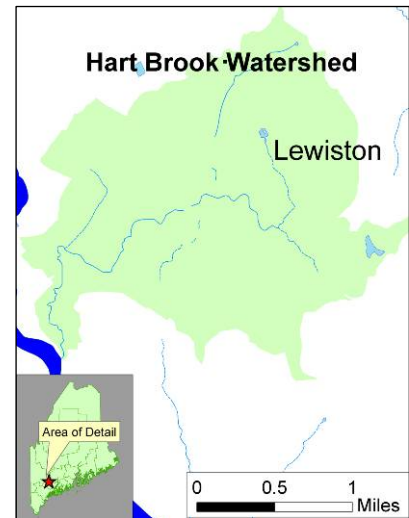


Hart Brook Unified Subwatershed and Site Reconnaissance Survey

#2008RT10

Waterbody Name: Hart Brook (Dill Brook)
Location: Lewiston, Androscoggin County
Waterbody Status: Urban Impaired Stream
Project Grantee: City of Lewiston
Project Duration: March 2008 – October 2009
319 Grant Amount: \$12,980
Local Match: \$12,624



PROBLEM:

Hart Brook is a Class B urban stream that is approximately 3.7 miles long with a watershed of 3.4 square miles. The brook, which flows into the Androscoggin River, is impaired for aquatic life and dissolved oxygen levels exhibit drastic swings. Potential sources for the impairment include urban nonpoint source pollution and habitat issues.

The watershed is a mix of residential, commercial, industrial, and undeveloped land and is approximately 22% impervious. The watershed also includes the area around the Maine Turnpike Exit 80, which is a prime new commercial development area of the City of Lewiston. A Watershed Management Plan was completed for the brook in 2008, and the City is implementing aspects of the plan as a part of its MS4 permit requirements.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this project was to conduct the Center for Watershed Protection's (CWP) Unified Subwatershed and Site Reconnaissance (USSR) assessment within the Hart Brook watershed neighborhoods, conduct an educational campaign in the neighborhoods, and install at least two residential pollution prevention projects.

The USSR survey, completed on July 22, 2008, was a quick and inexpensive means to identify resident behaviors and activities that could be major pollution sources within the watershed. Survey participants conducted Neighborhood Source Assessments (NSA) and Streets and Stormdrains (SSD) inspections, filling out modified versions of the CWP forms. Each neighborhood in the survey exceeded the CWP severity benchmark in the direct connection of home roof runoff to driveways or streets. This finding guided outreach efforts and resulted in the distribution of 10 rain barrels and installation of three rain gardens in the watershed.

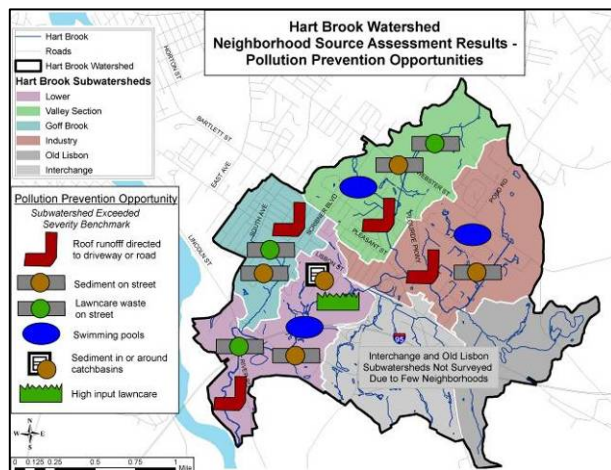
Educational information was also sent to each homeowner in the watershed neighborhoods.



Rain barrels painted by volunteers

PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- Neighborhood Source Assessment (NSA) and Streets and Storm Drains (SSD) surveys were completed in residential neighborhoods, which included 437 homes on 25 streets in the Hart Brook watershed.
- Survey findings were summarized in the *Hart Brook Urban Stream Watershed Inventory Report* (September 2009), which includes survey results, analysis of the data, and recommendations to address the identified sources.
- The project carried out a targeted educational program – including three mailings to all residents in the watershed – that focused on encouraging residents to reduce runoff from their properties with practices such as rain barrels and rain gardens.
- Ten rain barrels were painted by Lewiston residents and distributed to interested landowners. Three rain gardens were installed at homes in different neighborhoods. The rain barrels and rain gardens provided local on-the-ground examples of the stormwater reduction practices recommended in the watershed.



Rain garden installed in one watershed neighborhood

PROJECT PARTNERS:

Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District
Pike Industries
Androscoggin Land Trust
Lewiston Multi-Purpose Center
Adult Basic Literacy and Education (ABLE)
Davis Landscaping Company

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Kristin Feindel, DEP – (207) 287-5586, kristin.b.feindel@maine.gov
Jan Patterson, City of Lewiston – (207) 513-3009 x3421, jpatterson@ci.lewiston.me.us

Suggested Citation:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection (2010) “Nonpoint Source Management Program 2009 Annual Report,” Document# DEPLW-1159 2010. Augusta: MDEP.