Welcome

to the

Stormwater Management Master Plan

Public Open House

May 28, 2026
5:00-7:00pm
Nineteen on the Park
19 Civic Ave, Stouffville

Project Overview

What is stormwater?

Stormwater is the rain and melted snow that flows off roofs, roads, and other hard surfaces.

What impacts does it have on the environment and communities?

Stormwater can carry pollutants with it. This pollution can harm aquatic life, fish and wildlife habitats, and reduce aesthetics. If uncontrolled, stormwater can also cause flooding.

What needs improvement?

As the Town continues to grow and climate conditions change, there is a need for a clear and complete strategy to manage stormwater. Improvements are needed to better manage runoff, reduce flooding and erosion risks, and ensure the stormwater system continues to function effectively. The Town also needs to plan for future infrastructure to support residents, businesses, and a healthy natural environment.

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Key Facts About Stormwater Management

Did you know?

- The stormwater system includes catch basins, pipes, ditches, and treatment facilities.
- In Stouffville, stormwater flows through a system of pipes, ditches, and stormwater management facilities before entering local watercourses.
- Types of stormwater treatment facilities include dry ponds, wet ponds, wetlands, subsurface storage, Low Impact Development, and Oil and Grit Separators. These facilities work to reduce pollution, flooding, and erosion.
- Modern stormwater management requires treatment before water is released to creeks, rivers, and lakes.

Stormwater management ponds collect and store stormwater to reduce flooding and erosion by slowing the release of water to nearby creeks.

Low Impact Development is a design practice that mimics natural water cycles. It helps water to soak into the soil, where it can be filtered by soil and/or absorbed by plants.

Oil and Grit Separators are underground devices that are attached to storm sewer pipes. They remove sediment and debris, and separate oil and grease.

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Study Process and Timeline

Where are we in the study process and **when** will you see us next?

What is the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA)?

The MCEA helps plan municipal infrastructure while protecting the environment. It provides:

- a way for the Town to provide services which are economically and environmentally responsible;
- a process that is consistent and easily understood to help plan and complete infrastructure projects; and
- the flexibility to account for local concerns, such as the environmental setting, public interests, and project needs.

This study follows the requirements for master plans under Approach #1. This approach identifies Schedule B and C projects for future studies.

Study Process

We Are Here
Spring 2026

Stage 1 – Understand Today

- Review past studies and information
- Identify study goals and objectives
- Define existing and future conditions based on:
- Background data and field investigations
- Town-wide storm sewer modelling
- Identify problems and risks
- List possible solutions

Next Open House
Winter 2026/2027

Stage 2 – Compare Options

- Develop and review different solutions
- Study benefits and impacts
- Choose preferred options

Study Completion
Spring 2027

Stage 3 – Make a Plan

- Create an action plan
- Set priorities and timelines

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Goals & Objectives

Study Goal

Develop a short-term and long-term stormwater plan for the Town of Stouffville to address needs until 2051. This will support growth, comply with regulations, increase climate change resilience, and reduce risks to people, property, and the environment.

Do the goals & objectives align with your understanding of stormwater management in Stouffville?

Place a dot sticker under your selection below

Yes	No	Unsure

Study Objectives

The study goals will be achieved through the following objectives:

1. **Water Quality:** Maintain or improve water quality including in lakes, creeks, and groundwater;
2. **Water Quantity:** Reduce flooding risks to people and property,
3. **Erosion:** Reduce the impacts of erosion on properties and habitats;
4. **Policy and Implementation:** Update Town policies and programs to make sure all regulations are followed.
5. **Resilience:** Plan for future growth and climate change to make stormwater systems stronger and more reliable.
6. **Financial Sustainability:** Support the ongoing ability of the Town to provide effective stormwater management.

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Project Need

This is the Town's second Stormwater Management Master Plan (SWM-MP). An update is needed because of:

Planned Growth and Development

Stouffville's population is growing! It increased by 8.8% between 2016 and 2021, and will more than double by 2051. Future growth will put more demand on the Town's stormwater infrastructure. The Master Plan will help improve existing systems and suggest new stormwater opportunities.

New Policies

The Province has new requirements for municipal stormwater management systems. The Town's policies need updating to meet the new requirements.

