



Stormwater Resource Center

By: Matt Lake, Executive Director

The Merrillville Stormwater Utility is in the process of constructing the first Stormwater Resource Center in Indiana at 7404 Broadway. This facility will be a combination of operations and maintenance with our equipment, as well as a resource for stormwater management. Within the

past two years, we have been making major progress to address flood-prone areas by implementing strategic projects throughout the town. This includes a new stormwater master plan that identifies areas for future flood control projects. We have also recently submitted an application to FEMA for participation in the Community Rating System program which will lower insurance premiums for all



Merrillville residents who require flood insurance. The entire stormwater infrastructure is almost completely re-mapped at survey grade level. An entire GIS system has been developed and maintained to allow for spatial analysis. There have been many improvement projects on the ground for flood control and to upgrade our aging infrastructure. Many of our projects have improved drainage for roadways throughout the town. One of these projects was recently published in the Great Lakes Green Streets Guidebook. Aside from larger projects there has been ongoing maintenance to our stormwater infrastructure with our equipment and staff in partnership with public works. Additionally, we have maintained the highest level of compliance with environmental stormwater regulations mandated by EPA and IDEM to the extent that our program has received recognition and awards. As our department continues to service our town, we ask for our residents to participate by implementing the following on their properties

- *Don't dispose of grass clippings/debris near or within ditches or drains*
- *Keep leaves out of the streets and away from inlets*
- *Plant a rain garden in your yard*
- *Don't over fertilize your lawn*
- *Install a rain barrel to harvest rain water*
- *Properly dispose unwanted automotive fluids*
- *Volunteer to help maintain green projects*
- *Report polluters*



Great Lakes Green Streets Guidebook

http://www.semco.org/uploadedFiles/Programs_and_Projects/Water/Stormwater/GLGI%20Guidebook_web.pdf

FEMA National Flood Insurance Community Rating System

<http://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-rating-system>

IDEM Rule 13

<http://www.in.gov/idem/5420.htm>

