

# Trout Brook Watershed Survey

#2002P-10

Waterbody Name: Trout Brook  
Location: South Portland, Cape Elizabeth –  
Cumberland County  
Waterbody Status: Urban Impaired Watershed  
Project Sponsor: South Portland Land Trust  
Project Duration: March 2002 – January 2006  
319 Grant Amount: \$5,886  
Local Match: \$6,627



## PROBLEM:

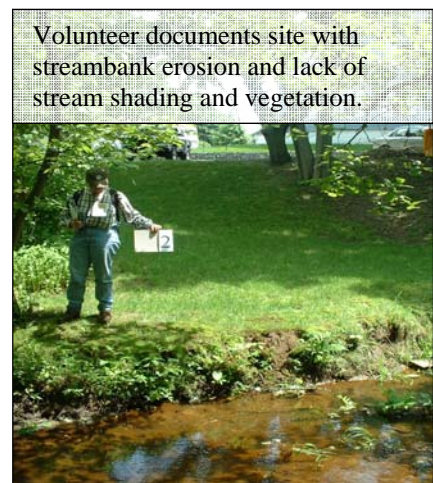
Trout Brook is approximately 2.5 miles long, originates in Cape Elizabeth and includes Kimball Brook and several unnamed tributaries. Its 2.7 square mile watershed transitions from its woodland headwaters through agricultural lands, wetlands, dense residential developments, a city park, and a commercial development before flowing into Mill Cove and eventually Portland Harbor.

Trout Brook is impacted by NPS pollution associated with a variety of land uses. Much of the watershed is composed of high-density residential development, which contributes to increased impervious surfaces; herbicide, pesticide, and fertilizer runoff from residential areas; erosion from the disruption of floodplain and stream bank vegetation; and refuse and yard waste disposal. The watershed also includes significant natural features and four of the top ten priority parcels characterized as under risk from development in the City of South Portland's Open Space Strategic Plan.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of the project was to identify and prioritize sources of NPS pollution and define strategies for mitigating those sources within the Trout Brook Watershed. A watershed survey was conducted to survey conditions and document sites of erosion and sources of NPS pollution caused by stormwater runoff. In addition, a stream habitat walk was conducted to assess of the ability of these brooks to support aquatic life.

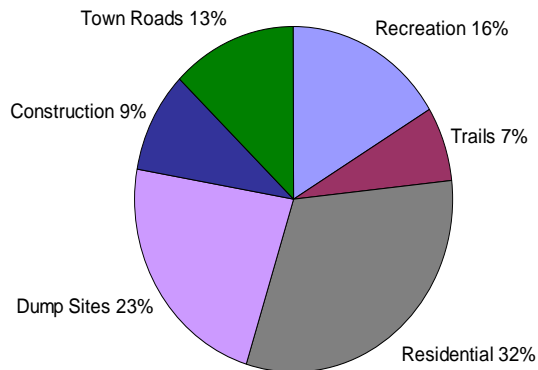
Technical staff from the Maine DEP, South Portland Land Trust (SPLT), and the Cumberland County SWCD trained volunteers in survey procedures. Information was documented and locations marked on GIS and topographic maps. A final survey report was circulated to all Steering Committee members, SPLT Board members, and the South Portland City Council.



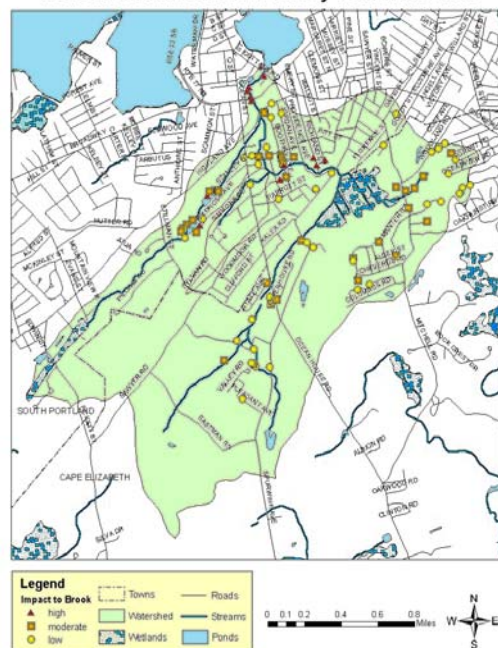
## PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- The survey documented 86 NPS sites in the Trout Brook watershed.
- The *Trout Brook Watershed Survey* report was completed in January 2006. In addition to documenting NPS pollution sites, it reported on the findings of a stream habitat walk and provided a summary regarding the extent of habitat degradation within the watershed.
- The project established a collaborative relationship between the SPLT, DEP, Cumberland County SWCD, abutting landowners and local residents. The project also raised awareness and promoted stewardship within the watershed community.

Percentage of NPS Sites By Land Use



Trout Brook Watershed Survey Pollutant Sites



## PROJECT PARTNERS:

City of South Portland

Town of Cape Elizabeth

Cumberland County SWCD

Maine DEP Stream Team Program

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Suggested Citation:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection (2007) “Nonpoint Source Management Program 2006 Annual Report,” Document# DEPLW0836 2007. Augusta: MDEP.