Climate Change

Climate change projections show that the Town's stormwater infrastructure may be impacted by future climate impacts. The Master Plan will recommend improvements to help prepare for these changes.

Understanding Current Conditions

It is important for studies to be kept up to date. Results from field investigations and new computer modelling will be used to make sure problems are found. This lets the Town be proactive to fix the issues.

Have you experienced stormwater or stream management problems (e.g., flooding, standing water, erosion or drainage issues) in Stouffville? If so, where?

Place your thoughts on a sticky note and place below

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Watercourses

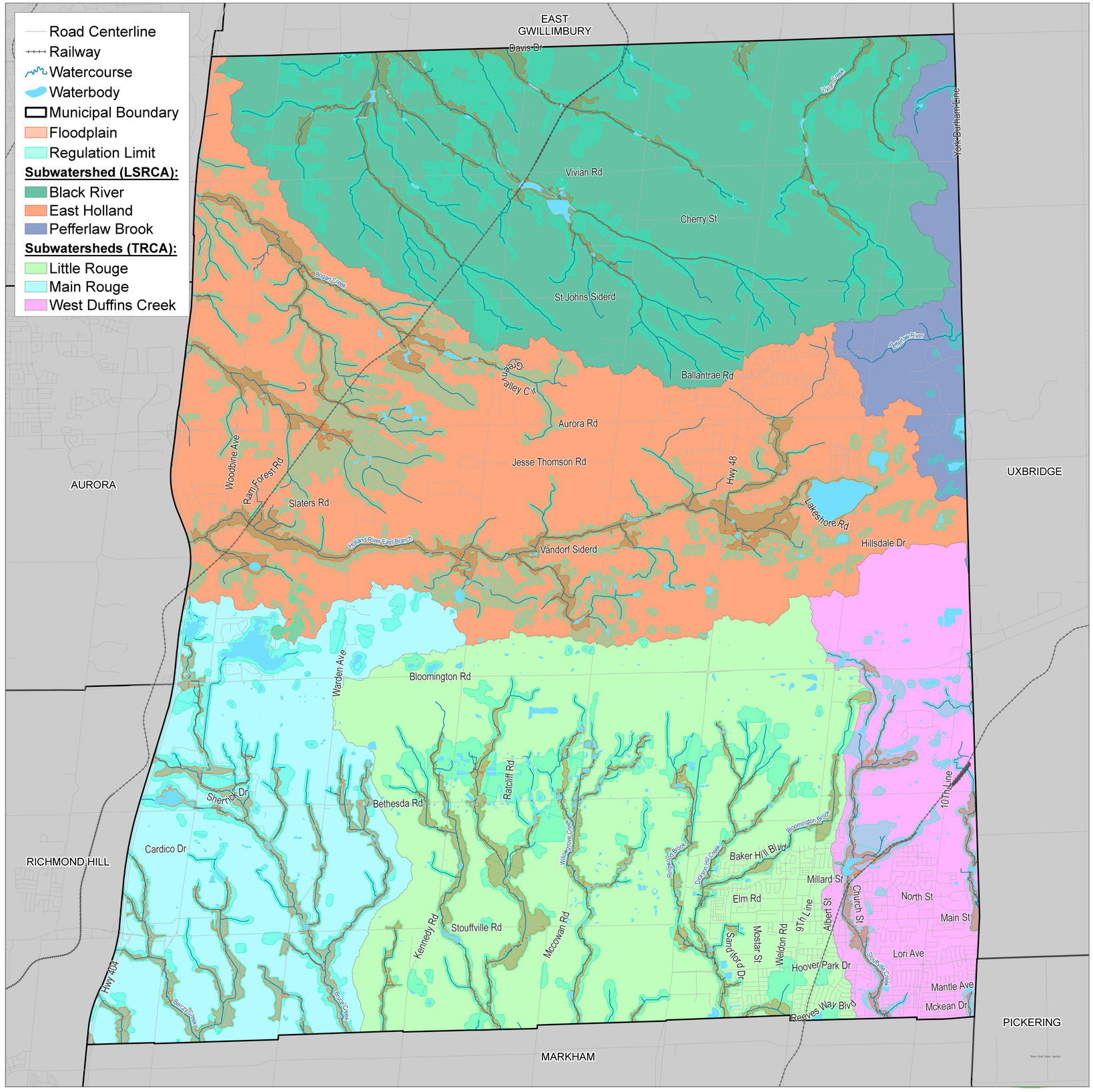
About half of Stouffville drains north toward Lake Simcoe, while the rest drains south toward Lake Ontario. Local creeks and rivers can experience flooding during large storms, and development within flood-prone areas is regulated by conservation authorities.

Three subwatersheds drain to Lake Simcoe and are regulated by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA):

- **Black River Subwatershed**
- **East Holland Subwatershed**
- **Pefferlaw River Subwatershed**

Three subwatersheds drain to Lake Ontario and are regulated by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA):

- **Rouge River Subwatershed**
- **Little Rouge River Subwatershed**
- **Duffins Creek Subwatershed**



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Stormwater Management

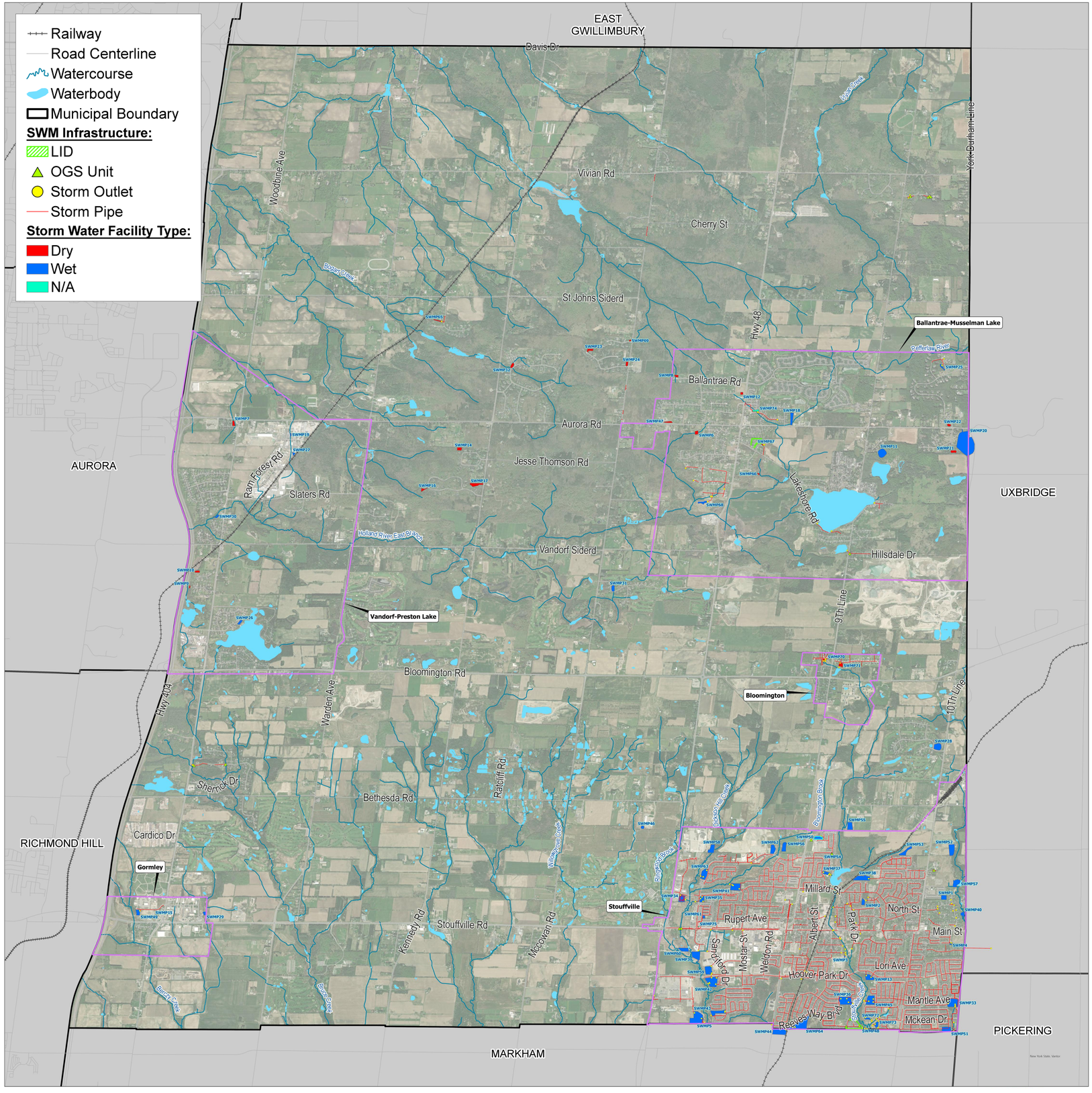
The Town's stormwater system captures, conveys, treats, and controls stormwater runoff. It helps to:

- Improve water quality
- Reduce flooding
- Reduce erosion
- Increase how much water soaks into the ground

The Town owns and operates a lot of stormwater infrastructure:

- 75 stormwater management facilities
- 15 oil and grit separators
- 2 low impact development facilities
- 3 super pipe storage facilities
- 117 km of storm sewers
- 3,902 maintenance holes
- 2,345 catch basins

It is important to make sure this infrastructure works properly.



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What stormwater measures are being considered?

End-of-Pipe

These are stormwater facilities at the end of the storm sewer system. These facilities reduce erosion, improve water quality, and reduce flooding. They include wet ponds, dry ponds, wetlands, and underground storage tanks.

Wetland

Wet Pond

Conveyance Infrastructure & Control

Conveyance infrastructure moves stormwater away from its source. Sometimes it can help water soak into the ground. They can include traditional curb and gutter systems. They also include bioswales, grassed channels, and subsurface perforated pipe systems.

Bioswale

Perforated Pipe System

Source Control

Source controls help water soak into the ground. These can include green roofs, permeable pavement, soakaway pits, rain gardens (bioretention), rainwater harvesting, and downspout disconnection.

Downspout Disconnection

Bioretention

Operation & Maintenance

This includes infrastructure maintenance like storm sewer flushing, catch basin cleaning, street sweeping, leaf clearing and removal, improved construction, and general education and awareness.

Pollution Prevention

This reduces pollution generation. Certain municipal programs such as road salt management, protecting wells, and using good parks maintenance activities (reducing use of herbicides and pesticides) improve water quality.

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What measures would you like to see in your community?

Place a dot sticker under your selection below

End-of-Pipe

Conveyance Infrastructure & Control

Source Control

Operation & Maintenance

Pollution Prevention

Other (Please specify):

Place your thoughts on a sticky note and place below

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What is considered when finding solutions?

Stormwater management solutions will be evaluated using four main criteria:

Physical & Natural Environment

- Water Quality
- Stream Geomorphology
- Aquatic Habitat
- Fisheries
- Wildlife
- Groundwater Resources

Economic

- Capital Costs
- Operations & Maintenance Costs
- Lifecycle Costs
- Ability to coordinate with other projects

Social & Cultural

- Visual Aesthetics
- Recreational Opportunities
- Cultural / Heritage Resources
- Health & Safety

Technical & Engineering

- Flood Control
- Erosion Control
- Ease of Implementation
- Operations & Maintenance

The results of this evaluation shall be presented to the public at the next public open house.

Which factors are most important to you?

Place a dot sticker under your selection below

Physical & Natural Environment

Social & Cultural

Economic

Technical & Engineering

Other (Please specify):

Place your thoughts on a sticky note and place below

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Have you seen approaches to managing stormwater and streams (in Stouffville or elsewhere) that seemed to work well?

Place your thoughts on a sticky note and place below

Would you recommend the Town change any of its current practices? Why do you think they should be changed?

Place your thoughts on a sticky note and place below

Is there anything else you think the Town should consider, or ask residents, about stormwater?

Place your thoughts on a sticky note and place below

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Next Steps

Stage One

1. Data Collection and Field Investigations
2. Develop storm sewer computer model for existing and future conditions
3. Identify problems and risks
4. List possible solutions

Stage Two

1. Identify multiple solutions
2. Compare and evaluate solutions using criteria
3. Recommend final solutions
4. Share results at public open house #2

Stage Three

1. Create an action plan
2. Finalize the Stormwater Management Master Plan

Project Contacts

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Have Your Say!

Share your feedback and experiences at **https://www.cometogetherws.ca/stormwater-management-master-plan**

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