBLIC WORKS
&
ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT